forter filled with eiderdown **3** : a soft lightweight clothing fabric knitted or woven and napped on one or both sides

ei·det·ic \ī-'det-ik\ *adj* [Gk *eidētikos* of a form, fr. *eidos* form — more at WISE] : marked by or involving extraordinarily accurate and vivid recall esp. of visual images ⟨an ~ memory⟩ — **ei·det·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ei·do·lon \ī-'dō-lən\ *n, pl* **-lons** \-lənz\ *or* **-la** \-lə\ [Gk *eidōlon*] **1** : an unsubstantial image : PHANTOM **2** : IDEAL

ei·gen·val·ue \'ī-gən-ˌval-(ˌ)yü, -yə(-w)\ *n* [part trans. of G *eigenwert*, fr. *eigen* own, peculiar, characteristic (fr. OHG *eigan*) + *wert* value — more at OWN] : CHARACTERISTIC ROOT

ei·gen·vec·tor \-ˌvek-tər\ *n* [ISV *eigen-* (fr. G *eigen*) + *vector*] : CHARACTERISTIC VECTOR

eight \'āt\ *n* [ME *eighte*, fr. *eighte*, adj., fr. OE *eahta;* akin to OHG *ahto* eight, L *octo*, Gk *oktō*] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the eighth in a set or series ⟨sat in row ~⟩ **3** : something having eight units or members: as **a** : an 8-oared racing boat or its crew **b** : an 8-cylinder engine or automobile — **eight** *adj or pron*

eight ball *n* **1** : a black pool ball numbered 8 **2** : MISFIT ⟨tried to weed out the *eight balls*⟩ — **behind the eight ball** : in a highly disadvantageous position or baffling situation

eigh·teen \(')ā(t)-'tēn\ *n* [ME *eightetene*, adj., fr. OE *eahtatīene;* akin to OE *tīen* ten] — see NUMBER table — **eighteen** *adj or pron* — **eigh·teenth** \-'tēn(t)th\ *adj or n*

eigh·teen·mo \ā(t)-'tēn-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **-mos** : the size of a piece of paper cut 18 from a sheet; *also* : a book, a page, or paper of this size

eight·fold \'āt-ˌfōld, -'fōld\ *adj* **1** : having eight units or members **2** : being eight times as great or as many — **eight·fold** \-'fōld\ *adv*

eighth \'ātth, *nonstand* 'āth\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : OCTAVE — **eighth** *adj or adv*

eighth note *n* : a musical note with the time value of $^1/_8$ of a whole note — see NOTE illustration

eighth rest *n* : a musical rest corresponding in time value to an eighth note

eight·pen·ny nail \ˌāt-ˌpen-ē-\ *n* [eight + *-penny*] : a nail typically 2 $^1/_2$ inches long

eighty \'āt-ē\ *n, pl* **eight·ies** [ME *eighty*, adj., fr. OE *eahtatig*, short for *hundeahtatig*, n., group of eighty, fr. *hund* hundred + *eahta* eight + *-tig* group of ten; akin to OE *tīen* ten] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** *pl* : the numbers 80 to 89; *specif* : the years 80 to 89 in a lifetime or century — **eight·i·eth** \'āt-ē-əth\ *adj or n* — **eighty** *adj or pron*

-ein *or* **-eine** *n suffix* [ISV, alter. of *-in, -ine*] : compound distinguished from a compound with a similar name ending in *-in* or *-ine* ⟨phthal*ein*⟩

ein·korn \'īn-ˌkȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [G, fr. OHG, fr. *ein* one + *korn* grain — more at ONE, CORN] : a one-grained wheat (*Triticum monococum*) that is sometimes considered the most primitive wheat and is grown esp. in poor soils in central Europe — called also *einkorn wheat*

Ein·stein·ian \īn-'stī-nē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to Albert Einstein or his theories

ein·stei·ni·um \-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Albert *Einstein* †1955 Am physicist & mathematician] : a radioactive element produced artificially — see ELEMENT table

ei·re·nic *var of* IRENIC

ei·ren·i·con \ī-'ren-i-ˌkän\ *n* [LGk *eirēnikon*, fr. neut. of Gk *eirēnikos* irenic — more at IRENIC] : a statement that attempts to harmonize conflicting doctrines : RECONCILIATION

eis·ege·sis \ˌī-sə-'jē-səs\ *n, pl* **-ege·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [Gk *eis* into + E *exegesis;* akin to Gk *en* in — more at IN] : the interpretation of a text (as of the Bible) by reading into it one's own ideas — compare EXEGESIS

ei·stedd·fod \ī-'steth-ˌvȯd, ā-\ *n* [W, lit., session, fr. *eistedd* to sit + *bod* being] : a Welsh competitive festival of the arts esp. in singing — **ei·stedd·fod·ic** \ˌī-ˌsteth-'vȯd-ik, ˌā-\ *adj*

[1]ei·ther \'ē-thər *also* 'ī-\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *ǣghwæther* both, each, fr. *ā* always + *ge-*, collective prefix + *hwæther* which of two, whether — more at AYE, CO-] **1** : being the one and the other of two : EACH ⟨flowers blooming on ~ side of the walk⟩ **2** : being the one or the other of two ⟨take ~ road⟩

[2]either *pron* : the one or the other

[3]either *conj* — used as a function word before two or more coordinate words, phrases, or clauses joined usu. by *or* to indicate that what immediately follows is the first of two or more alternatives

[4]either *adv* **1** : LIKEWISE, MOREOVER — used for emphasis after a negative ⟨not wise or handsome ~⟩ **2** : for that matter — used for emphasis after an alternative following a question or conditional clause esp. where negation is implied ⟨who answers for the Irish parliament? or army ~? —Robert Browning⟩

[1]either–or \ˌē-thə-'rȯ(ə)r *also* ˌī-\ *adj* : of or marked by either-or : BLACK-AND-WHITE

[2]either–or *n* : an unavoidable choice or exclusive division between only two alternatives : DICHOTOMY ⟨never a matter of knowledge versus proficiency, never a simple ~ — H. J. Muller⟩

[1]ejac·u·late \i-'jak-yə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *ejaculatus*, pp. of *ejaculari* to throw out, fr. *e-* + *jaculari* to throw, fr. *jaculum* dart, fr. *jacere* to throw — more at JET] *vt* **1** : to eject from a living body; *specif* : to eject (semen) in orgasm **2** : to utter suddenly and vehemently ~ *vi* : to eject a fluid

[2]ejac·u·late \-lət\ *n* : the semen released by one ejaculation

ejac·u·la·tion \i-ˌjak-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of ejaculating; *specif* : a sudden discharging of a fluid from a duct **2** : something ejaculated; *esp* : a short sudden emotional utterance

ejac·u·la·to·ry \i-'jak-yə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : casting or throwing out; *specif* : associated with or concerned in physiological ejaculation ⟨~ vessels⟩ **2** : marked by or given to vocal ejaculation

ejaculatory duct *n* : a duct through which semen is ejaculated; *specif* : either of the paired ducts in man that are formed by the junction of the duct from the seminal vesicle with the vas deferens, pass through the prostate, and open into or close to the prostatic utricle

eject \i-'jekt\ *vt* [ME *ejecten*, fr. L *ejectus*, pp. of *eicere*, fr. *e-* + *jacere*] **1 a** : to drive out esp. by physical force **b** : to evict from property **2** : to throw out or off from within ⟨~*s* the empty cartridges⟩ — **eject·able** \-'jek-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **ejec·tion** \-'jek-shən\ *n* — **ejec·tive** \-'jek-tiv\ *adj*

syn EJECT, EXPEL, OUST, EVICT, DISMISS *shared meaning element* : to drive or force out ***ant*** admit

ejec·ta \i-'jek-tə\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [NL, fr. L, neut. pl. of *ejectus*] : material thrown out (as from a volcano)

ejection seat *n* : an emergency escape seat for propelling an occupant out and away from an airplane by means of an explosive charge

eject·ment \i-'jek(t)-mənt\ *n* **1** : DISPOSSESSION **2** : an action for the recovery of possession of real property and damages and costs

ejec·tor \i-'jek-tər\ *n* **1** : one that ejects **2** : a jet pump for withdrawing a gas, fluid, or powdery substance from a space

eka- \ˌek-ə, ˌā-kə\ *comb form* [Skt *eka* one — more at ONE] : standing or assumed to stand next in order beyond (a specified element) in the same family of the periodic table — in names of chemical elements esp. when not yet discovered ⟨*eka*cesium (now called francium)⟩

[1]eke \'ēk\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *ēac;* akin to OHG *ouh* also, L *aut* or, Gk *au* again] *archaic* : ALSO

[2]eke *vt* **eked; ek·ing** [ME *eken*, fr. OE *īecan, ēcan;* akin to OHG *ouhhōn* to add, L *augēre* to increase, Gk *auxein*] *archaic* : INCREASE, LENGTHEN

eke out *vt* **1 a** : to make up for the deficiencies of : SUPPLEMENT ⟨*eked out* his income by getting a second job⟩ **b** : to make (a supply) last by economy **2** : to make (as a living) by laborious or precarious means

EKG *abbr* [G *elektrokardiogramm*] electrocardiogram; electrocardiograph

ekis·tics \i-'kis-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [NGk *oikistikē*, fr. fem. of *oikistikos* relating to settlement, fr. Gk, fr. *oikizein* to settle, colonize, fr. *oikos* house — more at VICINITY] : a science dealing with human settlements and drawing on the research and experience of professionals in various fields (as architecture, engineering, city planning, and sociology) — **ekis·tic** \-tik\ *adj*

Ek·man dredge \ˌek-mən-\ *n* [prob. fr. V. W. *Ekman* †1954 Sw oceanographer] : a dredge that has opposable jaws operated by a messenger traveling down a cable to release a spring catch and that is used in ecology for sampling the bottom of a body of water

ekt·ex·ine \(')ek-'tek-ˌsēn, -ˌsīn\ *n* [Gk *ekto-* outside + E *exine* — more at ECT-] : a structurally variable outer layer of the exine

[1]el \'el\ *n* : the letter *l*

[2]el *n, often cap* : ELEVATED RAILROAD

[3]el *abbr* elevation

[1]elab·o·rate \i-'lab-(ə-)rət\ *adj* [L *elaboratus*, fr. pp. of *elaborare* to work out, acquire by labor, fr. *e-* + *laborare* to work — more at LABORATORY] **1** : planned or carried out with great care : DETAILED ⟨~ calculations⟩ **2** : marked by complexity, fullness of detail, or ornateness : INTRICATE ⟨a highly ~ coiffure⟩ **3** : marked by painstaking diligence — **elab·o·rate·ly** *adv* — **elab·o·rate·ness** *n*

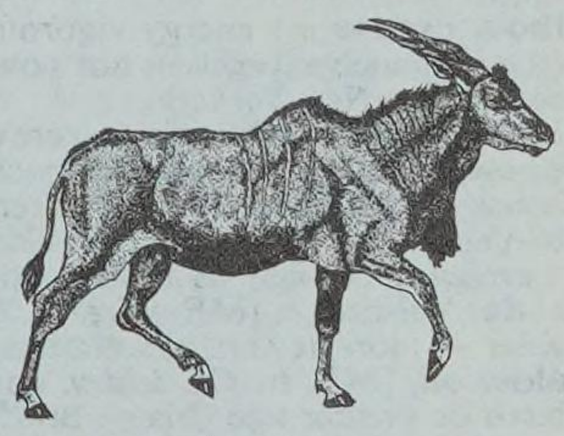
[2]elab·o·rate \i-'lab-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** *vt* **1** : to produce by labor **2** : to build up (complex organic compounds) from simple ingredients **3** : to work out in detail : DEVELOP ~ *vi* **1** : to become elaborate **2** : to expand something in detail ⟨would you care to ~ on that statement⟩ — **elab·o·ra·tion** \-ˌlab-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **elab·o·ra·tive** \-'lab-ə-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj*

Elaine \i-'lān\ *n* : any of several women in Arthurian legend; *esp* : one who dies for unrequited love of Lancelot

Elam·ite \'ē-lə-ˌmīt\ *n* : a language of unknown affinities used in Elam approximately from the 25th to the 4th centuries B.C.

élan \ā-lä^n\ *n* [F, fr. MF *eslan* rush, fr. *(s')eslancer* to rush, fr. *ex-* + *lancer* to hurl — more at LANCE] : vigorous spirit or enthusiasm typically revealed by poise, verve, or liveliness of imagination

eland \'ē-lənd, -ˌland\ *n* [Afrik, elk, fr. D, fr. obs. G *elend*, fr. Lith *elnis;* akin to OHG *elaho* elk — more at ELK] : either of two large African antelopes (*Taurotragus oryx* and *T. derbianus*) bovine in form with short spirally twisted horns in both sexes



eland

élan vi·tal \ā-lä^n-vē-tȧl\ *n* [F] : the vital force or impulse of life; *specif* : a creative principle held by Bergson to be immanent in all organisms and responsible for evolution

el·a·pid \'el-ə-pəd\ *n* [NL *Elap-, Elaps*, genus of snakes, fr. MGk, a fish, alter. of Gk *elops*] : any of a family (Elapidae) of venomous snakes with grooved fangs

[1]elapse \i-'laps\ *vi* **elapsed; elaps·ing** [L *elapsus*, pp. of *elabi*, fr. *e-* + *labi* to slip — more at SLEEP] : to slip or glide away : PASS ⟨four years *elapsed* before he returned⟩

[2]elapse *n* : PASSAGE ⟨went back to college after an ~ of 15 years⟩

elapsed time *n* : the actual time taken (as by a boat or automobile) to travel over a specified course (as in racing)

elas·mo·branch \i-'laz-mə-ˌbraŋk\ *n, pl* **-branchs** [deriv. of Gk *elasmos* metal plate (fr. *elaunein*) + L *branchia* gill] : any of a class (Chondrichthyes) of fishes with lamellate gills that comprise the sharks, rays, chimaeras, and various extinct related fishes — **elasmobranch** *adj*

elas·tase \i-'las-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* : an enzyme esp. of pancreatic juice that digests elastin

¹elas·tic \i-'las-tik\ *adj* [NL *elasticus,* fr. LGk *elastos* ductile, beaten, fr. Gk *elaunein* to drive, beat out; akin to OIr *luid* he went] **1 a** *of a solid* : capable of recovering size and shape after deformation **b** *of a gas* : capable of indefinite expansion **2** : capable of recovering quickly esp. from depression or disappointment **3** : capable of being easily stretched or expanded and resuming former shape : FLEXIBLE **4 a** : capable of ready change or easy expansion or contraction **b** : receptive to new ideas : ADAPTABLE — **elas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²elastic *n* **1 a** : an elastic fabric usu. made of yarns containing rubber **b** : something made from this fabric **2 a** : easily stretched rubber usu. prepared in cords, strings, or bands **b** : RUBBER BAND

elastic clause *n* : a clause in the U.S. Constitution that provides the Constitutional basis for the implied or potential powers of Congress

elastic collision *n* : a collision in which the total kinetic energy of the colliding particles remains unchanged

elas·tic·i·ty \i-ˌlas-'tis-ət-ē, ˌē-ˌlas-, -'tis-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being elastic: as **a** : the capability of a strained body to recover its size and shape after deformation : SPRINGINESS **b** : RESILIENCE **c** : the quality of being adaptable

elas·ti·cized \i-'las-tə-ˌsīzd\ *adj* : made with elastic thread or inserts

elastic scattering *n* : a scattering of particles as the result of elastic collision

elas·tin \i-'las-tən\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *elasticus*] : a protein that is similar to collagen and is the chief constituent of elastic fibers

elas·to·mer \-tə-mər\ *n* [*elastic* + *-o-* + Gk *meros* part — more at MERIT] : any of various elastic substances resembling rubber ⟨polyvinyl ~*s*⟩ — **elas·to·mer·ic** \i-ˌlas-tə-'mer-ik\ *adj*

¹elate \i-'lāt\ *adj* : ELATED

²elate *vt* **elat·ed; elat·ing** [L *elatus* (pp. of *efferre* to carry out, elevate), fr. *e-* + *latus,* pp. of *ferre* to carry — more at TOLERATE, BEAR] : to fill with joy or pride

elat·ed *adj* : marked by high spirits : EXULTANT — **elat·ed·ly** *adv* — **elat·ed·ness** *n*

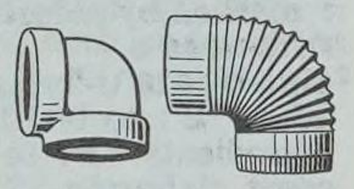
el·a·ter \'el-ət-ər\ *n* [NL, genus of beetles, fr. Gk *elatēr* driver, fr. *elaunein*] **1** : CLICK BEETLE **2** : a plant structure functioning in the distribution of spores: as **a** : one of the elongated filaments among the spores in the capsule of a liverwort **b** : one of the filamentous appendages of the spores in the scouring rushes

elat·er·ite \i-'lat-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *elaterit,* fr. Gk *elatēr*] : a dark brown elastic mineral resin occurring in soft flexible masses

ela·tion \i-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being elated **2** : pathological euphoria

E layer *n* : a layer of the ionosphere occurring at about 60 miles above the earth's surface and capable of reflecting radio waves

¹el·bow \'el-ˌbō\ *n* [ME *elbowe,* fr. OE *elboga;* akin to OHG *elinbogo* elbow; both fr. a prehistoric NGmc-WGmc compound whose constituents are akin to OE *eln* ell & OE *boga* bow — more at ELL, BOW] **1 a** : the joint of the arm **b** : a corresponding joint in the anterior limb of a lower vertebrate **2** : something resembling an elbow; *specif* : an angular pipe fitting — **out at elbows** **1** : shabbily dressed **2** : short of funds



elbows 2

²elbow *vt* **1 a** : to push with the elbow : JOSTLE **b** : to shove aside by pushing with the elbow **2 a** : to force (as one's way) by pushing with the elbow ⟨~*ing* our way through the crowd⟩ **b** : to force (as one's way) rudely or forwardly ⟨~*s* her way into the best circles⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to advance by pushing with the elbow **2** : to make an angle : TURN ⟨here the passage ~*s* and we are in another room⟩

elbow grease *n* : energy vigorously exerted esp. in physical labor ⟨the first such expedition not powered solely by the *elbow grease* of oarsmen —*New Yorker*⟩

el·bow·room \'el-ˌbō-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* **1 a** : room for moving the elbows freely **b** : adequate space for work or operation ⟨the large house gives plenty of ~⟩ **2** : free scope

eld \'eld\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ieldo;* akin to OE *eald* old — more at OLD] **1** *archaic* : old age **2** *archaic* : old times : ANTIQUITY

¹el·der \'el-dər\ *n* [ME *eldre,* fr. OE *ellærn;* prob. akin to OE *alor* alder — more at ALDER] : ELDERBERRY 2

²elder *adj* [ME, fr. OE *ieldra,* compar. of *eald* old] **1** : of earlier birth or greater age ⟨his ~ brother⟩ **2** : of or relating to earlier times : FORMER **3** *obs* : of or relating to a more advanced time of life **4** : prior or superior in rank, office, or validity

³elder *n* **1** : one living in an earlier period **2 a** : one who is older : SENIOR ⟨the child trying to please his ~*s*⟩ **b** *archaic* : an aged person **3** : one having authority by virtue of age and experience ⟨the village ~*s*⟩ **4** : any of various church officers: as **a** : PRESBYTER 1 **b** : a permanent officer elected by a Presbyterian congregation and ordained to serve on the session and assist the pastor at communion **c** : MINISTER 2a, 2b **d** : a Mormon ordained to the Melchizedek priesthood — **el·der·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

el·der·ber·ry \'el-də(r)-ˌber-ē\ *n* **1** : the edible black or red berry-like drupe of any of a genus (*Sambucus*) of shrubs or trees of the honeysuckle family bearing flat clusters of small white or pink flowers **2** : a tree or shrub bearing elderberries

el·der·ly \'el-dər-lē\ *adj* **1 a** : rather old; *specif* : being past middle age **b** : OLD-FASHIONED **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of later life — **el·der·li·ness** *n*

elder statesman *n* : an eminent senior member of a group or organization; *esp* : a retired statesman who unofficially advises current leaders

el·dest \'el-dəst\ *adj* : of the greatest age or seniority : OLDEST

eldest hand *n* : the card player who first receives cards in the deal

El Do·ra·do \ˌel-də-'räd-(ˌ)ō, -'rād-\ *n* [Sp, lit., the gilded one] **1** : a city or country of fabulous riches held by 16th century explorers to exist in So. America **2** : a place of fabulous wealth, abundance, or opportunity

el·dritch \'el-drich\ *adj* [perh. fr. (assumed) ME *elfriche* fairyland, fr. ME *elf* + *riche* kingdom, fr. OE *rīce* — more at RICH] : WEIRD, EERIE

El·e·at·ic \ˌel-ē-'at-ik\ *adj* [L *Eleaticus,* fr. Gk *Eleatikos,* fr. *Elea* (Velia), ancient town in So. Italy] : of or relating to a school of Greek philosophers founded by Parmenides and developed by Zeno and marked by belief in the unity of being and the unreality of motion or change — **Eleatic** *n* — **El·e·at·i·cism** \-'at-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*

elec *abbr* electric; electrical; electricity

ele·cam·pane \ˌel-i-ˌkam-'pān\ *n* [ME *elena campana,* fr. ML *enula campana,* lit., field elecampane, fr. *inula, enula* elecampane + *campana* of the field] : a large coarse European composite herb (*Inula helenium*) with yellow ray flowers naturalized in the U.S.

¹elect \i-'lekt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *electus* choice, fr. pp. of *eligere* to select, fr. *e-* + *legere* to choose — more at LEGEND] **1** : carefully selected : CHOSEN **2** : chosen for salvation through divine mercy **3 a** : chosen for office or position but not yet installed ⟨the president-*elect*⟩ **b** : chosen for marriage at some future time to a specific person ⟨the bride-*elect*⟩

²elect *n, pl* **elect** **1** : one chosen or set apart (as by divine favor) **2** *pl* : a select or exclusive group of people

³elect *vt* **1** : to select by vote for an office, position, or membership ⟨~*ed* him class president⟩ **2** : to make a selection of ⟨will ~ a heavy academic program⟩ **3** : to choose esp. by preference : decide on ⟨might ~ to sell the business⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a selection

elect·able \i-'lek-tə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being elected; *specif* : eminently qualified to be elected to office — **elect·abil·i·ty** \-ˌlek-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

elec·tion \i-'lek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an act or process of electing **b** : the fact of being elected **2** : predestination to eternal life **3** : the right, power, or privilege of making a choice ***syn*** see CHOICE

Election Day *n* : a day legally established for the election of public officials; *esp* : the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in an even year designated for national elections in the U.S. and observed as a legal holiday in many states

elec·tion·eer \i-ˌlek-shə-'ni(ə)r\ *vi* [*election* + *-eer* (as in *auctioneer,* v.)] : to take an active part in an election; *specif* : to work for the election of a candidate or party — **elec·tion·eer·er** *n*

¹elec·tive \i-'lek-tiv\ *adj* **1 a** : chosen or filled by popular election ⟨an ~ official⟩ **b** : of or relating to election **c** : based on the right or principle of election ⟨the presidency is an ~ office⟩ **2** : permitting a choice : OPTIONAL ⟨an ~ course in school⟩ **3 a** : tending to operate on one substance rather than another **b** : favorably inclined : SYMPATHETIC — **elec·tive·ly** *adv* — **elec·tive·ness** *n*

²elective *n* : an elective course or subject

elec·tor \i-'lek-tər, -ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* **1** : one qualified to vote in an election **2** : one entitled to participate in an election: as **a** : one of the German princes entitled to take part in choosing the Holy Roman Emperor **b** : a member of the electoral college in the U.S.

elec·tor·al \i-'lek-t(ə-)rəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an elector ⟨the ~ vote⟩ **2** : of or relating to election ⟨an ~ system⟩

electoral college *n* : a body of electors; *esp* : one that elects the president and vice-president of the U.S.

elec·tor·ate \i-'lek-t(ə-)rət\ *n* **1** : the territory, jurisdiction, or dignity of a German elector **2** : a body of people entitled to vote

electr- *or* **electro-** *comb form* [NL *electricus*] **1 a** : electricity ⟨*electro*meter⟩ **b** : electric ⟨*electro*de⟩ : electric and ⟨*electro*chemical⟩ : electrically ⟨*electro*positive⟩ **2** : electrolytic ⟨*electro*analysis⟩ **3** : electron ⟨*electro*valence⟩

Elec·tra \i-'lek-trə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Ēlektra*] : a sister of Orestes who aids him in killing their mother Clytemnestra to avenge their murdered father Agamemnon

Electra complex *n* : the Oedipus complex when it occurs in a female

elec·tress \i-'lek-trəs\ *n* : the wife or widow of a German elector

elec·tret \i-'lek-trət, -ˌtret\ *n* [*electr*icity + mag*net*] : a dielectric body in which a permanent state of electric polarization has been set up

¹elec·tric \i-'lek-trik\ *adj* [NL *electricus* produced from amber by friction, electric, fr. ML, of amber, fr. L *electrum* amber, electrum, fr. Gk *ēlektron;* akin to Gk *ēlektōr* beaming sun, Skt *ulkā* meteor] **1** : of, relating to, or operated by electricity **2** : producing an intensely stimulating effect : THRILLING ⟨an ~ performance⟩ **3 a** : ELECTRONIC 3a **b** : electronically amplifying sound — used of a musical instrument ⟨an ~ guitar⟩ — **elec·tri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **elec·tri·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **elec·tri·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

²electric *n* **1** *archaic* : a nonconductor of electricity used to excite or accumulate electricity **2** : something (as a light, automobile, or train) operated by electricity

electrical storm *n* : THUNDERSTORM — called also *electric storm*

electrical transcription *n* **1** : a phonograph record or tape recording esp. designed for use in radiobroadcasting **2** : a radio program broadcast from an electrical transcription

electric chair *n* **1** : a chair used in legal electrocution **2** : the penalty of death by electrocution

electric eel *n* : a large eel-shaped fish (*Electrophorus electricus*) of the Orinoco and Amazon basins that is capable of giving a severe shock with its electric organs

electric eye *n* **1** : PHOTOELECTRIC CELL **2** : a miniature cathode-ray tube used to determine a condition (as of radio tuning)

elec·tri·cian \i-ˌlek-'trish-ən\ *n* **1** : a specialist in electricity **2** : one who installs, maintains, operates, or repairs electrical equipment

elec·tric·i·ty \i-ˌlek-'tris-ət-ē, -'tris-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : a fundamental entity of nature consisting of negative and positive kinds composed respectively of electrons and protons or possibly of electrons and positrons, observable in the attractions and repulsions of bodies electrified by friction and in natural phenomena (as lightning or the aurora borealis), and usu. utilized in the form of electric currents **b** : electric current **2** : a science that deals with the

phenomena and laws of electricity **3** : keen contagious excitement

electric organ *n* : a specialized tract of tissue (as in the electric eel) in which electricity is generated

electric ray *n* : any of various round-bodied short-tailed rays (family Torpedinidae) of warm seas with a pair of electric organs

elec·tri·fi·ca·tion \i-ˌlek-trə-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or process of electrifying **2** : the state of being electrified

elec·tri·fy \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** **1** **a** : to charge with electricity **b** (1) : to equip for use of electric power (2) : to supply with electric power (3) : to amplify (music) electronically **2** : to excite intensely or suddenly as if by an electric shock ***syn*** see THRILL

elec·tro·acous·tics \i-ˌlek-trō-ə-ˈkü-stiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a science that deals with the transformation of acoustic energy into electric energy or vice versa — **elec·tro·acous·tic** \-tik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·acous·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

elec·tro·anal·y·sis \-ə-ˈnal-ə-səs\ *n* : chemical analysis by electrolytic methods — **elec·tro·an·a·lyt·ic** \-ˌan-ᵊl-ˈit-ik\ *or* **elec·tro·an·a·lyt·i·cal** \-ˈit-i-kəl\ *adj*

elec·tro·car·dio·gram \-ˈkärd-ē-ə-ˌgram\ *n* : the tracing made by an electrocardiograph

elec·tro·car·dio·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : an instrument for recording the changes of electrical potential occurring during the heartbeat used esp. in diagnosing abnormalities of heart action — **elec·tro·car·dio·graph·ic** \-ˌkärd-ē-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·car·dio·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **elec·tro·car·di·og·ra·phy** \-ē-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n*

elec·tro·chem·is·try \-ˈkem-ə-strē\ *n* : a science that deals with the relation of electricity to chemical changes and with the interconversion of chemical and electrical energy — **elec·tro·chem·i·cal** \-ˈkem-i-kəl\ *adj* — **elec·tro·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

elec·tro·con·vul·sive \i-ˌlek-trō-kən-ˈvəl-siv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving convulsive response to electroshock ⟨impaired learning ability in rats due to ~ shocks⟩

electroconvulsive therapy *n* : ELECTROSHOCK THERAPY

elec·tro·cor·ti·co·gram \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈkȯrt-i-kə-ˌgram\ *n* [*electr-* + *cortico-* (fr. L *cortic- cortex* cortex) + *-gram*] : an electroencephalogram made with the electrodes in direct contact with the brain

elec·tro·cute \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌkyüt\ *vt* **-cut·ed; -cut·ing** [*electr-* + *-cute* (as in *execute*)] **1** : to execute (a criminal) by electricity **2** : to kill by electric shock — **elec·tro·cu·tion** \-ˌlek-trə-ˈkyü-shən\ *n*

elec·trode \i-ˈlek-ˌtrōd\ *n* : a conductor used to establish electrical contact with a nonmetallic part of a circuit

¹elec·tro·de·pos·it \i-ˌlek-trō-di-ˈpäz-ət\ *n* : a deposit formed in or at an electrode by electrolysis

²electrodeposit *vt* : to deposit (as a metal or rubber) by electrolysis — **elec·tro·de·po·si·tion** \-ˌdep-ə-ˈzish-ən, -ˌdē-pə-\ *n*

elec·tro·di·al·y·sis \i-ˌlek-trō-dī-ˈal-ə-səs\ *n* : dialysis accelerated by an electromotive force applied to electrodes adjacent to the membranes — **elec·tro·di·a·lyt·ic** \-ˌdī-ə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·di·a·lyze** \-ˈdī-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* — **elec·tro·di·a·lyz·er** *n*

elec·tro·dy·nam·ics \-dī-ˈnam-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of physics that deals with the effects arising from the interactions of electric currents with magnets, with other currents, or with themselves — **elec·tro·dy·nam·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

elec·tro·dy·na·mom·e·ter \-ˌdī-nə-ˈmäm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument that measures current by indicating the strength of the forces between a current flowing in fixed coils and one flowing in movable coils

elec·tro·en·ceph·a·lo·gram \-in-ˈsef-ə-lə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : the tracing of brain waves made by an electroencephalograph

elec·tro·en·ceph·a·lo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an apparatus for detecting and recording brain waves — **elec·tro·en·ceph·a·lo·graph·ic** \-ˌsef-ə-lə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·en·ceph·a·log·ra·phy** \-ˈläg-rə-fē\ *n*

elec·tro·fish·ing \i-ˈlek-trō-ˌfish-iŋ\ *n* : the taking of fish by a system based on their tendency to respond positively to a source of direct electric current

elec·tro·form \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌfȯrm\ *vt* : to form (shaped articles) by electrodeposition on a mold

elec·tro·gen·e·sis \i-ˌlek-trə-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* : the production of electrical activity esp. in living tissue

elec·tro·gen·ic \-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the production of electricity in living tissue ⟨an ~ pump causing movement of sodium ions across a membrane⟩

elec·tro·gram \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌgram\ *n* : a tracing of the electrical potentials of a tissue (as the brain or heart) made by means of electrodes placed directly in the tissue instead of on the surface of the body

elec·tro·hy·drau·lic \i-ˌlek-trō-hī-ˈdrȯ-lik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a combination of electric and hydraulic mechanisms **2** : involving or produced by the action of very brief but powerful pulse discharges of electricity under a liquid resulting in the generation of shock waves and highly reactive chemical species ⟨an ~ effect⟩ — **elec·tro·hy·drau·li·cal·ly** \-li-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

elec·tro·jet \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌjet\ *n* : an overhead concentration of electric current found in the regions of strong auroral displays and along the magnetic equator

elec·tro·ki·net·ic \i-ˌlek-trō-kə-ˈnet-ik, -kī-\ *adj* : of or relating to the motion of particles or liquids that results from or produces a difference of electric potential

elec·tro·ki·net·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of physics that deals with electrokinetic phenomena

elec·tro·less \i-ˈlek-ˌtrō-ləs, -trə-\ *adj* : being or involving chemical deposition of metal instead of electrodeposition

elec·trol·o·gist \i-ˌlek-ˈträl-ə-jəst\ *n* [blend of *electrolysis* and *-logist* (fr. *-logy* + *-ist*)] : one that removes hair, warts, moles, and birthmarks by means of an electric current applied to the body with a needle-shaped electrode

elec·tro·lu·mi·nes·cence \i-ˌlek-trō-ˌlü-mə-ˈnes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : luminescence resulting from a high-frequency discharge through a gas or from application of an alternating current to a layer of phosphor — **elec·tro·lu·mi·nes·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*

elec·trol·y·sis \i-ˌlek-ˈträl-ə-səs\ *n* **1** **a** : the producing of chemical changes by passage of an electric current through an electrolyte **b** : subjection to this action **2** : the destruction of hair roots with an electric current

elec·tro·lyte \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : a nonmetallic electric conductor in which current is carried by the movement of ions **2** : a substance that when dissolved in a suitable solvent or when fused becomes an ionic conductor

elec·tro·lyt·ic \i-ˌlek-trə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to electrolysis or an electrolyte; *also* : involving or produced by electrolysis — **elec·tro·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

elec·tro·lyze \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** : to subject to electrolysis

elec·tro·mag·net \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈmag-nət\ *n* : a core of magnetic material surrounded by a coil of wire through which an electric current is passed to magnetize the core

elec·tro·mag·net·ic \-mag-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or produced by electromagnetism — **elec·tro·mag·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

electromagnetic radiation *n* : a series of electromagnetic waves

electromagnetic spectrum *n* : the entire range of wavelengths or frequencies of electromagnetic radiation extending from gamma rays to the longest radio waves and including visible light

electromagnetic unit *n* : any of a system of electrical units based primarily on the magnetic properties of electrical currents

electromagnetic wave *n* : one of the waves that are propagated by simultaneous periodic variations of electric and magnetic field intensity and that include radio waves, infrared, visible light, ultraviolet, X rays, and gamma rays

elec·tro·mag·ne·tism \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈmag-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1** : magnetism developed by a current of electricity **2** : a branch of physical science that deals with the physical relations between electricity and magnetism

elec·tro·me·chan·i·cal \-mə-ˈkan-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to a mechanical process or device actuated or controlled electrically; *specif* : being a transducer for converting mechanical energy to electrical energy or vice versa — **elec·tro·me·chan·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

elec·tro·met·al·lur·gy \-ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌər-jē, *esp Brit* -mə-ˈtal-ər-\ *n* : a branch of metallurgy that deals with the application of electric current either for electrolytic deposition or as a source of heat

elec·trom·e·ter \i-ˌlek-ˈträm-ət-ər\ *n* : any of various instruments for detecting or measuring electric-potential differences or ionizing radiations by means of the forces of attraction or repulsion between charged bodies

electromotive force *n* : something that moves or tends to move electricity : the amount of energy derived from an electrical source per unit quantity of electricity passing through the source (as a cell or generator)

elec·tro·myo·gram \i-ˈlek-trō-ˈmī-ə-ˌgram\ *n* : a tracing made with an electromyograph

elec·tro·myo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [*electr-* + *my-* + *-graph*] : an instrument for the simultaneous recording of a visual and sound record of electric waves associated with activity of skeletal muscle that is used in the diagnosis of neuromuscular disorders — **elec·tro·myo·graph·ic** \-ˌmī-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *also* **elec·tro·myo·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **elec·tro·myo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **elec·tro·my·og·ra·phy** \-mī-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n*

elec·tron \i-ˈlek-ˌträn\ *n* [*electr-* + *-on*] : an elementary particle consisting of a charge of negative electricity equal to about 1.602×10^{-19} coulomb and having a mass when at rest of about 9.107×10^{-28} gram or 1/1837 that of a proton

elec·tro·neg·a·tive \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈneg-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : charged with negative electricity **2** : capable of acting as the negative electrode of a voltaic cell **3** : having a tendency to attract electrons — **elec·tro·neg·a·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌneg-ə-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*

electron gas *n* : a population of free electrons in a vacuum or in a metallic conductor

electron gun *n* : the electron-emitting cathode and its surrounding assembly in a cathode-ray tube for directing, controlling, and focusing the stream of electrons to a spot of desired size

¹elec·tron·ic \i-ˌlek-ˈträn-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to electrons **2** : of, relating to, or utilizing devices constructed or working by the methods or principles of electronics **3** **a** : generating music by electronic means ⟨an ~ organ⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or being music that consists of sounds electronically generated or modified

²electronic *n* : an electronic circuit or device

elec·tron·ics \i-ˌlek-ˈträn-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of physics that deals with the emission, behavior, and effects of electrons (as in electron tubes and transistors) and with electronic devices

electron lens *n* : a device for converging or diverging a beam of electrons by means of an electric or a magnetic field

electron microscope *n* : an electron-optical instrument in which a beam of electrons focused by means of an electron lens is used to produce an enlarged image of a minute object on a fluorescent screen or photographic plate — **electron microscopist** *n* — **electron microscopy** *n*

electron multiplier *n* : a device utilizing secondary emission of electrons for amplifying a current of electrons

electron optics *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of electronics that deals with those properties of beams of electrons that are analogous to the properties of rays of light

electron transport *n* : the sequential transfer of electrons esp. by cytochromes in cellular respiration from an oxidizable substrate to molecular oxygen by a series of oxidation-reduction reactions

electron tube *n* : an electronic device in which conduction by electrons takes place through a vacuum or a gaseous medium within a sealed glass or metal container and which has various common uses based on the controlled flow of electrons
electron volt *n* : a unit of energy equal to the energy gained by an electron in passing from a point of low potential to a point one volt higher in potential : 1.60×10^{-12} erg
elec·tro·oc·u·lo·gram \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈäk-yə-lə-ˌgram\ *n* [*electr-* + *ocul-* + *-gram*] : a record of the standing voltage between the front and back of the eye that is correlated with eyeball movement (as in sleep) and obtained by electrodes suitably placed on the skin near the eye
elec·tro–op·tics \-trō-ˈäp-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of physics that deals with the effects of an electric field on light traversing it — **elec·tro–op·tic** \-tik\ *or* **elec·tro–op·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **elec·tro–op·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
elec·tro·phil·ic \i-ˌlek-trə-ˈfil-ik\ *adj* : involving or having an affinity for electrons : electron-seeking ⟨~ reagents⟩ — **elec·tro·phi·lic·ity** \-trō-fil-ˈis-ət-ē\ *n*
elec·tro·pho·re·sis \-trə-fə-ˈrē-səs\ *n* [NL] : the movement of suspended particles through a fluid under the action of an electromotive force applied to electrodes in contact with the suspension — **elec·tro·pho·ret·ic** \-ˈret-ik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·pho·ret·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
elec·tro·pho·reto·gram \-ˈret-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [*electrophoretic* + *-o-* + *-gram*] : a record that consists of the separated components of a mixture (as of proteins) produced by electrophoresis in a supporting medium (as filter paper)
elec·troph·o·rus \i-ˌlek-ˈträf-ə-rəs\ *n, pl* **-ri** \-ˌrī, -ˌrē\ [NL, fr. *electr-* + *-phorus* -phore (fr. Gk *-phoros*)] : an instrument for the production of electric charges by induction consisting of a disk that is negatively electrified by friction and a metal plate that becomes charged by induction when placed on the disk
elec·tro·pho·tog·ra·phy \i-ˌlek-trō-fə-ˈtäg-rə-fē\ *n* : photography in which images are produced by electrical means (as in xerography) — **elec·tro·pho·to·graph·ic** \-trə-ˌfōt-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj*
elec·tro·phys·i·ol·o·gy \i-ˌlek-trō-ˌfiz-ē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : physiology that is concerned with the electrical aspects of physiological phenomena **2** : electrical phenomena associated with a physiological process (as the function of a body or bodily part) ⟨~ of the eye⟩ — **elec·tro·phys·i·o·log·i·cal** \-ē-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *also* **elec·tro·phys·i·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·phys·i·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **elec·tro·phys·i·ol·o·gist** \-ē-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
elec·tro·plate \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌplāt\ *vt* **1** : to plate with an adherent continuous coating by electrodeposition **2** : ELECTROTYPE
elec·tro·pos·i·tive \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈpäz-ət-iv, -ˈpäz-tiv\ *adj* **1 a** : charged with positive electricity **b** : capable of acting as the positive electrode of a voltaic cell **2** : having a tendency to release electrons
elec·tro·ret·i·no·gram \-ˈret-ᵊn-ə-ˌgram\ *n* : a graphic record of electrical activity of the retina used esp. in the diagnosis of retinal conditions
elec·tro·ret·i·no·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : an instrument for recording electrical activity in the retina — **elec·tro·ret·i·no·graph·ic** \-ˌret-ᵊn-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **elec·tro·ret·i·nog·ra·phy** \-ᵊn-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n*
elec·tro·scope \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌskōp\ *n* [prob. fr. F *électroscope*] : any of various instruments for detecting the presence of an electric charge on a body, for determining whether the charge is positive or negative, or for indicating and measuring intensity of radiation
elec·tro·shock \-trō-ˌshäk\ *n* **1** : ³SHOCK 5 **2** : ELECTROSHOCK THERAPY
electroshock therapy *n* : the treatment of mental disorder by the induction of coma through the use of an electric current — called also *electroconvulsive therapy*
elec·tro·stat·ic \i-ˌlek-trə-ˈstat-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of or relating to static electricity or electrostatics **2** : of or relating to painting with a spray that utilizes electrically charged particles to ensure complete coating — **elec·tro·stat·i·cal·ly** \-ˈstat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
electrostatic generator *n* : an apparatus for the production of electrical discharges at high voltage commonly consisting of an insulated hollow conducting sphere that accumulates in its interior the charge continuously conveyed from a source of direct current by an endless belt of flexible nonconducting material
electrostatic printing *n* : a process (as xerography) for printing or copying in which electrostatic forces are used to form the image (as with powder or ink) directly on a surface
elec·tro·stat·ics \i-ˌlek-trə-ˈstat-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : physics that deals with phenomena due to attractions or repulsions of electric charges but not dependent upon their motion
electrostatic unit *n* : any of a system of electrical units based primarily on forces of interaction between electric charges — abbr. *esu*
elec·tro·sur·gery \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈsərj-(ə-)rē\ *n* : surgery by means of diathermy — **elec·tro·sur·gi·cal** \-ˈsər-ji-kəl\ *adj*
elec·tro·ther·a·py \-ˈther-ə-pē\ *n* : treatment of disease by means of electricity (as in diathermy)
elec·tro·ther·mal \-ˈthər-məl\ *or* **elec·tro·ther·mic** \-mik\ *adj* : relating to or combining electricity and heat; *specif* : relating to the generation of heat by electricity — **elec·tro·ther·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*
elec·trot·o·nus \i-ˌlek-ˈträt-ᵊn-əs\ *n* [NL] : the altered sensitivity of a nerve when a constant current of electricity passes through any part of it — **elec·tro·ton·ic** \-trə-ˈtän-ik\ *adj*
¹elec·tro·type \i-ˈlek-trə-ˌtīp\ *n* **1** : a duplicate printing surface made by pressure molding in a plastic material the surface to be reproduced and electrodepositing on it a thin shell that is then backed up with lead **2** : a copy of a coin made by an electroplating process
²electrotype *vt* : to make an electrotype from (a printing surface) ~ *vi* : to be reproducible by electrotyping — **elec·tro·typ·er** *n*
elec·tro·va·lence \i-ˌlek-trō-ˈvā-lən(t)s\ *n* : valence characterized by the transfer of electrons from one atom to another with the formation of ions; *also* : the number of charges acquired by an atom by the loss or gain of electrons — **elec·tro·va·lent** \-lənt\ *adj*
elec·tro·va·len·cy \-lən-sē\ *n* : ELECTROVALENCE
electrovalent bond *n* : a chemical bond formed between ions of opposite charge
elec·tro·win·ning \i-ˈlek-trō-ˌwin-iŋ\ *n* : the recovery esp. of metals from solutions by electrolysis
elec·trum \i-ˈlek-trəm\ *n* [ME, fr. L — more at ELECTRIC] : a natural pale yellow alloy of gold and silver
elec·tu·ary \i-ˈlek-chə-ˌwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [ME *electuarie*, fr. L *electuarium*, prob. fr. Gk *ekleikton*, fr. *ekleichein* to lick up, fr. *ex-* + *leichein* to lick — more at LICK] : CONFECTION 2b
el·e·doi·sin \ˌel-ə-ˈdȯis-ᵊn\ *n* [irreg. fr. NL *Eledone*, genus name] : a small protein $C_{54}H_{85}N_{13}O_{15}S$ from the salivary glands of several octopuses (genus *Eledone*) that is a powerful vasodilator and hypotensive agent
el·ee·mos·y·nary \ˌel-i-ˈmäs-ᵊn-ˌer-ē, -ˈmäz-\ *adj* [ML *eleemosynarius*, fr. LL *eleemosyna* alms — more at ALMS] : of, relating to, or supported by charity
el·e·gance \ˈel-i-gən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : refined grace or dignified propriety : URBANITY **b** : tasteful richness of design or ornamentation ⟨the sumptuous ~ of the furnishings⟩ **c** : dignified gracefulness or restrained beauty of style : POLISH ⟨the essay is marked by lucidity, wit, and ~⟩ **d** : scientific precision, neatness, and simplicity ⟨the ~ of a mathematical proof⟩ **2** : something that is elegant
el·e·gan·cy \-gən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : ELEGANCE
el·e·gant \ˈel-i-gənt\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *elegant-, elegans*; akin to L *eligere* to select — more at ELECT] **1** : marked by elegance **2** : of a high grade or quality : SPLENDID ⟨~ gems priced at hundreds of thousands of dollars⟩ ***syn*** see CHOICE — **el·e·gant·ly** *adv*
el·e·gi·ac \ˌel-ə-ˈjī-ək, -ˌak *also* i-ˈlē-jē-ˌak\ *also* **el·e·gi·a·cal** \ˌel-ə-ˈjī-ə-kəl\ *adj* [LL *elegiacus*, fr. Gk *elegeiakos*, fr. *elegeion*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or consisting of two dactylic hexameter lines the second of which lacks the arses in the third and sixth feet **b** (1) : written in or consisting of elegiac couplets (2) : noted for having written poetry in such couplets **c** : of or relating to the period in Greece about the seventh century B.C. when poetry written in such couplets flourished **2** : of, relating to, or comprising elegy or an elegy; *esp* : expressing sorrow often for something now past ⟨an ~ lament for departed youth⟩ — **elegiac** *n* — **el·e·gi·a·cal·ly** \ˌel-ə-ˈjī-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
elegiac stanza *n* : a quatrain in iambic pentameter with a rhyme scheme of *abab*
el·e·git \i-ˈlē-jət\ *n* [L, he has chosen, fr. *eligere*] : a judicial writ of execution by which a defendant's goods and if necessary his lands are delivered for debt to the plaintiff until the debt is paid
el·e·gize \ˈel-ə-ˌjīz\ *vb* **-gized; -giz·ing** *vi* : to lament or celebrate in an elegy ~ *vt* : to write an elegy on
el·e·gy \ˈel-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [L *elegia* poem in elegiac couplets, fr. Gk *elegeia, elegeion*, fr. *elegos* song of mourning] **1 a** : a song or poem expressing sorrow or lamentation esp. for one who is dead **b** : something (as a speech) resembling such a song or poem **2** : a poem in elegiac couplets **3 a** : a pensive or reflective poem that is usu. nostalgic or melancholy **b** : a short pensive musical composition
elem *abbr* elementary
el·e·ment \ˈel-ə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *elementum*] **1 a** : one of the four substances air, water, fire, and earth formerly believed to compose the physical universe **b** *pl* : weather conditions caused by activities of the elements; *esp* : violent or severe weather **c** : the state or sphere natural or suited to a person or thing ⟨at school she was in her ~⟩ **2** : a constituent part: as **a** *pl* : the simplest principles of a subject of study : RUDIMENTS **b** (1) : a part of a geometric magnitude ⟨an infinitesimal ~ of volume⟩ (2) : a generator of a geometric figure (3) : a basic member of a mathematical class or set **c** : one of a number of distinct groups composing a human community ⟨the criminal ~ in the city⟩ **d** (1) : one of the necessary data or values on which calculations or conclusions are based (2) : one of the factors determining the outcome of a process **e** : any of more than 100 fundamental substances that consist of atoms of only one kind and that singly or in combination constitute all matter **f** : a distinct part of a composite device **g** : a subdivision of a military unit **h** : MEMBER 4d **3** *pl* : the bread and wine used in the Eucharist
syn ELEMENT, COMPONENT, CONSTITUENT, INGREDIENT, FACTOR *shared meaning element* : one of the parts, substances, or principles that make up a compound or complex whole ***ant*** compound, composite

CHEMICAL ELEMENTS

ELEMENT & SYMBOL	ATOMIC NUMBER	ATOMIC WEIGHT (C = 12)
actinium (Ac)	89	
aluminum (Al)	13	26.9815
americium (Am)	95	
antimony (Sb)	51	121.75
argon (Ar)	18	39.948
arsenic (As)	33	74.9216
astatine (At)	85	
barium (Ba)	56	137.34
berkelium (Bk)	97	
beryllium (Be)	4	9.01218
bismuth (Bi)	83	208.9806
boron (B)	5	10.81
bromine (Br)	35	79.904
cadmium (Cd)	48	112.40
calcium (Ca)	20	40.08
californium (Cf)	98	
carbon (C)	6	12.011
cerium (Ce)	58	140.12
cesium (Cs)	55	132.9055
chlorine (Cl)	17	35.453
chromium (Cr)	24	51.996
cobalt (Co)	27	58.9332

ELEMENT & SYMBOL	ATOMIC NUMBER	ATOMIC WEIGHT (C = 12)
columbium (Cb)	(see niobium)	
copper (Cu)	29	63.546
curium (Cm)	96	
dysprosium (Dy)	66	162.50
einsteinium (Es)	99	
erbium (Er)	68	167.26
europium (Eu)	63	151.96
fermium (Fm)	100	
fluorine (F)	9	18.9984
francium (Fr)	87	
gadolinium (Gd)	64	157.25
gallium (Ga)	31	69.72
germanium (Ge)	32	72.59
gold (Au)	79	196.9665
hafnium (Hf)	72	178.49
helium (He)	2	4.00260
holmium (Ho)	67	164.9303
hydrogen (H)	1	1.0080
indium (In)	49	114.82
iodine (I)	53	126.9045
iridium (Ir)	77	192.22
iron (Fe)	26	55.847
krypton (Kr)	36	83.80
lanthanum (La)	57	138.9055
lawrencium (Lr)	103	
lead (Pb)	82	207.2
lithium (Li)	3	6.941
lutetium (Lu)	71	174.97
magnesium (Mg)	12	24.305
manganese (Mn)	25	54.9380
mendelevium (Md)	101	
mercury (Hg)	80	200.59
molybdenum (Mo)	42	95.94
neodymium (Nd)	60	144.24
neon (Ne)	10	20.179
neptunium (Np)	93	237.0482
nickel (Ni)	28	58.71
niobium (Nb)	41	92.9064
nitrogen (N)	7	14.0067
nobelium (No)	102	
osmium (Os)	76	190.2
oxygen (O)	8	15.9994
palladium (Pd)	46	106.4
phosphorus (P)	15	30.9738
platinum (Pt)	78	195.09
plutonium (Pu)	94	
polonium (Po)	84	
potassium (K)	19	39.102
praseodymium (Pr)	59	140.9077
promethium (Pm)	61	
protactinium (Pa)	91	231.0359
radium (Ra)	88	226.0254
radon (Rn)	86	
rhenium (Re)	75	186.2
rhodium (Rh)	45	102.9055
rubidium (Rb)	37	85.4678
ruthenium (Ru)	44	101.07
samarium (Sm)	62	150.4
scandium (Sc)	21	44.9559
selenium (Se)	34	78.96
silicon (Si)	14	28.086
silver (Ag)	47	107.868
sodium (Na)	11	22.9898
strontium (Sr)	38	87.62
sulfur (S)	16	32.06
tantalum (Ta)	73	180.9479
technetium (Tc)	43	98.9062
tellurium (Te)	52	127.60
terbium (Tb)	65	158.9254
thallium (Tl)	81	204.37
thorium (Th)	90	232.0381
thulium (Tm)	69	168.9342
tin (Sn)	50	118.69
titanium (Ti)	22	47.90
tungsten (W)	74	183.85
uranium (U)	92	238.029
vanadium (V)	23	50.9414
wolfram (W)	(see tungsten)	
xenon (Xe)	54	131.30
ytterbium (Yb)	70	173.04
yttrium (Y)	39	88.9059
zinc (Zn)	30	65.37
zirconium (Zr)	40	91.22

el·e·men·tal \ˌel-ə-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or being an element; *specif* : existing as an uncombined chemical element **b** : of, relating to, or being the basic or ultimate constituent of something : FUNDAMENTAL ⟨certain ~ biological and social realities⟩ **c** : of, relating to, or dealing with the rudiments of something : ELEMENTARY ⟨taught ~ arts and crafts to the children⟩ **d** : forming an integral part : INHERENT ⟨an ~ sense of rhythm⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or resembling a great force of nature ⟨the rains come with ~ violence⟩ ⟨~ passions⟩ — **elemental** *n* — **el·e·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

el·e·men·ta·ry \ˌel-ə-ˈment-ə-rē, -ˈmen-trē\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or dealing with the simplest elements or principles of something ⟨can't handle the most ~ decision-making⟩ **b** : of or relating to an elementary school ⟨an ~ curriculum⟩ **2** : ELEMENTAL 1a, 1b **3** : ELEMENTAL 2 — **el·e·men·ta·ri·ly** \-ˌmen-ˈter-ə-lē, -ˈmen-trə-lē\ *adv* — **el·e·men·ta·ri·ness** \-ˈment-ə-rē-nəs, -ˈmen-trē-\ *n*

elementary body *n* : a distinguishable unit that makes up an inclusion body and probably is the infective particle of some viruses

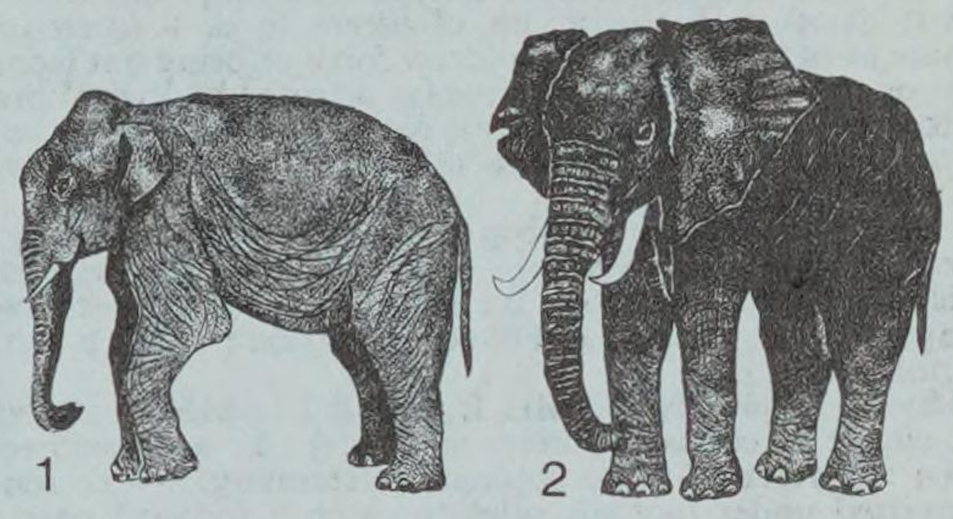
elementary particle *n* **1** : any of the submicroscopic constituents of matter and energy (as the electron, proton, or photon) whose existence has not been attributed to the combination of other more fundamental entities **2** : OXYSOME

elementary school *n* : a school usu. including the first six or the first eight grades

el·e·mi \ˈel-ə-mē\ *n* [NL *elimi*] : any of various fragrant oleoresins obtained from tropical trees (family Burseraceae) and used chiefly in varnishes, lacquers, and printing inks

elen·chus \i-ˈleŋ-kəs\ *n, pl* **-chi** \-ˌkī, -(ˌ)kē\ [L, fr. Gk *elenchos*] : REFUTATION; *esp* : one in syllogistic form

el·e·phant \ˈel-ə-fənt\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF *olifant*, fr. L *elephantus*, fr. Gk *elephant-, elephas*] : any of various thickset mostly very large nearly hairless four-footed mammals that constitute with related extinct forms a family (Elephantidae, the elephant family) and have the snout prolonged into a muscular trunk and two incisors in the upper jaw developed esp. in the male into long tusks which furnish ivory; *broadly* : a related animal or fossil



elephants: *1* Indian, *2* African

elephant grass *n* **1** : an Old World cattail (*Typha elephantina*) used esp. in making baskets **2** : NAPIER GRASS

el·e·phan·ti·a·sis \ˌel-ə-fən-ˈtī-ə-səs, -ˌfan-\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. L, a kind of leprosy, fr. Gk, fr. *elephant-, elephas*] **1** : enlargement and thickening of tissues; *specif* : the enormous enlargement of a limb or the scrotum caused by obstruction of lymphatics by filarial worms **2** : an undesirable usu. enormous growth, enlargement, or overdevelopment ⟨~ of intellect and atrophy of emotion —Michael Lerner⟩

el·e·phan·tine \ˌel-ə-ˈfan-ˌtēn, -ˌtīn, ˈel-ə-fən-\ *adj* **1 a** : having enormous size or strength : MASSIVE **b** : CLUMSY, PONDEROUS **2** : of or relating to an elephant

elephant seal *n* : a nearly extinct large seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) with a long inflatable proboscis that was formerly abundant along the coasts of California and Lower California; *also* : a related seal (*M. leonina*) formerly abundant on coasts of the southern hemisphere

El·eu·sin·i·an mysteries \ˌel-yü-ˌsin-ē-ən-\ *n pl* : religious mysteries celebrated at ancient Eleusis in worship of Demeter and Persephone

elev *abbr* elevation

¹el·e·vate \ˈel-ə-ˌvāt, -vət\ *adj, archaic* : ELEVATED

²el·e·vate \-ˌvāt\ *vt* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** [ME *elevaten*, fr. L *elevatus*, pp. of *elevare*, fr. *e-* + *levare* to raise — more at LEVER] **1** : to lift up : RAISE **2** : to raise in rank or status : EXALT **3** : to improve morally, intellectually, or culturally **4** : to raise the spirits of : ELATE ***syn*** see LIFT ***ant*** lower

el·e·vat·ed \-ˌvāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : raised esp. above the ground or other surface ⟨an ~ highway⟩ **2 a** : morally or intellectually on a high plane ⟨an ~ mind⟩ **b** : FORMAL, DIGNIFIED ⟨~ diction⟩ **3** : exhilarated in mood or feeling

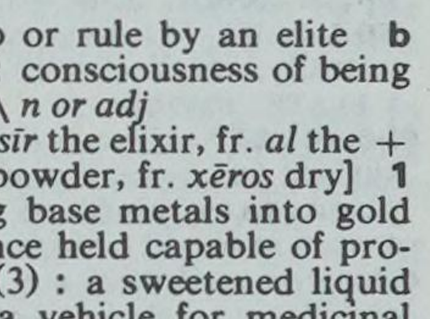
elevated railroad *n* : an urban or interurban railroad operating chiefly on an elevated structure — called also *elevated railway*

el·e·va·tion \ˌel-ə-ˈvā-shən\ *n* **1** : the height to which something is elevated: as **a** : the angular distance of a celestial object above the horizon **b** : the degree to which a gun is aimed above the horizon **c** : the height above the level of the sea : ALTITUDE **2** : a ballet dancer's or a skater's leap and seeming suspension in the air; *also* : the ability to achieve an elevation **3** : an act or instance of elevating **4** : something that is elevated: as **a** : an elevated place **b** : a swelling esp. on the skin **5** : the quality or state of being elevated **6** : a geometrical projection (as of a building) on a vertical plane ***syn*** see HEIGHT

el·e·va·tor \ˈel-ə-ˌvāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that raises or lifts something up: as **a** : an endless belt or chain conveyor with cleats, scoops, or buckets for raising material **b** : a cage or platform and its hoisting machinery for conveying something to different levels **c** : a building for elevating, storing, discharging, and sometimes processing grain **2** : a movable auxiliary airfoil usu. attached to the tail plane of an airplane for producing motion up or down — see AIRPLANE illustration

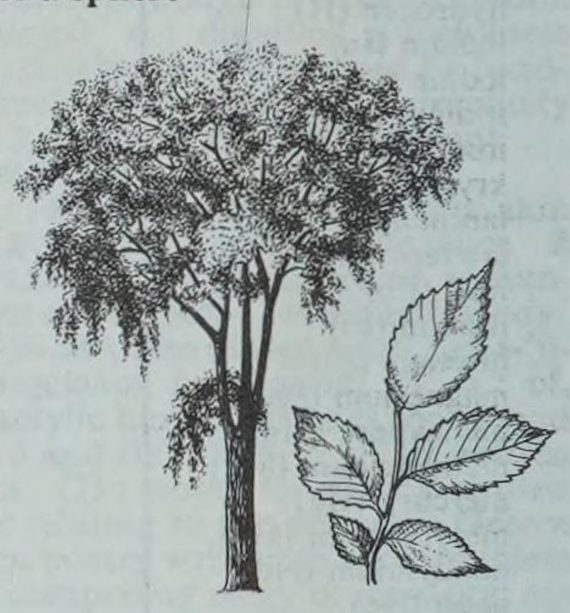
elev·en \i-ˈlev-ən\ *n* [ME *enleven*, fr. *enleven*, adj., fr. OE *endleofan*; akin to OHG *einlif* eleven; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc compound whose first element is akin to OE *ān* one, and whose second element is prob. akin to OE *lēon* to lend] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the 11th in a set or series **3** : something having 11 units or members; *esp* : a football team — **eleven** *adj or pron* — **elev·enth** \-ən(t)th\ *adj or n*

elev·ens·es \-ən-zəz\ *n pl but sometimes sing in constr* [irreg. pl. of *eleven* (o'clock)] *Brit* : a light lunch or sometimes only coffee or tea taken around the middle of the morning
eleventh hour *n* : the latest possible time ⟨won his reprieve at the *eleventh hour*⟩
el·e·von \'el-ə-ˌvän\ *n* [*elevator* + *aileron*] : an airplane control surface that combines the functions of elevator and aileron
elf \'elf\ *n, pl* **elves** \'elvz\ [ME, fr. OE *ælf;* akin to ON *alfr* elf] **1** : a small often mischievous fairy **2 a** : a small creature; *esp* : a mischievous child **b** : a mischievous or malicious person — **elf·ish** \'el-fish\ *adj* — **elf·ish·ly** *adv*
ELF *abbr* extremely low frequency
elf·in \'el-fən\ *adj* [irreg. fr. *elf*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or produced by an elf **b** : resembling an elf **2** : having an otherworldly or magical quality or charm
elf·lock \'el-ˌfläk\ *n* : hair matted as if by elves — usu. used in pl.
Eli \'ē-ˌlī\ *n* [Heb *ʿĒlī*] : a judge and priest of Israel who according to the account in I Samuel was entrusted with the care of the boy Samuel
Eli·as \i-'lī-əs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Ēlias*, fr. Heb *Ēlīyāh*] : ELIJAH
elic·it \i-'lis-ət\ *vt* [L *elicitus*, pp. of *elicere*, fr. *e-* + *lacere* to allure — more at DELIGHT] **1 a** : to draw forth or bring out (something latent or potential) **b** : to derive (as a truth) by logical processes **2** : to call forth or draw out (a response or reaction) ***syn*** see EDUCE — **elic·i·ta·tion** \ i-ˌlis-ə-'tā-shən, ˌē-\ *n* — **elic·i·tor** \i-'lis-ət-ər\ *n*
elide \i-'līd\ *vt* **elid·ed; elid·ing** [L *elidere* to strike out, fr. *e-* + *laedere* to injure by striking] **1 a** : to suppress or alter (as a vowel or syllable) by elision **b** : to strike out (as a written word or passage) **2 a** : to leave out of consideration : OMIT **b** : CURTAIL, ABRIDGE
el·i·gi·ble \'el-ə-jə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & LL; MF, fr. LL *eligibilis*, fr. L *eligere* to choose — more at ELECT] **1 a** : qualified to be chosen : ENTITLED ⟨~ for sophomore standing⟩ ⟨~ to retire⟩ **b** : permitted under football rules to catch a forward pass ⟨an ~ receiver⟩ **2** : worthy of being chosen : DESIRABLE ⟨an ~ young bachelor⟩ — **el·i·gi·bil·i·ty** \ˌel-ə-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **eligible** *n* — **el·i·gi·bly** \'el-ə-jə-blē\ *adv*
Eli·jah \i-'lī-jə\ *n* [Heb *Ēlīyāh*] : a Hebrew prophet of the 9th century B.C. who according to the account in I Kings championed the worship of Jehovah as against Baal
elim·i·nate \i-'lim-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *eliminatus*, pp. of *eliminare*, fr. *e-* + *limin-*, *limen* threshold] **1 a** : to cast out or get rid of : REMOVE, ERADICATE ⟨the need to ~ poverty⟩ **b** : to set aside as unimportant : IGNORE **2** : to expel (as waste) from the living body **3** : to cause to disappear by combining two or more equations ***syn*** see EXCLUDE — **elim·i·na·tion** \-ˌlim-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* — **elim·i·na·tive** \-'lim-ə-ˌnāt-iv\ *adj* — **elim·i·na·tor** \-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*
Eli·sha \i-'lī-shə\ *n* [Heb *Ēlīshāʿ*] : a Hebrew prophet and disciple and successor of Elijah
eli·sion \i-'lizh-ən\ *n* [LL *elision-*, *elisio*, fr. L *elisus*, pp. of *elidere*] **1 a** : the use of a speech form that lacks a final or initial sound which a variant speech form has ⟨the use of *'s* instead of *is* in English *there's* is an example of ~⟩ **b** : the omission of an unstressed vowel or syllable in a verse to achieve a uniform metrical pattern **2** : the act or an instance of dropping out or omitting something : OMISSION
elite \ā-'lēt, i-\ *n* [F *élite*, fr. OF *eslite*, fr. fem. of *eslit*, pp. of *eslire* to choose, fr. L *eligere*] **1 a** : the choice part; *esp* : a socially superior group **b** : a powerful minority group ⟨a power ~ inside the government⟩ **2** : a typewriter type providing 12 characters to the linear inch — **elite** *adj*
elit·ism \-'lēt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : leadership or rule by an elite **b** : belief in or advocacy of such elitism **2** : consciousness of being or belonging to an elite — **elit·ist** \-'lēt-əst\ *n or adj*
elix·ir \i-'lik-sər\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. Ar *al-iksīr* the elixir, fr. *al* the + *iksīr* elixir, prob. fr. Gk *xērion* desiccative powder, fr. *xēros* dry] **1 a** : a substance held capable of changing base metals into gold : PHILOSOPHERS' STONE **b** (1) : a substance held capable of prolonging life indefinitely (2) : CURE-ALL (3) : a sweetened liquid usu. containing alcohol that is used as a vehicle for medicinal agents **2** : the essential principle
Eliz *abbr* Elizabethan
Eliz·a·be·than \i-ˌliz-ə-'bē-thən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Elizabeth I of England or her age — **Elizabethan** *n*
elk \'elk\ *n, pl* **elks** [ME, prob. fr. OE *eolh;* akin to OHG *elaho* elk, Gk *elaphos* deer] **1** *pl usu* **elk** **a** : the largest existing deer (*Alces alces*) of Europe and Asia resembling but not so large as the moose of No. America **b** : WAPITI **c** : any of various large Asiatic deer **2** : soft tanned rugged leather **3** *cap* [Benevolent and Protective Order of *Elks*] : a member of a major benevolent and fraternal order
elk·hound \'elk-ˌhau̇nd, 'el-ˌkau̇nd\ *n* : NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND
[1]ell \'el\ *n* [ME *eln*, fr. OE] **1** : a former English unit of length (as for cloth) equal to 45 inches **2** : any of various units of length similar in use to the English ell
[2]ell *n* [alter. of [1]*el*] **1** : an extension at right angles to the length of a building **2** : an elbow in a pipe or conduit
el·lag·ic acid \ə-ˌlaj-ik-, e-\ *n* [F *ellagique*, fr. *ellag*, anagram of *galle* gall] : a crystalline phenolic compound $C_{14}H_6O_8$ with two lactone groupings that is obtained esp. from oak galls and some tannins
el·lipse \i-'lips, e-\ *n* [Gk *elleipsis*] **1 a** : OVAL **b** : a closed plane curve generated by a point moving in such a way that the sums of its distances from two fixed points is a constant: a plane section of a right circular cone that is a closed curve **2** : ELLIPSIS
el·lip·sis \i-'lip-səs, e-\ *n, pl* **el·lip·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk *elleipsis* ellipsis, ellipse, fr. *elleipein* to leave out, fall short, fr. *en* in + *leipein* to leave — more at IN, LOAN] **1 a** : the omission of one or more words that are obviously understood but that must be supplied to make a construction grammatically complete ⟨"the man that he sees" may be changed by ~ to "the man he sees"⟩ **b** : a leap or sudden passage without logical connectives from one topic to another **2** : marks or a mark (as . . . or *** or —) indicating the omission esp. of letters or words



ellipse 1b: *F, F′* foci; *P, P′, P″* any point on the curve; $FP + PF' = FP'' + P''F' = FP' + P'F'$

el·lip·soid \i-'lip-ˌsȯid, e-\ *n* : a surface all plane sections of which are ellipses or circles — **ellipsoid** *or* **el·lip·soi·dal** \i-ˌlip-'sȯid-ᵊl, (ˌ)e-\ *adj*
el·lip·tic \i-'lip-tik, e-\ *or* **el·lip·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* [Gk *elleiptikos* defective, marked by ellipsis, fr. *elleipein*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or shaped like an ellipse **b** : of, relating to, or being a space in which no line parallel to a given line passes through a point not on the line **2 a** : of, relating to, or marked by ellipsis or an ellipsis **b** (1) : of, relating to, or marked by extreme economy of speech or writing (2) : of or relating to studied obscurity of literary style — **el·lip·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
el·lip·tic·i·ty \i-ˌlip-'tis-ət-ē, (ˌ)e-\ *n* : deviation of an ellipse or a spheroid from the form of a circle or a sphere
elm \'elm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *elme* elm, L *ulmus*] **1** : any of a genus (*Ulmus* of the family Ulmaceae, the elm family) comprising large graceful trees with alternate stipulate leaves and small apetalous flowers **2** : the wood of an elm


elm 1

elm bark beetle *n* : either of two beetles that are vectors for the fungus causing Dutch elm disease: **a** : a beetle (*Hylurgopinus rufipes*) native to eastern No. America **b** : a European beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*) that is established in eastern No. America
elm blight *n* : DUTCH ELM DISEASE
elm leaf beetle *n* : a small orange-yellow black-striped Old World chrysomelid beetle (*Pyrrhalta luteola*) that is a leaf-eating pest of elms in eastern No. America as a larva and as an adult
el·o·cu·tion \ˌel-ə-'kyü-shən\ *n* [ME *elocucioun*, fr. L *elocution-*, *elocutio*, fr. *elocutus*, pp. of *eloquī*] **1** : the art of effective public speaking **2** : a style of speaking esp. in public — **el·o·cu·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* — **el·o·cu·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*
elo·dea \i-'lōd-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *helōdēs* marshy, fr. *helos* marsh; akin to Skt *saras* pond] : any of a small American genus (*Elodea*) of submerged aquatic monocotyledonous herbs
eloign \i-'lȯin\ *vt* [ME *eloynen*, fr. MF *esloigner*, fr. OF, fr. *es-* ex- (fr. L *ex-*) + *loing* (adv.) far, fr. L *longe*, fr. *longus* long] **1** *archaic* : to take (oneself) far away **2** *archaic* : to remove to a distant or unknown place : CONCEAL
[1]elon·gate \i-'lȯŋ-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [LL *elongatus*, pp. of *elongare*, to withdraw, fr. L *e-* + *longus* long] *vt* : to extend the length of ~ *vi* : to grow in length ***syn*** see EXTEND ***ant*** abbreviate, shorten
[2]elongate *adj* **1** : stretched out : LENGTHENED **2** : long in proportion to width : SLENDER
elon·gat·ed *adj* : ELONGATE
elon·ga·tion \(ˌ)ē-ˌlȯŋ-'gā-shən\ *n* [LL *elongare* to withdraw] **1 a** : the angular distance of a celestial body from another around which it revolves or from a particular point in the sky **b** : the daily extreme east or west position of a star with reference to the north celestial pole **2 a** : the state of being elongated or lengthened **b** : something that is elongated
elope \i-'lōp\ *vi* **eloped; elop·ing** [AF *aloper*] **1 a** : to run away from one's husband with a lover **b** : to run away secretly with the intention of getting married usu. without parental consent **2** : to slip away : ESCAPE — **elope·ment** \-'lōp-mənt\ *n* — **elop·er** *n*
el·o·quence \'el-ə-kwən(t)s\ *n* : discourse marked by force and persuasiveness; *also* : the art or power of using such discourse
el·o·quent \-kwənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *eloquent-*, *eloquens*, fr. prp. of *eloqui* to speak out, fr. *e-* + *loqui* to speak] **1** : marked by forceful and fluent expression ⟨an ~ preacher⟩ **2** : vividly or movingly expressive or revealing ⟨put his arm around her in an ~ gesture of reassurance⟩ — **el·o·quent·ly** *adv*
[1]else \'els\ *adv* [ME *elles*, fr. OE; akin to L *alius* other, *alter* other of two, Gk *allos* other] **1 a** : in a different manner or place or at a different time ⟨how ~ could he have acted⟩ ⟨here and nowhere ~⟩ **b** : in an additional manner or place or at an additional time ⟨where ~ is gold found⟩ **2** : if the facts are or were different : if not : OTHERWISE ⟨do what you are told or ~ you'll be sorry⟩ — used absolutely to express a threat ⟨do what I tell you or ~⟩
[2]else *adj* : OTHER: **a** : being different in identity ⟨it must have been somebody ~⟩ **b** : being in addition ⟨what ~ did he say⟩
else·where \-ˌ(h)we(ə)r, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)r\ *adv* : in or to another place ⟨took his business ~⟩
ELSS *abbr* extravehicular life support system
el·u·ant *or* **el·u·ent** \'el-yə-wənt\ *n* [L *eluent-*, *eluens*, prp. of *eluere*] : a solvent used in eluting
el·u·ate \'el-yə-wət, -ˌwāt\ *n* [L *eluere* + E *-ate*] : the washings obtained by eluting
elu·ci·date \i-'lü-sə-ˌdāt\ *vb* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** [LL *elucidatus*, pp. of *elucidare*, fr. L *e-* + *lucidus* lucid] *vt* : to make lucid esp. by explanation ~ *vi* : to give a clarifying explanation ***syn*** see EXPLAIN — **elu·ci·da·tion** \-ˌlü-sə-'dā-shən\ *n* — **elu·ci·da·tive** \-'lü-sə-ˌdāt-iv\ *adj* — **elu·ci·da·tor** \-ˌdāt-ər\ *n*
elu·cu·brate \i-'lü-k(y)ə-ˌbrāt\ *vt* **-brat·ed; -brat·ing** [L *elucubratus*, pp. of *elucubrare* to compose by lamplight, fr. *e-* + *lucubrare* to work by lamplight — more at LUCUBRATION] : to work out or express by studious effort — **elu·cu·bra·tion** \-ˌlü-k(y)ə-'brā-shən\ *n*
elude \ē-'lüd\ *vt* **elud·ed; elud·ing** [L *eludere*, fr. *e-* + *ludere* to play — more at LUDICROUS] **1** : to avoid adroitly : EVADE **2** : to escape the notice of ***syn*** see ESCAPE

Elul \e-'lül\ *n* [Heb *Ĕlūl*] : the 12th month of the civil year or the 6th month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table

elu·sion \ē-'lü-zhən\ *n* [ML *elusion-*, *elusio*, fr. LL, deception, fr. L *elusus*, pp. of *eludere*] : an act of eluding: as **a** : an adroit escape **b** : an evasion esp. of a problem or an order

elu·sive \ē-'lü-siv, -'lü-ziv\ *adj* : tending to elude: as **a** : tending to evade grasp or pursuit ⟨an eligible though ~ bachelor⟩ **b** : hard to comprehend or define ⟨an ~ concept that means many things to many people⟩ **c** : hard to isolate or identify ⟨a haunting ~ aroma⟩ — **elu·sive·ly** *adv* — **elu·sive·ness** *n*

elute \ē-'lüt\ *vt* **elut·ed; elut·ing** [L *elutus*, pp. of *eluere* to wash out, fr. *e-* + *lavere* to wash — more at LYE] : EXTRACT; *specif* : to remove (adsorbed material) from an adsorbent by means of a solvent — **elu·tion** \-'lü-shən\ *n*

elu·tri·ate \ē-'lü-trē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *elutriatus*, pp. of *elutriare*, irreg. fr. *elutus*] : to purify, separate, or remove by washing — **elu·tri·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

elu·vi·al \ē-'lü-vē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or composed of eluvium **2** : of or relating to eluviation or to eluviated materials or areas

elu·vi·ate \-vē-ˌāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to undergo eluviation

elu·vi·a·tion \(ˌ)ē-ˌlü-vē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the transportation of dissolved or suspended material within the soil by the movement of water when rainfall exceeds evaporation

elu·vi·um \ē-'lü-vē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *eluere* to wash out] **1** : rock debris produced by the weathering and disintegration of rock in situ **2** : fine soil or sand deposited by wind

el·ver \'el-vər\ *n* [alter. of *eelfare* (migration of eels)] : a young eel

elves *pl of* ELF

el·vish \'el-vish\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to elves **2** : MISCHIEVOUS

ely·sian \i-'lizh-ən\ *adj, often cap* **1** : of or relating to Elysium **2** : BLISSFUL, DELIGHTFUL

elysian fields *n pl, often cap E* : ELYSIUM

Ely·si·um \i-'liz(h)-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-si·ums** *or* **-sia** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *Elysion*] **1** : the abode of the blessed after death in classical mythology **2** : PARADISE 2

elytr- *or* **elytri-** *or* **elytro-** *comb form* [NL *elytron*] : elytron ⟨*elytr*oid⟩ ⟨*elytri*ferous⟩

el·y·tron \'el-ə-ˌträn\ *also* **el·y·trum** \-trəm\ *n, pl* **-tra** \-trə\ [NL, fr. Gk *elytron* sheath, wing cover, fr. *eilyein* to roll, wrap — more at VOLUBLE] : one of the anterior wings in beetles and some other insects that serve to protect the posterior pair of functional wings

em \'em\ *n* **1** : the letter *m* **2** : the set dimension of an em quad used as a unit of measure **3** : PICA 2

EM *abbr* **1** electromagnetic **2** end matched **3** engineer of mines **4** enlisted man

em- — see EN-

ema·ci·ate \i-'mā-shē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; at·ing** [L *emaciatus*, pp. of *emaciare*, fr. *e-* + *macies* leanness, fr. *macer* lean — more at MEAGER] *vt* **1** : to cause to lose flesh so as to become very thin **2** : to make feeble ~ *vi* : to waste away physically — **ema·ci·a·tion** \-ˌmā-s(h)ē-'ā-shən\ *n*

em·a·nate \'em-ə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *emanatus*, pp. of *emanare*, fr. *e-* + *manare* to flow] *vi* : to come out from a source ~ *vt* : to give out : EMIT ***syn*** see SPRING

em·a·na·tion \ˌem-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of emanating **b** : the origination of the world by a series of hierarchically descending radiations from the Godhead through intermediate stages to matter **2 a** : something that emanates or is produced by emanation : EFFLUENCE **b** : a heavy gaseous element produced by radioactive disintegration ⟨radium ~⟩ — **em·a·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **em·a·na·tive** \'em-ə-ˌnāt-iv\ *adj*

eman·ci·pate \i-'man(t)-sə-ˌpāt\ *vt* **-pat·ed; -pat·ing** [L *emancipatus*, pp. of *emancipare*, fr. *e-* + *mancipare* to transfer ownership of, fr. *mancip-*, *manceps* purchaser, fr. *manus* hand + *capere* to take — more at MANUAL, HEAVE] **1** : to release from paternal care and responsibility and make sui juris **2** : to free from restraint, control, or the power of another; *esp* : to free from bondage ***syn*** see FREE — **eman·ci·pa·tor** \-ˌpāt-ər\ *n*

eman·ci·pa·tion \i-ˌman(t)-sə-'pā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of emancipating — **eman·ci·pa·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*

emar·gin·ate \(ˌ)ē-'mär-jə-nət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* [L *emarginatus*, pp. of *emarginare* to deprive of a margin, fr. *e-* + *margin-*, *margo* margin] : having the margin notched — **emar·gi·na·tion** \(ˌ)ē-ˌmär-jə-'nā-shən\ *n*

emas·cu·late \i-'mas-kyə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *emasculatus*, pp. of *emasculare*, fr. *e-* + *masculus* male — more at MALE] **1** : to deprive of virile or procreative power : CASTRATE **2** : to deprive of masculine vigor or spirit : WEAKEN **3** : to remove the androecium of (a flower) in the process of artificial cross-pollination ***syn*** see UNNERVE — **emas·cu·late** \-lət\ *adj* — **emas·cu·la·tion** \-ˌmas-kyə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **emas·cu·la·tor** \-'mas-kyə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

em·balm \im-'bäm, -'bälm\ *vt* [ME *embaumen*, fr. MF *embaumer*, fr. OF *embasmer*, fr. *en-* + *basme* balm — more at BALM] **1** : to treat (a dead body) so as to protect from decay **2** : to fill with sweet odors : PERFUME **3** : to protect from decay or oblivion : PRESERVE — **em·balm·er** *n* — **em·balm·ment** \-'bä(l)m-mənt\ *n*

em·bank \im-'baŋk\ *vt* : to enclose or confine by an embankment

em·bank·ment \-mənt\ *n* **1** : the action of embanking **2** : a raised structure to hold back water or to carry a roadway

em·bar·ca·de·ro \(ˌ)em-ˌbär-kə-'de(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-ros** [Sp, fr. *embarcado*, pp. of *embarcar* to embark] *West* : a landing place esp. on an inland waterway

¹em·bar·go \im-'bär-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **-goes** [Sp, fr. *embargar* to bar, fr. (assumed) VL *imbarricare*, fr. L *in-* + (assumed) VL *barra* bar] **1** : an order of a government prohibiting the departure of commercial ships from its ports **2** : a legal prohibition on commerce ⟨an ~ on arms shipments⟩ **3** : STOPPAGE, IMPEDIMENT; *esp* : PROHIBITION ⟨I lay no ~ on anybody's words —Jane Austen⟩ **4** : a common carrier or public regulatory agency order prohibiting or restricting freight transportation

²embargo *vt* **-goed; -go·ing** : to place an embargo on (as ships or commerce)

em·bark \im-'bärk\ *vb* [MF *embarquer*, fr. OProv *embarcar*, fr. *em-* (fr. L *im-*) + *barca* bark] *vt* **1** : to cause to go on board a boat or airplane **2** : to engage, enlist, or invest in an enterprise ~ *vi* **1** : to go on board a boat or airplane for transportation **2** : to make a start : COMMENCE ⟨~*ed* on a new career⟩ — **em·bar·ka·tion** \ˌem-ˌbär-'kā-shən, -bər-\ *n* — **em·bark·ment** \im-'bärk-mənt\ *n*

em·bar·rass \im-'bar-əs\ *vt* [F *embarrasser*, fr. Sp *embarazar*, fr. Pg *embaraçar*] **1 a** : to hamper the movement of **b** : HINDER, IMPEDE **2 a** : to place in doubt, perplexity, or difficulties **b** : to involve in financial difficulties **c** : to cause to experience a state of self-conscious distress ⟨bawdy stories ~*ed* her ⟩ **3** : to make intricate : COMPLICATE **4** : to impair the activity of (a bodily function) or the function of (a bodily part) ⟨digestion ~*ed* by overeating⟩ — **em·bar·rass·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

syn EMBARRASS, DISCOMFIT, ABASH, DISCONCERT, RATTLE, FAZE *shared meaning element* : to distress by confusing or confounding

em·bar·rassed·ly \-əst-lē, -ə-səd-lē\ *adv* : with embarrassment ⟨giggled ~⟩

em·bar·rass·ing·ly \-ə-siŋ-lē\ *adv* : to an embarrassing degree

em·bar·rass·ment \im-'bar-ə-smənt\ *n* **1** : the state of being embarrassed: as **a** : confusion or disturbance of mind **b** : difficulty arising from the want of money to pay debts **c** : difficulty in functioning as a result of disease **2 a** : something that embarrasses : IMPEDIMENT **b** : an excessive quantity from which to select — used esp. in the phrase *embarrassment of riches*

em·bas·sage \'em-bə-sij\ *n* **1** : the message or commission entrusted to an ambassador **2** *archaic* : EMBASSY

em·bas·sy \'em-bə-sē\ *n, pl* **-sies** [MF *ambassee*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *ambaht* service] **1 a** : the function or position of an ambassador **b** : a mission abroad undertaken officially esp. by an ambassador **2** : EMBASSAGE 1 **3** : a body of diplomatic representatives; *specif* : one headed by an ambassador **4** : the official residence and offices of an ambassador

em·bat·tle \im-'bat-ᵊl\ *vt* **em·bat·tled; em·bat·tling** \-'bat-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *embatailen*, fr. MF *embatailler*, fr. *en-* + *batailler* to battle] **1** : to arrange in order of battle : prepare for battle **2** : FORTIFY

em·bat·tle·ment \-'bat-ᵊl-mənt\ *n* : BATTLEMENT

em·bay \im-'bā\ *vt* : to shut or shelter esp. in a bay ⟨an ~*ed* fleet⟩

em·bay·ment \-'bā-mənt\ *n* **1** : formation of a bay **2** : a bay or a conformation resembling a bay

Emb·den \'em-dən\ *n* [*Emden*, Germany] : a breed of large white domestic geese with an orange bill and deep orange shanks and toes

em·bed \im-'bed\ *vb* **em·bed·ded; em·bed·ding** *vt* **1 a** : to enclose closely in or as if in a matrix **b** : to make something an integral part of **c** : to prepare (a microscopy specimen) for sectioning by infiltrating with and enclosing in a supporting substance **2** : to place or fix firmly in surrounding matter ⟨dirt *embedded* in a carpet⟩ ~ *vi* : to become embedded — **em·bed·ment** \-'bed-mənt\ *n*

em·bel·lish \im-'bel-ish\ *vt* [ME *embelisshen*, fr. MF *embeliss-*, stem of *embelir*, fr. *en-* + *bel* beautiful — more at BEAUTY] **1** : to make beautiful with ornamentation : DECORATE **2** : to heighten the attractiveness of by adding ornamental details : ENHANCE ⟨events in his life, heavily ~*ed* by his biographers —Marvin Reznikoff⟩ ***syn*** see ADORN — **em·bel·lish·er** *n*

em·bel·lish·ment \-ish-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of embellishing **2** : something serving to embellish **3** : ORNAMENT 5

em·ber \'em-bər\ *n* [ME *eymere*, fr. ON *eimyrja;* akin to OE *ǣmerge* ashes] **1** : a glowing fragment (as of coal) from a fire; *esp* : one smoldering in ashes **2** *pl* : the smoldering remains of a fire **3** *pl* : slowly cooling emotions, memories, ideas, or responses still capable of being enlivened

ember day \'em-bər-\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ymbrendæg*, fr. *ymbrene* circuit, anniversary + *dæg* day] : a Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday following the first Sunday in Lent, Whitsunday, September 14, or December 13 and set apart for fasting and prayer in Western churches

em·bez·zle \im-'bez-əl\ *vt* **em·bez·zled; em·bez·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *embesilen*, fr. AF *embeseiller*, fr. MF *en-* + *besillier* to destroy] : to appropriate (as property entrusted to one's care) fraudulently to one's own use — **em·bez·zle·ment** \-əl-mənt\ *n* — **em·bez·zler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

em·bit·ter \im-'bit-ər\ *vt* **1** : to make bitter **2** : to excite bitter feelings in — **em·bit·ter·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

¹em·blaze \im-'blāz\ *vt* **em·blazed; em·blaz·ing** [*en-* + *blaze* (to blazon)] **1** *archaic* : EMBLAZON 1 **2** : to adorn sumptuously ⟨with gems and golden luster rich *emblazed* —John Milton⟩

²emblaze *vt* **em·blazed; em·blaz·ing** **1** : to illuminate esp. by a blaze **2** : to set ablaze

em·bla·zon \im-'blāz-ᵊn\ *vt* **em·bla·zoned; em·bla·zon·ing** \-'blāz-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ **1** : to inscribe or adorn with heraldic bearings or devices **2 a** : to deck in bright colors **b** : CELEBRATE, EXTOL ⟨have his . . . deeds ~*ed* by a poet —Thomas Nash⟩ — **em·bla·zon·er** \-'blāz-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* — **em·bla·zon·ment** \-'blāz-ᵊn-mənt\ *n* — **em·bla·zon·ry** \-ᵊn-rē\ *n*

¹em·blem \'em-bləm\ *n* [ME, fr. L *emblema* inlaid work, fr. Gk *emblēmat-*, *emblēma*, fr. *emballein* to insert, fr. *en-* + *ballein* to throw — more at DEVIL] **1** : a picture with a motto or set of verses intended as a moral lesson **2** : an object or the figure of an object symbolizing and suggesting another object or an idea **3 a** : a symbolic object used as a heraldic device **b** : a device, symbol, or figure adopted and used as an identifying mark

²emblem *vt* : EMBLEMATIZE

em·blem·at·ic \ˌem-blə-ˈmat-ik\ *also* **em·blem·at·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting an emblem : SYMBOLIC — **em·blem·at·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
em·blem·a·tize \em-ˈblem-ə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** : to represent by or as if by an emblem : SYMBOLIZE
em·ble·ments \ˈem-blə-mən(t)s\ *n pl* [ME *emblayment*, fr. MF *emblaement*, fr. *emblaer* to sow with grain, fr. *en-* + *blee* grain] : crops from annual cultivation legally belonging to the tenant
em·bodi·ment \im-ˈbäd-i-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of embodying : the state of being embodied **2** : one that embodies something ⟨the ~ of all our hopes⟩
em·body \im-ˈbäd-ē\ *vt* **em·bod·ied; em·body·ing** **1** : to give a body to (a spirit) : INCARNATE **2 a** : to deprive of spirituality **b** : to make concrete and perceptible **3** : to cause to become a body or part of a body : INCORPORATE **4** : to represent in human or animal form : PERSONIFY ⟨men who greatly *embodied* the idealism of American life —A. M. Schlesinger *b*1917⟩ — **em·bodi·er** *n*
embol- *or* **emboli-** *or* **embolo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *embolus*] : embolus ⟨*embol*ectomy⟩
em·bold·en \im-ˈbōl-dən\ *vt* : to instill with boldness or courage
em·bo·lec·to·my \ˌem-bə-ˈlek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : surgical removal of an embolus
em·bol·ic \em-ˈbäl-ik, im-\ *adj* : of or relating to an embolus or embolism
em·bo·lism \ˈem-bə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [ME *embolisme*, fr. ML *embolismus*, fr. Gk *embol-* (fr. *emballein* to insert, intercalate) — more at EMBLEM] **1** : the insertion of one or more days in a calendar : INTERCALATION **2 a** : the sudden obstruction of a blood vessel by an embolus **b** : EMBOLUS — **em·bo·lis·mic** \ˌem-bə-ˈliz-mik\ *adj*
em·bo·li·za·tion \ˌem-bə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : the process or state in which a blood vessel or organ is obstructed by the lodgment of a material mass (as an embolus)
em·bo·lus \ˈem-bə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī\ [NL, fr. Gk *embolos* wedge-shaped object, stopper, fr. *emballein*] : an abnormal particle (as an air bubble) circulating in the blood — compare THROMBUS
em·bo·ly \ˈem-bə-lē\ *n* [Gk *embolē* insertion, fr. *emballein*] : gastrula formation by simple invagination of the blastula wall
em·bon·point \ä⁰n-bō⁰n-pwa⁰n\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *en bon point* in good condition] : plumpness of person : STOUTNESS
em·bo·som \im-ˈbu̇z-əm *also* -ˈbüz-\ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to take into or place in the bosom **2** : to shelter closely : ENCLOSE ⟨his house ~*ed* in the grove —Alexander Pope⟩
¹em·boss \im-ˈbäs, -ˈbȯs\ *vt* [ME *embosen* to become exhausted fr. being hunted] *obs* : to drive (as a hunted animal) to bay
²emboss *vt* [ME *embosen*, fr. MF *embocer*, fr. *en-* + *boce* boss] **1** : to raise the surface of into bosses; *esp* : to ornament with raised work **2** : to raise in relief from a surface **3** : ADORN, EMBELLISH — **em·boss·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **em·boss·er** \-ər\ *n* — **em·boss·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
em·bou·chure \ˌäm-bu̇-ˈshu̇(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. (*s'*)*emboucher* to flow into, fr. *en-* + *bouche* mouth — more at DEBOUCH] **1** : the position and use of the lips in producing a musical tone on a wind instrument **2** : the mouthpiece of a musical instrument
em·bowed \im-ˈbōd\ *adj* : bent like a bow: as **a** : ARCHED, VAULTED ⟨an ~ ceiling⟩ **b** : curved outward to form a projecting recess
em·bow·el \im-ˈbau̇(-ə)l\ *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** **1** : DISEMBOWEL **2** *obs* : ENCLOSE
em·bow·er \im-ˈbau̇(-ə)r\ *vt* : to shelter or enclose in a bower ⟨like a rose ~*ed* in its own green leaves —P. B. Shelley⟩
¹em·brace \im-ˈbrās\ *vb* **em·braced; em·brac·ing** [ME *embracen*, fr. MF *embracer*, fr. OF *embracier*, fr. *en-* + *brace* two arms — more at BRACE] *vt* **1 a** : to clasp in the arms : HUG **b** : CHERISH, LOVE **2** : ENCIRCLE, ENCLOSE **3 a** : to take up esp. readily or gladly ⟨~ a cause⟩ **b** : to avail oneself of : WELCOME ⟨*embraced* the opportunity to study further⟩ **4 a** : to take in or include as a part, item, or element of a more inclusive whole ⟨charity ~*s* all acts that contribute to human welfare⟩ **b** : to be equal or equivalent to ⟨his assets *embraced* $10⟩ ~ *vi* : to participate in an embrace
syn **1** see ADOPT ***ant*** spurn **2** see INCLUDE — **em·brace·able** \-ˈbrā-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **em·brace·ment** \-ˈbrā-smənt\ *n* — **em·brac·er** *n* — **em·brac·ing·ly** \-ˈbrā-siŋ-lē\ *adv*
²embrace *n* **1** : a close encircling with the arms and pressure to the bosom esp. as a sign of affection : HUG **2** : GRIP, ENCIRCLEMENT ⟨helpless in the ~ of terror⟩ **3** : ACCEPTANCE ⟨his ready ~ of new doctrines⟩
em·bra·ceor \im-ˈbrā-sər\ *n* [AF, fr. MF *embraseor* instigator, fr. *embraser* to set on fire, fr. *en-* + *brase, brese* live coals] : one guilty of embracery
em·brac·ery \im-ˈbrās-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** [ME, fr. AF *embraceor*] : an attempt to influence a jury corruptly (as by bribes or threats)
em·brac·ive \-ˈbrā-siv\ *adj* **1** : disposed to embrace **2** : INCLUSIVE, COMPREHENSIVE
em·branch·ment \im-ˈbranch-mənt\ *n* [F *embranchement*, fr. (*s'*)*embrancher* to branch out, fr. *en-* + *branche* branch] **1** : a branching off or out (as of a valley) **2** : BRANCH
em·bran·gle \im-ˈbraŋ-gəl\ *vt* **-gled; -gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [*en-* + *brangle* (squabble)] : EMBROIL — **em·bran·gle·ment** \-gəl-mənt\ *n*
em·bra·sure \im-ˈbrā-zhər\ *n* [F, fr. obs. *embraser* to widen an opening] **1** : a recess of a door or window **2** : an opening with sides flaring outward in a wall or parapet of a fortification usu. for allowing the firing of cannon
em·brit·tle \im-ˈbrit-ᵊl\ *vb* **-brit·tled; -brit·tling** \-ˈbrit-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* : to make brittle ~ *vi* : to become brittle — **em·brit·tle·ment** \-ˈbrit-ᵊl-mənt\ *n*
em·bro·cate \ˈem-brə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [LL *embrocatus*, pp. of *embrocare*, fr. Gk *embrochē* lotion, fr. *embrechein* to embrocate, fr. *en-* + *brechein* to wet] : to moisten and rub (a part of the body) with a lotion
em·bro·ca·tion \ˌem-brə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : LINIMENT
embroglio *var of* IMBROGLIO
em·broi·der \im-ˈbrȯid-ər\ *vb* **em·broi·dered; em·broi·der·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *embroderen*, fr. MF *embroder*, fr. *en-* + *broder* to embroider, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *brord* point, *byrst* bristle] *vt* **1 a** : to ornament with needlework **b** : to form with needlework **2** : to elaborate on : EMBELLISH ~ *vi* **1** : to make embroidery **2** : to provide embellishments : ELABORATE — **em·broi·der·er** \-ˈbrȯid-ər-ər\ *n*
em·broi·dery \im-ˈbrȯid-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-der·ies** **1 a** : the art or process of forming decorative designs with hand or machine needlework **b** : a design or decoration so formed **c** : an object decorated with embroidery **2** : elaboration by use of decorative and often fictitious detail **3** : something pleasing or desirable but unimportant ⟨considered the humanities mere educational ~⟩
em·broil \im-ˈbrȯi(ə)l\ *vt* [F *embrouiller*, fr. MF, fr. *en-* + *brouiller* to broil] **1** : to throw into disorder or confusion **2** : to involve in conflict or difficulties — **em·broil·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
em·brown \im-ˈbraůn\ *vt* **1** : DARKEN **2** : to cause to turn brown
embrue *var of* IMBRUE
embry- *or* **embryo-** *comb form* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *embryon*] : embryo ⟨*embryo*geny⟩
em·bryo \ˈem-brē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **em·bry·os** [ML *embryon-, embryo*, fr. Gk *embryon*, fr. *en-* + *bryein* to swell; akin to Gk *bryon* moss] **1 a** *archaic* : a vertebrate at any stage of development prior to birth or hatching **b** : an animal in the early stages of growth and differentiation that are characterized by cleavage, the laying down of fundamental tissues, and the formation of primitive organs and organ systems; *esp* : the developing human individual from the time of implantation to the end of the eighth week after conception **2** : the young sporophyte of a seed plant usu. comprising a rudimentary plant with plumule, radicle, and cotyledons **3 a** : something as yet undeveloped **b** : a beginning or undeveloped state of something ⟨productions seen in ~ during their out-of-town tryout period —Henry Hewes⟩
em·bryo·gen·e·sis \ˌem-brē-ō-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* : the formation and development of the embryo — **em·bryo·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj*
em·bry·og·e·ny \ˌem-brē-ˈäj-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** : EMBRYOGENESIS — **em·bryo·gen·ic** \-brē-ō-ˈjen-ik\ adj
embryol *abbr* embryology
em·bry·ol·o·gy \ˌem-brē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *embryologie*] **1** : a branch of biology dealing with embryos and their development **2** : the features and phenomena exhibited in the formation and development of an embryo — **em·bry·o·log·ic** \-brē-ə-ˈläj-ik\ *or* **em·bry·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **em·bry·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **em·bry·ol·o·gist** \-brē-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
embryon- *or* **embryoni-** *comb form* [ML *embryon-, embryo*] : embryo ⟨*embryon*ic⟩
em·bry·o·nal \em-ˈbrī-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : EMBRYONIC 1 — **em·bry·o·nal·ly** \-ˈbrī-ə-nə-lē\ *adv*
em·bry·o·nat·ed \ˈem-brē-ə-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* : having an embryo
em·bry·on·ic \ˌem-brē-ˈän-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an embryo **2** : being in an early stage of development : INCIPIENT, RUDIMENTARY — **em·bry·on·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
embryonic disk *n* **1 a** : BLASTODISC **b** : BLASTODERM **2** : the part of the inner cell mass of a blastocyst from which the embryo of a placental mammal develops — called also *embryonic shield*
embryonic layer *n* : GERM LAYER
embryonic membrane *n* : a structure (as the amnion) that derives from the fertilized ovum but does not form a part of the embryo
em·bryo·phyte \ˈem-brē-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* : a plant (as a fern) producing an embryo and developing vascular tissues
embryo sac *n* : the female gametophyte of a seed plant consisting of a thin-walled sac within the nucellus that contains the egg nucleus and others which give rise to endosperm on fertilization
em·bry·ot·ic \ˌem-brē-ˈät-ik\ *adj* [*embryo* + *-tic* (as in *patriotic*)] : EMBRYONIC 2
¹em·cee \ˈem-ˈsē\ *n* [*M. C.*] : MASTER OF CEREMONIES
²emcee *vb* **em·ceed; em·cee·ing** *vt* : to act as master of ceremonies of ~ *vi* : to act as master of ceremonies
Em·den *var of* EMBDEN
-eme \ˌēm\ *n suffix* [F *-ème* (fr. *phonème* speech sound, phoneme)] : significantly distinctive unit of language structure ⟨tax*eme*⟩
emend \ē-ˈmend\ *vt* [ME *emenden*, fr. L *emendare* — more at AMEND] **1** *archaic* : to free from defects **2** : to correct usu. by textual alterations ***syn*** see CORRECT ***ant*** corrupt (*as a text*) — **emend·able** \-ˈmen-də-bəl\ *adj* — **emend·er** *n*
emen·date \ˈē-ˌmen-ˌdāt; ˈem-ən-, -ˌen-\ *vt* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** : EMEND 2 — **emen·da·tor** \-ˌdāt-ər\ *n* — **emen·da·to·ry** \ē-ˈmen-də-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
emen·da·tion \ˌē-ˌmen-ˈdā-shən; ˌem-ən-, -ˌen-\ *n* **1** : the act of emending **2** : an alteration designed to correct or improve
emer *abbr* emeritus
¹em·er·ald \ˈem-(ə-)rəld\ *n* [ME *emerallde*, fr. MF *esmeralde*, fr. (assumed) VL *smaralda*, fr. L *smaragdus*, fr. Gk *smaragdos*] **1** : a rich green variety of beryl prized as a gemstone **2** : any of various green gemstones (as synthetic corundum or demantoid)
²emerald *adj* : brightly or richly green
emerald green *n* **1** : a clear bright green resembling that of the emerald **2** : any of various strong greens
emerge \i-ˈmərj\ *vi* **emerged; emerg·ing** [L *emergere*, fr. *e-* + *mergere* to plunge — more at MERGE] **1** : to rise from or as if from an enveloping fluid : come out into view **2** : to become manifest **3** : to rise from an obscure or inferior condition **4** : to come into being through evolution
emer·gence \i-ˈmər-jən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of emerging **2** : any of various superficial outgrowths of plant tissue usu. formed from both epidermis and immediately underlying tissues
emer·gen·cy \i-ˈmər-jən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : an unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting state that calls for immediate action **2** : a pressing need ***syn*** see JUNCTURE
¹emer·gent \i-ˈmər-jənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *emergent-, emergens*, prp. of *emergere*] **1** : rising out of or as if out of a fluid **2 a** : arising unexpectedly **b** : calling for prompt action : URGENT **3** : arising as a natural or logical consequence **4** : newly formed ⟨the ~ nations of Africa⟩
²emergent *n* **1** : something emergent **2 a** : a tree that rises above the surrounding forest **b** : a plant rooted in shallow water and having most of the vegetative growth above water

emergent evolution *n* : a biological and philosophical theory that new characters and qualities (as life and consciousness) appear in the evolutionary process at more complex organizational levels (as that of the molecule, the cell, and the organism) which cannot be predicted solely by studying less complex levels of organization but which are determined by a rearrangement of preexistent entities

emer·i·ta \i-'mer-ət-ə\ *adj* [L, fem. of *emeritus*] : EMERITUS — used of a woman ⟨Professor *Emerita* Mary Smith⟩

¹emer·i·tus \i-'mer-ət-əs\ *adj* [L, pp. of *emerēri* to serve out one's term, fr. *e-* + *merēri, merērе* to earn, deserve, serve — more at MERIT] **1** : holding after retirement an honorary title corresponding to that held last during active service **2** : retired from an office or position ⟨professor ~⟩ — converted to *emeriti* after a plural substantive ⟨professors *emeriti*⟩

²emeritus *n, pl* **-i·ti** \-ə-ˌtī, -ˌtē\ : one retired from professional life but permitted to hold the rank of his last office as an honorary title

emersed \(')ē-'mərst\ *adj* : standing out of or rising above a surface (as of a fluid) ⟨~ aquatic weeds⟩

emer·sion \(')ē-'mər-zhən, -shən\ *n* [L *emersus*, pp. of *emergere*] : an act of emerging : EMERGENCE

em·ery \'em-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **em·er·ies** *often attrib* [ME, fr. MF *emeri*, fr. OIt *smiriglio*, fr. ML *smiriglum*, fr. Gk *smyrid-, smyris*] : a dark granular mineral that consists essentially of corundum and is used for grinding and polishing; *also* : a hard abrasive powder

emery board *n* : a nail file made of cardboard covered with powdered emery

eme·sis \'em-ə-səs, i-'mē-\ *n, pl* **eme·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *emein*] : an act or instance of vomiting

emet·ic \i-'met-ik\ *n* [L *emetica*, fr. Gk *emetikē*, fr. fem. of *emetikos* causing vomiting, fr. *emein* to vomit — more at VOMIT] : an agent that induces vomiting — **emetic** *adj* — **emet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

em·e·tine \'em-ə-ˌtēn\ *n* : an amorphous alkaloid $C_{29}H_{40}N_2O_4$ extracted from ipecac root and used as an emetic and expectorant

émeute \ā-mœ̄t\ *n, pl* **émeutes** *same*\ [F] : an outbreak of disorder or violence; *esp* : a popular uprising

EMF *abbr* electromotive force

-emia *or* **-ae·mia** \'ē-mē-ə\ *also* **-he·mia** *or* **-hae·mia** \'hē-\ *n comb form* [NL *-emia, -aemia*, fr. Gk *-aimia*, fr. *haima* blood — more at HEM-] **1** : condition of having (such) blood ⟨leuk*emia*⟩ **2** : condition of having (a specified thing) in the blood ⟨ur*emia*⟩

¹em·i·grant \'em-i-grənt\ *n* **1** : one who emigrates **2** : a migrant plant or animal

syn EMIGRANT, IMMIGRANT *shared meaning element* : one that leaves one place to settle in another

²emigrant *adj* : departing from a country to settle elsewhere

em·i·grate \'em-ə-ˌgrāt\ *vi* **-grat·ed; -grat·ing** [L *emigratus*, pp. of *emigrare*, fr. *e-* + *migrare* to migrate] : to leave one's place of abode or country for life or residence elsewhere — **em·i·gra·tion** \ˌem-ə-'grā-shən\ *n*

émi·gré *or* **emi·gré** \'em-i-ˌgrā, ˌem-i-'\ *n* [F *émigré*, fr. pp. of *émigrer* to emigrate, fr. L *emigrare*] : EMIGRANT; *esp* : a person forced to emigrate for political reasons

em·i·nence \'em-ə-nən(t)s\ *n* **1** : a position of prominence or superiority — used as a title for a cardinal **2** : something eminent, prominent, or lofty: as **a** : a person of high rank or attainments **b** : a natural elevation

émi·nence grise \ā-mē-nä⁰n-sə-grēz\ *n, pl* **éminences grises** *same*\ [F, lit., gray eminence, nickname of Père Joseph (François du Tremblay) †1638 F monk and diplomat, confidant of Cardinal Richelieu who was known as *Éminence Rouge* red eminence; fr. the colors of their respective habits] : a confidential agent; *esp* : one exercising unsuspected or unofficial power

em·i·nen·cy \'em-ə-nən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : EMINENCE

em·i·nent \'em-ə-nənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *eminent-, eminens*, prp. of *eminēre* to stand out, fr. *e-* + *-minēre* (akin to L *mont-, mons* mountain] **1** : standing out so as to be readily perceived or noted : CONSPICUOUS **2 a** : jutting out : PROJECTING **b** : LOFTY, TOWERING **3** : exhibiting eminence esp. in standing above others in some quality or position : PROMINENT ***syn*** see FAMOUS — **em·i·nent·ly** *adv*

eminent domain *n* : a right of a government to take private property for public use by virtue of the superior dominion of the sovereign power over all lands within its jurisdiction

emir \i-'mi(ə)r, ā-\ *n* [Ar *amīr* commander] : a native ruler in parts of Asia and Africa

emir·ate \i-'mir-ət, ā-, -'mi(ə)r-ˌāt\ *n* : the state or jurisdiction of an emir

em·is·sary \'em-ə-ˌser-ē\ *n, pl* **-sar·ies** [L *emissarius*, fr. *emissus*, pp. of *emittere*] **1** : one sent on a mission as the agent of another **2** : a secret agent

emis·sion \ē-'mish-ən\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of emitting : EMANATION **b** *archaic* : PUBLICATION **c** : a putting into circulation **2 a** : something sent forth by emitting: as (1) : electrons discharged from a surface (2) : electromagnetic waves radiated by an antenna or a celestial body (3) : substances discharged into the air (as by a smokestack or an automobile gasoline engine) **b** : EFFLUVIUM — **emis·sive** \-'mis-iv\ *adj*

emis·siv·i·ty \ˌem-ə-'siv-ət-ē, ˌē-ˌmis-'iv-\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the relative power of a surface to emit heat by radiation : the ratio of the radiant energy emitted by a surface to that emitted by a blackbody at the same temperature

emit \ē-'mit\ *vt* **emit·ted; emit·ting** [L *emittere* to send out, fr. *e-* + *mittere* to send — more at SMITE] **1 a** : to throw or give off or out (as light) **b** : to send out : EJECT **2 a** : to issue with authority; *esp* : to put (as money) into circulation **b** *obs* : PUBLISH **3** : to give utterance or voice to ⟨*emitted* a groan⟩ — **emit·ter** *n*

em·men·a·gogue \ə-'men-ə-ˌgäg, e-\ *n* [Gk *emmēna* menses (fr. neut. pl. of *emmēnos* monthly, fr. *en-* + *mēn* month) + E *-agogue* — more at MOON] : an agent that promotes the menstrual discharge

Em·men·ta·ler *or* **Em·men·tha·ler** \'em-ən-ˌtäl-ər\ *or* **Em·men·thal** \-ˌtäl\ *n* [G, fr. *Emmenthal*, Switzerland] : SWISS CHEESE

em·mer \'em-ər\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *amari*] : a hard red wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*) having spikelets with two kernels that remain in the glumes after threshing; *broadly* : a tetraploid wheat — called also *emmer wheat*

em·met \'em-ət\ *n* [ME *emete*] *chiefly dial* : ANT

Em·my \'em-ē\ *n, pl* **Emmys** [fr. alter. of *Immy*, nickname for *image orthicon* (a camera tube used in television)] : a statuette awarded annually by a professional organization for notable achievement in television

em·o·din \'em-ə-dən\ *n* [ISV *emodi-* (fr. NL *Rheum emodi*, species of rhubarb) + *-in*] : an orange crystalline phenolic compound $C_{15}H_{10}O_5$ that is obtained from plants (as rhubarb and cascara buckthorn) and is used as a laxative

¹emol·lient \i-'mäl-yənt\ *adj* [L *emollient-, emolliens*, prp. of *emollire* to soften, fr. *e-* + *mollis* soft — more at MELT] **1** : making soft or supple; *also* : soothing esp. to the skin or mucous membrane **2** : making less intense or harsh : MOLLIFYING ⟨soothe us in our agonies with ~ words —H. L. Mencken⟩

²emollient *n* : something that softens or soothes

emol·u·ment \i-'mäl-yə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *emolumentum*, lit., miller's fee, fr. *e-* + *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] **1** : the returns arising from office or employment usu. in the form of compensation or perquisites **2** *archaic* : ADVANTAGE ***syn*** see WAGE

emote \i-'mōt\ *vt* **emot·ed; emot·ing** [back-formation fr. *emotion*] : to give expression to emotion esp. in or as if in a play or movie

emo·tion \i-'mō-shən\ *n* [MF, fr. *emouvoir* to stir up, fr. L *exmovēre* to move away, disturb, fr. *ex-* + *movēre* to move] **1 a** *obs* : DISTURBANCE **b** : EXCITEMENT **2 a** : the affective aspect of consciousness : FEELING **b** : a state of feeling **c** : a psychic and physical reaction (as anger or fear) subjectively experienced as strong feeling and physiologically involving changes that prepare the body for immediate vigorous action ***syn*** see FEELING

emo·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to emotion ⟨an ~ disorder⟩ **2** : dominated by or prone to emotion ⟨an ~ person⟩ **3** : appealing to or arousing emotion ⟨an ~ sermon⟩ **4** : markedly aroused or agitated in feeling or sensibilities ⟨gets ~ at weddings⟩ — **emo·tion·al·i·ty** \-ˌmō-shə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **emo·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

emo·tion·al·ism \i-'mō-shnə-ˌliz-əm, -shən-ᵊl-ˌiz-\ *n* **1** : undue indulgence in or display of emotion **2** : a tendency to regard things emotionally

emo·tion·al·ist \-shnə-ləst, -shən-ᵊl-əst\ *n* **1** : one who tends to rely on emotion as opposed to reason; *esp* : one who bases a theory or policy on an emotional conviction **2** : one given to emotionalism — **emo·tion·al·is·tic** \-ˌmō-shnə-'lis-tik, -shən-ᵊl-'is-\ *adj*

emo·tion·al·ize \i-'mō-shnə-ˌlīz, -shən-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give an emotional quality to

emo·tion·less \i-'mō-shən-ləs\ *adj* : showing or expressing no emotion ⟨the colonel's words were short and ~ —*Infantry Jour.*⟩ — **emo·tion·less·ness** *n*

emo·tive \i-'mōt-iv\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the emotions **2** : appealing to or expressing emotion ⟨the ~ use of language⟩ — **emo·tive·ly** *adv* — **emo·tiv·i·ty** \i-ˌmō-'tiv-ət-ē, ˌē-ˌmō-\ *n*

emp *abbr* emperor; empress

empanel *var of* IMPANEL

em·pa·thet·ic \ˌem-pə-'thet-ik\ *adj* : EMPATHIC — **em·pa·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

em·path·ic \em-'path-ik, im-\ *adj* : involving, characterized by, or based on empathy

em·pa·thize \'em-pə-ˌthīz\ *vi* **-thized; -thiz·ing** : to experience empathy ⟨adults unable to ~ with the frustrations of children⟩

em·pa·thy \'em-pə-thē\ *n* **1** : the imaginative projection of a subjective state into an object so that the object appears to be infused with it **2** : the capacity for participation in another's feelings or ideas ***syn*** see SYMPATHY

em·pen·nage \ˌäm-pə-'näzh, ˌem-\ *n* [F, feathers of an arrow, empennage] : the tail assembly of an airplane

em·per·or \'em-pər-ər, -prər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *empereor*, fr. L *imperator*, lit., commander, fr. *imperatus*, pp. of *imperare* to command, fr. *in-* + *parare* to prepare, order — more at PARE] : the sovereign or supreme monarch of an empire — **em·per·or·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

em·pery \'em-p(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **em·per·ies** [ME *emperie*, fr. OF, fr. *emperer* to command, fr. L *imperare*] : wide dominion : EMPIRE

em·pha·sis \'em(p)-fə-səs\ *n, pl* **em·pha·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk, exposition, emphasis, fr. *emphainein* to indicate, fr. *en-* + *phainein* to show — more at FANCY] **1 a** : force or intensity of expression that gives special impressiveness or importance to something ⟨writing with ~ on the need for reform⟩ **b** : a particular prominence given in reading or speaking to one or more words or syllables **2** : special consideration of or stress or insistence on something ⟨the school's ~ on discipline⟩

em·pha·size \'em(p)-fə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-sized; -siz·ing** : to give emphasis to : place emphasis on : STRESS ⟨*emphasized* the need for reform⟩

em·phat·ic \im-'fat-ik, em-\ *adj* [Gk *emphatikos*, fr. *emphainein*] **1** : uttered with or marked by emphasis **2** : tending to express oneself in forceful speech or to take decisive action **3** : attracting special attention **4** : constituting or belonging to a set of tense forms in English consisting of the auxiliary *do* followed by an infinitive without *to* that are used to facilitate rhetorical inversion or to emphasize — **em·phat·i·cal·ly** \-'fat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

em·phy·se·ma \ˌem(p)-fə-'zē-mə, -'sē-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *emphysēma* bodily inflation] : a condition characterized by air-filled expansions of body tissues; *specif* : a condition of the lung marked by distension and frequently by impairment of heart action — **em·phy·se·ma·tous** \-'zem-ət-əs, -'sem-, -'zēm-, -'sēm-\ *adj*

em·pire \'em-ˌpī(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *empire, empirie,* fr. L *imperium* absolute authority, empire, fr. *imperare* to command] **1 a** (1) : a major political unit having a territory of great extent or a number of territories or peoples under a single sovereign authority; *esp* : one having an emperor as chief of state (2) : the territory of such a political unit **b** : something held to resemble a political empire; *esp* : an extensive territory or enterprise under single domination or control ⟨the beautiful heiress to a meat-packing ~ — *Punch*⟩ **2** : imperial sovereignty, rule, or dominion

Em·pire \'äm-ˌpi(ə)r, 'em-ˌpī(ə)r\ *adj* [F, fr. (*le premier*) *Empire* the first Empire of France] : of, relating to, or characteristic of a style (as of clothing or furniture) popular in early 19th century France

Em·pire Day \'em-ˌpī(ə)r-\ *n* : COMMONWEALTH DAY — used before the official adoption of *Commonwealth Day* in 1958

em·pir·ic \im-'pir-ik, em-\ *n* [L *empiricus,* fr. Gk *empeirikos* doctor relying on experience alone, fr. *empeiria* experience, fr. *en-* + *peiran* to attempt — more at FEAR] **1** *archaic* : CHARLATAN **2** : one who relies on practical experience

em·pir·i·cal \-i-kəl\ *also* **em·pir·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : relying on experience or observation alone often without due regard for system and theory **2** : originating in or based on observation or experience ⟨~ data⟩ **3** : capable of being verified or disproved by observation or experiment ⟨~ laws⟩ — **em·pir·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

empirical formula *n* : a chemical formula showing the simplest ratio of elements in a compound rather than the total number of atoms in the molecule ⟨CH_2O is the *empirical formula* for glucose⟩

em·pir·i·cism \im-'pir-ə-ˌsiz-əm, em-\ *n* **1 a** : a former school of medical practice founded on experience without the aid of science or theory **b** : QUACKERY, CHARLATANRY **2 a** : the practice of relying on observation and experiment esp. in the natural sciences **b** : a tenet arrived at empirically **3 a** : a theory that all knowledge originates in experience **b** : LOGICAL POSITIVISM — **em·pir·i·cist** \-səst\ *n*

em·place \im-'plās\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *emplacement*] : to put into position ⟨missiles *emplaced* around the city⟩

em·place·ment \-'plā-smənt\ *n* [F, fr. MF *emplacer* to emplace, fr. *en-* + *place*] **1** : the situation or location of something **2** : a prepared position for weapons or military equipment ⟨radar ~*s*⟩ **3** : a putting into position : PLACEMENT

em·plane \im-'plān\ *var of* ENPLANE

¹em·ploy \im-'plȯi\ *vt* [ME *emploien,* fr. MF *emploier,* fr. L *implicare* to enfold, involve, implicate, fr. *in-* + *plicare* to fold — more at PLY] **1 a** : to make use of (someone or something inactive) ⟨~ a fine pen to fill in the details⟩ **b** : to occupy (as time) advantageously **c** (1) : to use or engage the services of (2) : to provide with a job that pays wages or a salary **2** : to devote to or direct toward a particular activity or person ⟨~*ed* all her wiles to get him to propose⟩ ***syn*** see USE — **em·ploy·er** *n*

²employ *n* **1** *archaic* **a** : USE **b** : OCCUPATION **2** : the state of being employed esp. for wages or a salary ⟨in the government's ~⟩

¹em·ploy·able \im-'plȯi-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being employed — **em·ploy·abil·i·ty** \-ˌplȯi-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

²employable *n* : one who is employable

em·ploy·ee *or* **em·ploye** \im-ˌplȯ(i)-'ē, (ˌ)em-; im-'plȯ(i)-ˌē, em-\ *n* : one employed by another usu. for wages or salary and in a position below the executive level

em·ploy·ment \im-'plȯi-mənt\ *n* **1** : USE, PURPOSE **2 a** : activity in which one engages or is employed ⟨suitable ~ was hard to find⟩ **b** : an instance of such activity **3** : the act of employing : the state of being employed

employment agency *n* : an agency whose business is to find jobs for people seeking them or to find people to fill jobs that are open

em·poi·son \im-'pȯiz-ᵊn\ *vt* [ME *empoysonen,* fr. MF *empoisoner,* fr. *en-* + *poison*] **1** *archaic* : POISON **2** : EMBITTER ⟨a look of ~*ed* acceptance —Saul Bellow⟩ — **em·poi·son·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

em·po·ri·um \im-'pōr-ē-əm, em-, -'pȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ri·ums** *also* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *emporion,* fr. *emporos* traveler, trader, fr. *en* in + *poros* passage, journey — more at IN, FARE] **1 a** : a place of trade; *esp* : a commercial center **b** : a usu. sizable place of business that serves customers **2** : a store carrying a diversity of merchandise

em·pow·er \im-'paù(-ə)r\ *vt* : to give official authority or legal power to ***syn*** see ENABLE — **em·pow·er·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

em·press \'em-prəs\ *n* [ME *emperesse,* fr. OF, fem. of *empereor* emperor] **1** : the wife or widow of an emperor **2** : a woman who holds an imperial title in her own right

em·presse·ment \äⁿ-pres-(ə-)mäⁿ\ *n* [F, fr. (*s'*)*empresser* to hurry, fr. *en-* + *presser* to press] : demonstrative warmth or cordiality

em·prise \em-'prīz\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *emprendre* to undertake, fr. (assumed) VL *imprehendere,* fr. L *in-* + *prehendere* to seize] : UNDERTAKING, ENTERPRISE; *esp* : an adventurous, daring, or chivalric enterprise

¹emp·ty \'em(p)-tē\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *æmettig* unoccupied, fr. *æmetta* leisure, fr. *æ-* without + *-metta* (fr. *mōtan* to have to) — more at MUST] **1 a** : containing nothing **b** : not occupied or inhabited **c** : UNFREQUENTED **d** : not pregnant ⟨~ heifer⟩ **e** : NULL 4a ⟨the ~ set⟩ **2 a** : lacking reality, substance, or value : HOLLOW ⟨an ~ pleasure⟩ **b** : destitute of effect or force **c** : devoid of sense : FOOLISH **3** : HUNGRY **4 a** : IDLE ⟨~ hours⟩ **b** : having no purpose or result : USELESS **5** : marked by the absence of human life, activity, or comfort — **emp·ti·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **emp·ti·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

syn **1** EMPTY, VACANT, BLANK, VOID, VACUOUS *shared meaning element* : lacking contents which could or should be present. EMPTY implies a complete absence of contents, especially of usual or normal contents; VACANT, an absence of appropriate contents or occupants ⟨an *empty* bucket⟩ ⟨his purse was *empty*⟩ ⟨a *vacant* apartment⟩ ⟨*vacant* professorships⟩ BLANK stresses the absence of any significant, relieving, or intelligible features on a surface ⟨the window faced a *blank* wall⟩ Sometimes the word implies a vacancy intended to be filled; thus, a *blank* sheet of paper is one available for writing on. VOID implies absolute emptiness to the senses ⟨the *void,* hollow, universal air —P. B. Shelley⟩ VACUOUS suggests the emptiness of a vacuum and is often applied hyperbolically to what lacks intelligence or significance ⟨there was nothing to be read in the *vacuous* face, blank as a school notice-board out of term —Graham Greene⟩ ***ant*** full

2 see VAIN

²empty *vb* **emp·tied; emp·ty·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to make empty : remove the contents of **b** : DEPRIVE, DIVEST **c** : to discharge (itself) of contents **2** : to remove from what holds or encloses **3** : to transfer by emptying ~ *vi* **1** : to become empty **2** : to discharge its contents ⟨the river *empties* into the ocean⟩

³empty *n, pl* **empties** : something that is empty: as **a** : an empty container **b** : an unoccupied vehicle

emp·ty–hand·ed \ˌem(p)-tē-'han-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having or bringing nothing **2** : having acquired or gained nothing ⟨came back ~⟩

emp·ty–head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* : SCATTERBRAINED

em·pur·ple \im-'pər-pəl\ *vb* **em·pur·plied; em·pur·pling** \-'pər-p(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to tinge or color purple ~ *vi* : to become purple

em·py·ema \ˌem-ˌpī-'ē-mə\ *n, pl* **-ema·ta** \-mət-ə\ *or* **-emas** [LL, fr. Gk *empyēma*] : the presence of pus in a bodily cavity — **em·py·emic** \-mik\ *adj*

em·py·re·al \ˌem-ˌpī-'rē-əl, -pə-; em-'pir-ē-əl, -'pī-rē-\ *adj* [LL *empyrius, empyreus,* fr. LGk *empyrios,* fr. Gk *en* in + *pyr* fire] **1** : of or relating to the empyrean : CELESTIAL **2** : SUBLIME

¹em·py·re·an \-ən\ *adj* : EMPYREAL

²empyrean *n* **1 a** : the highest heaven or heavenly sphere in ancient and medieval cosmology usu. consisting of fire or light **b** : the true and ultimate heavenly paradise **2** : FIRMAMENT, HEAVENS

em quad *n* [fr. its use for the letter *m*] : a quad whose point dimension and set dimension are the same or very nearly the same : a quad with a square or almost square body

¹emu \'ē-(ˌ)myü\ *n* [modif. of Pg *ema* rhea] **1** : a swift-running Australian bird (*Dromiceius novae-hollandiae*) with undeveloped wings that is related to and smaller than the ostrich **2** : any of various tall flightless birds (as the rhea)



emu 1

²emu *abbr* electromagnetic unit

¹em·u·late \'em-yə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *aemulatus,* pp. of *aemulari,* fr. *aemulus* rivaling] **1 a** : to strive to equal or excel **b** : IMITATE; *specif* : to imitate by means of an emulator **2** : to equal or approach equality with ***syn*** see RIVAL

²em·u·late \-lət\ *adj, obs* : EMULOUS 1a ⟨pricked on by a most ~ pride —Shak.⟩

em·u·la·tion \ˌem-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : ambition or endeavor to equal or excel others (as in achievement) **2 a** : IMITATION **b** : the use of or technique of using an emulator **3** *obs* : ambitious or envious rivalry — **em·u·la·tive** \'em-yə-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **em·u·la·tive·ly** *adv*

em·u·la·tor \'em-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that emulates **2** : a hardware device or a combination of hardware and software that permits programs written for one computer to be run on another usu. newer computer

em·u·lous \'em-yə-ləs\ *adj* **1 a** : ambitious or eager to emulate **b** : inspired by or deriving from a desire to emulate **2** *obs* : JEALOUS — **em·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **em·u·lous·ness** *n*

emul·si·ble \i-'məl-sə-bəl\ *adj* [L *emulsus,* pp., + E *-ible*] : capable of being emulsified

emul·si·fi·er \i-'məl-sə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that emulsifies; *esp* : a surface-active agent (as a soap) promoting the formation and stabilization of an emulsion

emul·si·fy \-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : to convert (as an oil) into an emulsion — **emul·si·fi·able** \-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **emul·si·fi·ca·tion** \i-ˌməl-sə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

emul·sion \i-'məl-shən\ *n* [NL *emulsion-, emulsio,* fr. L *emulsus,* pp. of *emulgēre* to milk out, fr. *e-* + *mulgēre* to milk; akin to OE *melcan* to milk, Gk *amelgein*] **1 a** : a system (as fat in milk) consisting of a liquid dispersed with or without an emulsifier in an immiscible liquid usu. in droplets of larger than colloidal size **b** : the state of such a system **2** : SUSPENSION 2b(3); *esp* : a suspension of a sensitive silver salt or a mixture of silver halides in a viscous medium (as a gelatin solution) forming a coating on photographic plates, film, or paper — **emul·sive** \-'məl-siv\ *adj*

emul·soid \i-'məl-ˌsȯid\ *n* **1** : a colloidal system consisting of a liquid dispersed in a liquid **2** : a lyophilic sol (as a gelatin solution) — **emul·soi·dal** \-ˌməl-'sȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

emunc·to·ry \i-'məŋ(k)-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [NL *emunctorium,* fr. L *emunctus,* pp. of *emungere* to clean the nose, fr. *e-* + *-mungere* (akin to *mucus*)] : an organ (as a kidney) or part of the body (as the skin) that carries off body wastes

en \'en\ *n* **1** : the letter *n* **2** : the set dimension of an en quad

¹en- *also* **em-** \e *also occurs in these prefixes although only* i *may be shown as in "engage"*\ *prefix* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *in-, im-,* fr. *in*] **1** : put into or on to ⟨*en*cradle⟩ ⟨*en*throne⟩ : cover with ⟨*en*verdure⟩ : go into or on to ⟨*em*bus⟩ — in verbs formed from nouns **2** : cause to be ⟨*en*slave⟩ — in verbs formed from adjectives or nouns **3** : provide with ⟨*em*power⟩ — in verbs formed from nouns **4** : so as to cover ⟨*en*wrap⟩ : thoroughly ⟨*en*tangle⟩ — in verbs formed from verbs; in all senses usu. *em-* before *b, m,* or *p*

²en- *also* **em-** *prefix* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *en* in — more at IN] : in : within ⟨*en*zootic⟩ — usu. *em-* before *b, m,* or *p* ⟨*em*pathy⟩

³en- *comb form* [ISV, fr. *-ene*] : chemically unsaturated; *esp* : having one double bond ⟨*en*amine⟩

¹-en \ən, ᵊn\ *also* **-n** \n\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *-īn* made of, L *-īnus* of or belonging to, Gk *-inos* made of, of or belonging to] : made of : consisting of ⟨earth*en*⟩ ⟨silver*n*⟩

²-en *vb suffix* [ME *-nen,* fr. OE *-nian;* akin to OHG *-inōn* -en] **1 a** : cause to be ⟨sharp*en*⟩ **b** : cause to have ⟨length*en*⟩ **2 a** : come to be ⟨steep*en*⟩ **b** : come to have ⟨length*en*⟩

en·able \in-'ā-bəl\ *vt* **en·abled; en·abling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ **1 a** : to provide with the means or opportunity ⟨training that ~*s* men to earn a living⟩ **b** : to make possible, practical, or easy **2** : to give legal power, capacity, or sanction to ⟨legislation *enabling* the admission of a state⟩

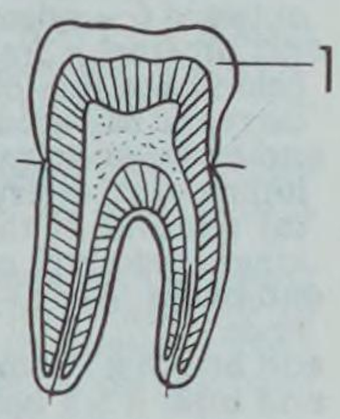
syn ENABLE, EMPOWER *shared meaning element* : to make one able to do something

en·act \in-'akt\ *vt* **1** : to establish by legal and authoritative act; *specif* : to make (as a bill) into law **2** : to act out : REPRESENT ⟨~ a role⟩ — **en·ac·tor** \-'ak-tər\ *n*

en·act·ment \-'ak(t)-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of enacting : the state of being enacted **2** : something (as a law) that has been enacted

¹enam·el \in-'am-əl\ *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *enamelen*, fr. MF *enamailler*, fr. *en-* + *esmail* enamel, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *smelzan* to melt — more at SMELT] **1** : to cover, inlay, or decorate with enamel **2** : to beautify with a colorful surface **3** : to form a glossy surface on (as paper, leather, or cloth) — **enam·el·er** \-(ə-)lər\ *n* — **enam·el·ist** \-ə-ləst\ *n*

²enamel *n* **1** : a usu. opaque vitreous composition applied by fusion to the surface of metal, glass, or pottery **2** : a surface or outer covering that resembles enamel **3 a** : something that is enameled **b** : ENAMELWARE **4** : a cosmetic intended to give a smooth or glossy appearance **5** : a calcareous substance that forms a thin layer capping the teeth **6** : a paint that flows out to a smooth coat when applied and that dries with a glossy appearance



1, enamel 5

enam·el·ware \in-'am-əl-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : metalware (as kitchen utensils) coated with enamel

en·amine \'en-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* : an amine containing the double bond linkage C=C—N

en·am·or \in-'am-ər\ *vt* **en·am·ored; en·am·or·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *enamouren*, fr. OF *enamourer*, fr. *en-* + *amour* love — more at AMOUR] : to inflame with love : CHARM — usu. used in the passive with *of*

en·am·our *chiefly Brit var of* ENAMOR

en·an·tio·mer \in-'ant-ē-ə-mər\ *n* [Gk *enantios* + E *-mer*] : ENANTIOMORPH — **en·an·tio·mer·ic** \-ˌant-ē-ə-'mer-ik\ *adj*

en·an·tio·morph \in-'ant-ē-ə-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [Gk *enantios* opposite (fr. *enanti* facing, fr. *en* in + *anti* against) + ISV *-morph*] : either of a pair of chemical compounds or crystals whose molecular structures have a mirror-image relationship to each other — **en·an·tio·mor·phic** \-ˌant-ē-ə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* — **en·an·tio·mor·phism** \-'mȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* — **en·an·tio·mor·phous** \-'mȯr-fəs\ *adj*

en·ar·thro·sis \ˌen-ˌär-'thrō-səs\ *n, pl* **-thro·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *enarthrōsis*] : BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT 2

ena·tion \i-'nā-shən\ *n* [L *enatus*, pp. of *enasci* to rise out of, fr. *e-* + *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] : an outgrowth from the surface of an organ ⟨a plant virus forming ~*s* on leaves⟩

en bloc \ä⁰n-'bläk\ *adv or adj* [F] : as a whole : in a mass ⟨forced the islanders . . . to move *en bloc* —D. B. Forrester⟩

enc *or* **encl** *abbr* enclosure

En·cae·nia \en-'sē-nyə\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [NL, fr. L, dedication festival, fr. Gk *enkainia*, fr. *en* in + *kainos* new — more at IN, RECENT] : an annual university ceremony (as at Oxford) of commemoration with recital of poems and essays and conferring of degrees

en·cage \in-'kāj\ *vt* : CAGE 1

en·camp \in-'kamp\ *vt* : to place or establish in a camp ~ *vi* : to set up or occupy a camp

en·camp·ment \-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of encamping : the state of being encamped **2 a** : the place where a group (as a body of troops) is encamped **b** : the individuals that make up an encampment

en·cap·su·late \in-'kap-sə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** *vt* **1** : to enclose in or as if in a capsule **2** : EPITOMIZE, CONDENSE ⟨~ a period of history⟩ ~ *vi* : to become encapsulated — **en·cap·su·la·tion** \-ˌkap-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*

en·cap·su·lat·ed *adj* : surrounded by a gelatinous or membranous envelope ⟨~ water bacteria⟩

en·cap·sule \in-'kap-səl, -(ˌ)sül\ *vt* **-suled; -sul·ing** : ENCAPSULATE

en·case \in-'kās\ *vt* : to enclose in or as if in a case

en·case·ment \in-'kā-smənt\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of encasing : the state of being encased **b** : CASE, COVERING **2** : the supposed enclosure in a living germ of the germs of all future generations that might develop from it

en·cash \in-'kash\ *vt, Brit* : CASH — **en·cash·ment** \-mənt\ *n, Brit*

en·caus·tic \in-'kȯ-stik\ *n* [*encaustic*, adj., fr. L *encausticus*, fr. Gk *enkaustikos*, fr. *enkaiein* to burn in, fr. *en-* + *kaiein* to burn — more at CAUSTIC] **1** : a paint made from pigment mixed with melted beeswax and resin and after application fixed by heat **2** : the method involving the use of encaustic; *also* : a work produced by this method — **encaustic** *adj*

-ence \ən(t)s, ᵊn(t)s\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *-entia*, fr. *-ent-*, *-ens*, prp. ending + *-ia* -y] **1** : action or process ⟨emergence⟩ : instance of an action or process ⟨reference⟩ **2** : quality or state ⟨despondence⟩

¹en·ceinte \ä⁰n(n)-'sant\ *adj* [MF, fr. (assumed) VL *incienta*, alter. of L *incient-*, *inciens* being with young, fr. *in* + *-cient*, *-ciens* (akin to Gk *kyein* to be pregnant) — more at CAVE] : being with child : PREGNANT

²enceinte *n* [F, fr. OF, enclosing wall, fr. *enceindre* to surround, fr. L *incingere*, fr. *in-* + *cingere* to gird — more at CINCTURE] : a line of fortification enclosing a castle or town; *also* : the area or town so enclosed

encephal- *or* **encephalo-** *comb form* [F *encéphal-*, fr. Gk *enkephal-*, fr. *enkephalos*] : brain ⟨*encephal*itis⟩ ⟨*encephalo*cele⟩

en·ce·phal·ic \ˌen(t)-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the brain; *also* : lying within the cranial cavity

en·ceph·a·li·tis \in-ˌsef-ə-'līt-əs\ *n, pl* **-lit·i·des** \-'lit-ə-ˌdēz\ : inflammation of the brain — **en·ceph·a·lit·ic** \-'lit-ik\ *adj*

en·ceph·a·li·to·gen·ic \-ˌlīt-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : tending to cause encephalitis ⟨an ~ strain of a virus⟩

en·ceph·a·lo·gram \in-'sef-ə-lə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : an X-ray picture of the brain made by encephalography

en·ceph·a·lo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* **1** : ENCEPHALOGRAM **2** : ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPH

en·ceph·a·log·ra·phy \in-ˌsef-ə-'läg-rə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : roentgenography of the brain after the cerebrospinal fluid has been replaced by a gas (as air)

en·ceph·a·lo·my·eli·tis \in-ˌsef-ə-lō-ˌmī-ə-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL] : concurrent inflammation of the brain and spinal cord; *specif* : any of several virus diseases of horses

en·ceph·a·lo·myo·car·di·tis \-ˌmī-ə-kär-'dīt-əs\ *n* : an acute febrile virus disease characterized by degeneration and inflammation of skeletal and cardiac muscle and lesions of the central nervous system

en·ceph·a·lon \in-'sef-ə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. Gk *enkephalos*, fr. *en* in + *kephalē* head — more at IN, CEPHALIC] : the vertebrate brain

en·ceph·a·lop·a·thy \in-ˌsef-ə-'läp-ə-thē\ *n* : a disease of the brain; *esp* : one involving alterations of brain structure — **en·ceph·a·lo·path·ic** \-lə-'path-ik\ *adj*

en·chain \in-'chān\ *vt* [ME *encheynen*, fr. MF *enchainer*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *chaeine* chain] : to bind or hold with or as if with chains — **en·chain·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·chant \in-'chant\ *vt* [ME *enchanten*, fr. MF *enchanter*, fr. L *incantare*, fr. *in-* + *cantare* to sing — more at CHANT] **1** : to influence by charms and incantation : BEWITCH **2** : to attract and move deeply : rouse to ecstatic admiration ⟨the scene ~*ed* her to the point of tears —Elinor Wylie⟩ ***syn*** see ATTRACT ***ant*** disenchant

en·chant·er *n* : one that enchants; *esp* : SORCERER

en·chant·ing *adj* : CHARMING — **en·chant·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

en·chant·ment \in-'chant-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : the act or art of enchanting **b** : the quality or state of being enchanted **2** : something that enchants

en·chant·ress \in-'chan-trəs\ *n* **1** : a woman who practices magic : SORCERESS **2** : a fascinating woman

en·chase \in-'chās\ *vt* **en·chased; en·chas·ing** [ME *enchasen* to emboss, fr. MF *enchasser* to enshrine, set, fr. *en-* + *chasse* reliquary, fr. L *capsa* case — more at CASE] **1** : SET ⟨~ a gem⟩ **2** : ORNAMENT: as **a** : to cut or carve in relief **b** : INLAY

en·chi·la·da \ˌen-chə-'läd-ə\ *n* [AmerSp] : a tortilla on which meat filling is spread and which is rolled up and covered with chili-seasoned tomato sauce

en·chi·rid·i·on \ˌen-ˌkī-rid-ē-ən\ *n, pl* **-rid·ia** \-ē-ə\ [LL, fr. Gk *encheiridion*, fr. *en* in + *cheir* hand — more at IN, CHIR-] : HANDBOOK, MANUAL

-en·chy·ma \'eŋ-kə-mə\ *n comb form, pl* **-en·chy·ma·ta** \ən-'kim-ət-ə, -'kī-mət-\ *or* **-enchymas** [NL, fr. *parenchyma*] : cellular tissue ⟨coll*enchyma*⟩

en·ci·pher \in-'sī-fər, en-\ *vt* : to convert (a message) into cipher — **en·ci·pher·er** \-fər-ər\ *n* — **en·ci·pher·ment** \-fər-mənt\ *n*

en·cir·cle \in-'sər-kəl\ *vt* **1** : to form a circle around : SURROUND **2** : to pass completely around — **en·cir·cle·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·clasp \in-'klasp\ *vt* : to seize and hold : EMBRACE

en·clave \'en-ˌklāv; 'än-ˌklāv, 'äŋ-, -ˌkläv\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *enclaver* to enclose, fr. (assumed) VL *inclavare* to lock up, fr. L *in-* + *clavis* key — more at CLAVICLE] **1** : a territorial or culturally distinct unit enclosed within foreign territory ⟨ethnic ~*s*⟩ **2** : a small often relict community of one kind of plant in an opening of a larger plant community

en·clit·ic \en-'klit-ik\ *adj* [LL *encliticus*, fr. Gk *enklitikos*, fr. *enklinesthai* to lean on, fr. *en-* + *klinein* to lean — more at LEAN] *of a word or particle* : being without independent accent and treated in pronunciation as forming a part of the preceding word ⟨*thee* in *prithee* and *not* in *cannot* are ~⟩ — **enclitic** *n*

en·close \in-'klōz\ *vt* [ME *enclosen*, prob. fr. *enclos* enclosed, fr. MF, pp. of *enclore* to enclose, fr. (assumed) VL *inclaudere*, alter. of L *includere* — more at INCLUDE] **1 a** (1) : to close in : SURROUND ⟨~ a porch with glass⟩ (2) : to fence off (common land) for individual use **b** : to hold in : CONFINE **2** : to include along with something else in a parcel or envelope ⟨a check is *enclosed* herewith⟩

en·clo·sure \in-'klō-zhər\ *n* **1** : the act or action of enclosing : the quality or state of being enclosed **2** : something that encloses **3** : something enclosed ⟨a letter with two ~*s*⟩

en·code \in-'kōd, en-\ *vt* : to convert (as a body of information) from one system of communication into another; *esp* : to convert (a message) into code — **en·cod·er** *n*

en·co·mi·ast \en-'kō-mē-ˌast, -mē-əst\ *n* [Gk *enkōmiastēs*, fr. *enkōmiazein* to praise, fr. *enkōmion*] : one that praises : EULOGIST — **en·co·mi·as·tic** \-ˌkō-mē-'as-tik\ *adj*

en·co·mi·um \en-'kō-mē-əm\ *n, pl* **-mi·ums** *or* **-mia** \-mē-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *enkōmion*, fr. *en* in + *kōmos* revel, celebration — more at IN, COMEDY] : glowing and warmly enthusiastic praise; *also* : an expression of this

syn ENCOMIUM, EULOGY, PANEGYRIC, TRIBUTE, CITATION *shared meaning element* : a formal expression of praise

en·com·pass \in-'kəm-pəs *also* -'käm-\ *vt* **1 a** : to form a circle about : ENCLOSE **b** *obs* : to go completely around **2 a** : ENVELOP **b** : INCLUDE ⟨a plan that ~*es* a number of aims⟩ **3** : to bring about : ACCOMPLISH ⟨~ a task⟩ — **en·com·pass·ment** \-pə-smənt\ *n*

¹en·core \'än-ˌkō(ə)r, -ˌkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [F, still, again] : a demand for repetition or reappearance made by an audience; *also* : a reappearance or additional performance in response to such a demand

²encore *vt* **en·cored; en·cor·ing** : to request an encore of or by

¹en·coun·ter \in-'kaůnt-ər\ *vb* **en·coun·tered; en·coun·ter·ing** \-'kaunt-ə-riŋ, -'kaůn-triŋ\ [ME *encountren*, fr. OF *encontrer*, fr.

ML *incontrare*, fr. LL *incontra* toward, fr. L *in-* + *contra* against — more at COUNTER] *vt* **1 a** : to meet as an adversary or enemy **b** : to engage in conflict with **2** : to come upon face to face **3** : to come upon unexpectedly ~ *vi* : to meet esp. by chance

²encounter *n* **1 a** : a meeting between hostile factions or persons **b** : a sudden often violent clash : COMBAT **2 a** : a chance meeting **b** : a direct often momentary meeting **3** : a coming into the vicinity of a celestial body ⟨the Martian ~ of a spacecraft⟩

encounter group *n* : a usu. leaderless and unstructured group that seeks to develop the capacity of the individual to openly express human feelings and to form close emotional ties by more or less unrestrained confrontation of individuals (as by physical contact, uninhibited verbalization, or nudity)

en·cour·age \in-'kər-ij, -'kə-rij\ *vt* **-aged; -ag·ing** [ME *encoragen*, fr. MF *encoragier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *corage* courage] **1** : to inspire with courage, spirit, or hope : HEARTEN **2** : to spur on : STIMULATE **3** : to give help or patronage to : FOSTER — **en·cour·ag·er** *n*

en·cour·age·ment \-ij-mənt, -rij-\ *n* **1** : the act of encouraging : the state of being encouraged **2** : something that encourages

en·cour·ag·ing *adj* : giving hope or promise : INSPIRITING — **en·cour·ag·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

en·crim·son \in-'krim-zən\ *vt* : to make or dye crimson

en·croach \in-'krōch\ *vi* [ME *encrochen* to get, seize, fr. MF *encrochier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *croc, croche* hook — more at CROCHET] **1** : to enter by gradual steps or by stealth into the possessions or rights of another **2** : to advance beyond the usual or proper limits ⟨the gradually ~*ing* sea⟩ ***syn*** see TRESPASS — **en·croach·er** *n* — **en·croach·ment** \-'krōch-mənt\ *n*

en·crust \in-'krəst\ *vb* [prob. fr. L *incrustare*, fr. *in-* + *crusta* crust] *vt* : to cover, line, or overlay with a crust ~ *vi* : to form a crust

en·crus·ta·tion \(,)in-,krəs-'tā-shən, ,en-\ *var of* INCRUSTATION

en·crypt \in-'kript, en-\ *vt* **1** : ENCIPHER **2** : ENCODE — **en·cryption** \-'krip-shən\ *n*

en·cum·ber \in-'kəm-bər\ *vt* **en·cum·bered; en·cum·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *encombren*, fr. MF *encombrer*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + (assumed) OF *combre* abatis] **1** : to weigh down : BURDEN **2** : to impede or hamper the function or activity of : HINDER **3** : to burden with a legal claim (as a mortgage) ⟨~ an estate⟩

en·cum·brance \in-'kəm-brən(t)s\ *n* **1** : something that encumbers : IMPEDIMENT **2** : a claim (as a mortgage) against property

en·cum·branc·er \-brən-sər\ *n* : one that holds an encumbrance

ency *or* **encyc** *abbr* encyclopedia

-en·cy \ən-sē, ᵊn-\ *n suffix* [ME *-encie*, fr. L *-entia* — more at -ENCE] : quality or state ⟨despond*ency*⟩

¹en·cyc·li·cal \in-'sik-li-kəl, en-\ *adj* [LL *encyclicus*, fr. Gk *enkyklios* circular, general, fr. *en* in + *kyklos* circle — more at IN, WHEEL] : addressed to all the individuals of a group : GENERAL

²encyclical *n* : an encyclical letter; *specif* : a papal letter to the bishops of the church as a whole or to those in one country

en·cy·clo·pe·dia *also* **en·cy·clo·pae·dia** \in-,sī-klə-'pēd-ē-ə\ *n* [ML *encyclopaedia* course of general education, fr. Gk *enkyklios paideia* general education] : a work that contains information on all branches of knowledge or treats comprehensively a particular branch of knowledge usu. in articles arranged alphabetically by subject

en·cy·clo·pe·dic *also* **en·cy·clo·pae·dic** \-'pēd-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or suggestive of an encyclopedia or its methods of treating or covering a subject : COMPREHENSIVE ⟨an ~ mind⟩ — **en·cy·clo·pe·di·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

en·cy·clo·pe·dism \-'pē-,diz-əm\ *n* : encyclopedic knowledge

en·cy·clo·pe·dist \-'pēd-əst\ *n* **1** : one who compiles or writes for an encyclopedia **2** *often cap* : one of the writers of a French encyclopedia (1751-80) who were identified with the Enlightenment and advocated deism and scientific rationalism

en·cyst \in-'sist, en-\ *vt* : to enclose in or as if in a cyst ~ *vi* : to form or become enclosed in a cyst — **en·cyst·ment** \-'sis(t)-mənt\ *n*

en·cys·ta·tion \,en-,sis-'tā-shən\ *n* : the process of forming a cyst or becoming enclosed in a capsule

¹end \'end\ *n* [ME *ende*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *enti* end, L *ante* before, Gk *anti* against] **1 a** : the part of an area that lies at the boundary **b** (1) : a point that marks the extent of something (2) : the point where something ceases to exist ⟨world without ~⟩ **c** : the extreme or last part lengthwise : TIP **d** : the terminal unit of something spatial that is marked off by units **e** : a player stationed at the extremity of a line (as in football) **2 a** : cessation of a course of action, pursuit, or activity **b** : DEATH, DESTRUCTION **c** (1) : the ultimate state (2) : RESULT, ISSUE **d** : the complex of events, parts, or sections that forms an extremity, termination, or finish **3** : something incomplete, fragmentary, or undersized : REMNANT **4 a** : the goal toward which an agent acts or should act **b** : the object by virtue of or for the sake of which an event takes place **5 a** : a share in an undertaking ⟨kept his ~ up⟩ **b** : a particular phase of an undertaking or organization ⟨the advertising ~ of a business⟩ **6** : something that is extreme : ULTIMATE — used with *the* **7** : a period of action or activity in any of various sports events; *specif* : a turn for an individual or team — **ended** \'en-dəd\ *adj*

syn **1** END, TERMINATION, ENDING, TERMINUS *shared meaning element* : the point or line beyond which something does not or cannot go ***ant*** beginning **2** see INTENTION

— **in the end** : after all : ULTIMATELY — **no end** : EXCEEDINGLY — **on end** **1** : with the end down : UPRIGHT ⟨turn a box *on end*⟩ **2** : without a stop or letup ⟨it rained for days *on end*⟩

²end *vt* **1 a** : to bring to an end **b** : DESTROY **2** : to make up the end of ~ *vi* **1 a** : to come to an end **b** : to reach a specified ultimate rank or situation — often used with *up* ⟨~*ed* up as a colonel⟩ **2** : DIE ***syn*** see CLOSE ***ant*** begin

³end *vt* [prob. alter. of E dial. *in* (to harvest)] *dial Eng* : to put (grain or hay) into a barn or stack

⁴end *adj* : FINAL, ULTIMATE ⟨~ results⟩ ⟨~ markets⟩ ⟨~ user⟩

end- *or* **endo-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk, fr. *endon* within, fr. *en* in + *-don* (akin to L *domus* house) — more at IN, TIMBER] **1** : within : inside ⟨*endo*skeleton⟩ — compare ECT-, EXO- **2** : taking in ⟨*endo*thermal⟩ **3** *endo-* : forming a bridge between two atoms in a cyclic system

en·dam·age \in-'dam-ij\ *vt* : to cause loss or damage to

end·amoe·ba \,en-də-'mē-bə\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Endamoeba*) comprising amoebas parasitic in the intestines of insects and in some classifications various parasites of vertebrates including the amoeba (*E. histolytica*) that causes amebic dysentery in man — **end·amoe·bic** \-bik\ *adj*

en·dan·ger \in-'dān-jər\ *vt* **en·dan·gered; en·dan·ger·ing** \-'dānj-(ə-)riŋ\ : to bring into danger or peril — **en·dan·ger·ment** \-'dān-jər-mənt\ *n*

en·dan·gered *adj* : threatened with extinction ⟨~ species⟩

en·darch \'en-,därk\ *adj* : formed or taking place from the center outward ⟨~ xylem⟩ — **en·dar·chy** \-,där-kē\ *n*

end around *n* : a football play in which an offensive end comes behind the line of scrimmage to take a handoff and attempts to carry the ball around the opposite flank

end·ar·ter·ec·to·my \,en-,därt-ə-'rek-tə-mē\ *n* [NL *endarterium* intima of an artery (fr. *end-* + *arteria* artery) + E *-ectomy*] : surgical removal of the inner layer of an artery when thickened and atheromatous or occluded (as by intimal plaques)

end·brain \'en(d)-,brān\ *n* : the anterior subdivision of the forebrain

end brush *n* : END PLATE

end bulb *n* : a bulbous termination of a sensory nerve fiber (as in the skin or in a mucous membrane)

en·dear \in-'di(ə)r\ *vt* **1** *obs* : to make higher in cost, value, or estimation **2** : to cause to become beloved or admired — **en·dear·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

en·dear·ment \in-'di(ə)r-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of endearing **2** : a word or an act (as a caress) expressing affection

¹en·deav·or \in-'dev-ər\ *vb* **en·deav·ored; en·deav·or·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *endeveren* to exert oneself, fr. *en-* + *dever* duty — more at DEVOIR] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to strive to achieve or reach **2** : to attempt (as the fulfillment of an obligation) by exertion of effort ⟨~*ing* to control her disgust⟩ ~ *vi* : to work with set purpose ***syn*** see ATTEMPT

²endeavor *n* : serious determined effort ⟨fields of ~⟩; *also* : an instance of this

¹en·dem·ic \en-'dem-ik, in-\ *adj* [F *endémique*, fr. *endémie* endemic disease, fr. Gk *endēmia* action of dwelling, fr. *endēmos* endemic, fr. *en* in + *dēmos* people, populace — more at DEMAGOGUE] **1** : belonging or native to a particular people or country **2** : restricted or peculiar to a locality or region ⟨~ diseases⟩ ⟨an ~ species⟩ ***syn*** see NATIVE ***ant*** exotic, pandemic — **en·dem·i·cal·ly** \-'dem-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **en·de·mic·i·ty** \,en-,dem-'is-ət-ē, -də-'mis-\ *n* — **en·de·mism** \'en-də-,miz-əm\ *n*

²endemic *n* : NATIVE 2b

end·er·gon·ic \,en-,dər-'gän-ik\ *adj* [*end-* + Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] : requiring expenditure of energy ⟨~ biochemical reactions⟩

en·der·mic \en-'dər-mik\ *adj* : acting through the skin or by direct application to the skin — **en·der·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

end·ex·ine \(')en-'dek-,sēn, -,sīn\ *n* : an inner membranous layer of the exine

end game *n* : the last stage in various games; *esp* : the stage of a chess game following serious reduction of forces

end·ing \'en-diŋ\ *n* : a thing that constitutes an end; *esp* : one or more letters or syllables added to a word base esp. in inflection ***syn*** see END ***ant*** beginning

endite *archaic var of* INDITE

en·dive \'en-,dīv\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *endivia*, fr. LGk *entubion*, fr. L *intubus*] **1** : an annual or biennial composite herb (*Cichorium endivia*) widely cultivated as a salad plant — called also *escarole* **2** : the developing crown of chicory when blanched for use as salad by growing in darkness or semidarkness



endive 1

end·leaf \'en-,dlēf\ *n* : ENDPAPER

end·less \'en-(d)ləs\ *adj* **1** : being or seeming to be without end **2** : extremely numerous **3** : joined at the ends ⟨an ~ chain⟩ — **end·less·ly** *adv* — **end·less·ness** *n*

end line *n* : a line marking an end or boundary esp. of a playing area: as **a** : a line at either end of a football field 10 yards beyond and parallel to the goal line **b** : a line at either end of a court (as in basketball or tennis) perpendicular to the sidelines

end·long \'en-,dlȯŋ\ *adv* [ME *endelong*, alter. of *andlong*, fr. OE *andlang* along, fr. *andlang*, prep. — more at ALONG] *archaic* : LENGTHWISE

end man *n* : a man at each end of the line of performers in a minstrel show who engages in comic repartee with the interlocutor

end·most \'en(d)-,mōst\ *adj* : situated at the very end : FARTHEST

en·do·bi·ot·ic \,en-dō-,bī-'ät-ik, -bē-\ *adj* [ISV] : dwelling within the tissues of a host

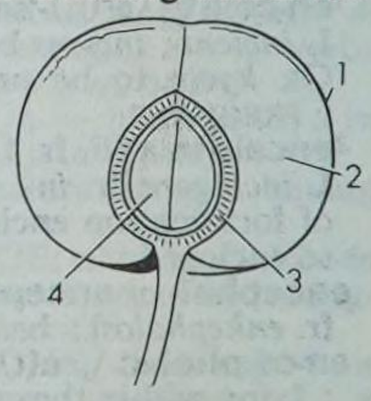
en·do·blast \'en-də-,blast\ *n* [ISV] : HYPOBLAST — **en·do·blas·tic** \,en-də-'blas-tik\ *adj*

en·do·car·di·al \,en-dō-'kärd-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : situated within the heart **2** : of or relating to the endocardium

en·do·car·di·tis \-,kär-'dīt-əs\ *n* : inflammation of the lining of the heart and its valves

en·do·car·di·um \-'kärd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** [NL, fr. *end-* + Gk *kardia* heart] : a thin serous membrane lining the cavities of the heart

en·do·carp \'en-də-,kärp\ *n* [F *endocarpe*] : the inner layer of the pericarp of a fruit (as an apple or orange) when it consists of two or more layers of different texture or consistency — **en·do·car·pal** \,en-də-'kär-pəl\ *adj*



vertical section of a cherry, showing *1* exocarp, *2* mesocarp, *3* endocarp, *4* seed; *1, 2,* and *3* together form the pericarp

en·do·chon·dral \ˌen-də-ˈkän-drəl\ *adj* : occurring within the substance of cartilage ⟨~ calcification⟩
en·do·cra·ni·al cast \ˌen-də-ˌkrā-nē-əl-\ *n* : a cast of the cranial cavity showing the approximate shape of the brain
¹en·do·crine \ˈen-də-krən, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* [ISV *end-* + Gk *krinein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] **1 a** : secreting internally; *specif* : producing secretions that are distributed in the body by way of the bloodstream ⟨an ~ system⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or resembling that of an endocrine gland ⟨~ tumors⟩ **2** : HORMONAL
²endocrine *n* **1** : HORMONE **2** : ENDOCRINE GLAND
endocrine gland *n* : a gland (as the thyroid or the pituitary) that produces an endocrine secretion — called also *ductless gland*
en·do·cri·no·log·ic \ˌen-də-ˌkrin-ᵊl-ˈäj-ik, -ˌkrīn-, -ˌkrēn-\ *or* **en·do·cri·no·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl-\ *adj* : involving or relating to the endocrine glands or secretions or to endocrinology
en·do·cri·nol·o·gy \ˌen-də-kri-ˈnäl-ə-jē, -ˌkrī-\ *n* [ISV] : a science dealing with the endocrine glands — **en·do·cri·nol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
en·do·cyt·ic \ˌen-də-ˈsit-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to endocytosis : ENDOCYTOTIC
en·do·cy·to·sis \-sī-ˈtō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *end-* + *-cytosis* (as in *phagocytosis*)] : incorporation of substances into a cell by phagocytosis or pinocytosis — **en·do·cy·tot·ic** \-ˈtät-ik\ *adj*
en·do·derm \ˈen-də-ˌdərm\ *n* [F *endoderme*, fr. *end-* + Gk *derma* skin — more at DERM-] : the innermost of the germ layers of an embryo that is the source of the epithelium of the digestive tract and its derivatives : HYPOBLAST; *also* : a tissue that is derived from this germ layer — **en·do·der·mal** \ˌen-də-ˈder-məl\ *adj*
en·do·der·mis \ˌen-də-ˈdər-məs\ *n* [NL] : the innermost tissue of the cortex in many roots and stems
end·odon·tia \ˌen-də-ˈdän-ch(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *end-* + *-odontia*] : a branch of dentistry concerned with diseases of the pulp — **end·odon·tic** \-ˈdänt-ik\ *adj* — **end·odon·ti·cal·ly** \-ˈdänt-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **end·odon·tist** \-ˈdänt-əst\ *n*
end·odon·tics \-ˈdänt-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : ENDODONTIA
en·do·en·zyme \ˌen-dō-ˈen-ˌzīm\ *n* [ISV] : an enzyme that functions inside the cell
en·do·er·gic \ˌen-dō-ˈər-jik\ *adj* : absorbing energy : ENDOTHERMIC ⟨~ nuclear reactions⟩
en·do·eryth·ro·cyt·ic \ˌen-dō-i-ˌrith-rə-ˈsit-ik\ *adj* : occurring within red blood cells — used chiefly of stages of malaria parasites
en·dog·a·my \en-ˈdäg-ə-mē\ *n* **1** : marriage within a specific group as required by custom or law **2** : sexual reproduction between near relatives; *esp* : pollination of a flower by pollen from another flower of the same plant — compare AUTOGAMY — **en·dog·a·mous** \-məs\ *or* **en·do·gam·ic** \ˌen-də-ˈgam-ik\ *adj*
en·do·gen \ˈen-də-jən\ *n* [F *endogène*, fr. *end-* + *-gène* -gen] : a plant that develops by endogenous growth
en·dog·e·nous \en-ˈdäj-ə-nəs\ *also* **en·do·gen·ic** \ˌen-də-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : growing from or on the inside : developing within the cell wall **b** : originating within the body **2** : constituting or relating to metabolism of the nitrogenous constituents of cells and tissues — **en·dog·e·nous·ly** *adv*
en·dog·e·ny \en-ˈdäj-ə-nē\ *n* : growth from within or from a deep layer
en·do·lymph \ˈen-də-ˌlim(p)f\ *n* [ISV] : the watery fluid in the membranous labyrinth of the ear — **en·do·lym·phat·ic** \ˌen-də-lim-ˈfat-ik\ *adj*
en·do·me·tri·osis \ˌen-dō-ˌmē-trē-ˈō-səs\ *n* : the presence of functioning endometrial tissue in places where it is not normally found
en·do·me·tri·um \-ˈmē-trē-əm\ *n, pl* **-tria** \-trē-ə\ [NL, fr. *end-* + Gk *mētra* uterus, fr. *mētr-, mētēr* mother — more at MOTHER] : the mucous membrane lining the uterus — **en·do·me·tri·al** \-trē-əl\ *adj*
en·do·mi·to·sis \-mī-ˈtō-səs\ *n* : division of chromosomes that is not followed by nuclear division and that results in an increased number of chromosomes in the cell
en·do·mix·is \-ˈmik-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *end-* + Gk *mixis* act of mixing, fr. *mignynai* to mix — more at MIX] : a periodic nuclear reorganization in ciliated protozoans
en·do·morph \ˈen-də-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a crystal of one species enclosed in one of another **2** [*endo*derm + *-morph*] : an endomorphic individual
en·do·mor·phic \ˌen-də-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to an endomorph **b** : of, relating to, or produced by endomorphism **2** [*endo*derm + *-morphic;* fr. the predominance in such types of structures developed from the endoderm] **a** : of or relating to the component in W. H. Sheldon's classification of body types that measures the massiveness of the digestive viscera and the body's degree of roundedness and softness **b** : having a heavy rounded body build often with a marked tendency to become fat — **en·do·mor·phy** \ˈen-də-ˌmȯr-fē\ *n*
en·do·mor·phism \ˌen-də-ˈmȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a change produced in an intrusive rock by reaction with the wall rock **2** : a homomorphism that maps a mathematical set into itself — compare ISOMORPHISM
en·do·nu·cle·ase \ˌen-dō-ˈn(y)ü-klē-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* : an enzyme that breaks down a chain of nucleotides (as a nucleic acid) at points not adjacent to the end and thereby produces two or more shorter nucleotide chains — compare EXONUCLEASE
en·do·par·a·site \-ˈpar-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a parasite that lives in the internal organs or tissues of its host — **en·do·par·a·sit·ism** \-ˌsīt-ˌiz-əm, -sə-ˌtiz-\ *n*
en·do·pep·ti·dase \-ˈpep-tə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* : any of a group of enzymes that hydrolyze peptide bonds inside the long chains of protein molecules : PROTEINASE — compare EXOPEPTIDASE
en·doph·a·gous \en-ˈdäf-ə-gəs\ *adj* : feeding from within; *esp* : consuming vegetation or plant debris by burrowing in and disintegrating plant structures
en·do·phyte \ˈen-də-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : a plant living within another plant — **en·do·phyt·ic** \ˌen-də-ˈfit-ik\ *adj*
en·do·plasm \ˈen-də-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : the inner relatively fluid part of the cytoplasm — **en·do·plas·mic** \ˌen-də-ˈplaz-mik\ *adj*
endoplasmic reticulum *n* : a system of interconnected vesicular and lamellar cytoplasmic membranes that functions esp. in the transport of materials within the cell and that is studded with ribosomes in some places
en·dop·o·dite \en-ˈdäp-ə-ˌdīt\ *n* [ISV] : the mesial or internal branch of a typical limb of a crustacean — **en·dop·o·dit·ic** \(ˌ)en-ˌdäp-ə-ˈdit-ik\ *adj*
en·do·poly·ploid \ˌen-dō-ˈpäl-i-ˌplȯid\ *adj* : of or relating to a polyploid state in which the chromosomes have divided repeatedly without subsequent division of the nucleus or cell — **en·do·poly·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*
en·do·ra·dio·sonde \-ˈrād-ē-ō-ˌsänd\ *n* : a microelectronic device introduced into the body to record physiological data not otherwise obtainable
end organ *n* : a structure forming the end of a neural path and consisting of an effector or a receptor with its associated nerve terminations
en·dorse \in-ˈdȯ(ə)rs\ *vt* **en·dorsed; en·dors·ing** [alter. of obs. *endoss*, fr. ME *endosen*, fr. MF *endosser*, fr. OF, to put on the back, fr. *en-* + *dos* back, fr. L *dorsum*] **1 a** : to write on the back of; *esp* : to sign one's name as payee on the back of (a check) in order to obtain the cash or credit represented on the face **b** : to inscribe (one's signature) on a check, bill, or note **c** : to inscribe (as an official document) with a title or memorandum **d** : to make over to another (the value represented in a check, bill, or note) by inscribing one's name on the document **e** : to acknowledge receipt of (a sum specified) by one's signature on a document **2** : to express approval of publicly and definitely ⟨~ a mayoral candidate⟩ ***syn*** see APPROVE — **en·dors·able** \-ˈdȯr-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **en·dors·ee** \in-ˌdȯr-ˈsē, ˌen-\ *n* — **en·dors·er** \in-ˈdȯr-sər\ *n*
en·dorse·ment \in-ˈdȯr-smənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of endorsing **2 a** : something that is written in the process of endorsing **b** : a provision added to an insurance contract altering its scope or application **3** : SANCTION, APPROVAL
en·do·scope \ˈen-də-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for visualizing the interior of a hollow organ (as the rectum or urethra) — **en·dos·co·py** \en-ˈdäs-kə-pē\ *n*
en·do·scop·ic \ˌen-də-ˈskäp-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or performed by means of the endoscope or endoscopy — **en·do·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
en·do·skel·e·ton \ˌen-dō-ˈskel-ət-ᵊn\ *n* : an internal skeleton or supporting framework in an animal — **en·do·skel·e·tal** \-ət-ᵊl\ *adj*
end·os·mo·sis \ˌen-ˌdäs-ˈmō-səs, -ˌdäz-\ *n* [alter. of obs. *endosmose*, fr. F, fr. *end-* + Gk *ōsmos* act of pushing, fr. *ōthein* to push; akin to Skt *vadhati* he strikes] : passage (as of a surface-active substance) through a membrane from a region of lower to a region of higher concentration — **end·os·mot·ic** \-ˈmät-ik\ *adj* — **end·os·mot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
en·do·sperm \ˈen-də-ˌspərm\ *n* [F *endosperme*, fr. *end-* + Gk *sperma* seed — more at SPERM] : a nutritive tissue in seed plants formed within the embryo sac — **en·do·sper·mic** \ˌen-də-ˈspər-mik\ *adj* — **en·do·sper·mous** \-məs\ *adj*
endosperm nucleus *n* : the triploid nucleus formed in the embryo sac of a seed plant by fusion of a sperm nucleus with two polar nuclei or with a nucleus formed by their prior fusion
en·do·spore \ˈen-də-ˌspō(ə)r, -ˌspȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : an asexual spore developed within the cell esp. in bacteria — **en·do·spor·ic** \ˌen-də-ˈspōr-ik, -ˈspȯr-\ *adj* — **en·do·spo·rous** \-əs; en-ˈdäs-pə-rəs\ *adj*
end·os·te·al \en-ˈdäs-tē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the endosteum **2** : located within bone or cartilage — **end·os·te·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
en·do·ster·nite \ˌen-dō-ˈstər-ˌnīt\ *n* [ISV *end-* + *sternum* + *-ite*] : a segment of the endoskeleton of an arthropod
end·os·te·um \en-ˈdäs-tē-əm\ *n, pl* **-tea** \-tē-ə\ [NL, fr. *end-* + Gk *osteon* bone — more at OSSEOUS] : the layer of vascular connective tissue lining the medullary cavities of bone
en·do·style \ˈen-də-ˌstīl\ *n* [ISV *end-* + Gk *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] : a pair of parallel longitudinal folds projecting into the pharyngeal cavity and bounding a furrow lined with glandular ciliated cells in lower chordates (as the tunicates)
en·do·sul·fan \ˌen-də-ˈsəl-fən, -ˌfan\ *n* [*endo-* + *sulf-* + *-an*] : a brownish crystalline insecticide $C_9H_6Cl_6O_3S$ that is used in the control of numerous crop insects and some mites
en·do·sym·bi·o·sis \ˌen-dō-ˌsim-bī-ˈō-səs, -bē-\ *n* : symbiosis in which a symbiont dwells within the body of its symbiotic partner
en·do·the·ci·um \ˌen-dō-ˈthē-s(h)ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-cia** \-s(h)ē-ə\ [NL] : the inner lining of a mature anther
endotheli- *or* **endothelio-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. NL *endothelium*] : endothelium ⟨*endothelio*ma⟩
en·do·the·li·o·ma \-ˌthē-lē-ˈō-mə\ *n, pl* **-o·mas** *or* **-o·ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a tumor developing from endothelial tissue
en·do·the·li·um \ˌen-də-ˈthē-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. *end-* + *epithelium*] **1** : an epithelium of mesoblastic origin composed of a single layer of thin flattened cells that lines internal body cavities **2** : the inner layer of the seed coat of some plants — **en·do·the·li·al** \-lē-əl\ *adj* — **en·do·the·loid** \-ˈthē-ˌlȯid\ *adj*
en·do·therm \ˈen-də-ˌthərm\ *n* : a warm-blooded animal
en·do·ther·mic \ˌen-də-ˈthər-mik\ *or* **en·do·ther·mal** \-məl\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : characterized by or formed with absorption of heat **2** : WARM-BLOODED
en·do·tox·in \ˌen-dō-ˈtäk-sən\ *n* [ISV] : a toxin of internal origin; *specif* : a poisonous substance present in bacteria (as of typhoid fever) but separable from the cell body only on its disintegration — **en·do·tox·ic** \-sik\ *adj*
en·do·tra·che·al \ˈ-trā-kē-əl\ *adj* **1** : placed within the trachea ⟨an ~ tube⟩ **2** : applied or effected through the trachea
en·do·tro·phic \ˌen-də-ˈtrō-fik\ *also* **en·do·tro·pic** \-ˈtrō-pik, -ˈträp-ik\ *adj, of a mycorrhiza* : penetrating into the associated root and ramifying between the cells — compare ECTOTROPHIC

en·dow \in-'daù\ *vt* [ME *endowen*, fr. AF *endouer*, fr. MF *en-* + *douer* to endow, fr. L *dotare*, fr. *dot-*, *dos* gift, dowry — more at DOWRY] **1** : to furnish with a dower **2** : to furnish with an income ⟨~ a hospital⟩ **3** **a** : to provide or equip gratuitously : ENRICH **b** : CREDIT 5a
en·dow·ment \-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of endowing **2** : something that is endowed; *specif* : the part of an institution's income derived from donations **3** : natural capacity, power, or ability
en·do·zo·ic \ˌen-də-'zō-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : living within or involving passage through an animal ⟨~ distribution of weeds⟩
end·pa·per \'en(d)-ˌpā-pər\ *n* : a once-folded sheet of paper having one leaf pasted flat against the inside of the front or back cover of a book and the other pasted at the base to the first or last page
end plate *n* : a flat plate or structure at the end of something; *specif* : a complex terminal arborization of a motor nerve fiber
end point *n* **1** : a point marking the completion of a process or stage of a process **2** *usu* **end·point** : either of two points or values that mark the ends of a line segment or interval; *also* : a point that marks the end of a ray
end product *n* : the final product of a series of processes or activities
en·drin \'en-drən\ *n* [blend of *end-* and *dieldrin*] : a chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide $C_{12}H_8Cl_6O$ that is a stereoisomer of dieldrin and resembles dieldrin in toxicity
end run *n* **1** : a football play in which the ballcarrier attempts to run wide around his own end **2** : an evasive trick
end–stopped \'en(d)-ˌstäpt\ *adj* : marked by a logical or rhetorical pause at the end ⟨an ~ line of verse⟩ — compare RUN-ON
end table *n* : a small table that is usu. about the height of the arm of a chair and is used beside a larger piece of furniture (as a sofa)
en·due \in-'d(y)ü\ *vt* **en·dued; en·du·ing** [ME *enduen*, fr. MF *enduire* to bring in, introduce, fr. L *inducere* — more at INDUCE] **1** **a** : PROVIDE, ENDOW **b** : IMBUE, TRANSFUSE **2** [ME *enduen*, fr. L *induere*, fr. *ind-* in (fr. OL *indu*) + *-uere* to put on — more at INDIGENOUS, EXUVIAE] : to put on : DON
en·dur·able \in-'d(y)ůr-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being endured : BEARABLE — **en·dur·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
en·dur·ance \in-'d(y)ůr-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : PERMANENCE, DURATION **2** : the ability to withstand hardship, adversity, or stress **3** : SUFFERING, TRIAL
en·dure \in-'d(y)ů(ə)r\ *vb* **en·dured; en·dur·ing** [ME *enduren*, fr. MF *endurer*, fr. (assumed) VL *indurare*, fr. L, to harden, fr. *in-* + *durare* to harden, endure — more at DURING] *vi* **1** : to continue in the same state : LAST **2** : to remain firm under suffering or misfortune without yielding ~ *vt* **1** : to undergo (as a hardship) esp. without giving in : SUFFER **2** : TOLERATE, PERMIT ***syn*** see BEAR, CONTINUE
en·dur·ing *adj* : LASTING, DURABLE — **en·dur·ing·ly** \-'d(y)ůr-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **en·dur·ing·ness** *n*
en·duro \in-'d(y)ů(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **en·dur·os** [irreg. fr. *endurance*] : a long race (as for automobiles or motorcycles) stressing endurance rather than speed
end·ways \'en-ˌdwāz\ *adv or adj* **1** : with the end forward (as toward the observer) **2** : in or toward the direction of the ends : LENGTHWISE ⟨~ pressure⟩ **3** : on end : UPRIGHT ⟨boxes set ~⟩
end·wise \'en-ˌdwīz\ *adv or adj* : ENDWAYS
En·dym·i·on \en-'dim-ē-ən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Endymiōn*] : a beautiful youth loved by Selene
end zone *n* : the area at either end of a football field between the goal line and the end line
ENE *abbr* east-northeast
-ene \ˌēn\ *n suffix* [ISV, fr. Gk *-ēnē*, fem. of *-ēnos*, adj. suffix] : unsaturated carbon compound ⟨benz*ene*⟩; *esp* : carbon compound with one double bond ⟨ethyl*ene*⟩
en·e·ma \'en-ə-mə\ *n, pl* **enemas** *also* **ene·ma·ta** \ˌen-ə-'mät-ə, 'en-ə-mə-tə\ [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *enienai* to inject, fr. *en-* + *hienai* to send — more at JET] **1** : the injection of liquid into the intestine by way of the anus **2** : material for injection as an enema
en·e·my \'en-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ME *enemi*, fr. OF, fr. L *inimicus*, fr. *in-* [1]*in-* + *amicus* friend — more at AMIABLE] **1** : one that is antagonistic to another; *esp* : one seeking to injure, overthrow, or confound an opponent **2** : something harmful or deadly **3** **a** : a military adversary **b** : a hostile unit or force
syn ENEMY, FOE *shared meaning element* : one who shows hostility or ill will
en·er·get·ic \ˌen-ər-'jet-ik\ *adj* [Gk *energētikos*, fr. *energein* to be active, fr. *energos*] **1** : marked by energy : STRENUOUS **2** : operating with vigor or effect **3** : of or relating to energy ⟨~ equation⟩ — **en·er·get·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
en·er·get·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : a branch of mechanics that deals primarily with energy and its transformations **2** : the total energy relations and transformations of a system (as a chemical reaction or an ecological community) ⟨~ of muscular contraction⟩
en·er·gid \'en-ər-jəd, -ˌjid\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *energos*] : a nucleus and the body of cytoplasm with which it interacts
en·er·gize \'en-ər-ˌjīz\ *vb* **-gized; -giz·ing** *vi* : to put forth energy : ACT ~ *vt* **1** : to impart energy to **2** : to make energetic or vigorous **3** : to apply voltage to ***syn*** see VITALIZE
en·er·giz·er \-ˌjī-zər\ *n* : one that energizes; *esp* : ANTIDEPRESSANT
en·er·gy \'en-ər-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [LL *energia*, fr. Gk *energeia* activity, fr. *energos* active, fr. *en* in + *ergon* work — more at WORK] **1** : the capacity of acting or being active ⟨intellectual ~⟩ **2** : natural power vigorously exerted ⟨work with ~⟩ **3** : the capacity for doing work
energy level *n* : one of the stable states of constant energy that may be assumed by a physical system — used esp. of the quantum states of electrons in atoms and of nuclei; called also *energy state*
[1]ener·vate \i-'nər-vət\ *adj* : lacking physical, mental, or moral vigor : ENERVATED
[2]en·er·vate \'en-ər-ˌvāt\ *vt* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** [L *enervatus*, pp. of *enervare*, fr. *e-* + *nervus* sinew — more at NERVE] **1** : to lessen the vitality or strength of **2** : to reduce the mental or moral vigor of
syn see UNNERVE — **en·er·va·tion** \ˌen-ər-'vā-shən\ *n* — **en·er·va·tive** \'en-ər-ˌvāt-iv\ *adj*
en·fant ter·ri·ble \ˌäⁿ-fäⁿ-te-rēbl\ *n, pl* **enfants terribles** *same*\ [F, lit., terrifying child] : one whose inopportune remarks or unconventional actions cause embarrassment
en·fee·ble \in-'fē-bəl\ *vt* **en·fee·bled; en·fee·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *enfeblen*, fr. MF *enfeblir*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *feble* feeble] : to make feeble : deprive of strength ***syn*** see WEAKEN ***ant*** fortify — **en·fee·ble·ment** \-bəl-mənt\ *n*
en·feoff \in-'fef, -'fēf\ *vt* [ME *enfeoffen*, fr. AF *enfeoffer*, fr. OF *en-* + *fief*] : to invest with a fief, fee, or other possession — **en·feoff·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
en·fet·ter \in-'fet-ər\ *vt* : to bind in fetters : ENCHAIN
en·fe·ver \in-'fē-vər\ *vt* : FEVER
En·field rifle \ˌen-ˌfēld-\ *n* [*Enfield*, England] : a .30 caliber bolt-operated repeating rifle used by U.S. and British troops in World War I
[1]en·fi·lade \'en-fə-ˌlād, -ˌläd\ *n* [F, fr. *enfiler* to thread, enfilade, fr. OF, to thread, fr. *en-* + *fil* thread — more at FILE] **1** : an arrangement (as of rooms) in opposite and parallel rows **2** : gunfire directed along the length of an enemy battle line
[2]enfilade *vt* **-lad·ed; -lad·ing** : to rake or be in a position to rake with gunfire in a lengthwise direction
enflame *var of* INFLAME
en·fleu·rage \ˌäⁿ-ˌflər-'äzh\ *n* [F] : a process of extracting perfumes by exposing absorbents to the exhalations of flowers
en·fold \in-'fōld\ *vt* **1** **a** : to cover with folds : ENVELOP **b** : to surround with a covering : CONTAIN **2** : to clasp within the arms : EMBRACE
en·force \in-'fō(ə)rs, -'fȯ(ə)rs\ *vt* [ME *enforcen*, fr. MF *enforcier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *force*] **1** : to give force to : STRENGTHEN **2** : to urge with energy **3** : CONSTRAIN, COMPEL **4** *obs* : to effect or gain by force **5** : to carry out effectively ⟨~ laws⟩ — **en·force·abil·i·ty** \-ˌfōr-sə-' bil-ət-ē, -ˌfȯr-\ *n* — **en·force·able** \-'fōr-sə-bəl, -'fȯr-\ *adj* — **en·force·ment** \-'fōr-smənt, -'fȯr-\ *n* — **en·forc·er** *n*
en·fran·chise \in-'fran-ˌchīz\ *vt* **-chised; -chis·ing** [ME *enfranchisen*, fr. MF *enfranchiss-*, stem of *enfranchir*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *franc* free — more at FRANK] **1** : to set free (as from slavery) **2** : to endow with a franchise: as **a** : to admit to the privileges of a citizen; *specif* : to admit to the right of suffrage **b** : to admit (a municipality) to political privileges or rights — **en·fran·chise·ment** \-ˌchīz-mənt, -chəz-\ *n*
eng *abbr* engine; engineer; engineering
Eng *abbr* England; English
en·gage \in-'gāj\ *vb* **en·gaged; en·gag·ing** [ME *engagen*, fr. MF *engagier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *gage*] *vt* **1** : to offer (as one's word) as security for a debt or cause **2** **a** *obs* : to entangle or entrap in or as if in a snare or bog **b** : to attract and hold by influence or power **c** : to interlock with : MESH; *also* : to cause (mechanical parts) to mesh **3** : to bind (as oneself) to do something; *esp* : to bind by a pledge to marry **4** **a** : to provide occupation for : INVOLVE ⟨~ him in a new project⟩ **b** : to arrange to obtain the use or services of : HIRE **5** **a** : to hold the attention of : ENGROSS ⟨her work ~*s* her completely⟩ **b** : to induce to participate ⟨*engaged* the shy boy in conversation⟩ **6** **a** : to enter into contest with **b** : to bring together or interlock (weapons) ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to pledge oneself : PROMISE **b** : GUARANTEE ⟨he ~*s* for the honesty of his brother⟩ **2** **a** : to begin and carry on an enterprise ⟨he *engaged* in trade for a number of years⟩ **b** : to take part : PARTICIPATE ⟨at college he *engaged* in gymnastics⟩ **3** : to enter into conflict **4** : to be or become in gear
en·ga·gé \ˌäⁿ-ˌgäzh-'ā\ *adj* [F, pp. of *engager* to engage, fr. MF *engagier*] : being actively involved in or committed esp. to political concerns
en·gaged \in-'gājd\ *adj* **1** : involved in activity : OCCUPIED **2** : pledged to be married : BETROTHED **3** : greatly interested : COMMITTED **4** : involved esp. in a hostile encounter **5** : partly embedded in a wall ⟨an ~ column⟩ **6** : being in gear : MESHED
en·gage·ment \in-'gāj-mənt\ *n* **1** **a** : the act of engaging : the state of being engaged **b** : BETROTHAL **2** : something that engages : PLEDGE **3** **a** : a promise to be present at a specified time and place **b** : employment esp. for a stated time **4** : the state of being in gear **5** : a hostile encounter between military forces ***syn*** see BATTLE
en·gag·ing *adj* : tending to draw favorable attention : ATTRACTIVE ***syn*** see SWEET ***ant*** loathsome — **en·gag·ing·ly** \-'gā-jiŋ-lē\ *adv*
en·gar·land \in-'gär-lənd\ *vt* : to adorn with or as if with a garland
En·gel·mann spruce \ˌeŋ-gəl-mən-\ *n* [George *Engelmann* †1884 Am botanist] : a large spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) of the Rocky mountain region and British Columbia that yields a light-colored wood
en·gen·der \in-'jen-dər\ *vb* **en·gen·dered; en·gen·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *engendren*, fr. MF *engendrer*, fr. L *ingenerare*, fr. *in-* + *generare* to generate] *vt* **1** : BEGET, PROCREATE **2** : to cause to exist or to develop : PRODUCE ⟨angry words ~ strife⟩ ~ *vi* : to assume form : ORIGINATE
en·gild \in-'gild\ *vt* : to make bright with or as if with light
[1]en·gine \'en-jən\ *n* [ME *engin*, fr. OF, fr. L *ingenium* natural disposition, talent, fr. *in-* + *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1** *obs* **a** : INGENUITY **b** : evil contrivance : WILE **2** : something used to effect a purpose : AGENT, INSTRUMENT ⟨mournful and terrible ~ of horror and of crime —E. A. Poe⟩ **3** **a** : a mechanical tool: as (1) : an instrument or machine of war (2) *obs* : a torture implement **b** : MACHINERY **c** : any of various mechanical appliances — compare FIRE ENGINE **4** : a machine for converting any of various forms of energy into mechanical force and motion **5** : a railroad locomotive
[2]engine *vt* **en·gined; en·gin·ing** : to equip with engines
-en·gined \'en-jənd\ *adj comb form* : having (such or so many) engines ⟨front-*engined* cars⟩ ⟨four-*engined* planes⟩
[1]en·gi·neer \ˌen-jə-'ni(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a member of a military group devoted to engineering work **2** *obs* : a crafty schemer : PLOTTER **3** **a** : a designer or builder of engines **b** : a person who is trained in or follows as a profession a branch of engineering **c** : a person

who carries through an enterprise by skillful or artful contrivance **4** : a person who runs or supervises an engine or an apparatus

²engineer *vt* **1** : to lay out, construct, or manage as an engineer **2 a** : to contrive or plan out usu. with more or less subtle skill and craft **b** : to guide the course of ***syn*** see GUIDE

en·gi·neer·ing *n* **1** : the art of managing engines **2** : the application of science and mathematics by which the properties of matter and the sources of energy in nature are made useful to man in structures, machines, products, systems, and processes

en·gine·ry \'en-jən-rē\ *n* **1** : instruments of war **2** : machines and tools : MACHINERY

en·gird \in-'gərd\ *vt* : GIRD, ENCOMPASS

en·gir·dle \in-'gərd-ᵊl\ *vt* : to encircle with or as if with a girdle

en·gla·cial \en-'glā-shəl\ *adj* : embedded in a glacier

¹En·glish \'iŋ-glish *also* 'iŋ-lish\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *englisc*, fr. *Engle* (pl.) Angles] : of, relating to, or characteristic of England, the English people, or the English language

²English *n* **1 a** : the language of the people of England and the U.S. and many areas now or formerly under British control **b** : a particular variety of English distinguished by peculiarities (as of pronunciation) **c** : English language, literature, or composition when a subject of study **2** *pl in constr* : the people of England **3 a** : an English translation **b** : idiomatic or intelligible English **4** : spin around the vertical axis given to a ball by striking it to right or left of center (as in pool) or by the manner of releasing it (as in bowling) — compare DRAW, FOLLOW; BODY ENGLISH

³English *vt* **1** : to translate into English **2** : to adopt into English : ANGLICIZE

English breakfast tea *n* : CONGOU; *broadly* : any similar black tea

English cocker spaniel *n* : any of a breed of spaniels that have square muzzles, wide well-developed noses, and distinctive heads which are ideally half muzzle and half skull with the forehead and skull arched and slightly flattened

English daisy *n* : DAISY 1a

English foxhound *n* : any of a breed of foxhounds developed in England and characterized by a large heavily boned form, rather short ears, and lightly fringed tail

English horn *n* [trans. of It *corno inglese*] : a double-reed woodwind instrument resembling the oboe in design but having a longer tube and a range a fifth lower than that of the oboe



English horn

En·glish·man \'iŋ-glish-mən *also* 'iŋ-lish-\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of England

English muffin *n* : bread dough rolled and cut into rounds, baked on a griddle, and split and toasted just before eating

En·glish·ness \'iŋ-glish-nəs *also* 'iŋ-lish-\ *n* : the distinctive qualities or characteristics of the English people, their works, or their institutions

English rabbit *n* : any of a breed of white domestic rabbits having distinctive dark markings

English saddle *n* : a saddle with long side bars, steel cantle and pommel, no horn, and a leather seat supported by webbing stretched between the saddlebow and cantle

English setter *n* : any of a breed of bird dogs characterized by a moderately long flat silky coat of white or white with color and by feathering on the tail and legs

English shepherd *n* : any of a breed of vigorous medium-sized working dogs with a long and glossy black coat usu. with tan to brown markings that was developed in England for herding sheep and cattle

English sonnet *n* : a sonnet consisting of three quatrains and a couplet with a rhyme scheme of *abab cdcd efef gg* — called also *Shakespearean sonnet*

English sparrow *n* : a sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) native to most of Europe and parts of Asia that has been intentionally introduced into America, Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere to destroy insects although it feeds largely on grain seeds — called also *house sparrow*

English springer spaniel *n* : any of a breed of springer spaniels that may have originated in Spain and are characterized by deep-bodied muscular build and a moderately long straight or slightly wavy silky coat usu. of black and white hair — called also *English springer*

English toy spaniel *n* : any of a breed of small blocky spaniels with well-rounded upper skull projecting forward toward the short turned-up nose

English walnut *n* : a Eurasian walnut (*Juglans regia*) valued for its large edible nut and its hard richly figured wood; *also* : its nut

En·glish·wom·an \'iŋ-glish-ˌwüm-ən *also* 'iŋ-lish-\ *n* : a woman of English birth, nationality, or origin

English yew *n* : YEW 1a

en·glut \in-'glət\ *vt* **en·glut·ted; en·glut·ting** [MF *engloutir*, fr. LL *inglutire*, fr. L *in-* + *gluttire* to swallow — more at GLUTTON] : to gulp down : SWALLOW

en·gorge \in-'gȯ(ə)rj\ *vb* [MF *engorgier*, fr. OF, to devour, fr. *en-* + *gorge* throat — more at GORGE] *vt* : GORGE, GLUT; *specif* : to fill with blood to the point of congestion ~ *vi* : to suck blood to the limit of body capacity — **en·gorge·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

engr *abbr* **1** engineer **2** engraved; engraver; engraving

en·graft \in-'graft\ *vt* **1** : GRAFT 1, 3 ⟨~*ed* embryonic gill tissue into the back⟩ **2** : to join or fasten as if by grafting

en·grailed \in-'grā(ə)ld\ *adj* [ME *engreled*, fr. MF *engreslé*, fr. *en-* + *gresle* slender, fr. L *gracilis*] **1** : indented with small concave curves ⟨an ~ heraldic bordure⟩ **2** : made of or bordered by a circle of raised dots ⟨an ~ coin⟩

en·grain \in-'grān\ *vt* : INGRAIN

en·gram *also* **en·gramme** \'en-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : MEMORY TRACE; *specif* : a hypothetical change in neural tissue postulated in order to account for persistence of memory — **en·gram·mic** \en-'gram-ik\ *adj*

en·grave \in-'grāv\ *vt* **en·graved; en·grav·ing** [MF *engraver*, fr. *en-* + *graver* to grave, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *grafan* to grave] **1 a** : to form by incision (as on wood or metal) **b** : to impress deeply as if with a graver ⟨the incident was *engraved* in his memory⟩ **2 a** : to cut figures, letters, or devices on for printing; *also* : to print from an engraved plate **b** : PHOTOENGRAVE — **en·grav·er** *n*

en·grav·ing *n* **1** : the act or process of one that engraves **2** : something that is engraved: as **a** : an engraved printing surface **b** : engraved work **3** : an impression from an engraved printing surface

en·gross \in-'grōs\ *vt* [ME *engrossen*, fr. AF *engrosser*, prob. fr. ML *ingrossare*, fr. L *in* + ML *grossa* large handwriting, fr. L, fem. of *grossus* thick] **1 a** : to copy or write in a large hand **b** : to prepare the usu. final handwritten or printed text of (an official document) **2** [ME *engrossen*, fr. MF *en gros* in large quantities] **a** : to purchase large quantities of (as for speculation) **b** *archaic* : AMASS, COLLECT **c** : to take or occupy the whole of ⟨ideas that have ~*ed* the minds of scholars for generations⟩ ***syn*** see MONOPOLIZE — **en·gross·er** *n*

en·grossed \-'grōst\ *adj* : completely occupied or absorbed ⟨a scholar ~ in his research⟩ — **en·grossed·ly** \-'grō-səd-lē, -'grōst-lē\ *adv*

en·gross·ing \-'grō-siŋ\ *adj* : taking up the attention completely : ABSORBING — **en·gross·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē\ *adv*

en·gross·ment \in-'grō-smənt\ *n* **1** : the act of engrossing **2** : the state of being absorbed or occupied : PREOCCUPATION

en·gulf \in-'gəlf\ *vt* **1** : to flow over and enclose : OVERWHELM ⟨the mounting seas threatened to ~ the island⟩ **2** : to take in (food) by or as if by flowing over and enclosing — **en·gulf·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·ha·lo \in-'hā-(ˌ)lō\ *vt* : to surround with or as if with a halo

en·hance \in-'han(t)s\ *vt* **en·hanced; en·hanc·ing** [ME *enhauncen*, fr. AF *enhauncer*, alter. of OF *enhaucier*, fr. (assumed) VL *inaltiare*, fr. L *in* + *altus* high — more at OLD] **1** *obs* : RAISE **2** : to make greater (as in value, desirability, or attractiveness) : HEIGHTEN ⟨a hillside location *enhanced* by a broad vista⟩ ***syn*** see INTENSIFY — **en·hance·ment** \-'han(t)-smənt\ *n*

en·har·mon·ic \ˌen-(ˌ)här-'män-ik\ *adj* [F *enharmonique*, fr. MF, of a scale employing quarter tones, fr. Gk *enarmonios*, fr. *en* in + *harmonia* harmony, scale] : of, relating to, or being notes that are written differently (as A flat and G sharp) but sound the same — **en·har·mon·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

enig·ma \i-'nig-mə\ *n* [L *aenigma*, fr. Gk *ainigmat-*, *ainigma*, fr. *ainissesthai* to speak in riddles, fr. *ainos* fable] **1** : an obscure speech or writing **2** : something hard to understand or explain **3** : an inscrutable or mysterious person ***syn*** see MYSTERY

enig·mat·ic \ˌen-(ˌ)ig-'mat-ik *also* ˌē-(ˌ)nig-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling an enigma : PUZZLING ***syn*** see OBSCURE ***ant*** explicit — **enig·mat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **enig·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

en·isle \in-'ī(ə)l\ *vt* **1** : to place apart : ISOLATE **2** : to make an island of

en·jamb·ment \in-'jam-mənt\ *or* **en·jambe·ment** *same, or* ä⁽ⁿ⁾-zhä⁽ⁿ⁾b(-ə)mä⁽ⁿ⁾\ *n* [F *enjambement*, fr. MF, encroachment, fr. *enjamber* to straddle, encroach on, fr. *en-* + *jambe* leg — more at JAMB] : the running over of a sentence from one verse or couplet into another so that closely related words fall in different lines — compare RUN-ON

en·join \in-'jȯin\ *vt* [ME *enjoinen*, fr. OF *enjoindre*, fr. L *injungere*, fr. *in-* + *jungere* to join — more at YOKE] **1** : to direct or impose by authoritative order or with urgent admonition **2** : FORBID, PROHIBIT ⟨was ~*ed* by conscience from telling a lie⟩ ***syn*** see COMMAND

en·joy \in-'jȯi\ *vt* [MF *enjoir*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *joir* to enjoy, fr. L *gaudēre* to rejoice — more at JOY] **1** : to take pleasure or satisfaction in **2** : to have for one's use, benefit, or lot ***syn*** see HAVE — **en·joy·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **en·joy·able·ness** *n* — **en·joy·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

en·joy·ment \in-'jȯi-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : the action or state of enjoying **b** : possession and use ⟨the ~ of civic rights⟩ **2** : something that gives keen satisfaction

en·kin·dle \in-'kin-dᵊl\ *vt* **1** : to set (as fuel) on fire **2** : to make bright and glowing ~ *vi* : to take fire : FLAME

enl *abbr* **1** enlarged **2** enlisted

en·lace \in-'lās\ *vt* [ME *enlacen*, fr. MF *enlacier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *lacier* to lace] **1** : ENCIRCLE, ENFOLD **2** : ENTWINE, INTERLACE

en·lace·ment \in-'lā-smənt\ *n* **1** : the process or result of interlacing **2** : a pattern of interlacing elements

en·large \in-'lärj\ *vb* **en·larged; en·larg·ing** [ME *enlargen*, fr. MF *enlargier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *large*] *vt* **1** : to make larger : EXTEND **2** : to give greater scope to : EXPAND **3** : to set free (as a captive) ~ *vi* **1** : to grow larger **2** : to speak or write at length : ELABORATE ⟨let me ~ upon that point⟩ ***syn*** see INCREASE — **en·large·able** \-'lär-jə-bəl\ *adj* — **en·larg·er** *n*

en·large·ment \in-'lärj-mənt\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of enlarging : the state of being enlarged **2** : a photographic print that is larger than the negative and that is made by projecting through a lens an image of the negative upon a photographic printing surface

en·light·en \in-'līt-ᵊn\ *vt* **en·light·ened; en·light·en·ing** \-'līt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ **1** *archaic* : ILLUMINATE **2 a** : to furnish knowledge to : INSTRUCT **b** : to give spiritual insight to

en·light·ened *adj* **1** : freed from ignorance and misinformation ⟨an ~ people⟩ **2** : based on full comprehension of the problems involved ⟨issued an ~ ruling⟩

en·light·en·ment \in-'līt-ᵊn-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or means of enlightening : the state of being enlightened **2** *cap* : a philosophic movement of the 18th century marked by questioning of traditional doctrines and values, a tendency toward individualism, and

an emphasis on the idea of universal human progress, the empirical method in science, and the free use of reason — used with *the* **3** *Buddhism* : a final blessed state marked by the absence of desire or suffering

en·list \in-'list\ *vt* **1** : to engage (a person) for duty in the armed forces **2** **a** : to secure the support and aid of : employ in advancing an interest ⟨~ all the available resources⟩ ⟨~ the community in an experiment⟩ **b** : to win over : ATTRACT ⟨trying to ~ my sympathies⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to enroll oneself in the armed forces **2** : to participate heartily (as in a cause, drive, or crusade) — **en·list·ee** \-ˌlis-'tē\ *n* — **en·list·ment** \-'lis(t)-mənt\ *n*

en·list·ed \-'lis-təd\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the part of a military or naval force below commissioned or warrant officers

enlisted man *n* : a man or woman in the armed forces ranking below a commissioned or warrant officer; *specif* : an enlisted man ranking below a noncommissioned officer or petty officer

en·liv·en \in-'lī-vən\ *vt* : to give life, action, or spirit to : ANIMATE
syn see QUICKEN ***ant*** deaden, subdue

en masse \ä⁰(n)-'mas\ *adv* [F] : in a body : as a whole

en·mesh \in-'mesh\ *vt* : to catch or entangle in or as if in meshes — **en·mesh·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·mi·ty \'en-mət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *enmite*, fr. MF *enemité*, fr. OF *enemisté*, irreg. fr. *enemi* enemy] : positive, active, and typically mutual hatred or ill will
syn ENMITY, HOSTILITY, ANTIPATHY, ANTAGONISM, RANCOR, ANIMOSITY, ANIMUS *shared meaning element* : deep-seated dislike or ill will or a manifestation of such feeling ***ant*** amity

en·ne·ad \'en-ē-ˌad\ *n* [Gk *ennead-, enneas*, fr. *ennea* nine — more at NINE] : a group of nine

en·no·ble \in-'ō-bəl\ *vt* **en·no·bled; en·no·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *ennobelen*, fr. MF *ennoblir*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *noble*] **1** : to make noble : ELEVATE ⟨believes that hard work ~*s* the human spirit⟩ **2** : to raise to the rank of nobility — **en·no·ble·ment** \-bəl-mənt\ *n* — **en·no·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*

en·nui \'än-'wē\ *n* [F, fr. OF *enui* annoyance, fr. *enuier* to annoy] : a feeling of weariness and dissatisfaction : BOREDOM

Enoch \'ē-nək, -nik\ *n* [Gk *Enōch*, fr. Heb *Hănōkh*] : an Old Testament patriarch and father of Methuselah

enol \'ē-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* [ISV *ene-* (fr. *-ene*) + *-ol*] : an organic compound that contains a hydroxyl group bonded to a carbon atom having a double bond and that is usu. characterized by the grouping C=C(OH) — **eno·lic** \ē-'nō-lik, -'näl-ik\ *adj*

eno·lase \'ē-nə-ˌlās, -ˌlāz\ *n* [ISV *enol* + *-ase*] : a crystalline enzyme that is found esp. in muscle and yeast and is important in the metabolism of carbohydrates

enol·o·gy \ē-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *oinos* wine + E *-logy* — more at WINE] : a science that deals with wine and wine making — **enol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

enor·mi·ty \i-'nȯr-mət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being immoderate, monstrous, or outrageous; *esp* : great wickedness **2** : a grave offense against order, right, or decency **3** : the quality or state of being huge : IMMENSITY ⟨the ~ of the task of teachers in slum schools —J. B. Conant⟩

enor·mous \i-'nȯr-məs\ *adj* [L *enormis*, fr. *e, ex* out of + *norma* rule] **1** **a** *archaic* : ABNORMAL, INORDINATE **b** : exceedingly wicked : SHOCKING ⟨an ~ sin⟩ **2** : marked by extraordinarily great size, number, or degree; *esp* : exceeding usual bounds or accepted notions ***syn*** see HUGE — **enor·mous·ly** *adv* — **enor·mous·ness** *n*

[1]enough \i-'nəf; *after* t, d, s, z *often* ᵊn-'əf\ *adj* [ME *ynough*, fr. OE *genōg;* akin to OHG *ginuog* enough; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc compound whose first constituent is represented by OE *ge-* (perfective prefix) and whose second constituent is akin to L *nancisci* to get, Gk *enenkein* to carry] : occurring in such quantity, quality, or scope as to fully satisfy demands or needs ***syn*** see SUFFICIENT

[2]enough *adv* **1** : in or to a degree or quantity that satisfies or that is sufficient or necessary for satisfaction : SUFFICIENTLY **2** : FULLY, QUITE **3** : in a tolerable degree

[3]enough *pron* : a sufficient number, quantity, or amount ⟨~ were present to constitute a quorum⟩ ⟨had ~ of their foolishness⟩

enounce \ē-'naůn(t)s\ *vt* **enounced; enounc·ing** [F *énoncer*, fr. L *enuntiare* to report — more at ENUNCIATE] **1** : to set forth or state (as a proposition) **2** : to pronounce distinctly : ARTICULATE

enow \i-'naů\ *adv or adj* [ME *inow*, fr. OE *genōg*] *archaic* : ENOUGH

en pas·sant \ˌä⁰-ˌpä-'sä⁰, -pə-\ *adv* [F] : in passing — used in chess of the capture of a pawn as it makes a first move of two squares by an enemy pawn in a position to threaten the first of these squares

en·phy·tot·ic \ˌen-fī-'tät-ik\ *adj* [*[2]en-* + *phyt-* + *-otic*] *of a plant disease* : occurring regularly in a district but only in moderate severity — **enphytotic** *n*

en·plane \in-'plān\ *vi* : to board an airplane

en prise \ä⁰-prēz\ *adj* [F] *of a chess piece* : exposed to capture

en quad *n* [fr. its use for the letter *n*] : a quad whose set dimension is one half that of an em quad

en·quire \in-'kwī(ə)r\, **en·qui·ry** \'in-ˌkwī(ə)r-ē, in-'; 'in-kwə-rē, 'iŋ-\ *var of* INQUIRE, INQUIRY

en·rage \in-'rāj\ *vt* [MF *enrager* to become mad, fr. OF *enragier*, fr. *en-* + *rage*] : to fill with rage : ANGER

en rap·port \ˌä⁰-rə-'pō(ə)r, -'pȯ(ə)r\ *adj* [F] : being in a state of mutual accord and harmony ⟨we finished the drive in silence; spiritually we were not *en rapport* —W. A. Percy⟩

en·rapt \in-'rapt\ *adj* : wholly absorbed : RAPT; *also* : filled with delight

en·rap·ture \in-'rap-chər\ *vt* **en·rap·tured; en·rap·tur·ing** \-'rap-chə-riŋ, -'rap-shriŋ\ : to fill with delight ***syn*** see TRANSPORT

en·reg·is·ter \in-'rej-ə-stər\ *vt* [MF *enregistrer*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *registre* register] : to put on record

en·rich \in-'rich\ *vt* [ME *enrichen*, fr. MF *enrichir*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *riche* rich] **1** : to make rich or richer ⟨~*ing* himself in the stock market⟩ ⟨~*es* his cultural life by going to museums, concerts, and plays⟩ **2** : ADORN, ORNAMENT ⟨~*ing* the ceiling with frescoes⟩ **3** **a** : to make richer in some quality ⟨~ the gravy with a little flour browned in butter⟩ **b** : to make (soil) more fertile **c** : to improve (a food) in nutritive value by adding nutrients (as vitamins or amino acids) and esp. by restoring part of the nutrients wasted in processing **d** : to increase the proportion of a valuable or desirable ingredient in ⟨~ uranium in uranium 235⟩; *also* : to add a desirable substance to ⟨~ natural gas⟩ **4** : to expand (a course of study) by increasing the variety of subjects and the depth of treatment ⟨an ~*ed* curriculum for the brighter students⟩ — **en·rich·er** *n* — **en·rich·ment** \-'rich-mənt\ *n*

en·robe \in-'rōb\ *vt* : to invest or adorn with or as if with a robe

en·roll *or* **en·rol** \in-'rōl\ *vb* **en·rolled; en·roll·ing** [ME *enrollen*, fr. MF *enroller*, fr. *en-* + *rolle* roll, register] *vt* **1** : to insert, register, or enter in a list, catalog, or roll ⟨the school ~*s* about 800 pupils⟩ **2** : to prepare a final perfect copy of (a bill passed by a legislature) in written or printed form **3** : to roll or wrap up ~ *vi* : to enroll oneself or cause oneself to be enrolled ⟨he ~*ed* in the history course⟩ — **en·roll·ee** \-rō-'lē\ *n* — **en·roll·ment** \-'rōl-mənt\ *n*

en·root \in-'rüt, -'růt\ *vt* : to fix or implant by or as if by roots : ESTABLISH

en route \ä⁰(n)-'rüt, en-, in-\ *adv or adj* [F] : on or along the way ⟨he reads *en route*⟩ ⟨arrived early in spite of *en route* delays⟩

ENS *abbr* ensign

en·sam·ple \in-'sam-pəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *ensample, example*] : EXAMPLE, INSTANCE

en·san·guine \in-'saŋ-gwən\ *vt* **-guined; -guin·ing** **1** : to make bloody **2** : CRIMSON

en·sconce \in-'skän(t)s\ *vt* **en·sconced; en·sconc·ing** **1** : SHELTER, CONCEAL **2** : to settle comfortably or snugly ⟨*ensconced* herself before the blazing hearth⟩

enscroll *var of* INSCROLL

en·sem·ble \ä⁰(n)-'säm-bəl\ *n* [F, fr. *ensemble* together, fr. L *insimul* at the same time, fr. *in-* + *simul* at the same time — more at SAME] : a group constituting an organic whole or producing together a single effect: as **a** : concerted music of two or more parts **b** : a complete costume of harmonizing or complementary pieces **c** (1) : the musicians engaged in the performance of a musical ensemble **c** (2) : a group of supporting players, singers, or dancers; *esp* : CORPS DE BALLET

ensemble acting *n* : a system of theatrical presentation in which balanced casting and careful integration of the whole performance replace the star system

en·serf \in-'sərf\ *vt* : to deprive of liberty and personal rights — **en·serf·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·sheathe \in-'shēth\ *vt* : to cover with or as if with a sheath

en·shrine \in-'shrīn, *esp South* -'srīn\ *vt* **1** : to enclose in or as if in a shrine **2** : to preserve or cherish as sacred — **en·shrine·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·shroud \in-'shraůd, *esp South* -'sraůd\ *vt* : to cover or enclose with or as if with a shroud

en·si·form \'en(t)-sə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [F *ensiforme*, fr. L *ensis* sword + F *-forme* -form; akin to Skt *asi* sword] : having sharp edges and tapering to a slender point ⟨~ leaves of the gladiolus⟩

en·sign \'en(t)-sən, *also* 'en-ˌsīn *for 1, 2, & 3a*\ *n* [ME *ensigne*, fr. MF *enseigne*, fr. L *insignia* insignia, flags] **1** : a flag that is flown (as by a ship) as the symbol of nationality and that may also be flown with a distinctive badge added to its design (as by an organization having nautical associations) **2** **a** : a badge of office, rank, or power **b** : EMBLEM, SIGN **3** **a** *archaic* : STANDARD-BEARER **b** : a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard ranking above a chief warrant officer and below a lieutenant junior grade

en·si·lage \'en(t)-s(ə-)lij, *for 1 also* in-'sī-lij\ *n* **1** : the process of preserving fodder by ensiling **2** : SILAGE

en·sile \en-'sī(ə)l, in-\ *vt* **en·siled; en·sil·ing** [F *ensiler*, fr. *en-* + *silo*, fr. Sp] : to prepare and store (fodder) for silage in a tight silo or pit

en·sky \in-'skī\ *vt* : to lift to or as if to the skies or heaven : EXALT

en·slave \in-'slāv\ *vt* : to reduce to or as if to slavery : SUBJUGATE — **en·slave·ment** \-mənt\ *n* — **en·slav·er** *n*

en·snare \in-'sna(ə)r, -'sne(ə)r\ *vt* : to take in or as if in a snare
syn see CATCH

en·snarl \in-'snär(ə)l\ *vt* : to involve in a snarl

en·soul \in-'sōl\ *vt* : to endow or imbue with a soul

en·sphere \in-'sfi(ə)r\ *vt* : to enclose in or as if in a sphere

en·sue \in-'sü\ *vb* **en·sued; en·su·ing** [ME *ensuen*, fr. MF *ensuivre*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *suivre* to follow — more at SUE] *vt* : to strive to attain : PURSUE ⟨I wander, seeking peace, and *ensuing* it —Rupert Brooke⟩ ~ *vi* : to take place afterward or as a result ***syn*** see FOLLOW

en suite \ä⁰-'swēt\ *adv or adj* [F] : in a succession, series, or set

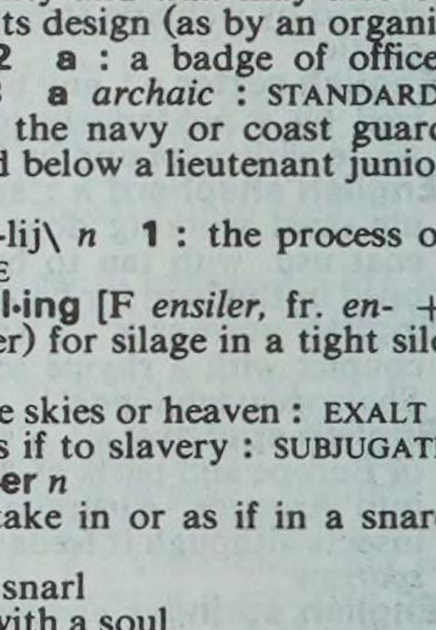
en·sure \in-'shů(ə)r\ *vt* **en·sured; en·sur·ing** [ME *ensuren*, fr. AF *enseurer*, prob. alter. of OF *aseürer* — more at ASSURE] : to make sure, certain, or safe : GUARANTEE
syn ENSURE, INSURE, ASSURE, SECURE *shared meaning element* : to make an outcome sure

en·swathe \in-'swäth, -'swȯth, -'swāth\ *vt* : to enfold or enclose with or as if with a covering : SWATHE

ent- *or* **ento-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *entos* within; akin to L *intus* within, Gk *en* in — more at IN] : inner : within ⟨*ento*blast⟩

en·tab·la·ture \in-'tab-lə-ˌchů(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)ů(ə)r\ *n* [obs. F, modif. of It *intavolatura*, fr. *intavolare* to put on a board or table, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *tavola* board, table, fr. L *tabula* — more at TABLE] : the upper section of a wall or story that is usu. supported on columns or pilasters and that in classical orders consists of architrave, frieze, and cornice; *also* : a similar part (as an elevated support for a machine part)

en·ta·ble·ment \in-'tā-bəl-mənt, ä⁰-tà-blə-mä⁰\ *n* [F, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *table*]



1 entablature, *2* cornice, *3* frieze, *4* architrave

: a platform that supports a statue and that is placed above the dado

¹en·tail \in-'tā(ə)l\ *vt* **1** : to restrict (property) by limiting the inheritance to the owner's lineal descendants or to a particular class thereof (as his male children) **2 a** : to confer, assign, or transmit as if by entail : FASTEN ⟨~*ed* on them indelible disgrace —Robert Browning⟩ **b** : to fix (a person) permanently in some condition or status ⟨~ him and his heirs unto the crown —Shak.⟩ **3** : to impose, involve, or imply as a necessary accompaniment or result ⟨the project will ~ considerable expense⟩ — **en·tail·er** \-'tā-lər\ *n* — **en·tail·ment** \-'tā(ə)l-mənt\ *n*

²en·tail \'en-ˌtāl, in-'tā(ə)l\ *n* **1 a** : an entailing esp. of lands **b** : an entailed estate **c** : the rule fixing the descent **2** : something (as a quality) transmitted as if by entail

ent·amoe·ba \ˌent-ə-'mē-bə\ *n* : an endamoeba esp. of a vertebrate

en·tan·gle \in-'taŋ-gəl\ *vt* **1** : to make tangled, complicated, or confused ⟨his explanation only served to ~ the question further⟩ **2** : to involve in a tangle ⟨become *entangled* in a ruinous lawsuit⟩ — **en·tan·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*

en·tan·gle·ment \in-'taŋ-gəl-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : the action of entangling : the state of being entangled **b** : something that entangles, confuses, or ensnares **2** : the condition of being deeply involved

en·tel·e·chy \en-'tel-ə-kē, in-\ *n, pl* **-chies** [LL *entelechia*, fr. Gk *entelecheia*] **1** : the realization of form-giving cause as contrasted with potential existence **2** : a hypothetical agency that in some vitalist doctrines is considered inherent in living substances and regulates or directs the vital processes of an organism but is not discoverable by scientific investigation

en·tente \än-'tänt\ *n* [F, fr. OF, intent, understanding — more at INTENT] **1** : an international understanding providing for a common course of action **2** : a coalition of parties to an entente

en·ter \'ent-ər\ *vb* **en·tered; en·ter·ing** \'ent-ə-riŋ, 'en-triŋ\ [ME *entren*, fr. OF *entrer*, fr. L *intrare*, fr. *intra* within; akin to L *inter* between — more at INTER-] *vi* **1** : to go or come in **2** : to come or gain admission into a group : JOIN **3 a** : to make a beginning ⟨~*ing* upon a career⟩ **b** : to begin to consider a subject **4** : to go upon land for the purpose of taking possession **5** : to play a part : be a factor ⟨~ into a conversation⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to come or go into ⟨~ a room⟩ **2** : INSCRIBE, REGISTER ⟨~ the names of qualified voters⟩ **3** : to cause to be received or admitted ⟨~ a boy at a school⟩ **4** : to put in : INSERT **5 a** : to make a beginning in : take up ⟨~ politics⟩ **b** : to pass within the limits of (a particular period of time) ⟨was famous by the time he ~*ed* his early thirties⟩ **6** : to become a member of or an active participant in ⟨~ the university⟩ ⟨~ a race⟩ **7** : to make report of (a ship or her cargo) to customs authorities **8** : to place in proper form before a court of law or upon record ⟨~ a writ⟩ **9** : to go into or upon and take actual possession of (as land) **10** : to put formally on record ⟨~*ing* a complaint against his business partner⟩ — **en·ter·able** \'ent-ə-rə-bəl, 'en-trə-\ *adj*

syn ENTER, PENETRATE, PIERCE, PROBE *shared meaning element* : to make way into something ***ant*** issue (*from or out*)

— **enter into** **1** : EXAMINE, CONSIDER ⟨the book doesn't *enter into* the moral aspect of the issue⟩ **2** : to make oneself a party to or in ⟨*enter into* an important agreement⟩ **3** : to form a constituent part of ⟨tin *enters into* the composition of pewter⟩ **4 a** : to participate or share in ⟨cheerfully *entering into* the household tasks⟩ **b** : to be in tune or sympathy with ⟨couldn't *enter into* the festive spirit of the occasion⟩

enter- *or* **entero-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *enteron*] : intestine ⟨*enter*itis⟩

en·ter·al \'ent-ə-rəl\ *adj* : ENTERIC — **en·ter·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*

en·ter·ic \en-'ter-ik, in-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the intestines; *broadly* : ALIMENTARY **2** : of, relating to, or being a medicinal preparation treated to pass through the stomach unaltered and disintegrate in the intestines

en·ter·it·i·dis \ˌent-ə-'rit-əd-əs, -'rīt-\ *n* [NL (*Salmonella*) *enteritidis*, species of bacteria] : enteritis esp. in young animals

en·ter·i·tis \ˌent-ə-'rīt-əs\ *n* **1** : inflammation of the intestines and esp. of the human ileum **2** : a disease of domestic animals (as panleucopenia of cats) marked by enteritis and diarrhea

en·tero·bac·te·ri·um \ˌent-ə-rō-bak-'tir-ē-əm\ *n* : any of a family (Enterobacteriaceae) of gram-negative straight rod bacteria (as a salmonella or a colon bacillus) that ferment glucose and include saprophytes as well as some serious pathogens of man, lower animals, and plants — **en·tero·bac·te·ri·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

en·tero·bi·a·sis \-'bī-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Enterobius*, genus name + *-iasis*] : infestation with or disease caused by pinworms (genus *Enterobius*) that occurs esp. in children

en·tero·chro·maf·fin \-'krō-mə-fən\ *adj* [*enter-* + *chromaffin*] : of or relating to epithelial cells of the intestinal mucosa that stain esp. with chromium salts and usu. contain serotonin

en·tero·coc·cus \-'käk-əs\ *n, -coc·ci* \-'käk-ˌ(s)ī, -'käk-(ˌ)(s)ē\ [NL, genus name] : STREPTOCOCCUS; *esp* : a streptococcus (as *Streptococcus faecalis*) normally present in the intestine — **en·tero·coc·cal** \-'käk-əl\ *adj*

en·tero·coele *or* **en·tero·coel** \'ent-ə-rō-ˌsēl\ *n* : a coelom originating by outgrowth from the archenteron — **en·tero·coe·lic** \ˌent-ə-rō-'sē-lik\ *adj* — **en·tero·coe·lous** \-ləs\ *adj*

en·tero·co·li·tis \ˌent-ərō-kə-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL] : enteritis affecting both the large and small intestine

en·tero·gas·trone \-'gas-ˌtrōn\ *n* [*enter-* + *gastr-* + hormone] : a hormone that is produced by the duodenal mucosa and has an inhibitory action on gastric motility and secretion

en·tero·hep·a·ti·tis \-ˌhep-ə-'tīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : BLACKHEAD 2

en·tero·ki·nase \ˌent-ə-rō-'kī-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* [ISV] : an enzyme esp. of the upper intestinal mucosa that activates trypsinogen by converting it to trypsin

en·ter·on \'ent-ə-ˌrän, -rən\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, intestine — more at INTER-] : the alimentary canal or system — used esp. of the embryo

en·tero·patho·gen·ic \ˌent-ə-rō-ˌpath-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : tending to produce disease in the intestinal tract ⟨~ bacteria⟩

en·ter·op·a·thy \ˌent-ə-'räp-ə-thē\ *n* : a disease of the intestinal tract

en·ter·os·to·my \ˌent-ə-'räs-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : a surgical formation of an opening into the intestine through the abdominal wall

en·tero·tox·in \ˌent-ə-rō-'täk-sən\ *n* : a toxic substance that is produced by microorganisms (as some staphylococci) and is responsible for the gastrointestinal symptoms of some forms of food poisoning

en·tero·vi·rus \-'vī-rəs\ *n* [NL] : any of a group of picornaviruses (as a Coxsackie virus) that typically occur in the gastrointestinal tract but may be involved in respiratory ailments, meningitis, and neurological disorders — **en·tero·vi·ral** \-rəl\ *adj*

en·ter·prise \'ent-ə(r)-ˌprīz\ *n* [ME *enterprise*, fr. MF *entreprise*, fr. *entreprendre* to undertake, fr. *entre-* inter- + *prendre* to take — more at PRIZE] **1** : a project or undertaking that is esp. difficult, complicated, or risky **2 a** : a unit of economic organization or activity; *esp* : a business organization **b** : a systematic purposeful activity ⟨agriculture is the main economic ~ among these people⟩ **3** : readiness to engage in daring action : INITIATIVE

en·ter·pris·er \-ˌprī-zər\ *n* : one who undertakes an enterprise; *specif* : ENTREPRENEUR

en·ter·pris·ing \-ˌprī-ziŋ\ *adj* : marked by an independent energetic spirit and by readiness to undertake or experiment

en·ter·tain \ˌent-ər-'tān\ *vb* [ME *entertinen*, fr. MF *entretenir*, fr. *entre-* inter- + *tenir* to hold — more at TENABLE] *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : MAINTAIN **b** *obs* : RECEIVE **2** : to show hospitality to **3 a** : to keep, hold, or maintain in the mind : HARBOR ⟨I ~ grave doubts about her sincerity⟩ **b** (1) : to receive and take into consideration ⟨he refused to ~ her plea⟩ (2) : TREAT, CONSIDER ⟨~ a subject⟩ **4** : to provide entertainment for **5** : to play against (an opposing team) on one's home field or court ~ *vi* : to provide entertainment esp. for guests ***syn*** see AMUSE — **en·ter·tain·er** *n*

en·ter·tain·ing *adj* : providing entertainment : DIVERTING — **en·ter·tain·ing·ly** \-'tā-niŋ-lē\ *adv*

en·ter·tain·ment \ˌent-ər-'tān-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of entertaining **2 a** *archaic* : MAINTENANCE, PROVISION **b** *obs* : EMPLOYMENT **3** : something diverting or engaging: as **a** : a public performance **b** : a usu. light comic or adventure novel

en·thal·py \'en-ˌthal-pē, en-'\ *n* [*en-* + Gk *thalpein* to heat] : the sum of the internal energy of a body and the product of its volume multiplied by the pressure

en·thrall *or* **en·thral** \in-'thrȯl\ *vt* **en·thralled; en·thrall·ing** **1** : to hold in or reduce to slavery **2** : to hold spellbound : CHARM — **en·thrall·ment** *or* **en·thral·ment** \-'thrȯl-mənt\ *n*

en·throne \in-'thrōn\ *vt* **1 a** : to seat ceremonially on a throne **b** : to seat in a place associated with a position of authority or influence **2** : to assign supreme virtue or value to : EXALT — **en·throne·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

en·thuse \in-'th(y)üz\ *vb* **en·thused; en·thus·ing** [back-formation fr. *enthusiasm*] *vt* : to make enthusiastic ⟨proposals which . . . shocked the orthodox and *enthused* the rebellious —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to show enthusiasm ⟨tourists *enthusing* over a moribund culture —R. J. Clements⟩ ***syn*** see THRILL

en·thu·si·asm \in-'th(y)ü-zē-ˌaz-əm\ *n* [Gk *enthousiasmos*, fr. *enthousiazein* to be inspired, fr. *entheos* inspired, fr. *en-* + *theos* god] **1 a** : belief in special revelations of the Holy Spirit **b** : religious fanaticism **2 a** : strong excitement of feeling : ARDOR **b** : something inspiring zeal or fervor ***syn*** see PASSION

en·thu·si·ast \-ˌast, -əst\ *n* : a person filled with enthusiasm: as **a** : one who is ardently attached to a cause, object, or pursuit ⟨he's a sports car ~⟩ **b** : one who tends to give himself completely to whatever engages his interest

en·thu·si·as·tic \in-ˌth(y)ü-zē-'as-tik\ *adj* : filled with or marked by enthusiasm — **en·thu·si·as·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

en·thy·meme \'en(t)-thi-ˌmēm\ *n* [L *enthymema*, fr. Gk *enthymēma*, fr. *enthymeisthai* to keep in mind, fr. *en-* + *thymos* mind, soul — more at FUME] : a syllogism in which one of the premises is implicit

en·tice \in-'tīs\ *vt* **en·ticed; en·tic·ing** [ME *enticen*, fr. OF *enticier*, fr. (assumed) VL *intitiare*, fr. L *in-* + *titio* firebrand] : to draw on artfully or adroitly or by arousing hope or desire : TEMPT ***syn*** see LURE ***ant*** scare — **en·tice·ment** \-'tī-smənt\ *n*

¹en·tire \in-'tī(ə)r, 'en-ˌ\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *entir*, fr. L *integer*, lit., untouched, fr. *in-* + *tangere* to touch — more at TANGENT] **1** : having no element or part left out : WHOLE ⟨was alone the ~ day⟩ **2** : complete in degree : TOTAL ⟨his ~ devotion to his family⟩ **3 a** : consisting of one piece **b** : HOMOGENEOUS, UNMIXED **c** : INTACT ⟨strove to keep the collection ~⟩ **4** : not castrated **5** : having the margin continuous or free from indentations ⟨an ~ leaf⟩ — **entire** *adv* — **en·tire·ness** *n*

²entire *n* **1** *archaic* : the whole : ENTIRETY **2** : STALLION

en·tire·ly *adv* **1** : in a whole, complete, or full manner ⟨agreed with me ~⟩ ⟨you are ~ welcome⟩ **2** : in an exclusive manner : SOLELY ⟨it is his fault ~⟩

en·tire·ty \in-'tī-rət-ē, -'tī-(ə)rt-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the state of being entire or complete **2** : SUM TOTAL, WHOLE

en·ti·tle \in-'tīt-ᵊl\ *vt* **en·ti·tled; en·ti·tling** \-'tīt-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *entitlen*, fr. MF *entituler*, fr. LL *intitulare*, fr. L *in-* + *-titulus* title] **1** : to give a title to : DESIGNATE **2** : to furnish with proper grounds for seeking or claiming something ⟨this ticket ~*s* the bearer to free admission⟩ — **en·ti·tle·ment** \-'tīt-ᵊl-mənt\ *n*

en·ti·ty \'en(t)-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ML *entitas*, fr. L *ent-, ens* existing thing, fr. coined prp. of *esse* to be — more at IS] **1 a** : BEING, EXISTENCE; *esp* : independent, separate, or self-contained existence **b** : the existence of a thing as contrasted with its attributes **2** : something that has separate and distinct existence and objective or conceptual reality

ento- — see ENT-
en·to·blast \'ent-ə-ˌblast\ *n* **1** : HYPOBLAST **2** : a blastomere producing endoderm — **en·to·blas·tic** \ˌent-ə-'blas-tik\ *adj*
en·to·derm \'ent-ə-ˌdərm\ *n* : ENDODERM — **en·to·der·mal** \ˌent-ə-'dər-məl\ *or* **en·to·der·mic** \-mik\ *adj*
en·toil \in-'tȯi(ə)l\ *vt* : ENTRAP, ENMESH
entom *or* **entomol** *abbr* entomological; entomology
entom- *or* **entomo-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk *entomon*] : insect ⟨*entomo*phagous⟩
en·tomb \in-'tüm\ *vt* [ME *entoumben*, fr. MF *entomber*, fr. *en-* + *tombe* tomb] **1** : to deposit in a tomb : BURY **2** : to serve as a tomb for — **en·tomb·ment** \-'tüm-mənt\ *n*
en·to·mo·fau·na \ˌent-ə-mō-'fȯn-ə, -'fän-\ *n* [NL] : a fauna of insects : the insects of an environment or region
en·to·mol·o·gy \ˌent-ə-'mäl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *entomologie*, fr. Gk *entomon* insect (fr. neut. of *entomos* cut up, fr. *en-* + *temnein* to cut) + F *-logie* -logy — more at TOME] : a branch of zoology that deals with insects — **en·to·mo·log·i·cal** \-mə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **en·to·mo·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **en·to·mol·o·gist** \ˌent-ə-'mäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
en·to·moph·a·gous \ˌent-ə-'mäf-ə-gəs\ *adj* : feeding on insects
en·to·moph·i·lous \ˌent-ə-'mäf-ə-ləs\ *adj* : being normally pollinated by insects — compare ZOOPHILOUS — **en·to·moph·i·ly** \-lē\ *n*
en·to·mos·tra·can \ˌent-ə-'mäs-tri-kən\ *n* [deriv. of *entom-* + Gk *ostrakon* shell — more at OYSTER] : any of numerous simple typically small crustaceans (as branchiopods, ostracods, copepods, and barnacles) sometimes placed in a subclass (Entomostraca) — **entomostracan** *or* **en·to·mos·tra·cous** \-kəs\ *adj*
en·to·proct \'ent-ə-ˌpräkt\ *n* [deriv. of *ent-* + Gk *prōktos* anus] : any of a phylum (Entoprocta) of animals lacking a true coelom and having the anus adjacent to the mouth — **entroproct** *or* **en·to·proc·tous** \ˌent-ə-'präk-təs\ *adj*
en·tou·rage \ˌän-tü-'räzh\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *entourer* to surround, fr. *entour* around, fr. *en* in (fr. L *in*) + *tour* circuit — more at TURN] **1** : one's attendants or associates **2** : SURROUNDINGS
en·to·zoa \ˌent-ə-'zō-ə\ *n pl* [NL] : internal animal parasites; *esp* : the intestinal worms — **en·to·zo·an** \-'zō-ən\ *adj or n*
en·to·zo·ic \-'zō-ik\ *adj* : living within an animal ⟨an ~ ameba⟩
en·tr'acte \'ä⁽ⁿ⁾-ˌtrakt, -ˌträkt, ä⁽ⁿ⁾-'\ *n* [F, fr. *entre-* inter- + *acte* act] **1** : the interval between two acts of a play **2** : a dance, piece of music, or interlude performed between two acts of a play
en·trails \'en-trəlz, -ˌtrālz\ *n pl* [ME *entrailles*, fr. MF, fr. ML *intralia*, alter. of L *interanea*, pl. of *interaneum* intestine, fr. neut. of *interaneus* interior] : GUTS, VISCERA; *broadly* : internal parts
¹en·train \in-'trān\ *vt* [MF *entrainer*, fr. *en-* + *trainer* to draw, drag — more at TRAIN] **1** : to draw along with or after oneself **2** : to draw in and transport (as solid particles or gas) by the flow of a fluid **3** : to incorporate (air bubbles) into concrete **4** : to determine or modify the phase or period of ⟨circadian rhythms ~*ed* by a light cycle⟩ — **en·train·er** *n* — **en·train·ment** \-'trān-mənt\ *n*
²entrain *vt* : to put aboard a train ~ *vi* : to go aboard a train
¹en·trance \'en-trən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act of entering **2** : the means or place of entry **3** : power or permission to enter : ADMISSION **4** : the point at which a voice or instrument part begins in ensemble music **5** : the first appearance of an actor in a scene
²en·trance \in-'tran(t)s\ *vt* **en·tranced; en·tranc·ing** **1** : to put into a trance **2** : to carry away with delight, wonder, or rapture ***syn*** see TRANSPORT — **en·trance·ment** \-'tran(t)-smənt\ *n*
en·trant \'en-trənt\ *n* : one that enters; *esp* : one that enters a contest
en·trap \in-'trap\ *vt* [MF *entraper*, fr. *en-* + *trape* trap] **1** : to catch in or as if in a trap **2** : to lure into a compromising statement or act ***syn*** see CATCH — **en·trap·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
en·treat \in-'trēt\ *vb* [ME *entreten*, fr. MF *entraitier*, fr. *en-* + *traitier* to treat — more at TREAT] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to deal with : TREAT **2** : to plead with esp. in order to persuade : ask urgently ⟨~*ed* his boss for another chance⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *obs* **a** : NEGOTIATE **b** : INTERCEDE **2** : to make an earnest request : PLEAD ***syn*** see BEG — **en·treat·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **en·treat·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
en·treaty \in-'trēt-ē\ *n, pl* **-treat·ies** : an act of entreating : PLEA
en·tre·chat \'ä⁽ⁿ⁾-trə-ˌshä\ *n* [F] : a leap in which a ballet dancer repeatedly crosses the legs and sometimes beats them together
en·trée *or* **en·tree** \'än-ˌtrā *also* än-'\ *n* [F *entrée*, fr. OF] **1 a** : the act or manner of entering : ENTRANCE **b** : freedom of entry or access ⟨had ~ into the best circles⟩ **2** : the principal dish of the meal in the U.S.
en·tre·mets *as sing*, ˌä⁽ⁿ⁾-trə-'mā, *as pl* -'mā(z)\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [F, fr. OF *entremes*, fr. L *intermissus*, pp. of *intermittere* to intermit] : dishes served in addition to the main course of a meal
en·trench \in-'trench\ *vt* **1 a** : to place within or surround with a trench esp. for defense **b** : to place (oneself) in a strong defensive position **c** : to establish solidly : CONFIRM ⟨pity only ~*es* him in his misery⟩ **2** : to cut into : FURROW; *specif* : to erode downward so as to form a trench ~ *vi* **1** : to dig or occupy a trench for defensive purposes **2** : to enter upon or take over something unfairly, improperly, or unlawfully : ENCROACH — used with *on* or *upon* ***syn*** see TRESPASS — **en·trench·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
en·tre·pôt \'ä⁽ⁿ⁾-trə-ˌpō\ *n* [F] : an intermediary center of trade and transshipment
en·tre·pre·neur \ˌä⁽ⁿ⁾n-trə-p(r)ə-'nər, -'n(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. OF, fr. *entreprendre* to undertake] : one who organizes, manages, and assumes the risks of a business or enterprise — **en·tre·pre·neur·ial** \-'n(y)u̇r-ē-əl, -'nər-\ *adj* — **en·tre·pre·neur·ship** \-'nər-ˌship, -'n(y)u̇(ə)r-\ *n*
en·tre·sol \'ä⁽ⁿ⁾-trə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl\ *n* [F] : MEZZANINE
en·tro·py \'en-trə-pē\ *n, pl* **-pies** [G *entropie*, fr. Gk *en-* + *trepein* to turn, change — more at TROPE] **1 a** : a measure of the unavailable energy in a closed thermodynamic system so related to the state of the system that a change in the measure varies with change in the ratio of the increment of heat taken in to the absolute temperature at which it is absorbed **b** : a measure of the disorder of a closed thermodynamic system in terms of a constant multiple of the natural logarithm of the probability of the occurrence of a particular molecular arrangement of the system that by suitable choice of a constant reduces to the measure of unavailable energy **2** : a measure of the amount of information in a message that is based on the logarithm of the number of possible equivalent messages **3** : the degradation of the matter and energy in the universe to an ultimate state of inert uniformity
en·trust \in-'trəst\ *vt* **1** : to confer a trust on; *esp* : to deliver something in trust to **2** : to commit to another with confidence ***syn*** see COMMIT — **en·trust·ment** \-'trəs(t)-mənt\ *n*
en·try \'en-trē\ *n, pl* **entries** [ME *entre*, fr. OF *entree*, fr. fem. of *entré*, pp. of *entrer* to enter] **1** : the act of entering : ENTRANCE **2** : the right or privilege of entering : ENTRÉE **3** : a place of entrance: as **a** : VESTIBULE, PASSAGE **b** : DOOR, GATE **4 a** : the act of making or entering a record **b** : something entered: as (1) : a record or notation of an occurrence, transaction, or proceeding (2) : a descriptive record (as in a card catalog or an index) (3) : HEADWORD (4) : a headword with its definition or identification (5) : VOCABULARY ENTRY **5** : a person, thing, or group entered in a contest
en·try·way \-trē-ˌwā\ *n* : a passage for entrance
entry word *n* : HEADWORD
en·twine \in-'twīn\ *vt* : to twine together or around ~ *vi* : to become twisted or twined
en·twist \in-'twist\ *vt* : ENTWINE
enu·cle·ate \(')ē-'n(y)ü-klē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *enucleatus*, pp. of *enucleare*, lit., to remove the kernel from, fr. *e-* + *nucleus* kernel — more at NUCLEUS] **1** *archaic* : EXPLAIN **2** : to deprive of a nucleus **3** : to remove without cutting into ⟨~ a tumor⟩ — **enu·cleation** \(ˌ)ē-ˌn(y)ü-klē-'ā-shən\ *n*
enu·mer·a·ble \i-'n(y)üm-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : DENUMERABLE — **enumer·a·bil·i·ty** \-ˌn(y)üm-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
enu·mer·ate \i-'n(y)ü-mə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *enumeratus*, pp. of *enumerare*, fr. *e-* + *numerare* to count, fr. *numerus* number — more at NIMBLE] **1** : to ascertain the number of : COUNT **2** : to specify one after another : LIST — **enu·mer·a·tion** \-ˌn(y)ü-mə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **enu·mer·a·tive** \-'n(y)ü-mə-ˌrāt-iv, -'n(y)üm-(ə-)rət-\ *adj* — **enu·mer·a·tor** \-'n(y)ü-mə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
enun·ci·ate \ē-'nən(t)-sē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *enuntiatus*, pp. of *enuntiare* to report, declare, fr. *e-* + *nuntiare* to report — more at ANNOUNCE] *vt* **1 a** : to make a definite or systematic statement of : FORMULATE **b** : ANNOUNCE, PROCLAIM ⟨*enunciated* the principles to be followed by the new administration⟩ **2** : ARTICULATE, PRONOUNCE ⟨~ your words clearly⟩ ~ *vi* : to utter articulate sounds — **enun·cia·ble** \-'nən(t)-sē-ə-bəl, -'nən-ch(ē-)ə-\ *adj* — **enun·ci·ation** \-ˌnən(t)-sē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **enun·ci·a·tor** \-'nən(t)-sē-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
enure *var of* INURE
en·ure·sis \ˌen-yu̇-'rē-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *enourein* to urinate in, wet the bed, fr. *en-* + *ourein* to urinate] : an involuntary discharge of urine : incontinence of urine — **en·uret·ic** \-'ret-ik\ *adj or n*
env *abbr* envelope
en·vel·op \in-'vel-əp\ *vt* [ME *envolupen*, fr. MF *envoluper, enveloper*, fr. OF *envoloper*, fr. *en-* + *voloper* to wrap] **1** : to enclose or enfold completely with or as if with a covering **2** : to mount an attack on (an enemy's flank) — **en·vel·op·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
en·ve·lope \'en-və-ˌlōp, 'än-\ *n* **1** : something that envelops : WRAPPER ⟨the ~ of air around the earth⟩ **2** : a flat usu. paper container (as for a letter) **3 a** : the outer covering of an aerostat **b** : the bag containing the gas in a balloon or airship **4** : a natural enclosing covering (as a membrane, shell, or integument) **5 a** : a curve tangent to each of a family of curves **b** : a surface tangent to each of a family of surfaces
en·ven·om \in-'ven-əm\ *vt* [ME *envenimen*, fr. OF *envenimer*, fr. *en-* + *venim* venom] **1** : to make poisonous **2** : EMBITTER ⟨jealousy ~*ing* his mind⟩
en·ven·om·iza·tion \in-ˌven-ə-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* : a poisoning caused by a bite or sting
en·vi·able \'en-vē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : highly desirable — **en·vi·able·ness** *n* — **en·vi·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
en·vi·er \'en-vē-ər\ *n* : one that envies
en·vi·ous \'en-vē-əs\ *adj* **1** : feeling or showing envy ⟨~ of her neighbor's success⟩ ⟨~ looks⟩ **2** *archaic* **a** : EMULOUS **b** : ENVIABLE — **en·vi·ous·ly** *adv* — **en·vi·ous·ness** *n*
syn ENVIOUS, JEALOUS *shared meaning element* : begrudging another possession of something. In spite of their shared element of meaning, these words are not close synonyms and can rarely be interchanged without loss of precision or alteration of emphasis. ENVIOUS stresses a coveting of something (as riches or attainments) which belongs to another or of something (as success or good luck) which has come to another; it may imply an urgent, even malicious desire to see him dispossessed ⟨some *envious* hand has sprinkled ashes just to spoil our slide —Eugene Field⟩ or no more than a mild innocuous coveting ⟨we are all *envious* of your new coat⟩ JEALOUS is likely to stress intolerance of a rival for possession of what one regards as peculiarly one's own possession or due, or it may imply intensely zealous efforts to keep what one treasures. The term can be used without derogation ⟨thou shalt have no other gods before me . . . for I the Lord thy God am a *jealous* God —Exod 20:3–5(AV)⟩ but more often it carries a strong implication of distrust, suspicion, enviousness, or sometimes anger ⟨stabbed by a *jealous* lover⟩ ⟨a *jealous* rage⟩
en·vi·ron \in-'vī-rən, -'vī(-ə)rn\ *vt* [ME *environen*, fr. MF *environner*, fr. *environ* around, fr. *en* in (fr. L *in*) + *viron* circle, fr. *virer* to turn, fr. (assumed) VL *virare*] : ENCIRCLE, SURROUND
en·vi·ron·ment \in-'vī-rən-mənt, -'vī(-ə)rn-\ *n* **1** : the circumstances, objects, or conditions by which one is surrounded **2 a** : the complex of climatic, edaphic, and biotic factors that act upon an organism or an ecological community and ultimately determine its form and survival **b** : the aggregate of social and cultural conditions that influence the life of an individual or community **3** : an artistic or theatrical work that involves or encompasses the spectator — **en·vi·ron·men·tal** \-ˌvī-rən-'ment-ᵊl, -ˌvī(-ə)rn-\ *adj* — **en·vi·ron·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
en·vi·ron·men·tal·ism \-ˌvī-rən-'ment-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm, -ˌvī(-ə)rn-\ *n* : a theory that views environment rather than heredity as the important factor in the development and esp. the cultural and intellectual development of an individual or group

en·vi·ron·men·tal·ist \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* **1** : an advocate of environmentalism **2** : one concerned about the quality of the human environment; *specif* : a specialist in human ecology
en·vi·rons \in-'vī-rənz, -'vī(-ə)rnz\ *n pl* **1** : the districts around a city **2 a** : environing things : SURROUNDINGS **b** : an adjoining region or space : VICINITY
en·vis·age \in-'viz-ij\ *vt* **-aged; -ag·ing** [F *envisager*, fr. *en-* + *visage*] **1** : to view or regard in a certain way ⟨~*s* himself as a sincere young man⟩ **2** : to have a mental picture of esp. in advance of realization ⟨~*s* an entirely new system of education⟩ ***syn*** see THINK
en·vi·sion \in-'vizh-ən\ *vt* : to picture to oneself ⟨~*s* a career dedicated to promoting peace⟩ ***syn*** see THINK
en·voi *or* **en·voy** \'en-ˌvoi, 'än-\ *n* [F *envoi*, lit., message, fr. OF *envei*, fr. *envoier* to send on one's way, fr. (assumed) VL *inviare*, fr. L *in-* + *via* way — more at VIA] : the usu. explanatory or commendatory concluding remarks to a poem, essay, or book; *specif* : a short fixed final stanza of a ballade serving as a summary or dedication
en·voy \'en-ˌvȯi, 'än-\ *n* [F *envoyé*, fr. pp. of *envoyer* to send, fr. OF *envoier*] **1 a** : a minister plenipotentiary accredited to a foreign government who ranks between an ambassador and a minister resident — called also *envoy extraordinary* **b** : a person delegated to represent one government in its dealings with another **2** : MESSENGER, REPRESENTATIVE
¹en·vy \'en-vē\ *n, pl* **envies** [ME *envie*, fr. OF, fr. L *invidia*, fr. *invidus* envious, fr. *invidēre* to look askance at, envy, fr. *in-* + *vidēre* to see — more at WIT] **1** *obs* : MALICE **2** : painful or resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by another joined with a desire to possess the same advantage **3** : an object of envious notice or feeling ⟨his beautiful wife made him the ~ of his friends⟩
²envy *vb* **en·vied; en·vy·ing** *vt* **1** : to feel envy toward or on account of **2** *obs* : BEGRUDGE ~ *vi, obs* : to feel or show envy — **en·vy·ing·ly** \-vē-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
en·wheel \in-'hwē(ə)l, -'wē(ə)l\ *vt, obs* : ENCIRCLE
en·wind \in-'wīnd\ *vt* **en·wound** \-'waůnd\; **en·wind·ing** : to wind in or about : ENFOLD
en·womb \in-'wüm\ *vt* : to shut up as if in a womb
en·wrap \in-'rap\ *vt* **1** : to wrap in a covering : ENFOLD **2 a** : ENVELOP **b** : to preoccupy or absorb mentally : ENGROSS
en·wreathe \in-'rēth\ *vt* : to encircle with or as if with a wreath : ENVELOP
en·zo·ot·ic \ˌen-zə-'wät-ik\ *adj* [*en-* + *zo-*] *of animal diseases* : peculiar to or constantly present in a locality — **enzootic** *n*
en·zy·got·ic \ˌen-zī-'gät-ik\ *adj* [*en-* + *zyg-*] *of twins* : IDENTICAL
en·zy·mat·ic \ˌen-zə-'mat-ik\ *also* **en·zy·mic** \en-'zī-mik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or produced by an enzyme — **en·zy·mat·i·cal·ly** \-'mat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *also* **en·zy·mi·cal·ly** \-'zī-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
en·zyme \'en-ˌzīm\ *n* [G *enzym*, fr. MGk *enzymos* leavened, fr. Gk *en-* + *zymē* leaven] : any of numerous complex proteins that are produced by living cells and catalyze specific biochemical reactions at body temperatures
en·zy·mol·o·gy \ˌen-zə-'mäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of science that deals with enzymes, their nature, activity, and significance — **en·zy·mol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
EO *abbr* executive order
eo- *comb form* [Gk *ēō-* dawn, fr. *ēōs*] : earliest : oldest ⟨*eo*lithic⟩
Eo·cene \'ē-ə-ˌsēn\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an epoch of the Tertiary between the Paleocene and the Oligocene or the corresponding system of rocks — **Eocene** *n*
eo·hip·pus \ˌē-ō-'hip-əs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *eo-* + Gk *hippos* horse — more at EQUINE] : any of a genus (*Eohippus*) of small primitive 4-toed horses from the Lower Eocene of the western U.S.



eohippus

eo·lian \ē-'ō-lē-ən, -'ōl-yən\ *adj* [L *Aeolus*, god of the winds] : borne, deposited, produced, or eroded by the wind
eo·lith \'ē-ə-ˌlith\ *n* : a very crudely chipped flint
Eo·lith·ic \ˌē-ə-'lith-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the early period of the Stone Age marked by the use of eoliths
EOM *abbr* end of month
eon \'ē-ən, 'ē-ˌän\ *var of* AEON
eo no·mi·ne \ˌē-ō-'näm-ə-nē\ [L] : by or under that name
Eos \'ē-ˌäs\ *n* [Gk *Ēōs*] : the Greek goddess of dawn — compare AURORA
eo·sin \'ē-ə-sən\ *or* **eo·sine** \-sən, -ˌsēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *ēōs* dawn] **1** : a red fluorescent dye $C_{20}H_8Br_4O_5$ obtained by the action of bromine on fluorescein and used esp. in cosmetics and as a toner; *also* : its red to brown sodium or potassium salt used esp. as a biological stain for cytoplasmic structures **2** : any of several dyes related to eosin
¹eo·sin·o·phil \ˌē-ə-'sin-ə-ˌfil\ *or* **eo·sin·o·phile** \-ˌfīl\ *n* : a leukocyte or other granulocyte with cytoplasmic inclusions readily stained by eosin
²eosinophil *or* **eosinophile** *adj* : EOSINOPHILIC 1
eo·sin·o·phil·ia \-'fil-ē-ə\ *n* : abnormal increase in the number of eosinophils in the blood that is characteristic of allergic states and various parasitic infections
eo·sin·o·phil·ic \ˌē-ə-ˌsin-ə-'fil-ik\ *adj* **1** : staining readily with eosin **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by eosinophilia
Eo·zo·ic \ˌē-ə-'zō-ik\ *adj or n* **1** : PRECAMBRIAN **2** : PROTEROZOIC
EP *abbr* **1** estimated position **2** European plan **3** extended play
epact \'ē-ˌpakt, 'ep-ˌakt\ *n* [MF *epacte*, fr. LL *epacta*, fr. Gk *epaktē*, fr. *epagein* to bring in, intercalate, fr. *epi-* + *agein* to drive — more at AGENT] : a period added to harmonize the lunar with the solar calendar
ep·ar·chy \'ep-ˌär-kē\ *n, pl* **-chies** [Gk *eparchia* province, fr. *eparchos* prefect, fr. *epi-* + *archos* ruler — more at ARCH-] : a diocese of an Eastern church
ep·au·let *also* **ep·au·lette** \ˌep-ə-'let; 'ep-ə-ˌlet, -lət\ *n* [F *épaulette*, dim. of *épaule* shoulder, fr. LL *spatula* shoulder blade, spoon, dim. of L *spatha* spoon, sword — more at SPADE] **1** : something that ornaments or protects the shoulder; *specif* : an ornamental fringed shoulder pad formerly worn as part of a military uniform **2** : a 5-sided step cut of a gem



1, epaulets 1

épée \'ep-ˌā, ā-'pā\ *n* [F, fr. L *spatha*] **1** : a fencing or dueling sword having a bowl-shaped guard and a rigid blade of triangular section with no cutting edge that tapers to a sharp point blunted for fencing — compare FOIL, SABER **2** : the art or sport of fencing with the épée
épée·ist \-əst\ *n* : one who fences with an épée
ep·ei·rog·e·ny \ˌep-ˌī-'räj-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [Gk *ēpeiros* mainland, continent + E *-geny*] : the deformation of the earth's crust by which the broader features of relief are produced — **epei·ro·gen·ic** \i-ˌpī-rə-'jen-ik\ *adj* — **epei·ro·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
epen·the·sis \i-'pen(t)-thə-səs, e-\ *n, pl* **-the·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *epentithenai* to insert a letter, fr. *epi-* + *entithenai* to put in, fr. *en-* + *tithenai* to put — more at DO] : the insertion or development of a sound or letter in the body of a word (as \ə\ in \'ath-ə-ˌlēt\ *athlete*) — **ep·en·thet·ic** \ˌep-ən-'thet-ik\ *adj*
epergne \i-'pərn, ā-\ *n* [prob. fr. F *épargne* saving] : an often ornate tiered centerpiece consisting typically of a frame of wrought metal (as silver or gold) bearing dishes, vases, or candle holders or a combination of these



epergne

ep·ex·e·ge·sis \ˌep-ˌek-sə-'jē-səs\ *n, pl* **-ge·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [Gk *epexēgēsis*, fr. *epi-* + *exēgēsis*] : additional explanation or explanatory matter — **ep·ex·e·get·i·cal** \-'jet-i-kəl\ *or* **ep·ex·e·get·ic** \-'jet-ik\ *adj* — **ep·ex·e·get·i·cal·ly** \-'jet-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Eph *or* **Ephes** *abbr* Ephesians
ephah \'ē-fə, 'ef-ə\ *n* [Heb *ēphāh*, fr. Egypt *ipt*] : an ancient Hebrew unit of dry measure equal to $^1/_{10}$ homer or a little over a bushel
ephebe \'ef-ˌēb, i-'fēb\ *n* [L *ephebus*] : a young man; *esp* : EPHEBUS
ephe·bic \-bik\ *adj* : of or relating to the ephebi ⟨~ education⟩
ephe·bus \i-'fē-bəs, e-\ *n, pl* **-bi** \-ˌbī\ [L, fr. Gk *ephēbos*, fr. *epi-* + *hēbē* youth, puberty] : a youth of ancient Greece; *esp* : an Athenian 18 or 19 years old in training for full citizenship
ephe·dra \i-'fed-rə, 'ef-ə-drə\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a large genus (*Ephedra* of the family Gnetaceae) of jointed nearly leafless desert shrubs with the leaves reduced to scales at the nodes
ephed·rine \i-'fed-rən\ *n* [NL *Ephedra*, genus of shrubs, fr. L, horsetail plant, fr. Gk, fr. *ephedros* sitting upon, fr. *epi-* + *hedra* seat — more at SIT] : a crystalline alkaloid $C_{10}H_{15}NO$ extracted from Chinese ephedras or synthesized and used in the form of a salt for relief of hay fever, asthma, and nasal congestion
¹ephem·er·al \i-'fem(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* [Gk *ephēmeros* lasting a day, daily, fr. *epi-* + *hēmera* day] **1** : lasting one day only ⟨an ~ fever⟩ **2** : lasting a very short time ⟨~ pleasures⟩ ***syn*** see TRANSIENT — **ephem·er·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*
²ephemeral *n* : something ephemeral; *specif* : a plant that grows, flowers, and dies in a few days
ephem·er·al·i·ty \i-ˌfem-ə-'ral-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being ephemeral **2** *pl* : ephemeral things
ephem·er·id \i-'fem-ə-rəd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *ephēmeron*] : MAYFLY — **ephemerid** *adj*
ephem·er·is \-ə-rəs\ *n, pl* **eph·e·mer·i·des** \ˌef-ə-'mer-ə-ˌdēz\ [L, diary, ephemeris, fr. Gk *ephēmeris*, fr. *ephēmeros*] **1** : a tabular statement of the assigned places of a celestial body for regular intervals **2** : EPHEMERAL
ephemeris time *n* : a uniform measure of time defined by the orbital motions of the planets
ephem·er·on \i-'fem-ə-ˌrän\ *n, pl* **ephem·era** \-'fem-(ə-)rə\ *also* **ephem·er·ons** \-'fem-ə-ˌränz\ [NL, fr. Gk *ephēmeron* mayfly, fr. neut. of *ephēmeros*] **1** : EPHEMERID **2** : EPHEMERAL
ephem·er·ous \i-'fem-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : EPHEMERAL
Ephe·sians \i-'fē-zhənz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [short for *Epistle to the Ephesians*] : a letter addressed to early Christians and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table
eph·od \'ef-ˌäd, 'ē-ˌfäd\ *n* [Heb *ēphōdh*] **1** : a linen apron worn in ancient Hebrew rites; *esp* : a vestment for the high priest **2** : an ancient Hebrew instrument of priestly divination
eph·or \'ef-ər, -ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* [L *ephorus*, fr. Gk *ephoros*, fr. *ephoran* to oversee, fr. *epi-* + *horan* to see — more at WARY] **1** : one of five ancient Spartan magistrates having power over the king **2** : a government official in modern Greece; *esp* : one who oversees public works — **eph·or·ate** \'ef-ə-ˌrāt\ *n*
Ephra·im \'ē-frē-əm\ *n* [Heb *Ephrayim*] : a son of Joseph and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel
Ephra·im·ite \-ə-ˌmīt\ *n* **1** : a member of the Hebrew tribe of Ephraim **2** : a native or inhabitant of the biblical northern kingdom of Israel
epi- *or* **ep-** *prefix* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *epi* on, at, besides, after; akin to OE *eofot* crime] **1** : upon ⟨*epi*phyte⟩ : besides ⟨*epi*phenomenon⟩ : attached to ⟨*epi*didymis⟩ : over ⟨*epi*center⟩ : outer ⟨*epi*blast⟩ : after ⟨*epi*genesis⟩ **2 a** : chemical entity

related to (such) another ⟨*epi*cholesterol⟩ **b** : chemical entity distinguished from (such) another by having a bridge connection ⟨*epi*chlorohydrin⟩

epi·blast \'ep-ə-ˌblast\ *n* : the outer layer of the blastoderm : ECTODERM — **epi·blas·tic** \ˌep-ə-'blas-tik\ *adj*

epib·o·ly \i-'pib-ə-lē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [Gk *epibolē* addition, fr. *epiballein* to throw on, fr. *epi-* + *ballein* to throw — more at DEVIL] : the growing of one part about another; *esp* : such growth of the dorsal lip area during gastrulation — **ep·i·bol·ic** \ˌep-ə-'bäl-ik\ *adj*

¹ep·ic \'ep-ik\ *adj* [L *epicus*, fr. Gk *epikos*, fr. *epos* word, speech, poem — more at VOICE] **1** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of an epic **2 a** : extending beyond the usual or ordinary esp. in size or scope ⟨his genius was ~ —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **b** : HEROIC — **ep·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ep·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²epic *n* **1** : a long narrative poem in elevated style recounting the deeds of a legendary or historical hero ⟨the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* are ~*s*⟩ **2** : a work of art (as a novel or drama) that resembles or suggests an epic **3** : a series of events or body of legend or tradition thought to form the proper subject of an epic ⟨the winning of the West was a great American ~⟩

epi·ca·lyx \ˌep-i-'kā-liks *also* -'kal-iks\ *n* : an involucre resembling the calyx but consisting of a whorl of bracts that is exterior to the calyx or results from the union of the sepal appendages

epi·can·thic fold \ˌep-ə-ˌkan(t)-thik-\ *n* [NL *epicanthus* epicanthic fold, fr. *epi-* + *canthus*] : a prolongation of a fold of the skin of the upper eyelid over the inner angle or both angles of the eye — called also *Mongolian fold*

epi·car·di·al \ˌep-ə-'kärd-ē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the epicardium

epi·car·di·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *epi-* + Gk *kardia* heart] : the visceral part of the pericardium that closely invests the heart

epi·carp \'ep-i-ˌkärp\ *n* [F *épicarpe*, fr. *épi-* epi- + *-carpe* -carp] : EXOCARP

epic drama *n* : twentieth century narrative drama that seeks to provoke critical thought about social problems by appealing to the viewer's reason rather than to his emotions

ep·i·cene \'ep-ə-ˌsēn\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *epicoenus*, fr. Gk *epikoinos*, fr. *epi-* + *koinos* common — more at CO-] **1** *of a noun* : having but one form to indicate either sex **2 a** : having characteristics typical of the other sex : INTERSEXUAL **b** : EFFEMINATE **3** : lacking characteristics of either sex — **epicene** *n* — **ep·i·cen·ism** \-ˌsē-ˌniz-əm, ˌep-ə-'\ *n*

epi·cen·ter \'ep-i-ˌsent-ər\ *n* [NL *epicentrum*, fr. *epi-* + L *centrum* center] **1** : the part of the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake **2** : CENTER 2a, 2c — **epi·cen·tral** \ˌep-i-'sen-trəl\ *adj*

epi·chlo·ro·hy·drin \ˌep-i-ˌklōr-ə-'hī-drən, -ˌklȯr-\ *n* : a volatile liquid toxic epoxide C_3H_5ClO having a chloroform odor and used esp. in making epoxy resins and rubbers

epi·con·ti·nen·tal \ˌep-i-ˌkänt-ᵊn-'ent-ᵊl\ *adj* : lying upon a continent or a continental shelf ⟨~ seas⟩

epi·cot·yl \'ep-i-ˌkät-ᵊl\ *n* [*epi-* + *cotyl*edon] : the portion of the axis of a plant embryo or seedling above the cotyledonary node

epi·cra·ni·al \ˌep-i-'krā-nē-əl\ *adj* : situated on the cranium

ep·i·crit·ic \ˌep-ə-'krit-ik\ *adj* [Gk *epikritikos* determinative, fr. *epikrinein* to decide, fr. *epi-* + *krinein* to judge — more at CERTAIN] : of, relating to, or being cutaneous sensory reception marked by accurate discrimination between small degrees of sensation

epic simile *n* : an extended simile that is used typically in epic poetry to intensify the heroic stature of the subject and to serve as decoration

epic theater *n* : theater that employs epic drama

ep·i·cure \'ep-i-ˌkyu̇(ə)r\ *n* [*Epicurus*] **1** *archaic* : one devoted to sensual pleasure : SYBARITE **2** : one with sensitive and discriminating tastes esp. in food or wine

syn EPICURE, BON VIVANT, GOURMET, GOURMAND, GLUTTON *shared meaning element* : one who takes pleasure in eating and drinking

ep·i·cu·re·an \ˌep-i-kyu̇-'rē-ən, -'kyu̇r-ē-\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to Epicurus or Epicureanism **2** : of, relating to, or suited to an epicure

Epicurean *n* **1** : a follower of Epicurus **2** *often not cap* : EPICURE 2

ep·i·cu·re·an·ism \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap* **a** : the philosophy of Epicurus who subscribed to a hedonistic ethics that considered an imperturbable emotional calm the highest good, held intellectual pleasures superior to others, and advocated the renunciation of momentary in favor of more permanent pleasures **b** : a mode of life in consonance with Epicureanism **2** : EPICURISM

ep·i·cur·ism \'ep-i-ˌkyu̇(ə)r-ˌiz-əm, ˌep-i-'\ *n* : the practices or tastes of an epicure or an epicurean

epi·cu·ti·cle \ˌep-i-'kyüt-i-kəl\ *n* : an outermost waxy layer of the insect exoskeleton — **epi·cu·tic·u·lar** \-kyu̇-'tik-yə-lər\ *adj*

epi·cy·cle \'ep-ə-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* [ME *epicicle*, fr. LL *epicyclus*, fr. Gk *epikyklos*, fr. *epi-* + *kyklos* circle — more at WHEEL] **1** *in Ptolemaic astron* : a circle in which a planet moves and which has a center that is itself carried around at the same time on the circumference of a larger circle **2** : a process going on within a larger one — **epi·cy·clic** \ˌep-ə-'sī-klik, -'sik-lik\ *adj*

epicyclic train *n* : a train (as of gear wheels) designed to have one or more parts travel around the circumference of another fixed or revolving part

epi·cy·cloid \ˌep-ə-'sī-ˌklȯid\ *n* : a curve traced by a point on a circle that rolls on the outside of a fixed circle

¹ep·i·dem·ic \ˌep-ə-'dem-ik\ *adj* [F *épidémique*, fr. MF, fr. *epidemie*, n., epidemic, fr. LL *epidemia*, fr. Gk *epidēmia* visit, epidemic, fr. *epidēmos* visiting, epidemic, fr. *epi-* + *dēmos* people] **1** : affecting or tending to affect many individuals within a population, community, or region at the same time ⟨typhoid was ~⟩ **2 a** : excessively prevalent **b** : CONTAGIOUS 4 ⟨an ~ personality⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or constituting an epidemic ⟨the practice had reached ~ proportions⟩ — **ep·i·dem·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ep·i·dem·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ep·i·de·mic·i·ty** \-də-'mis-ət-ē\ *n*

²epidemic *n* **1** : an outbreak of epidemic disease **2** : an outbreak or product of sudden rapid spread, growth, or development; *specif* : a natural population suddenly and greatly enlarged

ep·i·de·mi·ol·o·gy \ˌep-ə-ˌdē-mē-'äl-ə-jē, -ˌdem-ē-\ *n* [LL *epidemia* + ISV *-logy*] **1** : a branch of medical science that deals with the incidence, distribution, and control of disease in a population **2** : the sum of the factors controlling the presence or absence of a disease or pathogen — **ep·i·de·mi·o·log·ic** \-ˌdē-mē-ə-'läj-ik, -ˌdem-ē-\ *or* **ep·i·de·mi·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ep·i·de·mi·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ep·i·de·mi·ol·o·gist** \-ˌdē-mē-'äl-ə-jəst, -ˌdem-ē-\ *n*

ep·i·den·drum \ˌep-ə-'den-drəm\ *or* **-dron** \-drən\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *epi-* + *dendron* tree — more at DENDR-] : any of a large genus (*Epidendrum*) of chiefly epiphytic and tropical American orchids

epiderm- *or* **epidermo-** *comb form* [*epidermis*] : epidermis ⟨*epidermal*⟩

epi·der·mal \ˌep-ə-'dər-məl\ *also* **epi·der·mic** \-mik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or arising from the epidermis

epi·der·mis \-məs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *epi-* + *derma* skin] **1 a** : the outer epithelial layer of the external integument of the animal body that is derived from the embryonic epiblast; *specif* : the outer nonsensitive and nonvascular layer of the skin of a vertebrate that overlies the dermis **b** : any of various animal integuments **2** : a thin surface layer of tissue in higher plants formed by growth of a primary meristem

epi·der·moid \-ˌmȯid\ *also* **epi·der·moi·dal** \-ˌdər-'mȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* : resembling epidermis or epidermal cells : made up of elements like those of epidermis ⟨~ neoplasms⟩

epi·dia·scope \ˌep-ə-'dī-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a projector for images of opaque objects or for images or transparencies **2** : EPISCOPE

ep·i·did·y·mis \ˌep-ə-'did-ə-məs\ *n, pl* **-mi·des** \-mə-ˌdēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *epi-* + *didymos* testicle — more at DIDYMOUS] : an elongated mass of convoluted efferent tubes at the back of the testis — **ep·i·did·y·mal** \-məl\ *adj*

ep·i·dote \'ep-ə-ˌdōt\ *n* [F *épidote*, fr. Gk *epididonai* to give in addition, fr. *epi-* + *didonai* to give — more at DATE] : a yellowish green mineral $Ca_2(Al,Fe)_3Si_3O_{12}OH$ usu. occurring in grains or columnar masses and sometimes used as a gemstone

epi·du·ral \ˌep-i-'d(y)u̇r-əl\ *adj* : situated upon or administered outside the dura mater ⟨~ anesthesia⟩ ⟨~ structures⟩

epi·fau·na \-'fȯn-ə, -'fän-\ *n* [NL] : benthic fauna living on the substrate and esp. on a hard sea floor — compare INFAUNA — **epi·fau·nal** \-'fȯn-ᵊl, -'fän-\ *adj*

epi·gas·tric \ˌep-i-'gas-trik\ *adj* **1** : lying upon or over the stomach **2** : of or relating to the anterior walls of the abdomen

epi·ge·al \ˌep-i-'jē-əl\ *or* **epi·ge·ous** \-'jē-əs\ *adj* [Gk *epigaios* upon the earth, fr. *epi-* + *gē* earth] **1** : growing above the surface of the ground **2 a** *of a cotyledon* : forced above ground by elongation of the hypocotyl **b** : marked by the production of epigeal cotyledons ⟨~ germination⟩

epi·gen·e·sis \ˌep-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] **1** : development of new characters (as of a whole new plant) in an initially undifferentiated entity (as a fertilized egg or spore) **2** : change in the mineral character of a rock owing to outside influences

epi·ge·net·ic \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or produced by epigenesis ⟨genetic versus ~ influences⟩ **2** *or* **epi·gen·ic** \-'jen-ik\ *of deposit or structure* : formed after the laying down of the enclosing rock

epi·glot·tal \ˌep-ə-'glät-ᵊl\ *also* **epi·glot·tic** \-'glät-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or produced with the aid of the epiglottis

epi·glot·tis \-'glät-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *epiglōttis*, fr. *epi-* + *glōttis* glottis] : a thin plate of flexible cartilage in front of the glottis that folds back over and protects the glottis during swallowing — see LARYNX illustration

ep·i·gone \'ep-ə-ˌgōn\ *n* [G, fr. L *epigonus* successor, fr. Gk *epigonos*, fr. *epigignesthai* to be born after, fr. *epi-* + *gignesthai* to be born — more at KIN] : an imitative follower; *esp* : an inferior imitator of a creative thinker or artist — **ep·i·gon·ic** \ˌep-ə-'gän-ik\ *or* **epig·o·nous** \i-'pig-ə-nəs, e-\ *adj* — **epig·o·nism** \-'pig-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

epig·o·nus \i-'pig-ə-nəs, e-\ *n, pl* **-ni** \-ˌnī, -ˌnē\ [L] : EPIGONE

ep·i·gram \'ep-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [ME *epigrame*, fr. L *epigrammat-*, *epigramma*, fr. Gk, fr. *epigraphein* to write on, inscribe, fr. *epi-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] **1** : a concise poem dealing pointedly and often satirically with a single thought or event and often ending with an ingenious turn of thought **2** : a terse, sage, or witty and often paradoxical saying **3** : epigrammatic expression — **ep·i·gram·ma·tism** \ˌep-ə-'gram-ə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* — **ep·i·gram·ma·tist** \-'gram-ət-əst\ *n*

ep·i·gram·mat·ic \ˌep-ə-grə-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling an epigram **2** : marked by or given to the use of epigrams — **ep·i·gram·mat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ep·i·gram·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ep·i·gram·ma·tize \-'gram-ə-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** *vt* **1** : to express in the form of an epigram **2** : to make an epigram about ~ *vi* : to make an epigram — **ep·i·gram·ma·tiz·er** *n*

ep·i·graph \'ep-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [Gk *epigraphē*, fr. *epigraphein*] **1** : an engraved inscription **2** : a quotation set at the beginning of a literary work or a division of it to suggest its theme

epig·ra·pher \i-'pig-rə-fər, e-\ *n* : EPIGRAPHIST

ep·i·graph·ic \ˌep-ə-'graf-ik\ *also* **ep·i·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to epigraphs or epigraphy — **ep·i·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

epig·ra·phist \i-'pig-rə-fəst, e-\ *n* : a specialist in epigraphy

epig·ra·phy \-fē\ *n* **1** : EPIGRAPHS, INSCRIPTIONS **2** : the study of inscriptions; *esp* : the deciphering of ancient inscriptions

epig·y·nous \i-'pij-ə-nəs, e-\ *adj* **1** *of a floral organ* : adnate to the surface of the ovary and appearing to grow from the top of it **2** : having epigynous floral organs — **epig·y·ny** \-nē\ *n*

epil *abbr* **1** epilepsy **2** epileptic

ep·i·la·tion \ˌep-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* [F *épilation*, fr. *épiler* to remove hair, fr. *é-* e- + L *pilus* hair — more at PILE] : the loss or removal of hair

ep·i·lep·sy \'ep-ə-ˌlep-sē\ *n, pl* **-sies** [MF *epilepsie*, fr. LL *epilepsia*, fr. Gk *epilēpsia*, fr. *epilambanein* to seize, fr. *epi-* + *lambanein* to take, seize — more at LATCH] : any of various disorders marked by disturbed electrical rhythms of the central nervous system and typically manifested by convulsive attacks usu. with clouding of consciousness

epilept- *or* **epilepti-** *or* **epilepto-** *comb form* [Gk *epilēpt-*, fr. *epilēptos* seized by epilepsy, fr. *epilambanein*] : epilepsy ⟨*epilepto*id⟩

ep·i·lep·tic \ˌep-ə-'lep-tik\ *adj* : relating to, affected with, or having the characteristics of epilepsy — **epileptic** *n* — **ep·i·lep·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ep·i·lep·ti·form \-'lep-tə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : resembling that of epilepsy ⟨an ~ convulsion⟩

ep·i·lep·to·gen·ic \-ˌlep-tə-'jen-ik\ *adj* : inducing or tending to induce epilepsy

ep·i·lep·toid \-'lep-ˌtȯid\ *adj* **1** : EPILEPTIFORM **2** : exhibiting symptoms resembling those of epilepsy ⟨the ~ person⟩

epi·lim·ni·on \ˌep-ə-'lim-nē-ˌän, -nē-ən\ *n* [NL, fr. *epi-* + Gk *limnion*, dim. of *limnē* marshy lake — more at LIMNETIC] : the water layer overlying the thermocline of a lake

ep·i·logue \'ep-ə-ˌlȯg, -ˌläg\ *n* [ME *epiloge*, fr. MF *epilogue*, fr. L *epilogus*, fr. Gk *epilogos*, fr. *epilegein* to say in addition, fr. *epi-* + *legein* to say — more at LEGEND] **1** : a concluding section that rounds out the design of a literary work **2 a** : a speech often in verse addressed to the audience by an actor at the end of a play **b** : the actor speaking such an epilogue **c** : the final scene of a play that comments on or summarizes the main action **3** : the concluding section of a musical composition : CODA

epi·mer \'ep-i-mər\ *n* [*epi-* + iso*mer*] : either of the stereoisomers of a sugar or sugar derivative that differ in the arrangement of the hydrogen atom and the hydroxyl group on the last asymmetric carbon atom of a chain — **epi·mer·ic** \ˌep-i-'mer-ik\ *adj*

epim·er·ase \i-'pim-ə-ˌrās, e-, -ˌrāz\ *n* : any of various isomerases that catalyze the inversion of asymmetric groups in a substrate with several centers of asymmetry

ep·i·mere \'ep-ə-ˌmi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : the dorsal part of a mesodermal segment of a chordate embryo

epi·mor·pho·sis \ˌep-ə-'mȯr-fə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *epi-* + Gk *morphōsis* formation, fr. *morphoun* to form, fr. *morphē* form — more at FORM] : regeneration of a part or organism involving extensive cell proliferation followed by differentiation

epi·my·si·um \ˌep-ə-'miz(h)-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-sia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *epi-* + Gk *mys* mouse, muscle — more at MOUSE] : the external connective-tissue sheath of a muscle

epi·nas·ty \'ep-ə-ˌnas-tē\ *n* : a nastic movement in which a plant part (as a flower petal) is bent outward and often downward

epi·neph·rine *also* **epi·neph·rin** \ˌep-ə-'nef-rən\ *n* [ISV *epi-* + Gk *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS] : a colorless crystalline feebly basic sympathomimetic adrenal hormone $C_9H_{13}NO_3$ used medicinally esp. as a heart stimulant, a vasoconstrictor, and a muscle relaxant — called also *adrenaline*

epi·neu·ri·um \ˌep-ə-'n(y)u̇r-ē-əm\ *n* [NL] : the external connective-tissue sheath of a nerve trunk

epi·pe·lag·ic \ˌep-i-pə-'laj-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the part of the oceanic zone into which enough light penetrates for photosynthesis

ep·i·phan·ic \ˌep-ə-'fan-ik\ *adj* : of or having the character of an epiphany

epiph·a·nous \i-'pif-ə-nəs\ *adj* : EPIPHANIC

epiph·a·ny \i-'pif-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME *epiphanie*, fr. MF, fr. LL *epiphania*, fr. LGk, pl., prob. alter. of Gk *epiphaneia* appearance, manifestation, fr. *epiphainein* to manifest, fr. *phainein* to show — more at FANCY] **1** *cap* : January 6 observed as a church festival in commemoration of the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles or in the Eastern Church in commemoration of the baptism of Christ **2** : an appearance or manifestation esp. of a divine being **3 a** (1) : a usu. sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something (2) : an intuitive grasp of reality through something (as an event) usu. simple and striking **b** : a literary representation of an epiphany

epi·phe·nom·e·nal \ˌep-i-fi-'näm-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to an epiphenomenon : DERIVATIVE — **epi·phe·nom·e·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

epi·phe·nom·e·nal·ism \-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a doctrine that mental processes are epiphenomena of brain processes

epi·phe·nom·e·non \-'näm-ə-ˌnän, -nən\ *n* : a secondary phenomenon accompanying another and caused by it

ep·i·phragm \'ep-ə-ˌfram\ *n* [Gk *epiphragma* covering] : a closing membrane or septum (as of a snail shell or a moss capsule)

epiph·y·se·al \i-ˌpif-ə-'sē-əl\ *also* **ep·i·phys·i·al** \ˌep-ə-'fiz-ē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to an epiphysis

epiph·y·sis \i-'pif-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-y·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, growth, fr. *epiphyesthai* to grow on, fr. *epi-* + *phyesthai* to grow, pass. of *phyein* to bring forth — more at BE] **1** : a part or process of a bone that ossifies separately and later becomes ankylosed to the main part of the bone; *esp* : an end of a long bone **2** : PINEAL BODY

epi·phyte \'ep-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* : a plant that derives its moisture and nutrients from the air and rain and grows usu. on another plant

epi·phyt·ic \ˌep-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being an epiphyte **2** : living on the surface of plants — **epi·phyt·i·cal·ly** \-'fit-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ep·i·phy·tol·o·gy \ˌep-ə-ˌfī-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [*epiphyt*ic + *-logy*] **1** : a science that deals with character, ecology, and causes of outbreak of plant diseases **2** : the sum of the factors controlling the occurrence of a disease or pathogen of plants

ep·i·phy·tot·ic \-'tät-ik\ *adj* [*epi-* + Gk *phyton* plant] : of, relating to, or being a plant disease that tends to recur sporadically and to affect large numbers of susceptible plants — **epiphytotic** *n*

epi·ro·gen·ic, ep·i·rog·e·ny *var of* EPEIROGENIC, EPEIROGENY

Episc *abbr* Episcopal

epi·scia \i-'pish-(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *episkios* shaded, fr. *epi-* + *skia* shadow — more at SHINE] : any of a genus (*Episcia*) of tropical American herbs that have hairy foliage and are related to the African violet

epis·co·pa·cy \i-'pis-kə-pə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : government of the church by bishops or by a hierarchy **2** : EPISCOPATE

epis·co·pal \i-'pis-kə-pəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *episcopalis*, fr. *episcopus* bishop — more at BISHOP] **1** : of or relating to a bishop **2** : of, having, or constituting government by bishops **3** *cap* : of or relating to the Protestant Episcopal Church representing the Anglican communion in the U.S. — **epis·co·pal·ly** \-p(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Episcopal *n* : EPISCOPALIAN

Epis·co·pa·lian \i-ˌpis-kə-'pāl-yən\ *n* **1** : an adherent of the episcopal form of church government **2** : a member of an episcopal church (as the Protestant Episcopal Church) — **Episcopalian** *adj* — **Epis·co·pa·lian·ism** \-yə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

epis·co·pate \i-'pis-kə-pət, -ˌpāt\ *n* **1** : the rank, office, or term of bishop **2** : DIOCESE **3** : the body of bishops (as in a country)

epi·scope \'ep-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV *epi-* + *-scope*] : a projector for images of opaque objects (as photographs)

epis·i·ot·o·my \i-ˌpiz-ē-'ät-ə-mē\ *n* [NL *episio-* vulva, fr. Gk *epision* pubic region] : surgical enlargement of the vulval orifice for obstetrical purposes during parturition

ep·i·sode \'ep-ə-ˌsōd *also* -ˌzōd\ *n* [Gk *epeisodion*, fr. neut. of *epeisodios* coming in besides, fr. *epi-* + *eisodios* coming in, fr. *eis* into (akin to Gk *en* in) + *hodos* road, journey — more at IN, CEDE] **1** : a usu. brief unit of action in a dramatic or literary work: as **a** : the part of an ancient Greek tragedy between two choric songs **b** : a developed situation that is integral to but separable from a continuous narrative : INCIDENT **c** : one of a series of loosely connected stories or scenes **d** : the part of a serial presented at one performance **2** : an event that is distinctive and separate although part of a larger series **3** : a digressive subdivision in a musical composition ***syn*** see OCCURRENCE

ep·i·sod·ic \ˌep-ə-'säd-ik *also* -'zäd-\ *also* **ep·i·sod·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : made up of separate esp. loosely connected episodes **2** : having the form of an episode **3** : of or limited in duration or significance to a particular episode : TEMPORARY ⟨may be able to establish whether the sea-floor spreading is continuous or ~ —A. I. Hammond⟩ **4** : occurring, appearing, or changing at usu. irregular intervals : OCCASIONAL, CAPRICIOUS ⟨~ care of his patients⟩ — **ep·i·sod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

epi·some \'ep-ə-ˌsōm, -ˌzōm\ *n* : a genetic determinant (as the DNA of some bacteriophages) that can replicate autonomously in bacterial cytoplasm or as an integral part of the chromosomes — **epi·som·al** \ˌep-ə-'sō-məl, -'zō-\ *adj* — **epi·som·al·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

epis·ta·sis \i-'pis-tə-səs\ *or* **epis·ta·sy** \-sē\ *n, pl* **-ta·ses** \-ˌsēz\ *or* **-ta·sies** \-sēz\ [NL *epistasis*, fr. Gk, act of stopping, fr. *ephistanai* to stop, fr. *epi-* + *histanai* to cause to stand — more at STAND] : suppression of the effect of a gene by a nonallelic gene — **ep·i·stat·ic** \ˌep-ə-'stat-ik\ *adj*

ep·i·stax·is \ˌep-ə-'stak-səs\ *n, pl* **-stax·es** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *epistazein* to drip on, to bleed at the nose again, fr. *epi-* + *stazein* to drip — more at STAGNATE] : NOSEBLEED

ep·i·ste·mic \ˌep-ə-'stē-mik, -'stem-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to knowledge or knowing : COGNITIVE — **ep·i·ste·mi·cal·ly** \-(m)i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

epis·te·mol·o·gy \i-ˌpis-tə-'mäl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *epistēmē* knowledge, fr. *epistanai* to understand, know, fr. *epi-* + *histanai* to cause to stand — more at STAND] : the study or a theory of the nature and grounds of knowledge esp. with reference to its limits and validity — **epis·te·mo·log·i·cal** \-mə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **epis·te·mo·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **epis·te·mol·o·gist** \-'mäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

epi·ster·num \ˌep-i-'stər-nəm\ *n* [NL] **1** : an anterior element of or associated with the sternum: as **a** : INTERCLAVICLE **b** : MANUBRIUM **2** : a lateral division or piece of a somite of an arthropod

epis·tle \i-'pis-əl\ *n* [ME, letter, Epistle, fr. OF, fr. L *epistula*, *epistola* letter, fr. Gk *epistolē* message, letter, fr. *epistellein* to send to, fr. *epi-* + *stellein* to send — more at STALL] **1** *cap* **a** : one of the letters adopted as books of the New Testament **b** : a liturgical lection usu. from one of the New Testament Epistles **2 a** : LETTER; *esp* : a formal or elegant letter **b** : a composition in the form of a letter — **epis·tler** \-'pis-(ə-)lər\ *n*

epistle side *n, often cap E* [fr. the custom of reading the Epistle from this side] : the right side of an altar or chancel as one faces it

¹epis·to·lary \i-'pis-tə-ˌler-ē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or suitable to a letter **2** : contained in or carried on by letters ⟨an endless sequence of . . . ~ love affairs —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **3** : written in the form of a series of letters ⟨~ novel⟩

²epistolary *n, pl* **-lar·ies** : a lectionary containing a body of liturgical epistles

epis·to·ler \i-'pis-tə-lər\ *n* : the reader of the liturgical Epistle esp. in Anglican churches

epis·tro·phe \i-'pis-trə-(ˌ)fē\ *n* [Gk *epistrophē*, lit., turning about, fr. *epi-* + *strophē* turning — more at STROPHE] : repetition of the same word or expression at the end of successive phrases, clauses, or sentences for rhetorical effect ⟨Lincoln's "of the people, by the people, for the people" is an example of ~⟩ — compare ANAPHORA

epi·style \'ep-ə-ˌstīl\ *n* [L *epistylium*, fr. Gk *epistylion*, fr. *epi-* + Gk *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] : ARCHITRAVE

ep·i·taph \'ep-ə-ˌtaf\ *n* [ME *epitaphe*, fr. MF, fr. ML *epitaphium*, fr. L, funeral oration, fr. Gk *epitaphion*, fr. *epi-* + *taphos* tomb, funeral; akin to Gk *thaptein* to bury, Arm *damban* grave] **1** : an inscription on or at a tomb or a grave in memory of the one buried there **2** : a brief statement commemorating or epitomizing a deceased person or something past — **ep·i·taph·ial** \ˌep-ə-'taf-ē-əl\ *or* **ep·i·taph·ic** \-'taf-ik\ *adj*

epit·a·sis \i-'pit-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [Gk, increased intensity, fr. *epiteinein* to stretch tighter, fr. *epi-* + *teinein* to stretch — more

at THIN] : the part of a play developing the main action and leading to the catastrophe

ep·i·taxy \'ep-ə-ˌtak-sē\ *n* [*epi-* + *-taxy* (fr. Gk *-taxia* -taxis)] : the growth on a crystalline substrate of a crystalline substance that mimics the orientation of the substrate — **ep·i·tax·i·al** \ˌep-ə-'tak-sē-əl\ *adj* — **ep·i·tax·i·al·ly** \-sē-ə-lē\ *adv*

ep·i·tha·la·mi·um \ˌep-ə-thə-'lā-mē-əm\ *or* **ep·i·tha·la·mi·on** \-mē-ən\ *n, pl* **-mi·ums** *or* **-mia** \-mē-ə\ [L & Gk; L *epithalamium*, fr. Gk *epithalamion*, fr. *epi-* + *thalamos* room, bridal chamber] : a song or poem in honor of a bride and bridegroom

epitheli- *or* **epithelio-** *comb form* [NL *epithelium*] : epithelium

ep·i·the·li·al \ˌep-ə-'thē-lē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to epithelium

ep·i·the·li·oid \-lē-ˌȯid\ *adj* : resembling epithelium ⟨~ cells⟩

ep·i·the·li·o·ma \-ˌthē-lē-'ō-mə\ *n* : a benign or malignant tumor derived from epithelial tissue — **ep·i·the·li·o·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*

ep·i·the·li·um \ˌep-ə-'thē-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. *epi-* + Gk *thēlē* nipple — more at FEMININE] **1** : a membranous cellular tissue that covers a free surface or lines a tube or cavity of an animal body and serves esp. to enclose and protect the other parts of the body, to produce secretions and excretions, and to function in assimilation **2** : a usu. thin layer of parenchyma that lines a cavity or tube of a plant

ep·i·the·lize \ˌep-ə-'thē-ˌlīz\ *also* **ep·i·the·li·al·ize** \-lē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** : to cover with or convert to epithelium ⟨*epithelized* lesions⟩

ep·i·thet \'ep-ə-ˌthet *also* -thət\ *n* [L *epitheton*, fr. Gk, fr. neut. of *epithetos* added, fr. *epitithenai* to put on, add, fr. *epi-* + *tithenai* to put — more at DO] **1 a** : a characterizing word or phrase accompanying or occurring in place of the name of a person or thing **b** : a disparaging or abusive word or phrase **c** : the part of a taxonomic name identifying a subordinate unit within a genus **2** *obs* : EXPRESSION — **ep·i·thet·ic** \ˌep-ə-'thet-ik\ *or* **ep·i·thet·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

epit·o·me \i-'pit-ə-mē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *epitomē*, fr. *epitemnein* to cut short, fr. *epi-* + *temnein* to cut — more at TOME] **1 a** : a summary of a written work **b** : a brief presentation or statement of something **2** : a typical or ideal example : EMBODIMENT ⟨the British monarchy itself is the ~ of tradition —Richard Joseph⟩ **3** : brief or miniature form — usu. used with *in* ***syn*** see ABRIDGMENT

epit·o·mize \-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** **1** : to make or give an epitome of **2** : to serve as the typical or ideal example of

epi·zo·ic \ˌep-ə-'zō-ik\ *adj* : dwelling upon the body of an animal ⟨an ~ plant⟩ — **epi·zo·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **epi·zo·ite** \-ˌīt\ *n*

[1]epi·zo·ot·ic \ˌep-ə-zə-'wät-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a disease that affects many animals of one kind at the same time — **epi·zo·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]epizootic *n* : an epizootic disease

epi·zo·ot·i·ol·o·gy \ˌep-ə-zə-ˌwät-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *or* **epi·zo·otol·o·gy** \-ˌzō-ə-'täl-ə-jē\ *or* **epi·zo·ol·o·gy** \-zə-'wäl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : a science that deals with the character, ecology, and causes of outbreaks of animal diseases **2** : the sum of the factors controlling the occurrence of a disease or pathogen of animals — **epi·zo·oti·o·log·i·cal** \-zə-ˌwōt-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl, -ˌwät-\ *also* **epi·zo·oti·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **epi·zo·oti·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

e plu·ri·bus unum \ˌē-ˌplůr-ə-bəs-'yü-nəm; ˌā-ˌplůr-, -bə-'sü-\ [L, one out of many] : one composed of many; *specif* : a national government formed by uniting many states — used on the seal of the U.S. and on several U.S. coins

ep·och \'ep-ək, 'ep-ˌäk *also* 'ē-ˌpäk\ *n* [ML *epocha*, fr. Gk *epochē* cessation, fixed point, fr. *epechein* to pause, hold back, fr. *epi-* + *echein* to hold — more at SCHEME] **1** : an instant of time or a date selected as a point of reference (as in astronomy) **2 a** : an event or a time marked by an event that begins a new period or development **b** : a memorable event or date **3 a** : an extended period of time usu. characterized by a distinctive development or by a memorable series of events **b** : a division of geologic time less than a period and greater than an age ***syn*** see PERIOD

ep·och·al \'ep-ə-kəl, 'ep-ˌäk-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an epoch **2** : uniquely or highly significant : MOMENTOUS ⟨his fights to advance . . . democracy during his three ~ years in the assembly —C. G. Bowers⟩; *also* : UNPARALLELED ⟨the . . . delegates . . . have fallen for it out of their almost ~ dumbness —J. T. Flynn⟩ — **ep·och·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

ep·ode \'ep-ˌōd\ *n* [L *epodos*, fr. Gk *epōidos*, fr. *epōidos* sung or said after, fr. *epi-* + *aidein* to sing — more at ODE] **1** : a lyric poem in which a long verse is followed by a shorter one **2** : the third part of a triadically constructed Greek ode following the strophe and the antistrophe

ep·onym \'ep-ə-ˌnim\ *n* [Gk *epōnymos*, fr. *epōnymos* eponymous, fr. *epi-* + *onyma* name — more at NAME] **1** : the person for whom something is or is believed to be named **2** : a name (as of a drug or a disease) based on or derived from an eponym — **ep·onym·ic** \ˌep-ə-'nim-ik\ *adj*

epon·y·mous \i-'pän-ə-məs, e-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the person for whom something is or is believed to be named

epon·y·my \-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : the explanation of a proper name (as of a town or tribe) by supposing a fictitious eponym

ep·o·pee \'ep-ə-ˌpē\ *n* [F *épopée*, fr. Gk *epopoiia*, fr. *epos* + *poiein* to make — more at POET] : EPIC; *esp* : an epic poem

ep·os \'ep-ˌäs\ *n* [Gk, word, epic poem] **1** : a number of poems that treat an epic theme but are not formally united **2** : EPIC

ep·ox·ide \(')ep-'äk-ˌsīd\ *n* : an epoxy compound

ep·ox·i·dize \-sə-ˌdīz\ *vt* **-dized; -diz·ing** : to convert into an epoxide ⟨*epoxidized* oils⟩

[1]ep·oxy \'ep-ˌäk-sē, ep-'\ *adj* **1** : containing oxygen attached to two different atoms already united in some other way; *specif* : containing a 3-membered ring consisting of one oxygen and two carbon atoms **2** : of or relating to an epoxide

[2]epoxy *vt* **ep·ox·ied** *or* **ep·oxyed; ep·oxy·ing** : to glue with epoxy resin

epoxy resin *n* : a flexible usu. thermosetting resin made by polymerization of an epoxide and used chiefly in coatings and adhesives — called also *epoxy*

ep·si·lon \'ep-sə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [Gk *e psilon*, lit., simple e] **1** : the 5th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : an arbitrarily small positive quantity in mathematical analysis

Ep·som salt \ˌep-səm-\ *n* : EPSOM SALTS

Epsom salts *n pl but sing in constr* [*Epsom*, England] : a bitter colorless or white crystalline salt $MgSO_4 . 7H_2O$ that is a hydrated magnesium sulfate with cathartic properties

eq *abbr* **1** equal **2** equation

equa·ble \'ek-wə-bəl, 'ē-kwə-\ *adj* [L *aequabilis*, fr. *aequare* to make level or equal, fr. *aequus*] **1** : marked by lack of variation or change : UNIFORM **2** : marked by lack of noticeable, unpleasant, or extreme variation or inequality ***syn*** see STEADY ***ant*** variable, changeable — **equa·bil·i·ty** \ˌek-wə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌē-kwə-\ *n* — **equable·ness** \'ek-wə-bəl-nəs, 'ē-kwə-\ *n* — **equa·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

[1]equal \'ē-kwəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *aequalis*, fr. *aequus* level, equal] **1 a** (1) : of the same measure, quantity, amount, or number as another (2) : identical in mathematical value or logical denotation : EQUIVALENT **b** : like in quality, nature, or status **c** : like for each member of a group, class, or society ⟨provide ~ employment opportunities⟩ **2** : regarding or affecting all objects in the same way : IMPARTIAL **3** : free from extremes: as **a** : tranquil of mind or mood **b** : not showing variation in appearance, structure, or proportion **4 a** : capable of meeting the requirements of a situation or a task **b** : SUITABLE ⟨bored with work not ~ to his abilities⟩ ***syn*** see SAME ***ant*** unequal

[2]equal *n* **1** : one that is equal ⟨insists that women can be absolute ~*s* with men —Anne Bernays⟩ **2** : an equal quantity

[3]equal *vt* **equaled** *or* **equalled; equal·ing** *or* **equal·ling** **1** *archaic* : EQUALIZE **2** : to be equal to; *esp* : to be identical in value to **3** : to make or produce something equal to ***syn*** see MATCH

equal-area *adj, of a map projection* : maintaining constant ratio of size between quadrilaterals formed by the meridians and parallels and the quadrilaterals of the globe thereby preserving true areal extent of forms represented

equal·i·tar·i·an \i-ˌkwäl-ə-'ter-ē-ən\ *adj or n* : EGALITARIAN — **equal·i·tar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

equal·i·ty \i-'kwäl-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being equal **2** : EQUATION 2a

equal·ize \'ē-kwə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make equal **2 a** : to compensate for **b** : to make uniform; *specif* : to distribute evenly or uniformly ⟨~ the tax burden⟩ **c** : to adjust or correct the frequency characteristics of (an electronic signal) by restoring to their original level high frequencies that have been attenuated — **equal·iza·tion** \ˌē-kwə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

equal·iz·er \-ˌlī-zər\ *n* : one that equalizes: as **a** : a device that provides for equal distribution (as of force) **b** : a score that ties a game

equal·ly \'ē-kwə-lē\ *adv* **1** : in an equal or uniform manner : EVENLY **2** : to an equal degree : ALIKE ⟨respected ~ by young and old⟩

equal opportunity employer *n* : an employer who agrees not to discriminate against any employee or job applicant because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin

equal sign *n* : a sign = indicating mathematical or logical equivalence — called also *equality sign, equals sign*

equa·nim·i·ty \ˌē-kwə-'nim-ət-ē, ˌek-wə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [L *aequanimitas*, fr. *aequo animo* with even mind] **1** : evenness of mind esp. under stress **2** : right disposition : BALANCE
syn EQUANIMITY, COMPOSURE, SANGFROID, PHLEGM *shared meaning element* : the characteristic quality of one who is self-possessed and not easily disturbed or perturbed

equate \i-'kwāt, 'ē-ˌ\ *vb* **equat·ed; equat·ing** [ME *equaten*, fr. L *aequatus*, pp. of *aequare*] *vt* **1 a** : to make equal : EQUALIZE **b** : to make such an allowance or correction in as will reduce to a common standard or obtain a correct result **2** : to treat, represent, or regard as equal, equivalent, or comparable ⟨~*s* disagreement with disloyalty⟩ ~ *vi* : to correspond as equal

equa·tion \i-'kwā-zhən *also* -shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of equating **b** (1) : an element affecting a process : FACTOR (2) : a complex of variable factors **c** : a state of being equated; *specif* : a state of association or identification of two or more things ⟨bring governmental enterprises and payment for them into immediate ~ —R. G. Tugwell⟩ **2 a** : a usu. formal statement of the equality or equivalence of mathematical or logical expressions **b** : an expression representing a chemical reaction quantitatively by means of chemical symbols

equa·tion·al \i-'kwāzh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl *also* -'kwāsh-\ *adj* **1** : of, using, or involving equation or equations **2** : dividing into two equal parts — used esp. of the mitotic cell division usu. following reduction in meiosis — **equa·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

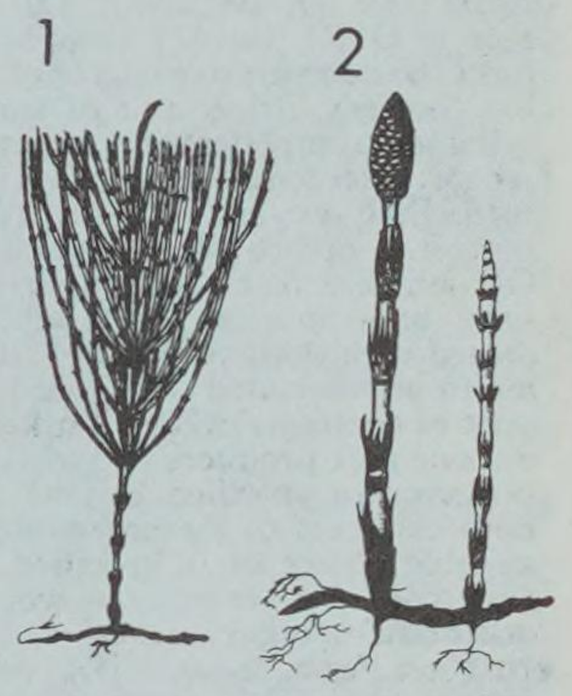
equation of time : the difference between mean time and apparent time usu. expressed as a correction which is to be added to apparent time to give local mean solar time

equa·tor \i-'kwāt-ər, 'ē-ˌ\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *aequator*, lit., equalizer, fr. L *aequatus*; fr. its containing the equinoxes] **1** : the great circle of the celestial sphere whose plane is perpendicular to the axis of the earth **2** : a great circle of the earth that is everywhere equally distant from the two poles and divides the earth's surface into the northern and southern hemispheres **3** : a circle or circular band dividing the surface of a body into two usu. equal and symmetrical parts ⟨the ~ of a dividing cell⟩ **4** : GREAT CIRCLE

[1]equa·to·ri·al \ˌē-kwə-'tōr-ē-əl, ˌek-wə-, -'tȯr-\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or located at the equator or an equator; *also* : being in the plane of the equator ⟨an ~ orbit of a satellite⟩ **b** : of, originating in, or suggesting the region around the geographic equator **2 a** : being or having a support that includes two axles at right angles to each other with one parallel to the earth's axis of rotation ⟨an ~ telescope⟩ **b** : extending in a direction essentially in the plane of a cyclic structure (as of cyclohexane) ⟨~ hydrogens⟩ — compare AXIAL

[2]equatorial *n* : an equatorial telescope

equatorial plane *n* : the plane perpendicular to the spindle of a dividing cell and midway between the poles
equatorial plate *n* **1** : EQUATORIAL PLANE **2** : METAPHASE PLATE
[1]equa·tor·ward \i-'kwāt-ər-wərd\ *adv* : toward the equator ⟨currents flowing ~⟩
[2]equatorward *adj* : lying near or moving toward the equator ⟨~ winds⟩
equer·ry \'ek-wə-rē, i-'kwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [obs. *escuirie, equerry* stable, fr. MF *escuirie* office of a squire, stable, fr. *escuier* squire — more at ESQUIRE] **1** : an officer of a prince or noble charged with the care of horses **2** : one of the officers of the British royal household in personal attendance on the sovereign or another member of the royal family
[1]eques·tri·an \i-'kwes-trē-ən\ *adj* [L *equestr-, equester* of a horseman, fr. *eques* horseman, fr. *equus* horse — more at EQUINE] **1 a** : of, relating to, or featuring horseback riding **b** *archaic* : riding on horseback : MOUNTED **c** : representing a person on horseback ⟨an ~ statue⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or composed of knights
[2]equestrian *n* : one who rides on horseback
eques·tri·enne \i-ˌkwes-trē-'en\ *n* [*[2]equestrian* + *-enne* (as in *tragedienne*)] : a female equestrian
equi- *comb form* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *aequi-*, fr. *aequus* equal] : equal ⟨*equi*poise⟩ : equally ⟨*equi*probable⟩
equi·an·gu·lar \ˌē-kwi-'aŋ-gyə-lər, ˌek-wi-\ *adj* : having all or corresponding angles equal ⟨an ~ triangle⟩ ⟨~ polygons⟩
equi·ca·lor·ic \ˌē-kwə-kə-'lȯr-ik, ˌek-wə-, -'lär-\ *adj* : capable of yielding equal amounts of energy in the body ⟨~ diets⟩
equi·dis·tance \-'dis-tən(t)s\ *n* : equal distance
equi·dis·tant \-tənt\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *aequidistant-, aequidistans*, fr. L *aequi-* + *distant-, distans*, prp. of *distare* to stand apart] **1** : equally distant **2** : representing map distances true to scale in all directions — **equi·dis·tant·ly** *adv*
equi·lat·er·al \ˌē-kwə-'lat-ə-rəl, ˌek-wə-, -'la-trəl\ *adj* [LL *aequilateralis*, fr. L *aequi-* + *later-, latus* side — more at LATERAL] **1 a** : having all sides equal ⟨~ triangle⟩ **b** : having all the faces equal ⟨~ polyhedron⟩ **2** : bilaterally symmetrical
equilateral hyperbola *n* : a hyperbola with its asymptotes at right angles
equil·i·brate \i-'kwil-ə-ˌbrāt\ *vb* **-brat·ed; -brat·ing** *vt* : to bring into or keep in equilibrium : BALANCE ~ *vi* : to bring about, come to, or be in equilibrium — **equil·i·bra·tion** \-ˌkwil-ə-'brā-shən\ *n* — **equil·i·bra·tor** \-'kwil-ə-ˌbrāt-ər\ *n* — **equil·i·bra·to·ry** \-brə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
equi·li·brist \ˌē-kwə-'lib-rəst, ˌek-wə-; i-'kwil-ə-brəst\ *n* : one who balances himself in unnatural positions and hazardous movements — **equil·i·bris·tic** \i-ˌkwil-ə-'bris-tik\ *adj*
equi·lib·ri·um \ˌē-kwə-'lib-rē-əm, ˌek-wə-\ *n, pl* **-ri·ums** *or* **-ria** \-rē-ə\ [L *aequilibrium*, fr. *aequilibris* being in equilibrium, fr. *aequi-* + *libra* weight, balance] **1** : a state of balance between opposing forces or actions that is either static (as in a body acted on by forces whose resultant is zero) or dynamic (as in a reversible chemical reaction when the velocities in both directions are equal) **2 a** : a state of adjustment between opposing or divergent influences or elements **b** : a state of intellectual or emotional balance : POISE **3** : the normal oriented state of the animal body in respect to its substrate that involves adjustment to changing gravitational and spatial relationships
equi·mol·al \-'mō-ləl\ *adj* **1** : having equal molal concentration **2** : EQUIMOLAR 1
equi·mo·lar \-'mō-lər\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an equal number of moles ⟨an ~ mixture⟩ **2** : having equal molar concentration
equine \'ē-ˌkwīn, 'ek-ˌwīn\ *adj* [L *equinus*, fr. *equus* horse; akin to OE *eoh* horse, Gk *hippos*] : of, relating to, or resembling a horse or the horse family — **equine** *n* — **equine·ly** *adv*
[1]equi·noc·tial \ˌē-kwə-'näk-shəl, ˌek-wə-\ *adj* **1** : relating to an equinox or to a state or the time of equal day and night **2** : relating to the regions or climate of the equinoctial line or equator **3** : relating to the time when the sun passes an equinoctial point
[2]equinoctial *n* **1** : EQUATOR 1 **2** : an equinoctial storm
equinoctial circle *n* : EQUATOR 1 — called also *equinoctial line*
equi·nox \'ē-kwə-ˌnäks, 'ek-wə-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or ML; MF *equinoxe*, fr. ML *equinoxium*, alter. of L *aequinoctium*, fr. *aequi-* equi- + *noct-, nox* night — more at NIGHT] **1** : either of the two times each year when the sun crosses the equator and day and night are everywhere of equal length, being about March 21 and September 23 **2** : either of the two points on the celestial sphere where the celestial equator intersects the ecliptic
[1]equip \i-'kwip\ *vt* **equipped; equip·ping** [MF *equiper*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *scip* ship] **1** : to furnish for service or action : make ready by appropriate provisioning **2** : DRESS, ARRAY ***syn*** see FURNISH
[2]equip *abbr* equipment
eq·ui·page \'ek-wə-pij\ *n* **1 a** : material or articles used in equipment : OUTFIT **b** *archaic* (1) : a set of small articles (as for table service) (2) : ETUI **c** : TRAPPINGS **2** *archaic* : RETINUE **3** : a horse-drawn carriage with its servants; *also* : such a carriage alone
equip·ment \i-'kwip-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : the equipping of a person or thing **b** : the state of being equipped **2 a** : the set of articles or physical resources serving to equip a person or thing: as (1) : the implements used in an operation or activity : APPARATUS (2) : all the fixed assets other than land and buildings of a business enterprise (3) : the rolling stock of a railway **b** : a piece of such equipment **3** : mental or emotional traits or resources : ENDOWMENT
[1]equi·poise \'ek-wə-ˌpȯiz, 'ē-kwə-\ *n* **1** : a state of equilibrium **2** : COUNTERBALANCE
[2]equipoise *vt* **1** : to serve as an equipoise to **2** : to put or hold in equipoise
equi·pol·lence \ˌē-kwə-'päl-ən(t)s, ˌek-wə-\ *n* : the quality of being equipollent
equi·pol·lent \-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *aequipollent-, aequipollens*, fr. *aequi-* equi- + *pollent-, pollens*, prp. of *pollēre* to be able] **1** : equal in force, power, or validity **2** : the same in effect or signification — **equipollent** *n* — **equi·pol·lent·ly** *adv*
equi·pon·der·ant \-'pän-d(ə-)rənt\ *adj* : evenly balanced
equi·pon·der·ate \-'pän-də-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *aequiponderatus*, pp. of *equiponderare*, fr. L *aequi-* + *ponderare* to weigh, ponder] *vi* : to be equal in weight or force ~ *vt* : to equal or make equal in weight
equi·po·tent \ˌē-kwə-'pōt-ᵊnt, ˌek-wə-\ *adj* : having equal effects or capacities for development ⟨~ genes⟩ ⟨~ regions of an egg⟩
equi·po·ten·tial \-pə-'ten-chəl\ *adj* : having the same potential : of uniform potential throughout ⟨~ points⟩ ⟨an ~ surface⟩
equi·prob·a·ble \-'präb-(ə-)bəl\ *adj* : having the same degree of logical or mathematical probability ⟨~ alternatives⟩
eq·ui·se·tum \ˌek-wə-'sēt-əm\ *n, pl* **-se·tums** *or* **-se·ta** \-'sēt-ə\ [NL, genus name, fr. L *equisaetum* horsetail (plant), fr. *equus* horse + *saeta* bristle] : any of a genus (*Equisetum*) of lower tracheophytes comprising perennial plants that spread by creeping rhizomes, are homosporous and asexual, and have leaves reduced to nodal sheaths on the hollow jointed grooved shoots — called also *scouring rush*



equisetum: *1* sterile stem, *2* fertile stem

eq·ui·ta·ble \'ek-wət-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : having or exhibiting equity : dealing fairly and equally with all concerned **2** : existing or valid in equity as distinguished from law ***syn*** see FAIR ***ant*** inequitable — **eq·ui·ta·bil·i·ty** \ˌek-wət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **eq·ui·ta·ble·ness** \'ek-wət-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **eq·ui·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
eq·ui·tant \'ek-wət-ənt\ *adj* [L *equitant-, equitans*, prp. of *equitare* to ride on horseback, fr. *equit-, eques* horseman — more at EQUESTRIAN] *of leaves* : overlapping each other transversely at the base (as in an iris)
eq·ui·ta·tion \ˌek-wə-'tā-shən\ *n* : the act or art of riding on horseback
eq·ui·ty \'ek-wət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *equite*, fr. MF *equité*, fr. L *aequitat-, aequitas*, fr. *aequus* equal, fair] **1 a** : justice according to natural law or right; *specif* : freedom from bias or favoritism **b** : something that is equitable **2 a** : a system of law originating in the English chancery and comprising a settled and formal body of legal and procedural rules and doctrines that supplement, aid, or override common and statute law and are designed to protect rights and enforce duties fixed by substantive law **b** : trial or remedial justice under or by the rules and doctrines of equity **c** : a body of legal doctrines and rules developed to enlarge, supplement, or override a narrow rigid system of law **3 a** : a right, claim, or interest existing or valid in equity **b** : the money value of a property or of an interest in a property in excess of claims or liens against it **c** : a risk interest or ownership right in property
equity capital *n* : VENTURE CAPITAL
equiv *abbr* equivalency; equivalent
equiv·a·lence \i-'kwiv(-ə)-lən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the state or property of being equivalent **b** (1) : the relation holding between two statements if they are either both true or both false (2) : the relation holding between two statements if to affirm one and to deny the other would result in a contradiction **2** : a presentation of terms as equivalent **3** : equality in metrical value of a regular foot and one in which there are substitutions
equivalence class *n* : a set for which an equivalence relation holds between every pair of elements
equivalence relation *n* : a relation (as equality) between elements of a set (as the real numbers) that is symmetric, reflexive, and transitive and for any two elements either holds or does not hold
equiv·a·len·cy \i-'kwiv(-ə)-lən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : EQUIVALENCE
equiv·a·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *aequivalent-, aequivalens*, prp. of *aequivalēre* to have equal power, fr. L *aequi-* + *valēre* to be strong — more at WIELD] **1** : equal in force, amount, or value; *also* : equal in area or volume but not admitting of superposition ⟨a square ~ to a triangle⟩ **2** : like in signification or import **3** : corresponding or virtually identical esp. in effect or function **4** *obs* : equal in might or authority **5** : having the same chemical combining capacity ⟨~ quantities of two elements⟩ **6 a** : having the same solution set ⟨~ equations⟩ **b** : capable of being placed in one-to-one correspondence ⟨~ sets⟩ **c** : related by an equivalence relation ***syn*** see SAME ***ant*** different — **equivalent** *n* — **equiv·a·lent·ly** *adv*
equivalent weight *n* : the weight of a substance esp. in grams that combines with or is chemically equivalent to eight grams of oxygen or one gram of hydrogen : the atomic or molecular weight divided by the valence
equiv·o·cal \i-'kwiv-ə-kəl\ *adj* [LL *aequivocus*, fr. *aequi-* equi- + *voc-, vox* voice — more at VOICE] **1 a** : subject to two or more interpretations and usu. used to mislead or confuse ⟨he did not lie but his story of the party was certainly ~⟩ **b** : uncertain as an indication or sign **2 a** : of uncertain nature or classification **b** : of uncertain disposition toward a person or thing : UNDECIDED **c** : of doubtful advantage, genuineness, or moral rectitude ⟨~ behavior⟩ ***syn*** see OBSCURE ***ant*** unequivocal — **equiv·o·cal·i·ty**

\-ˌkwiv-ə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **equiv·o·cal·ly** \-'kwiv-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **equiv·o·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

equiv·o·cate \i-'kwiv-ə-ˌkāt\ *vi* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** **1** : to use equivocal language esp. with intent to deceive **2** : to avoid committing oneself in what one says ***syn*** see LIE — **equiv·o·ca·tion** \-ˌkwiv-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **equiv·o·ca·tor** \-'kwiv-ə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

equi·voque *also* **equi·voke** \'ek-wə-ˌvōk, 'ē-kwə-\ *n* [F *équivoque*, fr. *équivoque* equivocal, fr. LL *aequivocus*] **1** : an equivocal word or phrase; *specif* : PUN **2** **a** : double meaning **b** : WORDPLAY

Er *symbol* erbium

ER *abbr* earned run

[1]-er \ər; *after some vowels, often* r; *after* ŋ, *usu* gər\ *adj suffix or adv suffix* [ME *-er, -ere, -re*, fr. OE *-ra* (in adjectives), *-or* (in adverbs); akin to OHG *-iro*, adj. compar. suffix, L *-ior*, Gk *-iōn*] — used to form the comparative degree of adjectives and adverbs of one syllable ⟨hotter⟩ ⟨drier⟩ and of some adjectives and adverbs of two syllables ⟨completer⟩ and sometimes of longer ones ⟨divinelier⟩

[2]-er \ər; *after some vowels, often* r\ *also* **-ier** \ē-ər, yər\ *or* **-yer** \yər\ *n suffix* [ME *-er, -ere, -ier, -iere;* partly fr. OE *-ere* (akin to OHG *-āri;* both fr. a prehistoric Gmc suffix borrowed fr. L *-arius*); partly fr. OF *-ier, -iere*, fr. L *-arius, -aria, -arium* -ary; partly fr. MF *-ere*, fr. L *-ator* -or — more at -ARY, -OR] **1** **a** : person occupationally connected with ⟨hatter⟩ ⟨furrier⟩ ⟨lawyer⟩ **b** : person or thing belonging to or associated with ⟨header⟩ ⟨old-timer⟩ **c** : native of : resident of ⟨cottager⟩ ⟨New Yorker⟩ **d** : one that has ⟨three-decker⟩ **e** : one that produces or yields ⟨porker⟩ **2** **a** : one that does or performs (a specified action) ⟨reporter⟩ — sometimes added to both elements of a compound ⟨builder-upper⟩ **b** : one that is a suitable object of (a specified action) ⟨broiler⟩ **3** : one that is ⟨foreigner⟩ — *-yer* in a few words after *w*, *-ier* in a few words after other letters, otherwise *-er*

era \'ir-ə, 'er-ə, 'ē-rə\ *n* [LL *aera*, fr. L, counters, pl. of *aer-, aes* copper, money — more at ORE] **1** : a system of chronological notation computed from a given date as basis **2** **a** : a fixed point in time from which a series of years is reckoned **b** : a memorable or important date or event; *esp* : one that begins a new period in the history of a person or thing **3** **a** : a period set off or typified by some prominent figure or characteristic feature **b** : a stage in the development of a person or thing; *esp* : one of the five major divisions of geologic time ⟨Paleozoic ~⟩ ***syn*** see PERIOD

ERA *abbr* **1** earned run average **2** Equal Rights Amendment

erad·i·cate \i-'rad-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *eradicatus*, pp. of *eradicare*, fr. *e-* + *radic-, radix* root — more at ROOT] **1** : to pull up by the roots **2** : to do away with as if by pulling up by the roots ⟨~ ignorance by better teaching⟩ ***syn*** see EXTERMINATE — **erad·i·ca·ble** \-'rad-i-kə-bəl\ *adj* — **erad·i·ca·tion** \-ˌrad-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **erad·i·ca·tive** \-'rad-ə-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj* — **erad·i·ca·tor** \-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

erase \i-'rās, *Brit* -'rāz\ *vb* **erased; eras·ing** [L *erasus*, pp. of *eradere*, fr. *e-* + *radere* to scratch, scrape — more at RAT] *vt* **1** **a** : to rub or scrape out (as written, painted, or engraved letters) **b** : to remove (recorded matter) from a magnetic tape or wire **c** : to delete from a computer storage device **2** **a** : to remove from existence or memory as if by erasing **b** : to nullify the effect or force of ~ *vi* : to yield to being erased — **eras·abil·i·ty** \-ˌrā-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **eras·able** \-'rā-sə-bəl\ *adj*

syn ERASE, EXPUNGE, CANCEL, EFFACE, OBLITERATE, BLOT OUT, DELETE *shared meaning element* : to eradicate something so that it no longer has effect or existence

eras·er \i-'rā-sər\ *n* : one that erases; *specif* : a device (as a sharp instrument, a piece of rubber, or a felt pad) used to erase marks (as of ink or chalk)

Eras·tian \i-'ras-tē-ən, -'ras-chən\ *adj* [Thomas *Erastus* †1583 German-Swiss physician and Zwinglian theologian] : of, characterized by, or advocating the doctrine of state supremacy in ecclesiastical affairs — **Erastian** *n* — **Eras·tian·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

era·sure \i-'rā-shər *also* -zhər\ *n* : an act or instance of erasing

Er·a·to \'er-ə-ˌtō\ *n* [Gk *Eratō*] : the Greek Muse of lyric and love poetry

er·bi·um \'ər-bē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *Ytterby*, Sweden] : a metallic element of the rare-earth group that occurs with yttrium — see ELEMENT table

[1]ere \(ˌ)e(ə)r, (ˌ)a(ə)r\ *prep* [ME *er*, fr. OE *ǣr*, fr. *ǣr*, adv., early, soon; akin to OHG *ēr* earlier, Gk *ēri* early] : [2]BEFORE 2 ⟨contrived ~ the beginning of the world —Norman Douglas⟩

[2]ere *conj* : [3]BEFORE ⟨I will be thrown into Etna . . . ~ I will leave her —Shak.⟩

Er·e·bus \'er-ə-bəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Erebos*] **1** : a personification of darkness in Greek mythology **2** : a place of darkness in the underworld on the way to Hades

[1]erect \i-'rekt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *erectus*, pp. of *erigere* to erect, fr. *e-* + *regere* to lead straight, guide — more at RIGHT] **1** **a** : vertical in position; *specif* : not spread out or lying down **b** : standing up or out from the body ⟨~ hairs⟩ **c** : characterized by firm or rigid straightness in bodily posture ⟨an ~ bearing⟩ **2** *archaic* : directed upward **3** *obs* : ALERT, WATCHFUL **4** : being in a state of physiological erection — **erect·ly** \-'rek-(t)lē\ *adv* — **erect·ness** \-'rek(t)-nəs\ *n*

[2]erect *vt* **1** **a** (1) : to put up by the fitting together of materials or parts : BUILD (2) : to fix in an upright position (3) : to cause to stand up or out **b** *archaic* : to direct upward **c** : to change (an image) from an inverted to a normal position **2** : to elevate in status **3** : to set up : ESTABLISH **4** *obs* : ENCOURAGE, EMBOLDEN **5** : to construct (as a perpendicular) upon a given base — **erect·able** \-'rek-tə-bəl\ *adj*

erec·tile \i-'rek-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* : capable of being raised to an erect position; *esp* : CAVERNOUS 3 — **erec·til·i·ty** \-ˌrek-'til-ət-ē\ *n*

erec·tion \i-'rek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of erecting : CONSTRUCTION **2** **a** : the state marked by firm turgid form and erect position of a previously flaccid bodily part containing cavernous tissue when that tissue becomes dilated with blood **b** : an occurrence of such a state in the penis or clitoris **3** : something erected

erec·tor \i-'rek-tər\ *n* : one that erects; *esp* : a muscle that raises or keeps a part erect

E region *n* : the part of the ionosphere occurring between 40 and 90 miles above the surface of the earth and containing the daytime E layer and the sporadic E layer

ere·long \e(ə)r-'lȯŋ, a(ə)r-\ *adv* : before long : SOON

er·e·mite \'er-ə-ˌmīt\ *n* [ME — more at HERMIT] : HERMIT; *esp* : a religious recluse — **er·e·mit·ic** \ˌer-ə-'mit-ik\ *or* **er·e·mit·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **er·e·mit·ism** \'er-ə-ˌmīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

er·em·urus \ˌer-ə-'myu̇r-əs\ *n, pl* **-uri** \-'myu̇(ə)r-ˌī\ [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *erēmos* solitary + *oura* tail — more at RETINA, SQUIRREL] : FOXTAIL LILY

ere·now \e(ə)r-'nau̇, a(ə)r-\ *adv* : before now : HERETOFORE

erep·sin \i-'rep-sən\ *n* [ISV *er-* (prob. fr. L *eripere* to sweep away, fr. *e-* + *rapere* to sweep) + *pepsin* — more at RAPID] : a proteolytic fraction obtained esp. from the intestinal juice and known to be a mixture of exopeptidases

er·e·thism \'er-ə-ˌthiz-əm\ *n* [F *éréthisme*, fr. Gk *erethismos* irritation, fr. *erethizein* to irritate; akin to Gk *ornynai* to rouse — more at RISE] : abnormal irritability or responsiveness to stimulation — **er·e·this·mic** \ˌer-ə-'thiz-mik\ *adj*

ere·while \e(ə)r-'(h)wī(ə)l, a(ə)r-\ *also* **ere·whiles** \-'(h)wī(ə)lz\ *adv, archaic* : HERETOFORE

erg \'ərg\ *n* [Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] : a cgs unit of work equal to the work done by a force of one dyne acting through a distance of one centimeter

erg- *or* **ergo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *ergon*] : work ⟨*ergo*phobia⟩

er·gas·tic \(ˌ)ər-'gas-tik\ *adj* [Gk *ergastikos* able to work, fr. *ergazesthai* to work, fr. *ergon* work] : constituting the nonliving by-products of protoplasmic activity

er·gas·to·plasm \-tə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [ISV *ergastic* + *-o-* + *-plasm*] : ribosome-studded endoplasmic reticulum — **er·gas·to·plas·mic** \-ˌgas-tə-'plaz-mik\ *adj*

er·go \'e(ə)r-(ˌ)gō, 'ər-\ *adv* [L, fr. OL, because of, fr. (assumed) OL *e rogo* from the direction (of)] : THEREFORE, HENCE

ergo- *comb form* [F, fr. *ergot*] : ergot ⟨*ergo*sterol⟩

er·go·dic \(ˌ)ər-'gōd-ik, -'gäd-\ *adj* [G *ergodenhypothese*, lit., hypothesis of the path of energy, fr. *erg-* + Gk *hodos* path, road] **1** : of or relating to a process in which every sequence or sizable sample is equally representative of the whole (as in regard to a statistical parameter) **2** : involving or relating to the probability that any state will recur; *esp* : having zero probability that any state will never recur — **er·go·dic·i·ty** \ˌər-gə-'dis-ət-ē\ *n*

er·go·graph \'ər-gə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an apparatus for measuring the work capacity of a muscle

er·gom·e·ter \(ˌ)ər-'gäm-ət-ər\ *n* : an apparatus for measuring the work performed by a group of muscles — **er·go·met·ric** \ˌər-gə-'me-trik\ *adj*

er·go·nom·ic \ˌər-gə-'näm-ik\ *adj* [*erg-* + *economic*] : of or relating to biotechnology

er·go·nom·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [*erg-* + *economics*] : BIOTECHNOLOGY

er·gon·o·mist \(ˌ)ər-'gän-ə-məst\ *n* : a specialist in biotechnology

er·go·no·vine \ˌər-gə-'nō-ˌvēn\ *n* [*ergo-* + L *novus* new — more at NEW] : an alkaloid $C_{19}H_{23}N_3O_2$ from ergot with similar pharmacological action but reduced toxicity

er·gos·ter·ol \(ˌ)ər-'gäs-tə-ˌrōl, -ˌrōl\ *n* [ISV] : a crystalline steroid alcohol $C_{28}H_{44}O$ that occurs esp. in yeast, molds, and ergot and is converted by ultraviolet irradiation ultimately into vitamin D_2

er·got \'ər-gət, -ˌgät\ *n* [F, lit., cock's spur] **1** : the black or dark purple sclerotium of fungi (genus *Claviceps*) that occurs as a club-shaped body replacing the seed of a grass (as rye); *also* : a fungus bearing ergots **2** : a disease of rye and other cereals caused by an ergot fungus **3** **a** : the dried sclerotia of an ergot fungus grown on rye and containing several alkaloids (as ergonovine and ergotamine) **b** : any of such alkaloids used medicinally for their contractile effect on smooth muscle (as of peripheral arterioles) — **er·got·ic** \(ˌ)ər-'gät-ik\ *adj*

er·got·a·mine \(ˌ)ər-'gät-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV] : an alkaloid $C_{33}H_{35}N_5O_5$ from ergot that has the pharmacological action of ergot and is used esp. in treating migraine

er·got·ism \'ər-gət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a toxic condition produced by eating grain, grain products (as rye bread), or grasses infected with ergot fungus or by chronic excessive use of an ergot drug

er·got·ized \-ˌīzd\ *adj* : containing ergot ⟨~ grain⟩

ERIC *abbr* educational resources information center

er·i·ca \'er-i-kə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *erice* heather, fr. Gk *ereikē*] : any of a large genus (*Erica*) of the heath family of low much-branched evergreen shrubs

er·i·ca·ceous \ˌer-ə-'kā-shəs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a heath or the heath family

er·i·coid \'er-ə-ˌkȯid\ *adj* : resembling heath

Erie \'i(ə)r-ē\ *n* **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of the Lake Erie region **2** : the language of the Erie people

erig·er·on \ə-'rij-ə-ˌrän\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, groundsel, fr. Gk *ērigerōn*, fr. *ēri* early + *gerōn* old man; fr. the hoary down of some species — more at ERE, GERONT-] : any of a widely distributed genus (*Erigeron*) of composite herbs with flower heads that resemble asters but have fewer and narrower involucral bracts

Er·in \'er-ən\ *n* [OIr *Ērinn*, dat. of *Ēriu* Ireland] : Ireland

Eri·nys \i-'rin-əs, -'rī-nəs\ *n, pl* **Eriny·es** \-'rin-ē-ˌēz\ [Gk] : FURY 2a

er·i·o·phy·id \ˌer-ē-'äf-ē-əd, -ē-ə-'fī-əd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *erion* wool + *phyē* growth; akin to Gk *physis* growth — more at PHYSICS] : any of a large family (Eriophyidae) of minute plant-feeding mites that have two pairs of legs placed far anterior and lack a respiratory system — **eriophyid** *adj*

[1]eris·tic \i-'ris-tik, e-\ *also* **eris·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* [Gk *eristikos* fond of wrangling, fr. *erizein* to wrangle, fr. *eris* strife] : characterized by disputatious and often subtle and specious reasoning — **eris·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]eristic *n* **1** : a person devoted to logical disputation **2** : the art or practice of disputation and polemics

Er·len·mey·er flask \ˌər-lən-ˌmī(-ə)r-, ˌer-lən-\ *n* [Emil *Erlenmeyer*] : a flat-bottomed conical laboratory flask

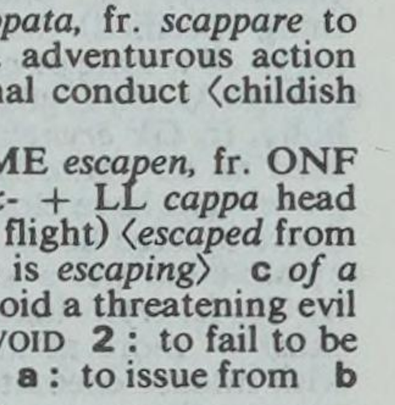
er·mine \'ər-mən\ *n, pl* **ermines** [ME, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *harmo* weasel; akin to Lith *šarmuõ* weasel] **1** *or pl* **er-**

mine **a** : any of several weasels that assume white winter pelage usu. with more or less black on the tail; *esp* : a large European weasel (*Mustela erminea*) **b** : the white fur of the ermine in winter pelage **2** : a rank or office whose ceremonial or official robe is ornamented with ermine
er·mined \-mənd\ *adj* : clothed or adorned with ermine
erne *or* **ern** \'ərn, 'e(ə)rn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *earn;* akin to OHG *arn* eagle, Gk *ornis* bird] : EAGLE; *esp* : WHITE-TAILED SEA EAGLE
erode \i-'rōd\ *vb* **erod·ed; erod·ing** [L *erodere* to eat away, fr. *e-* + *rodere* to gnaw — more at RAT] *vt* **1** : to diminish or destroy by degrees: **a** : to eat into or away by slow destruction of substance : CORRODE **b** : to wear away by the action of water, wind, or glacial ice **c** : to cause to deteriorate or disappear as if by eating or wearing away ⟨buying power is *eroded* with each inflationary year —R. H. McDonough⟩ **2** : to produce or form by eroding ⟨glaciers ~ U-shaped valleys⟩ ~ *vi* : to undergo erosion — **erod·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌrōd-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **erod·ible** \-'rōd-ə-bəl\ *adj*
erog·e·nous \i-'räj-ə-nəs\ *also* **er·o·gen·ic** \ˌer-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* [Gk *erōs* + E *-genous, -genic*] **1** : producing sexual excitement or libidinal gratification when stimulated : sexually sensitive **2** : of, relating to, or arousing sexual feelings
Eros \'e(ə)r-ˌäs, 'i(ə)r-\ *n* [Gk *Erōs*, fr. *erōs* love; akin to Gk *erasthai* to love, desire] **1** : a son of Aphrodite who excites erotic love in gods and men with his arrows and torches — compare CUPID **2** : the aggregate of pleasure-directed life instincts whose energy is derived from libido — compare THANATOS **3** *often not cap* : love directed toward self-realization
erose \i-'rōs\ *adj* [L *erosus*, pp. of *erodere*] : IRREGULAR, UNEVEN; *specif* : having the margin irregularly notched as if gnawed ⟨an ~ leaf⟩ ⟨an ~ edge of a bacterial colony⟩ — **erose·ly** *adv*
ero·si·ble \i-'rō-zə-bəl, -'rō-sə-\ *adj* : capable of being eroded
ero·sion \i-'rō-zhən\ *n* **1 a** : the action or process of eroding **b** : the state of being eroded **2** : an instance or product of erosive action — **ero·sion·al** \-'rōzh-nəl, -'rō-zhən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ero·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
ero·sive \i-'rō-siv, -ziv\ *adj* : tending to erode or to induce or permit erosion — **ero·sive·ness** *n* — **ero·siv·i·ty** \i-ˌrō-'siv-ət-ē\ *n*
erot·ic \i-'rät-ik\ *adj* [Gk *erōtikos*, fr. *erōt-*, *erōs*] **1** : of, devoted to, or tending to arouse sexual love or desire ⟨~ art⟩ **2** : strongly affected by sexual desire — **erotic** *n* — **erot·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **erot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
erot·i·ca \i-'rät-i-kə\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [NL, fr. Gk *erōtika*, neut. pl. of *erōtikos*] : literary or artistic works having an erotic theme or quality
erot·i·cism \i-'rät-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : an erotic theme or quality **2** : a state of sexual arousal **3** : sexual impulse or desire esp. when abnormally insistent — **erot·i·cist** \-səst\ *n*
erot·i·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : to make erotic ⟨a film version that ~*s* the original story⟩ — **erot·i·ci·za·tion** \i-ˌrät-ə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*
er·o·tism \'er-ə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* [Gk *erōt-*, *erōs* + E *-ism*] : EROTICISM
ero·to·gen·ic \i-ˌrōt-ə-'jen-ik, -ˌrät-\ *adj* : EROGENOUS
err \'e(ə)r, 'ər\ *vi* [ME *erren*, fr. OF *errer*, fr. L *errare;* akin to OE *ierre* wandering, angry, ON *rās* race — more at RACE] **1** *archaic* : STRAY **2 a** : to make a mistake **b** : to violate an accepted standard of conduct
er·ran·cy \'er-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : the state or an instance of erring
er·rand \'er-ənd\ *n* [ME *erend* message, business, fr. OE *ærend;* akin to OHG *ārunti* message] **1** *archaic* **a** : an oral message entrusted to a person **b** : EMBASSY, MISSION **2 a** : a short trip taken to attend to some business often for another ⟨was on an ~ for his mother⟩ **b** : the object or purpose of such a trip
er·rant \'er-ənt\ *adj* [ME *erraunt*, fr. MF *errant*, prp. of *errer* to err & *errer* to travel, fr. ML *iterare*, fr. L *iter* road, journey — more at ITINERANT] **1** : traveling or given to traveling ⟨an ~ knight⟩ **2 a** : straying outside the proper path or bounds ⟨an ~ calf⟩ **b** : moving about aimlessly or irregularly ⟨an ~ breeze⟩ **c** : deviating from a standard (as of truth or propriety) ⟨an ~ child⟩ **3** *obs* : ARRANT — **errant** *n* — **er·rant·ly** *adv*
er·rant·ry \'er-ən-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : the quality, condition, or fact of wandering; *esp* : a roving in search of chivalrous adventure
er·ra·ta \e-'rät-ə, -'rāt-, -'rat-\ *n* [fr. pl. of *erratum*] : a list of corrigenda; *also* : a page bearing such a list
¹er·rat·ic \ir-'at-ik\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF *erratique*, fr. L *erraticus*, fr. *erratus*, pp. of *errare*] **1 a** : having no fixed course : WANDERING ⟨an ~ comet⟩ **b** *archaic* : NOMADIC **2** : transported from an original resting place esp. by a glacier ⟨~ boulder⟩ **3 a** : characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or uniformity **b** : deviating from what is ordinary or standard : ECCENTRIC ⟨an ~ genius⟩ — **er·rat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **er·rat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **er·rat·i·cism** \-'at-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*
²erratic *n* : one that is erratic; *esp* : an erratic boulder or block of rock
er·ra·tum \e-'rät-əm, -'rāt-, -rat-\ *n, pl* **-ta** \-ə\ [L, fr. neut. of *erratus*] : CORRIGENDUM
er·ro·ne·ous \ir-'ō-nē-əs, e-'rō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *erroneus*, fr. *erron-*, *erro* wanderer, fr. *errare*] **1** *archaic* : WANDERING **2** : containing or characterized by error : MISTAKEN ⟨~ assumptions⟩ — **er·ro·ne·ous·ly** *adv* — **er·ro·ne·ous·ness** *n*
er·ror \'er-ər\ *n* [ME *errour*, fr. OF, fr. L *error*, fr. *errare*] **1 a** : an act or condition of ignorant or imprudent deviation from a code of behavior **b** : an act involving an unintentional deviation from truth or accuracy **c** : an act that through ignorance, deficiency, or accident departs from or fails to achieve what should be done: as (1) : a defensive misplay other than a wild pitch or passed ball made by a baseball player when normal play would have resulted in an out or prevented an advance by a base runner (2) : the failure of a player (as in tennis) to make a successful return of a ball during play **d** : a mistake in the proceedings of a court of record in matters of law or of fact **2 a** : the quality or state of erring **b** *Christian Science* : illusion about the nature of reality that is the cause of human suffering : the contradiction of truth **c** : an instance of false belief **3** : something produced by mistake **4 a** : the difference between an observed or calculated value and a true value; *specif* : variation in measurements, calculations, or observations of a quantity due to mistakes or to uncontrollable factors **b** : the amount of deviation from a standard or specification — **er·ror·less** \'er-ər-ləs\ *adj*

syn ERROR, MISTAKE, SLIP, BLUNDER, LAPSE *shared meaning element* : a departure from what is true, right, or proper. ERROR suggests the existence of a standard or guide and a straying from the right course through failure to make effective use of this; thus, an *error* in addition involves some failure in following the rules of addition; an *error* in conduct is an infraction of an accepted code of morals or manners. MISTAKE implies misconception or inadvertence and usually expresses less severe criticism than *error* ⟨willing to learn from his *mistakes*⟩ BLUNDER regularly imputes stupidity or ignorance as a cause and connotes some degree of culpability ⟨we usually call our *blunders* mistakes, and our friends style our mistakes *blunders* —H. B. Wheatley⟩ SLIP stresses inadvertence or accident and applies especially to trivial but embarrassing mistakes ⟨a social *slip* which makes us feel hot all over —L. P. Smith⟩ LAPSE, sometimes interchangeable with *slip*, is more likely to stress forgetfulness, weakness, or inattention as a cause ⟨forever chiding him for his grammatical *lapses* —William Styron⟩

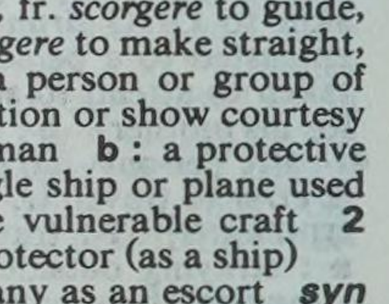
er·satz \'e(ə)r-ˌzäts, er-'\ *adj* [G *ersatz-*, fr. *ersatz*, n., substitute] : being a usu. artificial and inferior substitute ⟨~ flour made from potatoes⟩ ***syn*** see ARTIFICIAL — **ersatz** *n*
Erse \'ərs\ *n* [ME (Sc) *Erisch*, adj., Irish, alter. of *Irish*] **1** : SCOTTISH GAELIC **2** : IRISH GAELIC — **Erse** *adj*
erst \'ərst\ *adv* [ME *erest* earliest, formerly, fr. OE *ærest*, superl. of *ær* early — more at ERE] *archaic* : ERSTWHILE
¹erst·while \'ərst-ˌ(h)wīl\ *adv* : in the past : FORMERLY ⟨cultures, ~ unknown to each other — Robert Plank⟩
²erstwhile *adj* : FORMER, PREVIOUS ⟨his ~ students⟩
eru·cic acid \i-ˌrü-sik-\ *n* [NL *Eruca*, genus of herbs, fr. L, caterpillar, garden rocket] : a crystalline fatty acid $C_{22}H_{42}O_2$ found in the form of glycerides esp. in rapeseed oil
eruct \i-'rəkt\ *vb* [L *eructare*, fr. *e-* + *ructare* to belch, fr. *-ructus*, pp. of *-rugere* to belch; akin to L *rugire* to roar] : BELCH
eruc·ta·tion \i-ˌrək-'tā-shən, ˌē-\ *n* : an act or instance of belching
er·u·dite \'er-(y)ə-ˌdīt\ *adj* [ME *erudit*, fr. L *eruditus*, fr. pp. of *erudire* to instruct, fr. *e-* + *rudis* rude, ignorant] : possessing or displaying erudition : LEARNED ⟨an ~ scholar⟩ — **er·u·dite·ly** *adv*
er·u·di·tion \ˌer-(y)ə-'dish-ən\ *n* : extensive knowledge acquired chiefly from books : profound, recondite, or bookish learning ***syn*** see KNOWLEDGE
erum·pent \i-'rəm-pənt\ *adj* [L *erumpent-*, *erumpens*, prp. of *erumpere*] : bursting forth ⟨~ fungi⟩
erupt \i-'rəpt\ *vb* [L *eruptus*, pp. of *erumpere* to burst forth, fr. *e-* + *rumpere* to break — more at REAVE] *vi* **1 a** : to force out or release suddenly and often violently something (as lava or steam) that is pent up **b** (1) : to burst from limits or restraint (2) *of a tooth* : to emerge through the gum **c** : to become active or violent : EXPLODE ⟨violence ~*ed* in the ghetto⟩ **2** : to break out (as with a skin eruption) ~ *vt* : to force out or release usu. suddenly and violently — **erupt·ible** \-'rəp-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **erup·tive** \-tiv\ *adj* — **erup·tive·ly** *adv*
erup·tion \i-'rəp-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an act, process, or instance of erupting **b** : the breaking out of a rash on the skin or mucous membrane **2** : a product of erupting (as a skin rash)
-ery \(ə-)rē\ *n suffix* [ME *-erie*, fr. OF, fr. *-ier* -er + *-ie* -y] **1** : qualities collectively : character : -NESS ⟨snobb*ery*⟩ **2** : art : practice ⟨quack*ery*⟩ **3** : place of doing, keeping, producing, or selling (the thing specified) ⟨fish*ery*⟩ ⟨bak*ery*⟩ **4** : collection : aggregate ⟨fin*ery*⟩ **5** : state or condition ⟨slav*ery*⟩
eryn·go \i-'riŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **-goes** *or* **-gos** [modif. of L *eryngion* sea holly, fr. Gk *ēryngion*] **1** *obs* : candied sea-holly root made to be used as an aphrodisiac **2** : any of various plants (genus *Eryngium*) that have elongate spinulose-margined leaves and flowers in dense bracted heads
ery·sip·e·las \ˌer-ə-'sip-(ə-)ləs, ˌir-\ *n* [ME *erisipila*, fr. L *erysipelas*, fr. Gk, fr. *erysi-* (akin to Gk *erythros* red) + *-pelas* (akin to L *pellis* skin) — more at RED, FELL] : an acute febrile disease associated with intense edematous local inflammation of the skin and subcutaneous tissues caused by a hemolytic streptococcus
er·y·the·ma \ˌer-ə-'thē-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *erythēma*, fr. *erythainein* to redden, fr. *erythros*] : abnormal redness of the skin due to capillary congestion (as in inflammation) — **er·y·them·a·tous** \-'them-ət-əs\ *adj*
er·y·thor·bate \ˌer-ə-'thȯr-ˌbāt\ *n* : a salt of erythorbic acid that is used in foods as an antioxidant
er·y·thor·bic acid \-ˌthȯr-bik-\ *n* [*erythr-* + *ascorbic acid*] : an optical isomer of ascorbic acid
erythr- *or* **erythro-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *erythros* — more at RED] **1** : red ⟨*erythro*cyte⟩ **2** : erythrocyte ⟨*erythro*id⟩
er·y·thre·mia \ˌer-ə-'thrē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : POLYCYTHEMIA VERA
er·y·thrism \'er-ə-ˌthriz-əm\ *n* : a condition marked by exceptional prevalence of red pigmentation (as in skin or hair) — **er·y·thris·mal** \ˌer-ə-'thriz-məl\ *adj* — **er·y·thris·tic** \-'thris-tik\ *adj*
er·y·thrite \'er-ə-ˌthrīt\ *n* : a mineral $Co_3(AsO_4)_2.8H_2O$ consisting of a hydrous cobalt arsenate occurring esp. in monoclinic crystals
eryth·ro·blast \i-'rith-rə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : a polychromatic nucleated cell of red marrow that is the first specifically identifiable stage in red blood cell formation; *broadly* : a cell ancestral to red blood cells — **eryth·ro·blas·tic** \-ˌrith-rə-'blas-tik\ *adj*
eryth·ro·blas·to·sis \i-ˌrith-rə-ˌblas-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : abnormal presence of erythroblasts in the circulating blood; *esp* : ERYTHROBLASTOSIS FETALIS

erythroblastosis fe·ta·lis \-fi-'tal-əs\ *n* [NL, fetal erythroblastosis] : a hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn that is characterized by destruction of circulating erythrocytes, increase in circulating erythroblasts, and jaundice and that is usu. associated with Rh= factor incompatibility
eryth·ro·cyte \i-'rith-rə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : RED BLOOD CELL — **eryth·ro·cyt·ic** \-ˌrith-rə-'sit-ik\ *adj*
eryth·ro·cy·tom·e·ter \i-ˌrith-rə-sī-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* : HEMACYTOMETER
ery·throid \i-'rith-ˌrȯid, 'er-ə-ˌthrȯid\ *adj* : relating to erythrocytes or their precursors
eryth·ro·my·cin \i-ˌrith-rə-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* : an antibiotic that is produced by an actinomycete (*Streptomyces erythreus*) and that is effective against amebiasis
er·y·thron \'er-ə-ˌthrän\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, neut. of *erythros*] : the red blood cells and their precursors in the bone marrow
eryth·ro·poi·e·sis \i-ˌrith-rō-pȯi-'ē-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *erythr-* + Gk *poiēsis* creation] : the production of red blood cells (as from the bone marrow) — **eryth·ro·poi·et·ic** \-'et-ik\ *adj*
eryth·ro·poi·e·tin \-'pȯi-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [*erythropoietic* + *-in*] : a hormonal substance that is prob. formed in the kidney and stimulates red blood cell formation
eryth·ro·sin \i-'rith-rə-sən\ *also* **eryth·ro·sine** \-sən, -ˌsēn\ *n* [ISV *erythr-* + *eosin*] : any of several dyes made by iodination of fluorescein that yield reddish shades
Es *symbol* einsteinium
[1]-es \əz, iz *after* s, z, sh, ch; z *after* v *or a vowel*\ *n pl suffix* [ME *-es, -s* — more at [1] -s] **1** — used to form the plural of most nouns that end in *s* ⟨glasses⟩, *z* ⟨fuzzes⟩, *sh* ⟨bushes⟩, *ch* ⟨peaches⟩, or a final *y* that changes to *i* ⟨ladies⟩ and of some nouns ending in *f* that changes to *v* ⟨loaves⟩; compare [1]-s 1 **2** : [1]-s 2
[2]-es *vb suffix* [ME — more at [2]-s] — used to form the third person singular present of most verbs that end in *s* ⟨blesses⟩, *z* ⟨fizzes⟩, *sh* ⟨hushes⟩, *ch* ⟨catches⟩, or a final *y* that changes to *i* ⟨defies⟩ ; — compare [2]-s
Esau \'ē-(ˌ)sȯ\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Ēsau*, fr. Heb *'Ēsāw*] : the elder son of Isaac and Rebekah who sold his birthright to his twin brother Jacob
es·ca·drille \'es-kə-ˌdril, -ˌdrē\ *n* [F, flotilla, escadrille, fr. Sp *escuadrilla*, dim. of *escuadra* squadron, squad — more at SQUAD] : a unit of a European air command containing usu. six airplanes
es·ca·lade \'es-kə-ˌlād, -ˌläd\ *n* [F, fr. It *scalata*, fr. *scalare* to scale, fr. *scala* ladder, fr. LL — more at SCALE] : an act of scaling esp. the walls of a fortification — **escalade** *vt* — **es·ca·lad·er** *n*
es·ca·late \'es-kə-ˌlāt, *nonstand* -kyə-\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back= formation fr. *escalator*] *vi* : to increase in extent, volume, number, amount, intensity, or scope ⟨a little war threatens to ~ into a huge ugly one —Arnold Abrams⟩ ~ *vt* : EXPAND 1 — **es·ca·la·tion** \ˌes-kə-'lā-shən, *nonstand* -kyə-\ *n* — **es·ca·la·to·ry** \'es-kə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-, *nonstand* -kyə-\ *adj*
[1]es·ca·la·tor \'es-kə-ˌlāt-ər, *nonstand* -kyə-\ *n* [fr. *Escalator*, a trademark] **1 a** : a power-driven set of stairs arranged like an endless belt that ascend or descend continuously **b** : an upward course suggestive of an escalator ⟨a never-stopping ~ of economic progress —D. W. Brogan⟩ **2** : an escalator clause or provision
[2]escalator *adj* : providing for a periodic proportional upward or downward adjustment (as of prices or wages) ⟨an ~ arrangement tying the base pay . . . to living costs —*N.Y. Times*⟩
es·cal·lop \is-'käl-əp, -'kal-\ *var of* SCALLOP
es·cap·able \is-'kā-pə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being escaped : AVOIDABLE
es·ca·pade \'es-kə-ˌpād\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *scappata*, fr. *scappare* to escape, fr. (assumed) VL *excappare*] : a usu. adventurous action that runs counter to approved or conventional conduct ⟨childish ~s⟩
[1]es·cape \is-'kāp\ *vb* **es·caped; es·cap·ing** [ME *escapen*, fr. ONF *escaper*, fr. (assumed) VL *excappare*, fr. L *ex-* + LL *cappa* head covering, cloak] *vi* **1 a** : to get away (as by flight) ⟨*escaped* from prison⟩ **b** : to issue from confinement ⟨gas is *escaping*⟩ **c** *of a plant* : to run wild from cultivation **2** : to avoid a threatening evil ~ *vt* **1** : to get or stay out of the way of : AVOID **2** : to fail to be noticed or recallable by ⟨his name ~s me⟩ **3 a** : to issue from **b** : to be uttered involuntarily by — **es·cap·er** *n*
syn ESCAPE, AVOID, EVADE, ELUDE, SHUN, ESCHEW *shared meaning element* : to get away or keep away from something one does not want to incur, endure, or encounter
[2]escape *n* **1** : an act or instance of escaping: as **a** : flight from confinement **b** : evasion of something undesirable **c** : leakage or outflow esp. of a fluid **d** : distraction or relief from routine or reality **2** : a means of escape **3** : a cultivated plant run wild
[3]escape *adj* **1** : providing a means of escape ⟨an ~ hatch⟩ ⟨~ literature⟩ **2** : providing a means of evading a regulation, claim, or commitment ⟨an ~ clause in a contract⟩
escape artist *n* : one (as a showman or criminal) unusually adept at escaping from confinement
es·cap·ee \is-ˌkā-'pē, ˌes-(ˌ)kā-, ˌes-kə-\ *n* : one that has escaped; *esp* : an escaped prisoner
escape mechanism *n* : a mode of behavior or thinking adopted to evade unpleasant facts or responsibilities
es·cape·ment \is-'kāp-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : a device in a timepiece which controls the motion of the train of wheelwork and through which the energy of the power source is delivered to the pendulum or balance by means of impulses that permit a tooth to escape from a pallet at regular intervals **b** : a ratchet device (as the spacing mechanism of a typewriter) that permits motion in one direction only in equal steps **2 a** : the act of escaping **b** : a way of escape : VENT



one form of escapement 1a

escape velocity *n* : the minimum velocity that a moving body (as a rocket) must have to escape from the gravitational field of the earth or of a celestial body and move outward into space
es·cap·ism \is-'kā-ˌpiz-əm\ *n* : habitual diversion of the mind to purely imaginative activity or entertainment as an escape from reality or routine — **es·cap·ist** \-pəst\ *adj or n*
es·cap·ol·o·gy \is-ˌkā-'päl-ə-jē, ˌes-(ˌ)\ *n* : the art or practice of escaping — **es·cap·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
es·car·got \ˌes-ˌkär-'gō\ *n, pl* **-gots** \-'gō(z)\ [F, fr. MF, fr. OProv *escaragol*] : a snail prepared for use as food
es·ca·role \'es-kə-ˌrōl\ *n* [F, fr. LL *escariola*, fr. L *escarius* of food, fr. *esca* food, fr. *edere* to eat — more at EAT] : ENDIVE 1
es·carp \is-'kärp\ *n or vt* [F *escarpe*, n., fr. It *scarpa*] : SCARP
es·carp·ment \-mənt\ *n* **1** : a steep slope in front of a fortification **2** : a long cliff or steep slope separating two comparatively level or more gently sloping surfaces and resulting from erosion or faulting
-es·cence \'es-ᵊn(t)s\ *n suffix* [MF, fr. L *-escentia*, fr. *-escent-, -escens* + *-ia* -y] : process of becoming ⟨hyal*escence*⟩
-es·cent \'es-ᵊnt\ *adj suffix* [MF, fr. L *-escent-, -escens*, prp. suffix of incho. verbs in *-escere*] **1** : beginning : beginning to be : slightly ⟨alkal*escent*⟩ **2** : reflecting or emitting light (in a specified way) ⟨fluor*escent*⟩
esch·a·lot \'esh-ə-ˌlät\ *n* [F *échalote*] : SHALLOT
[1]es·char \'es-ˌkär\ *n* [ME *escare* — more at SCAR] : a scab formed esp. after a burn
[2]es·char \'es-kər\ *var of* ESKER
es·cha·rot·ic \ˌes-kə-'rät-ik\ *adj* [F or LL; F *escharotique*, fr. LL *escharoticus*, fr. Gk *escharōtikos*, fr. *escharoun* to form an eschar, fr. *eschara* eschar] : producing an eschar — **escharotic** *n*
es·cha·to·log·i·cal \(ˌ)es-ˌkat-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl, ˌes-kət-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to eschatology or an eschatology **2** : of or relating to the end of the world or the events associated with it in eschatology — **es·cha·to·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
es·cha·tol·o·gy \ˌes-kə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [Gk *eschatos* last, farthest] **1** : a branch of theology concerned with the final events in the history of the world or of mankind **2** : a particular religious or mythological belief concerning the end of the world or of human history ⟨Navaho ~⟩; *specif* : any of various Christian doctrines concerning the second coming of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, the Last Judgment, or the nature of human existence upon the completion of history
[1]es·cheat \is(h)-'chēt\ *n* [ME *eschete*, fr. OF, reversion of property, fr. *escheoir* to fall, devolve, fr. (assumed) VL *excadēre*, fr. L *ex-* + (assumed) VL *cadēre* to fall, fr. L *cadere* — more at CHANCE] **1** : escheated property **2 a** : the reversion of lands in English feudal law to the lord of the fee upon the failure of heirs capable of inheriting under the original grant **b** : the reversion of property to the crown in England or to the state in the U.S. by failure of persons legally entitled to hold the property
[2]escheat *vt* : to cause to revert by escheat ~ *vi* : to revert by escheat — **es·cheat·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*
es·chew \is(h)-'chü\ *vt* [ME *eschewen*, fr. MF *eschiuver*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *sciuhen* to frighten off — more at SHY] : to avoid habitually esp. on moral or practical grounds : SHUN ***syn*** see ESCAPE — **es·chew·al** \-əl\ *n*
es·co·lar \ˌes-kə-'lär\ *n, pl* **escolar** *or* **escolars** [Sp, lit., scholar, fr. ML *scholaris*] : a large widely distributed rough-scaled fish (*Ruvettus pretiosus*) that resembles a mackerel
[1]es·cort \'es-ˌkȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [F *escorte*, fr. It *scorta*, fr. *scorgere* to guide, fr. (assumed) VL *excorrigere*, fr. L *ex-* + *corrigere* to make straight, correct — more at CORRECT] **1 a** (1) : a person or group of persons accompanying another to give protection or show courtesy (2) : the man who goes on a date with a woman **b** : a protective screen of warships or fighter planes or a single ship or plane used to fend off enemy attack from one or more vulnerable craft **2** : accompaniment by a person or an armed protector (as a ship)
[2]es·cort \is-'kȯ(ə)rt, es-, 'es-ˌ\ *vt* : to accompany as an escort ***syn*** see ACCOMPANY
es·cot \is-'kät\ *vt* [MF *escoter*, fr. *escot* contribution, of Gmc origin; akin to ON *skot* contribution] *obs* : SUPPORT, MAINTAIN
es·cri·toire \'es-krə-ˌtwär\ *n* [obs. F, writing desk, scriptorium, fr. ML *scriptorium*] : a writing table or desk; *specif* : SECRETARY 4b
[1]es·crow \'es-ˌkrō, es-'\ *n* [MF *escroue* scroll] **1** : a deed, a bond, money, or a piece of property delivered to a third person to be delivered by him to the grantee only upon the fulfillment of a condition **2** : a fund or deposit designed to serve as an escrow — **in escrow** : in trust as an escrow ⟨have over $1000 *in escrow* to pay taxes⟩
[2]es·crow \es-'krō, 'es-ˌ\ *vt* : to place in escrow
es·cu·do \is-'küd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-dos** [Sp & Pg, lit., shield, fr. L *scutum*] **1** : any of various former gold or silver coins of Hispanic countries **2** — see MONEY table
es·cu·lent \'es-kyə-lənt\ *adj* [L *esculentus*, fr. *esca* food, fr. *edere* to eat — more at EAT] : EDIBLE — **esculent** *n*
es·cutch·eon \is-'kəch-ən\ *n* [ME *escochon*, fr. MF *escuchon*, fr. (assumed) VL *scution-, scutio*, fr. L *scutum* shield — more at ESQUIRE] **1** : a defined area on which armorial bearings are displayed and which usu. consists of a shield **2** : a protective or ornamental shield (as around a keyhole) **3** : the part of a ship's stern on which the name is displayed



escutcheon 1: *A* dexter, *B* sinister, *1* dexter chief point, *2* middle chief point, *3* sinister chief point, *4* honor point, *5* fess point, *6* nombril, *7* middle base point, *8* dexter base point, *9* sinister base point

Esd *abbr* Esdras
Es·dras \'ez-drəs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *'Ezrā*] **1** : either of two books of the Roman Catholic canon of the Old Testament — see BIBLE table **2** : either of two noncanonical books of Scripture included in the Protestant Apocrypha — see BIBLE table
ESE *abbr* east-southeast
[1]-ese \'ēz, 'ēs\ *adj suffix* [Pg *-ês* & It *-ese*, fr. L *-ensis*] : of, relating to, or originating in (a certain place or country) ⟨Japan*ese*⟩

²-ese *n suffix, pl* **-ese** **1** : native or resident of (a specified place or country) ⟨Chin*ese*⟩ **2** **a** : language of (a particular place, country, or nationality) ⟨Siam*ese*⟩ **b** : speech, literary style, or diction peculiar to (a specified place, person, or group) — usu. in words applied in depreciation ⟨journal*ese*⟩

es·em·plas·tic \ˌes-ˌem-ˈplas-tik, -əm-\ *adj* [Gk *es hen* into one + E *plastic*] : shaping or having the power to shape disparate things into a unified whole ⟨the ~ power of the poetic imagination —W. H. Gardner⟩

es·er·ine \ˈes-ə-ˌrēn\ *n* [F *ésérine*] : PHYSOSTIGMINE

Esk *abbr* Eskimo

es·ker \ˈes-kər\ *n* [IrGael *eiscir* ridge] : a long narrow ridge or mound of sand, gravel, and boulders deposited by a stream flowing on, within, or beneath a stagnant glacier

Es·ki·mo \ˈes-kə-ˌmō\ *n* [Dan, of Algonquian origin; akin to Cree *askimowew* he eats it raw] **1** *pl* **Eskimo** *or* **Eskimos** **a** : a group of peoples of northern Canada, Greenland, Alaska, and eastern Siberia **b** : a member of such people **2** : the language of the Eskimo people — **Es·ki·mo·an** \ˌes-kə-ˈmō-ən\ *adj*

Eskimo dog *n* **1** : a broad-chested powerful dog of a breed native to Greenland and Labrador characterized by a long and shaggy outer coat and a soft dense woolly inner coat **2** : a sled dog of American origin

ESL *abbr* English as a second language

esophag- *or* **esophago-** *comb form* : esophagus ⟨*esophag*ectomy⟩ : esophageal and ⟨*esophago*gastric⟩

esoph·a·ge·al \i-ˌsäf-ə-ˈjē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the esophagus

esoph·a·gus \i-ˈsäf-ə-gəs\ *n, pl* **-gi** \-ˌgī, -ˌjī\ [ME *ysophagus*, fr. Gk *oisophagos*, fr. *oisein* to be going to carry + *phagein* to eat — more at BAKSHEESH] : a muscular tube that leads from the pharynx to the stomach, passes down the neck between the trachea and the spinal column, and in man is about nine inches long — see LARYNX illustration

es·o·ter·ic \ˌes-ə-ˈter-ik\ *adj* [LL *esotericus*, fr. Gk *esōterikos*, fr. *esōterō*, compar. of *eisō*, *esō* within, fr. *eis* into, fr. *en* in — more at IN] **1** **a** : designed for or understood by the specially initiated alone ⟨a body of ~ legal doctrine —B. N. Cardozo⟩ **b** : of or relating to knowledge that is restricted to a small group **2** **a** : limited to a small circle ⟨~ pursuits⟩ **b** : PRIVATE, CONFIDENTIAL ⟨an ~ purpose⟩ — **es·o·ter·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

es·o·ter·i·ca \-i-kə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. Gk *esōterika*, neut. pl. of *esōterikos*] : esoteric items

es·o·ter·i·cism \-ˈter-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : esoteric doctrines or practices **2** : the quality or state of being esoteric

esp *abbr* especially

ESP \ˌē-ˌes-ˈpē\ *n* [extrasensory perception] : extrasensory perception

es·pa·drille \ˈes-pə-ˌdril\ *n* [F] : a flat sandal usu. having a fabric upper and a flexible sole

¹es·pal·ier \is-ˈpal-yər, -ˌyā\ *n* [F, deriv. of It *spalla* shoulder, fr. LL *spatula* shoulder blade — more at EPAULET] **1** : a plant (as a fruit tree) trained to grow flat against a support (as a wall or trellis) **2** : a railing or trellis on which fruit trees or shrubs are trained to grow flat

²espalier *vt* **1** : to train as an espalier **2** : to furnish with an espalier

es·par·to \is-ˈpärt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [Sp, fr. L *spartum*, fr. Gk *sparton* — more at SPIRE] : either of two Spanish and Algerian grasses (*Stipa tenacissima* and *Lygeum spartum*) used esp. to make cordage, shoes, and paper

es·pe·cial \is-ˈpesh-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF — more at SPECIAL] : being distinctive: as **a** : directed toward a particular individual, group, or end ⟨sent ~ greetings to his son⟩ ⟨took ~ care to speak clearly⟩ **b** : of special note or importance : unusually great or significant ⟨a decision of ~ relevance⟩ ⟨illness puts an ~ burden on modest resources⟩ **c** : highly distinctive or personal : PECULIAR ⟨had an ~ dislike for music⟩ **d** : CLOSE, INTIMATE ⟨his ~ crony⟩ **e** : capable of being specifically identified ⟨had no ~ destination in mind⟩ ***syn*** see SPECIAL — **es·pe·cial·ly** \-ˈpesh-(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **in especial** : in particular

es·per·ance \ˈes-p(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* [ME *esperaunce*, fr. MF *esperance*] *obs* : HOPE, EXPECTATION

Es·pe·ran·to \ˌes-pə-ˈrant-(ˌ)ō, -ˈrän-(ˌ)tō\ *n* [Dr. *Esperanto*, pseudonym of L. L. Zamenhof †1917 Pol oculist, its inventor] : an artificial international language based as far as possible on words common to the chief European languages

es·pi·al \is-ˈpī(-ə)l\ *n* **1** : OBSERVATION **2** : an act of noticing : DISCOVERY

es·piè·gle \es-pyeglˀ\ *adj* [F] : FROLICSOME, ROGUISH

es·piè·gle·rie \es-pyeg-lə-rē\ *n* [F, fr. *espiègle*] : the quality or state of being roguish or frolicsome

es·pi·o·nage \ˈes-pē-ə-ˌnäzh, -nij, -ˌnäj; is-ˈpē-ə-nij\ *n* [F *espionnage*, fr. MF, fr. *espionner* to spy, fr. *espion* spy, fr. OIt *spione*, fr. *spia*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *spehōn* to spy — more at SPY] : the practice of spying or the use of spies to obtain information about the plans and activities esp. of a foreign government or a competing company ⟨industrial ~⟩

es·pla·nade \ˈes-plə-ˌnäd, -ˌnād\ *n* [F, fr. It *spianata*, fr. *spianare* to level, fr. L *explanare* — more at EXPLAIN] : a level open stretch of paved or grassy ground; *esp* : one designed for walking or driving along a shore

es·pous·al \is-ˈpau̇-zəl *also* -səl\ *n* **1** **a** : BETROTHAL **b** : WEDDING **c** : MARRIAGE **2** : a taking up or adopting of a cause or belief

es·pouse \is-ˈpau̇z *also* -ˈpau̇s\ *vt* **es·poused; es·pous·ing** [ME *espousen*, fr. MF *espouser*, fr. LL *sponsare* to betroth, fr. L *sponsus*, pp. of *spondēre* to promise, betroth — more at SPOUSE] **1** : MARRY **2** : to take up and support as a cause : become attached to ⟨~ the problems of minority groups⟩ ***syn*** see ADOPT — **es·pous·er** *n*

espres·so \e-ˈspres-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-sos** [It (*caffè*) *espresso*, lit., pressed out coffee] : coffee brewed by forcing steam through finely ground darkly roasted coffee beans

es·prit \is-ˈprē\ *n* [F, fr. L *spiritus* spirit] **1** : vivacious cleverness or wit **2** : ESPRIT DE CORPS

es·prit de corps \is-ˌprēd-ə-ˈkō(ə)r, -ˈkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [F] : the common spirit existing in the members of a group and inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the group

es·py \is-ˈpī\ *vt* **es·pied; es·py·ing** [ME *espien*, fr. OF *espier* — more at SPY] : to catch sight of ⟨among the several horses . . . she *espied* the white mustang —Zane Grey⟩

Esq *or* **Esqr** *abbr* esquire

-esque \ˈesk\ *adj suffix* [F, fr. It *-esco*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *-isc* -ish — more at -ISH] : in the manner or style of : like ⟨statu*esque*⟩

Es·qui·mau \ˈes-kə-ˌmō\ *n, pl* **Esquimau** *or* **Es·qui·maux** \-ˌmō(z)\ [F, of Algonquian origin] : ESKIMO

es·quire \ˈes-ˌkwī(ə)r, is-ˈ\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *esquier* squire, fr. LL *scutarius*, fr. L *scutum* shield; akin to OHG *sceida* sheath] **1** : a member of the English gentry ranking below a knight **2** : a candidate for knighthood serving as shield bearer and attendant to a knight **3** — used as a title of courtesy usu. placed in its abbreviated form after the surname ⟨John R. Smith, *Esq.*⟩ **4** *archaic* : a landed proprietor

ess \ˈes\ *n* **1** : the letter *s* **2** : something resembling the letter *S* in shape; *esp* : an S-shaped curve in a road

-ess \əs, is *also* ˌes\ *n suffix* [ME *-esse*, fr. OF, fr. LL *-issa*, fr. Gk] : female ⟨giant*ess*⟩

¹es·say \e-ˈsā, ˈes-ˌā\ *vt* **1** **a** : to put to a test **b** : ²ASSAY 2a **2** : to make an often tentative or experimental effort to perform ***syn*** see ATTEMPT — **es·say·er** *n*

²es·say *in sense 2* ˈes-ˌā, *in other senses also* e-ˈsā\ *n* [MF *essai*, fr. LL *exagium* act of weighing, fr. *ex-* + *agere* to drive — more at AGENT] **1** **a** : EFFORT, ATTEMPT; *esp* : an initial tentative effort **b** : the result or product of an attempt **2** **a** : an analytic or interpretative literary composition usu. dealing with its subject from a limited or personal point of view **b** : something resembling such a composition ⟨a photographic ~⟩ **3** : TRIAL, TEST **4** : a proof of an unaccepted design for a stamp or piece of paper money

es·say·ist \ˈes-ˌā-əst\ *n* : a writer of essays

es·say·is·tic \ˌes-(ˌ)ā-ˈis-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an essay or an essayist **2** : resembling an essay in quality or character

essay question *n* : an examination question that requires an answer in a sentence, paragraph, or short composition

essay test *n* : a test made up of essay questions — compare OBJECTIVE TEST

es·sence \ˈes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *essentia*, fr. *esse* to be — more at IS] **1** **a** : the permanent as contrasted with the accidental element of being **b** : the individual, real, or ultimate nature of a thing esp. as opposed to its existence **c** : the properties or attributes by means of which something can be placed in its proper class or identified as being what it is **2** : something that exists : ENTITY **3** **a** (1) : a volatile substance or constituent (as of perfume) (2) : a constituent or derivative (as an extract or essential oil) possessing the special qualities (as of a plant or drug) in concentrated form; *also* : a preparation (as an alcoholic solution) of such an essence or a synthetic substitute **b** : ODOR, PERFUME **c** : something that resembles an extract in possessing a quality in concentrated form — **in essence** : in or by its very nature : ESSENTIALLY, BASICALLY ⟨accusations which *in essence* are well-founded —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ — **of the essence** : of the utmost importance : ESSENTIAL ⟨time was *of the essence*⟩

Es·sene \is-ˈēn, ˈes-ˌēn\ *n* [Gk *Essēnos*] : a member of a monastic brotherhood of Jews in Palestine from the 2d century B.C. to the 2d century A.D. — **Es·se·ni·an** \is-ˈē-nē-ən, es-\ *or* **Es·se·nic** \-ˈen-ik, -ˈē-nik\ *adj* — **Essenism** *n*

¹es·sen·tial \i-ˈsen-chəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting essence : INHERENT **2** : of the utmost importance : BASIC, INDISPENSABLE, NECESSARY ⟨~ foods⟩ ⟨an ~ requirement for admission to college⟩ **3** : IDIOPATHIC ⟨~ disease⟩ — **es·sen·ti·al·i·ty** \-ˌsen-chē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n* — **es·sen·tial·ly** \-ˈsench-(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **es·sen·tial·ness** \-ˈsen-chəl-nəs\ *n*

syn ESSENTIAL, FUNDAMENTAL, VITAL, CARDINAL *shared meaning element* : so important as to be indispensable

²essential *n* **1** : something basic ⟨the ~s of astronomy⟩ **2** : something necessary, indispensable, or unavoidable

essential amino acid *n* : an amino acid (as lysine) that is required for normal health and growth, is manufactured in the body in insufficient quantities or not at all, and is usu. supplied by dietary protein

es·sen·tial·ism \i-ˈsen-chə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : an educational theory that ideas and skills basic to a culture should be taught to all alike by time-tested methods — compare PROGRESSIVISM **2** **a** : REALISM **b** : a theory that gives priority to essence over existence — compare EXISTENTIALISM — **es·sen·tial·ist** \-ləst\ *adj or n*

es·sen·ti·al·i·ty \i-ˌsen-chē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being essential ⟨the ~ of freedom and justice —P. G. Hoffman⟩ **2** **a** : essential nature : ESSENCE **b** : an essential quality, property, or aspect

essential oil *n* : any of a class of volatile oils that impart the characteristic odors to plants and are used esp. in perfumes and flavorings — compare FIXED OIL

es·soin \is-ˈȯin\ *n* [ME *essoine*, fr. MF, fr. ML *essonium*, fr. L *ex-* + LL *sonium* care, worry] **1** : an excuse for not appearing in an English law court at the appointed time **2** *obs* : EXCUSE, DELAY

es·so·nite \ˈes-ᵊn-ˌīt\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *hēsson* inferior; fr. its being less hard than true hyacinth] : a yellow to brown garnet

est *abbr* **1** established **2** estimate; estimated

EST *abbr* eastern standard time

¹-est \əst, ist\ *adj suffix or adv suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-st, -est, -ost;* akin to OHG *-isto* (adj. superl. suffix), Gk *-istos*] — used to form the

superlative degree of adjectives and adverbs of one syllable ⟨fat*est*⟩ ⟨lat*est*⟩, of some adjectives and adverbs of two syllables ⟨luckiest⟩ ⟨often*est*⟩, and less often of longer ones ⟨beggarliest⟩

²-est \əst, ist\ *or* **-st** \st\ *vb suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-est, -ast, -st;* akin to OHG *-ist, -ōst, -ēst,* 2d sing. ending] — used to form the archaic 2d person singular of English verbs (with *thou*) ⟨gettest⟩ ⟨didst⟩

es·tab·lish \is-'tab-lish\ *vb* [ME *establissen,* fr. MF *establiss-,* stem of *establir,* fr. L *stabilire,* fr. *stabilis* stable] *vt* **1** : to make firm or stable **2** : to institute (as a law) permanently by enactment or agreement **3** *obs* : SETTLE 7 **4 a** : to bring into existence : FOUND ⟨~*ed* a republic⟩ **b** : to bring about : EFFECT ⟨~*ed* friendly relations⟩ **5 a** : to set on a firm basis ⟨~ his son in business⟩ **b** : to put into a favorable position **c** : to gain full recognition or acceptance of **6** : to make (a church) a national institution **7** : to put beyond doubt : PROVE ⟨~*ed* his innocence⟩ ~ *vi, of a plant* : to become naturalized ⟨a grass that ~*es* on poor soil⟩ ***syn*** see SET ***ant*** uproot (*as a plant or a practice*), abrogate (*as a privilege*) — **es·tab·lish·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **es·tab·lish·er** *n*

established church *n* : a church recognized by law as the official church of a nation and supported by civil authority

es·tab·lish·ment \is-'tab-lish-mənt\ *n* **1** : something established: as **a** : a settled arrangement; *esp* : a code of laws **b** : ESTABLISHED CHURCH **c** : a permanent civil or military organization **d** : a place of business or residence with its furnishings and staff **e** : a public or private institution **2** : an established order of society: as **a** *often cap* : a group of social, economic, and political leaders who form a ruling class (as of a nation) **b** *often cap* : a controlling group ⟨the literary ~⟩ **3 a** : the act of establishing **b** : the state of being established

es·tab·lish·men·tar·i·an \is-ˌtab-lish-mən-'ter-ē-ən, -ˌmen-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or favoring the social or political establishment — **establishmentarian** *n* — **es·tab·lish·men·tar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

es·ta·mi·net \e-stȧ-mē-nā\ *n, pl* **-nets** \-nā(z)\ [F] : a small café : BISTRO

es·tate \is-'tāt\ *n* [ME *estat,* fr. MF — more at STATE] **1** : STATE, CONDITION **2** : social standing or rank esp. of a high order **3** : a social or political class; *specif* : one of the great classes (as the nobility, the clergy and the commons) formerly vested with distinct political powers **4 a** : the degree, quality, nature, and extent of one's interest in land or other property **b** (1) : POSSESSIONS, PROPERTY; *esp* : a person's property in land and tenements ⟨a man of small ~⟩ (2) : the assets and liabilities left by a person at death **c** : a landed property usu. with a large house on it **5** *Brit* : ESTATE CAR

estate agent *n, Brit* : a real estate broker or manager

estate car *n, Brit* : STATION WAGON

estate tax *n* : an excise in the form of a percentage of the net estate that is levied on the privilege of an owner of property of transmitting his property to others after his death — compare INHERITANCE TAX 1

¹es·teem \is-'tēm\ *n* **1** *archaic* : WORTH, VALUE **2** *archaic* : OPINION, JUDGMENT **3** : high regard ⟨held in ~ by his colleagues⟩

²esteem *vt* [ME *estemen* to estimate, fr. MF *estimer,* fr. L *aestimare*] **1** *archaic* : APPRAISE **2 a** : to view as : CONSIDER ⟨~ it a privilege⟩ **b** : THINK, BELIEVE **3** : to set a high value on : regard highly and prize accordingly ***syn*** see REGARD ***ant*** abominate

es·ter \'es-tər\ *n* [G, fr. *essigäther* ethyl acetate, fr. *essig* vinegar + *äther* ether] : an often fragrant compound formed by the reaction between an acid and an alcohol usu. with elimination of water

es·ter·ase \'es-tə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* : an enzyme that accelerates the hydrolysis or synthesis of esters

es·ter·i·fy \e-'ster-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : to convert into an ester — **es·ter·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌster-ə-fə-'kāshən\ *n*

Esth *abbr* Esther

Es·ther \'es-tər\ *n* [L, fr. Heb *Estēr*] **1** : the Jewish heroine of the Old Testament book of Esther **2** : a narrative book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

es·the·sia \es-'thē-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, back-formation fr. *anesthesia*] : capacity for sensation and feeling : SENSIBILITY

esthesio- *or* **aesthesio-** *comb form* [Gk *aisthēsis*] : sensation ⟨*esthesio*logy⟩

es·the·si·om·e·ter \es-ˌthē-zē-'äm-ət-ər, -ˌthē-sē-\ *n* : an instrument for measuring sensory discrimination; *esp* : one for determining the distance by which two points pressed against the skin must be separated in order that they may be felt as separate

es·the·sis \es-'thē-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *aisthēsis,* fr. *aisthanesthai* to perceive — more at AUDIBLE] : SENSATION; *esp* : rudimentary sensation

esthete, esthetic, esthetics *var of* AESTHETE, AESTHETIC, AESTHETICS

es·ti·ma·ble \'es-tə-mə-bəl\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : VALUABLE **2** : worthy of esteem **3** : capable of being estimated — **es·ti·ma·ble·ness** *n*

¹es·ti·mate \'es-tə-ˌmāt\ *vt* **-mat·ed; -mat·ing** [L *aestimatus,* pp. of *aestimare* to value, estimate] **1** *archaic* **a** : ESTEEM **b** : APPRAISE **2 a** : to judge tentatively or approximately the value, worth, or significance of **b** : to determine roughly the size, extent, or nature of **c** : to produce a statement of the approximate cost of **3** : JUDGE, CONCLUDE — **es·ti·ma·tive** \-ˌmāt-iv\ *adj*

syn ESTIMATE, APPRAISE, EVALUATE, VALUE, RATE, ASSESS *shared meaning element* : to judge something with respect to its worth or significance

²es·ti·mate \'es-tə-mət\ *n* **1** : the act of appraising or valuing : CALCULATION **2** : an opinion or judgment of the nature, character, or quality of a person or thing ⟨an ~ of a man⟩ **3 a** : a rough or approximate calculation **b** : a numerical value obtained from a statistical sample and assigned to a population parameter **4** : a statement of the cost of a job

es·ti·ma·tion \ˌes-tə-'mā-shən\ *n* **1** : JUDGMENT, OPINION **2 a** : the act of estimating **b** : the value, amount, or size arrived at in an estimate **3** : ESTEEM, HONOR

es·ti·ma·tor \'es-tə-ˌmāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that estimates **2** : ESTIMATE 3b; *also* : a statistical function whose value for a sample furnishes an estimate of a population parameter

estival, estivate, estivation *var of* AESTIVAL, AESTIVATE, AESTIVATION

Es·to·nian \e-'stō-nē-ən, -nyən\ *n* **1** : a member of a Finno-Ugric-speaking people of Estonia **2** : the Finno-Ugric language of the Estonian people — **Estonian** *adj*

es·top \e-'stäp\ *vt* **es·topped; es·top·ping** [ME *estoppen,* fr. MF *estouper*] **1** *archaic* : to stop up **2** : STOP, BAR; *specif* : to impede by estoppel

es·top·pel \e-'stäp-əl\ *n* [prob. fr. MF *estoupail* bung, fr. *estouper*] : a bar to alleging or denying a fact because of one's own previous actions or words to the contrary

estr- *or* **estro-** *or* **oestr-** *or* **oestro-** *comb form* : estrus ⟨*estro*gen⟩

es·tra·di·ol \ˌes-trə-'dī-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* [ISV *estra-* (fr. *estrin*) + *di-* + *-ol*] : an estrogenic hormone that is a phenolic steroid alcohol $C_{18}H_{24}O_2$ usu. made synthetically and that is often used combined as an ester esp. in treating menopausal symptoms

es·tral \'es-trəl\ *adj* : ESTROUS

estral cycle *n* : ESTROUS CYCLE

es·trange \is-'trānj\ *vt* **es·tranged; es·trang·ing** [MF *estranger,* fr. ML *extraneare,* fr. L *extraneus* strange — more at STRANGE] **1** : to remove from customary environment or associations **2** : to arouse esp. mutual enmity or indifference in where there had formerly been love, affection, or friendliness : ALIENATE — **es·trangement** \-'trānj-mənt\ *n* — **es·trang·er** *n*

syn ESTRANGE, ALIENATE, DISAFFECT, WEAN *shared meaning element* : to cause one to break a bond of affection or loyalty ***ant*** reconcile

¹es·tray \is-'trā\ *vi* [MF *estraier*] *archaic* : STRAY

²estray *n* : STRAY 1

es·trin \'es-trən\ *n* [NL *estrus*] : an estrogenic hormone; *esp* : ESTRONE

es·tri·ol \'es-ˌtrī-ˌȯl, e-'strī-, -ˌōl\ *n* [*estrin* + *tri-* + *-ol*] : a crystalline estrogenic hormone that is a glycol $C_{18}H_{24}O_3$ usu. obtained from the urine of pregnant women

es·tro·gen \'es-trə-jən\ *n* [NL *estrus* + ISV *-o-* + *-gen*] : a substance (as a sex hormone) tending to promote estrus and stimulate the development of secondary sex characteristics in the female

es·tro·gen·ic \ˌes-trə-'jen-ik\ *adj* **1** : promoting estrus **2** : of, relating to, or caused by an estrogen — **es·tro·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

es·trone \'es-ˌtrōn\ *n* [ISV, fr. *estrin*] : an estrogenic hormone that is a ketone $C_{18}H_{22}O_2$, is usu. obtained from the urine of pregnant females, and is used similarly to estradiol

es·trous \'es-trəs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of estrus **2** : being in heat

estrous cycle *n* : the correlated phenomena of the endocrine and generative systems of a female mammal from the beginning of one period of estrus to the beginning of the next — called also *estral cycle*

es·tru·al \'es-trə-wəl\ *adj* : ESTROUS

es·trus \'es-trəs\ *or* **es·trum** \-trəm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *oestrus* gadfly, frenzy, fr. Gk *oistros* — more at IRE] **1 a** : a regularly recurrent state of sexual excitability during which the female of most mammals will accept the male and is capable of conceiving : HEAT **b** : a single occurrence of this state **2** : ESTROUS CYCLE

es·tu·ar·i·al \ˌes(h)-chə-'wer-ē-əl\ *adj* : ESTUARINE

es·tu·a·rine \'es(h)-chə-wə-ˌrīn, -ˌrēn\ *adj* : of, relating to, or formed in an estuary ⟨~ currents⟩ ⟨~ animals⟩ ⟨~ environment⟩

es·tu·ary \'es(h)-chə-ˌwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [L *aestuarium,* fr. *aestus* boiling, tide; akin to L *aestas* summer — more at AESTIVAL] : a water passage where the tide meets a river current; *esp* : an arm of the sea at the lower end of a river

ESU *abbr* electrostatic unit

esu·ri·ence \i-'sůr-ē-ən(t)s, -'zůr-\ *n* : the quality or state of being esurient

esu·ri·en·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : ESURIENCE

esu·ri·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [L *esurient-, esuriens,* prp. of *esurire* to be hungry] : HUNGRY, GREEDY — **esu·ri·ent·ly** *adv*

ESV *abbr* earth satellite vehicle

et \'et\ *dial past of* EAT

Et *symbol* ethyl

ET *abbr* eastern time

-et \'et, ˌet, ət, it\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF *-et,* masc., & *-ete,* fem., fr. LL *-itus* & *-ita*] **1** : small one ⟨baron*et*⟩ ⟨cellar*et*⟩ **2** : group ⟨oct*et*⟩

eta \'āt-ə, 'ēt-ə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *ēta,* of Sem origin; akin to Heb *hēth* heth] : the 7th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table

ETA *abbr* estimated time of arrival

éta·gère *or* **eta·gere** \ˌā-ˌtä-'zhe(ə)r, ˌāt-ə-\ *n* [F *étagère*] : an elaborate whatnot often with a large mirror at the back and sometimes with an enclosed cabinet as a base



étagère

et al \et-'al, -'ȯl\ *abbr* [L *et alii* (masc.), *et aliae* (fem.), or *et alia* (neut.)] and others

eta·mine \'āt-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [F *étamine*] : a light cotton or worsted fabric with an open mesh

etat·ism \ā-'tät-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [F *étatisme,* fr. *état* state, fr. OF *estat*] : STATE SOCIALISM — **etat·ist** \-'tät-əst\ *adj*

etc \ən-'sō-ˌfōrth, -ˌfȯrth; et-'set-ə-rə, -'se-trə\ *abbr* et cetera

et·cet·era \et-'set-ə-rə, -'se-trə\ *n* **1** : a number of unspecified additional persons or things **2** *pl* : unspecified additional items : ODDS AND ENDS

et cet·era \et-'set-ə-rə, -'se-trə\ [L] : and others esp. of the same kind : and so forth

¹etch \'ech\ *vb* [D *etsen,* fr. G *ätzen,* lit., to feed, fr. OHG *azzen;* akin to OHG *ezzan* to eat — more at EAT] *vt* **1 a** : to produce esp. on metal or glass by the corrosive action of an acid **b** : to subject to such etching **2** : to delineate or impress clearly ⟨scenes that are indelibly ~*ed* in our minds⟩ ~ *vi* : to practice etching — **etch·er** *n*

²etch *n* **1** : the action or effect of an etching acid on a surface **2** : a chemical agent used in etching

etch·ing *n* **1 a** : the act or process of etching **b** : the art of producing pictures or designs by printing from an etched metal plate **2 a** : an etched design **b** : an impression from an etched plate

ETD *abbr* estimated time of departure

¹eter·nal \i-'tərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *aeternalis*, fr. L *aeternus* eternal; akin to L *aevum* age, eternity — more at AYE] **1 a** : having infinite duration : EVERLASTING **b** : of or relating to eternity **c** : characterized by abiding fellowship with God ⟨good teacher, what must I do to inherit ~ life? —Mk 10:17 (RSV)⟩ **2 a** : continued without intermission : PERPETUAL **b** : seemingly endless **3** *archaic* : INFERNAL **4** : valid or existing at all times : TIMELESS ⟨~ verities⟩ — **eter·nal·ize** \-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* — **eter·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **eter·nal·ness** *n*

²eternal *n* **1** *cap* : GOD 1 — used with *the* **2** : something eternal

eterne \i-'tərn\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *aeternus*] *archaic* : ETERNAL

eter·ni·ty \i-'tər-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *eternite*, fr. MF *eternité*, fr. L *aeternitat-, aeternitas*, fr. *aeternus*] **1** : the quality or state of being eternal **2** : infinite time **3** *pl* : AGE 2c **4** : the state after death : IMMORTALITY **5** : a seemingly endless or immeasurable time ⟨he posed motionless for a seeming ~ as the crowd roared with laughter and encouragement —J. W. Cross⟩

eter·nize \i-'tər-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1 a** : to make eternal **b** : to prolong indefinitely **2** : IMMORTALIZE — **eter·ni·za·tion** \-ˌtər-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

ete·sian \i-'tē-zhən\ *adj, often cap* [L *etesius*, fr. Gk *etēsios*, fr. *etos* year — more at WETHER] : recurring annually — used of summer winds that blow over the Mediterranean — **etesian** *n, often cap*

eth \'eth\ *var of* EDH

eth- *or* **etho-** *comb form* [ISV] : ethyl ⟨*eth*aldehyde⟩ ⟨*etho*chloride⟩

¹-eth \əth, ith\ *or* **-th** \th\ *vb suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-eth, -ath, -th;* akin to OHG *-it, -ōt, -ēt*, 3d sing. ending, L *-t, -it*] — used to form the archaic third person singular present of verbs ⟨go*eth*⟩ ⟨do*th*⟩

²-eth — see -TH

eth·a·cryn·ic acid \ˌeth-ə-ˌkrin-ik-\ *n* [perh. fr. *eth-* + *a*cetic + buty*ryl* + phe*nol*] : a diuretic $C_{13}H_{12}Cl_2O_4$ used esp. in the treatment of edema

eth·am·bu·tol \eth-'am-byü-ˌtȯl, -ˌtōl\ *n* [*eth*ylene + *am*ine + *butanol*] : a compound $C_{10}H_{24}N_2O_2$ used esp. in the treatment of tuberculosis

eth·ane \'eth-ˌān\ *n* [ISV, fr. *ethyl*] : a colorless odorless gaseous hydrocarbon C_2H_6 found in natural gas and used esp. as a fuel

eth·a·nol \'eth-ə-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* : ALCOHOL 1

eth·a·nol·amine \ˌeth-ə-'näl-ə-ˌmēn, -'nōl-\ *n* : a colorless liquid amino alcohol C_2H_7NO used esp. as a solvent and in scrubbing gases

eth·ene \'eth-ˌēn\ *n* : ETHYLENE

ether \'ē-thər\ *n* [ME, fr. L *aether*, fr. Gk *aithēr*, fr. *aithein* to ignite, blaze] **1 a** : the rarefied element formerly believed to fill the upper regions of space **b** : the upper regions of space : HEAVENS **2 a** : a medium that in the undulatory theory of light permeates all space and transmits transverse waves **b** : the medium that transmits radio waves **3 a** : a light volatile flammable liquid $C_4H_{10}O$ used chiefly as a solvent and anesthetic **b** : any of various organic compounds characterized by an oxygen atom attached to two carbon atoms — **ether·ish** \-thə-rish\ *adj* — **ether·like** \-thər-ˌlīk\ *adj*

ethe·re·al \i-'thir-ē-əl\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to the regions beyond the earth **b** : CELESTIAL, HEAVENLY **c** : UNWORLDLY, SPIRITUAL **2 a** : lacking material substance : IMMATERIAL, INTANGIBLE **b** : marked by unusual delicacy and refinement ⟨this smallest, most ~, and daintiest of birds —William Beebe⟩ **3** : relating to, containing, or resembling a chemical ether — **ethe·re·al·i·ty** \-ˌthir-ē-'al-ət-ē\ *n* — **ethe·re·al·iza·tion** \-ē-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ethe·re·al·ize** \-'thir-ē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* — **ethe·re·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv* — **ethe·re·al·ness** *n*

ether extract *n* : the part of a complex organic material that is soluble in ether and consists chiefly of fats and fatty acids

ethe·ric \i-'ther-ik, -'thir-\ *adj* : ETHEREAL

ether·ize \'ē-thə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to treat or anesthetize with ether **2** : to make numb as if by anesthetizing — **ether·iza·tion** \ˌē-thə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ether·iz·er** *n*

eth·ic \'eth-ik\ *n* [ME *ethik*, fr. MF *ethique*, fr. L *ethice*, fr. Gk *ēthikē*, fr. *ēthikos*] **1** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation **2 a** : a set of moral principles or values **b** : a theory or system of moral values ⟨the present-day materialistic ~⟩ **c** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : the principles of conduct governing an individual or a group ⟨professional ~s⟩

¹eth·i·cal \'eth-i-kəl\ *also* **eth·ic** \-ik\ *adj* [ME *etik*, fr. L *ethicus*, fr. Gk *ēthikos*, fr. *ēthos* character] **1** : of or relating to ethics **2** : conforming to accepted professional standards of conduct **3** *of a drug* : restricted to sale only on a doctor's prescription ***syn*** see MORAL ***ant*** unethical — **eth·i·cal·i·ty** \ˌeth-ə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **eth·i·cal·ly** \'eth-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **eth·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

²ethical *n* : an ethical drug

ethi·cian \e-'thish-ən\ *n* : ETHICIST

eth·i·cist \'eth-ə-səst\ *n* : a specialist in ethics

eth·i·on \'eth-ē-ˌän\ *n* [blend of *eth-* and *thion-*] : an organophosphate $C_9H_{22}O_4P_2S_4$ used as a pesticide

eth·i·on·amide \ˌeth-ē-'än-ə-ˌmīd\ *n* [*eth-* + *thion-* + *amide*] : a compound $C_8H_{10}N_2S$ used against mycobacteria (as in tuberculosis and leprosy)

ethi·o·nine \e-'thī-ə-ˌnēn\ *n* [*eth-* + *thion-* + *-ine*] : an amino acid $C_6H_{13}NO_2S$ that is the ethyl homologue of methionine and is biologically antagonistic to methionine

Ethi·op \'ē-thē-ˌäp\ *or* **Ethi·ope** \-ˌōp\ *n* [ME *Ethiope*, fr. L *Aethiops*, fr. Gk *Aithiops*] *archaic* : ETHIOPIAN

¹Ethi·o·pi·an \ˌē-thē-'ō-pē-ən\ *n* **1** : a member of any of the mythical or actual peoples usu. described by the ancient Greeks as dark-skinned and living far to the south **2** : NEGRO **3** : a native or inhabitant of Ethiopia

²Ethiopian *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the inhabitants or the country of Ethiopia **2** : of, relating to, or being the biogeographic region that includes Africa south of the Sahara, southern Arabia, and sometimes Madagascar and the adjacent islands

¹Ethi·o·pic \-'äp-ik, -'ō-pik\ *adj* **1** : ETHIOPIAN **2 a** : of, relating to, or constituting Ethiopic **b** : of, relating to, or constituting a group of related Semitic languages spoken in Ethiopia

²Ethiopic *n* **1** : a Semitic language formerly spoken in Ethiopia and still used as the liturgical language of the Christian church in Ethiopia **2** : the Ethiopic group of Semitic languages

eth·moid \'eth-ˌmȯid\ *or* **eth·moi·dal** \eth-'mȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* [F *ethmoïde*, fr. Gk *ēthmoeidēs*, lit., like a strainer, fr. *ēthmos* strainer] : of, relating to, adjoining, or being one or more bones of the walls and septum of the nasal cavity — **ethmoid** *n*

¹eth·nic \'eth-nik\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *ethnicus*, fr. Gk *ethnikos* national, gentile, fr. *ethnos* nation, people] **1** : HEATHEN **2** : of or relating to races or large groups of people classed according to common traits and customs ⟨the changing ~ composition of the city —Leonard Buder⟩

²ethnic *n* : a member of an ethnic group; *esp* : a member of a minority group who retains the customs, language, or social views of his group

eth·ni·cal \'eth-ni-kəl\ *adj* **1** : ETHNIC **2** : of or relating to ethnology : ETHNOLOGIC — **eth·ni·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eth·nic·i·ty \eth-'nis-ət-ē\ *n* : ethnic quality or affiliation

ethno- *comb form* [F, fr. Gk *ethno-, ethn-*, fr. *ethnos*] : race : people : cultural group ⟨*ethno*centric⟩

eth·no·bi·ol·o·gy \ˌeth-nō-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of biology dealing with the relation between usu. primitive human societies and the plants and animals of their environment — **eth·no·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*

eth·no·cen·tric \ˌeth-nō-'sen-trik\ *adj* **1** : having race as a central interest **2** : characterized by or based on the attitude that one's own group is superior — **eth·no·cen·tri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **eth·no·cen·tric·i·ty** \-sen-'tris-ət-ē\ *n* — **eth·no·cen·trism** \-'sen-ˌtriz-əm\ *n*

eth·nog·ra·phy \eth-'näg-rə-fē\ *n* [F *ethnographie*, fr. *ethno-* + *-graphie* -graphy] : ETHNOLOGY; *specif* : descriptive anthropology — **eth·nog·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n* — **eth·no·graph·ic** \ˌeth-nə-'graf-ik\ *or* **eth·no·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **eth·no·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ethnol *abbr* ethnologist; ethnology

eth·nol·o·gy \eth-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : a science that deals with the division of mankind into races and their origin, distribution, relations, and characteristics **2** : anthropology dealing chiefly with the comparative and analytical study of cultures : CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY — **eth·no·log·ic** \ˌeth-nə-'läj-ik\ *or* **eth·no·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **eth·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **eth·nol·o·gist** \eth-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*

eth·no·mu·si·col·o·gy \ˌeth-nō-ˌmyü-zi-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* : a study of the music of non-European cultures — **eth·no·mu·si·co·log·i·cal** \-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **eth·no·mu·si·col·o·gist** \-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*

eth·no·sci·ence \'eth-nō-ˌsī-ən(t)s\ *n* : the nature lore (as folk taxonomy of plants and animals) of primitive peoples

ethol·o·gy \ē-'thäl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : a branch of knowledge dealing with human ethos and with its formation and evolution **2** : the scientific and objective study of animal behavior — **etho·log·i·cal** \ˌē-thə-'läj-i-kəl, ˌeth-ə-\ *adj* — **ethol·o·gist** \ē-'thäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

ethos \'ē-ˌthäs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *ēthos* custom, character] : the distinguishing character, sentiment, moral nature, or guiding beliefs of a person, group, or institution ⟨the ~ of thrift, hard work, and wealth —N. P. Hurley⟩

eth·oxy \e-'thäk-sē\ *adj* : relating to or containing ethoxyl

eth·ox·yl \e-'thäk-səl\ *n* [ISV *eth-* + *ox-* + *-yl*] : the univalent radical C_2H_5O composed of ethyl united with oxygen

eth·yl \'eth-əl\ *n* [ISV *ether* + *-yl*] : a univalent hydrocarbon radical C_2H_5 — **eth·yl·ic** \e-'thil-ik\ *adj*

ethyl acetate *n* : a colorless fragrant volatile flammable liquid ester $C_4H_8O_2$ used esp. as a solvent

ethyl alcohol *n* : ALCOHOL 1

eth·yl·ate \'eth-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to introduce the ethyl group into (a compound) — **eth·yl·ation** \ˌeth-ə-'lā-shən\ *n*

ethyl cellulose *n* : any of various thermoplastic substances used esp. in plastics and lacquers

ethyl chloride *n* : a colorless pungent flammable gaseous or volatile liquid C_2H_5Cl used esp. as a local surface anesthetic

eth·yl·ene \'eth-ə-ˌlēn\ *n* **1** : a colorless flammable gaseous unsaturated hydrocarbon C_2H_4 found in coal gas or obtained by pyrolysis of petroleum hydrocarbons **2** : a bivalent hydrocarbon radical C_2H_4 derived from ethane — **eth·yl·enic** \ˌeth-ə-'lē-nik, -'len-ik\ *adj* — **eth·yl·eni·cal·ly** \-(n)i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ethylene glycol *n* : a thick liquid alcohol $C_2H_6O_2$ used esp. as an antifreeze

ethylene oxide *n* : a colorless flammable toxic gaseous or liquid compound C_2H_4O used esp. in synthesis (as of ethylene glycol) and in sterilization and fumigation

ethyl ether *n* : ETHER 3a

ethy·nyl *or* **ethi·nyl** \e-'thīn-ᵊl, 'eth-ə-ˌnil\ *n* [*ethyne, ethine* (acetylene) (fr. *ethyl* + *-ine*) + *-yl*] : a univalent unsaturated radical HC≡C derived from acetylene by removal of one hydrogen

-et·ic \'et-ik\ *adj suffix* [L & Gk; L *-eticus*, fr. Gk *-etikos, -ētikos*, fr. *-etos, -ētos*, ending of certain verbals] : -IC ⟨limn*etic*⟩ — often in adjectives corresponding to nouns ending in *-esis* ⟨gen*etic*⟩

eti·o·late \'ēt-ē-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [F *étioler*] **1** : to bleach and alter the natural development of (a green plant) by excluding

sunlight **2 a** : to make pale and sickly **b** : to take away the natural vigor or inhibit the potential for growth of (as by undue sheltering or pampering) — **eti·o·la·tion** \ˌēt-ē-ə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*

eti·o·log·ic \ˌēt-ē-ə-ˈläj-ik\ *or* **eti·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : assigning or seeking to assign a cause **2** : of or relating to etiology — **eti·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eti·ol·o·gy \ˌēt-ē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ML *aetiologia* statement of causes, fr. Gk *aitiologia*, fr. *aitia* cause; akin to L *aemulus* rivaling] **1** : CAUSE, ORIGIN; *specif* : all of the causes of a disease or abnormal condition **2** : a branch of knowledge dealing with causes

et·i·quette \ˈet-i-kət, -ˌket\ *n* [F *étiquette*, lit., ticket — more at TICKET] : the forms required by good breeding or prescribed by authority to be observed in social or official life ⟨the hauteur of Spanish court ~ —G. C. Sellery⟩

ETO *abbr* European theater of operations

Eton collar \ˌēt-ᵊn-\ *n* [*Eton* College, English public school] : a large stiff turnover collar

Eton jacket *n* : a short black jacket with long sleeves, wide lapels, and an open front

Etru·ri·an \i-ˈtrůr-ē-ən\ *n* [*Etruria*] : ETRUSCAN — **Etrurian** *adj*

¹Etrus·can \i-ˈtrəs-kən\ *adj* [L *etruscus;* akin to L *Etruria*, ancient country] : of, relating to, or characteristic of Etruria, the Etruscans, or the Etruscan language

²Etruscan *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of ancient Etruria **2** : the language of the Etruscans which is of unknown affiliation

et seq *abbr* **1** [L *et sequens*] and the following one **2** [L *et sequentes* (masc. & fem. pl.), or *et sequentia* (neut. pl.)] and the following ones

-ette \ˈet, ˌet, ət, it\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. MF, fem. dim. suffix, fr. OF *-ete* — more at -ET] **1** : little one ⟨kitchen*ette*⟩ **2** : group ⟨octe*ttе*⟩ **3** : female ⟨farmer*ette*⟩ **4** : imitation ⟨beaver*ette*⟩

étude \ˈā-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [F, lit., study, fr. MF *estude, estudie*] **1** : a piece of music for the practice of a point of technique **2** : a composition built on a technical motive but played for its artistic value

etui \ā-ˈtwē, ˈā-ˌ\ *n, pl* **etuis** [F *étui*] : a small ornamental case

ETV *abbr* educational television

et·y·mol·o·gist \ˌet-ə-ˈmäl-ə-jəst\ *n* : a specialist in etymology

et·y·mol·o·gize \-ˌjīz\ *vb* **-gized; -giz·ing** *vt* : to discover, formulate, or state an etymology for ~ *vi* : to study or formulate etymologies

et·y·mol·o·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [ME *ethimologie*, fr. L *etymologia*, fr. Gk, fr. *etymon* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : the history of a linguistic form (as a word) shown by tracing its development since its earliest recorded occurrence in the language where it is found, by tracing its transmission from one language to another, by analyzing it into its component parts, by identifying its cognates in other languages, or by tracing it and its cognates to a common ancestral form in an ancestral language **2** : a branch of linguistics concerned with etymologies — **et·y·mo·log·i·cal** \-mə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **et·y·mo·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

et·y·mon \ˈet-ə-ˌmän\ *n, pl* **-ma** \-mə\ *also* **-mons** [L, fr. Gk, literal meaning of a word according to its origin, fr. *etymos* true; akin to Gk *eteos* true] **1 a** : an earlier form of a word in the same language or an ancestral language **b** : a word in a foreign language that is the source of a particular loanword **2** : a word or morpheme from which words are formed by composition or derivation

Eu *symbol* europium

eu- *comb form* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *ey, eu*, fr. neut. of *eys* good; akin to Hitt *asus* good and perh. to L *esse* to be] **1 a** : well : easily ⟨*eu*plastic⟩ — compare DYS- **b** : good ⟨*eu*daemon⟩ — compare DYS- **2 a** : true ⟨*eu*chromosome⟩ ⟨*eu*globulin⟩ **b** : truly ⟨*eu*coelomate⟩

eu·ca·lypt \ˈyü-kə-ˌlipt\ *n* : EUCALYPTUS

eu·ca·lyp·tol *also* **eu·ca·lyp·tole** \ˌyü-kə-ˈlip-ˌtȯl, -ˌtōl\ *n* : CINEOLE

eu·ca·lyp·tus \ˌyü-kə-ˈlip-təs\ *n, pl* **-ti** \-ˌtī, -ˌtē\ *or* **-tus·es** [NL, genus name, fr. *eu-* + Gk *kalyptos* covered, fr. *kalyptein* to conceal; fr. the conical covering of the buds — more at HELL] : any of a genus (*Eucalyptus*) of mostly Australian evergreen trees or rarely shrubs of the myrtle family that have rigid entire leaves and umbellate flowers and are widely cultivated for their gums, resins, oils, and useful woods

eu·cary·ote *or* **eu·kary·ote** \(ˈ)yü-ˈkar-ē-ˌōt, -ē-ət\ *n* [*eu-* + *kary-* + *-ote* (as in *zygote*)] : an organism composed of one or more cells with visibly evident nuclei — compare PROCARYOTE — **eu·cary·ot·ic** \(ˌ)yü-ˌkar-ē-ˈät-ik\ *adj*

Eu·cha·rist \ˈyü-k(ə-)rəst\ *n* [ME *eukarist*, fr. MF *eucharistе*, fr. LL *eucharistia*, fr. Gk, Eucharist, gratitude, fr. *eucharistos* grateful, fr. *eu-* + *charizesthai* to show favor, fr. *charis* favor, grace, gratitude; akin to Gk *chairein* to rejoice — more at YEARN] **1** : COMMUNION 2a **2** *Christian Science* : spiritual communion with God — **eu·cha·ris·tic** \ˌyü-kə-ˈris-tik\ *adj, often cap*

¹eu·chre \ˈyü-kər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a card game in which each player is dealt five cards and the player making trump must take three tricks to win a hand **2** : the action of euchring an opponent

²euchre *vt* **eu·chred; eu·chring** \-k(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to prevent from winning three tricks in euchre **2** : CHEAT, TRICK ⟨*euchred* out of their life savings —Pete Martin⟩

eu·chro·ma·tin \(ˈ)yü-ˈkrō-mət-ən\ *n* [G, fr. *eu-* + *chromatin*] : the genetically active portion of chromatin that is largely composed of genes — **eu·chro·mat·ic** \ˌyü-krō-ˈmat-ik\ *adj*

eu·cil·i·ate \yü-ˈsil-ē-ət\ *n* [deriv. of NL *eu-* + *cilium*] : any of a subclass (Euciliata) of ciliated protozoans with a trophic macronucleus and a reproductive micronucleus — **euciliate** *adj*

eu·clase \ˈyü-ˌklās, -ˌklāz\ *n* [F, fr. *eu-* (fr. L) + Gk *klasis* breaking, fr. *klan* to break — more at HALT] : a mineral $BeAlSiO_4(OH)$ that consists of a brittle silicate of beryllium and aluminum in pale yellow, green, or blue prismatic crystals and is used esp. as a gemstone

eu·clid·e·an *also* **eu·clid·i·an** \yü-ˈklid-ē-ən\ *adj, often cap* : of or relating to the geometry of Euclid or a geometry based on similar axioms

euclidean algorithm *n, often cap E* : a method of finding the greatest common divisor of two numbers by dividing the first by the second, the second by the remainder, the first remainder by the second remainder, and so on until exact division is obtained whence the greatest common divisor is the exact divisor

euclidean geometry *n, often cap E* **1** : geometry based on Euclid's axioms **2** : the geometry of a euclidean space

euclidean space *n, often cap E* : a space in which Euclid's axioms and definitions (as of straight and parallel lines and angles of plane triangles) apply

eu·clid's algorithm \ˌyü-klədz-\ *n, often cap E* : EUCLIDEAN ALGORITHM

eu·crite \ˈyü-ˌkrīt\ *n* [G *eukrit*, fr. Gk *eukritos* easily discerned] **1** : a meteorite composed essentially of anorthite and augite **2** : a rock consisting of a very basic gabbro — **eu·crit·ic** \yü-ˈkrit-ik\ *adj*

eu·dae·mo·nism \yü-ˈdē-mə-ˌniz-əm\ *or* **eu·dai·mo·nism** \-ˈdī-\ *n* [Gk *eudaimonia* happiness, fr. *eudaimōn* having a good attendant spirit, happy, fr. *eu-* + *daimōn* spirit] : a theory that defines moral obligation by reference to personal well-being through a life governed by reason — **eu·dae·mo·nist** \-nəst\ *n* — **eu·dae·mo·nis·tic** \-ˌdē-mə-ˈnis-tik\ *adj*

eu·di·om·e·ter \ˌyüd-ē-ˈäm-ət-ər\ *n* [It *eudiometro*, fr. Gk *eudia* fair weather (fr. *eu-* + *-dia* weather — akin to L *dies* day) + It *-metro* -meter, fr. Gk *metron* measure] : an instrument for the volumetric measurement and analysis of gases — **eu·dio·met·ric** \ˌyüd-ē-ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* — **eu·dio·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·gen·ic \yü-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* [Gk *eugenēs* wellborn, fr. *eu-* + *-genēs* born — more at -GEN] **1** : relating to or fitted for the production of good offspring **2** : of or relating to eugenics — **eu·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·gen·i·cist \-ˈjen-ə-səst\ *n* : a student or advocate of eugenics

eu·gen·ics \yü-ˈjen-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a science that deals with the improvement (as by control of human mating) of hereditary qualities of a race or breed

eu·ge·nol \ˈyü-jə-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* [F *eugénol*, fr. NL *Eugenia*, genus of tropical trees] : a colorless aromatic liquid phenol $C_{10}H_{12}O_2$ found esp. in clove oil and used chiefly in flavors and perfumes

eu·geo·syn·cline \(ˌ)yü-ˌjē-ō-ˈsin-ˌklīn\ *n* : a narrow rapidly subsiding geosyncline usu. with volcanic materials mingled with clastic sediments — **eu·geo·syn·cli·nal** \-(ˌ)sin-ˈklīn-ᵊl\ *adj*

eu·gle·na \yü-ˈglē-nə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *eu-* + Gk *glēnē* eyeball, socket of a joint; prob. akin to Gk *glainoi* ornaments — more at CLEAN] : any of a genus (*Euglena*) of green freshwater flagellates often classed as algae



euglena

eu·gle·noid \-ˌnȯid\ *n* : any of a taxon (Euglenoidina or Euglenophyta) of varied flagellates (as a euglena) that are typically green or colorless stigma-bearing solitary organisms with one or two flagella emerging from a well-defined gullet — **euglenoid** *adj*

euglenoid movement *n* : writhing usu. nonprogressive protoplasmic movement of plastic-bodied euglenoid flagellates

eu·glob·u·lin \yü-ˈgläb-yə-lən\ *n* [ISV *eu-* + *globulin*] : a simple protein that does not dissolve in pure water

eu·he·mer·ism \yü-ˈhē-mə-ˌriz-əm, -ˈhem-ə-\ *n* [*Euhemerus*, 4th cent. B.C. Gk mythographer] : interpretation of myths as traditional accounts of historical persons and events — **eu·he·mer·ist** \-rəst\ *n* — **eu·he·mer·is·tic** \-ˌhē-mə-ˈris-tik, -ˌhem-ə-\ *adj* — **eu·he·mer·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **eu·he·mer·ize** \-ˈhē-mə-ˌrīz, -ˈhem-ə-\ *vt*

eu·la·chon \ˈyü-lə-ˌkän, -li-kən\ *n, pl* **eulachon** *or* **eulachons** [Chinook Jargon *ulâkân*] : a marine food fish (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) of the north Pacific coast related to the smelt — called also *candlefish*

eu·la·mel·li·branch \ˌyü-lə-ˈmel-ə-ˌbraŋk\ *n, pl* **-branchs** [NL *Eulamellibranchia*, order name, fr. *eu-* + *Lamellibranchia*, class of mollusks — more at LAMELLIBRANCH] : any of an order (Eulamellibranchia) of lamellibranchiate bivalve mollusks with filamentous gills forming two continuous flattened layers on each side of the body — **eu·la·mel·li·bran·chi·ate** \-ˌmel-ə-ˈbraŋ-kē-ət\ *adj or n*

eu·lo·gist \ˈyü-lə-jəst\ *n* : one who eulogizes

eu·lo·gi·um \yü-ˈlō-jē-əm\ *n, pl* **-gia** \-jē-ə\ *or* **-gi·ums** [ML] : EULOGY

eu·lo·gize \ˈyü-lə-ˌjīz\ *vt* **-gized; -giz·ing** : to speak or write in high praise of : EXTOL — **eu·lo·giz·er** *n*

eu·lo·gy \ˈyü-lə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [ME *euloge*, fr. ML *eulogium*, fr. Gk *eulogia* praise, fr. *eu-* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a commendatory formal statement or set oration **2** : high praise ***syn*** see ENCOMIUM ***ant*** calumny, tirade — **eu·lo·gis·tic** \ˌyü-lə-ˈjis-tik\ *adj* — **eu·lo·gis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Eu·men·i·des \yü-ˈmen-ə-ˌdēz\ *n pl* [L, fr. Gk] : the Furies in Greek mythology

eu·mor·phic \(ˈ)yü-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* : MESOMORPHIC, ATHLETIC 3

eu·nuch \ˈyü-nək, -nik\ *n* [ME *eunuk*, fr. L *eunuchus*, fr. Gk *eunouchos*, fr. *eunē* bed + *echein* to have, have charge of — more at SCHEME] **1** : a castrated man placed in charge of a harem or employed as a chamberlain in a palace **2** : a man or boy deprived of the testes or external genitals — **eu·nuch·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

eu·nuch·oid \-ˌȯid\ *n* : a sexually deficient individual; *esp* : one lacking in sexual differentiation and tending toward the intersex state — **eunuchoid** *adj*

eu·on·y·mus \yü-ˈän-ə-məs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *euonymos* spindle tree, fr. Gk *euōnymos*, fr. *euōnymos* having an auspicious name, fr. *eu-* + *onyma* name — more at NAME] : any of a genus (*Euonymus*) of often evergreen shrubs, small trees, or vines of the staff tree family — called also *spindle tree*

eu·pa·trid \yü-ˈpa-trəd, ˈyü-pə-\ *n, pl* **eu·pat·ri·dae** \yü-ˈpa-trə-ˌdē\ *often cap* [Gk *eupatridēs*, fr. *eu-* + *patr-, patēr* father — more at FATHER] : one of the hereditary aristocrats of ancient Athens

eu·pep·sia \yü-ˈpep-shə, -sē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *eu-* + *-pepsia* (as in *dyspepsia*)] : good digestion

eu·pep·tic \-ˈpep-tik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having good digestion **2** : CHEERFUL, OPTIMISTIC — **eu·pep·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·phau·si·id \yü-'fȯ-zē-əd\ *n* [NL *Euphausia*, genus of crustaceans] : any of an order (Euphausiacea) of small usu. luminescent malacostracan crustaceans that resemble shrimps and in some areas form an important element in marine plankton — **euphausiid** *adj*

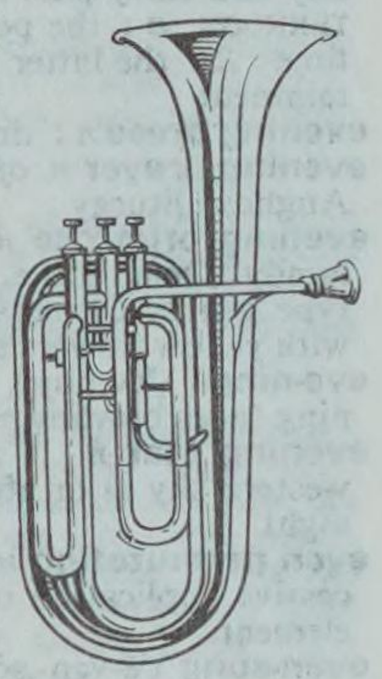
eu·phe·mism \'yü-fə-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* [Gk *euphēmismos*, fr. *euphēmos* auspicious, sounding good, fr. *eu-* + *phēmē* speech, fr. *phanai* to speak — more at BAN] : the substitution of an agreeable or inoffensive expression for one that may offend or suggest something unpleasant; *also* : the expression so substituted ⟨that vandalism which goes under the ~ of souvenir hunting —*Saturday Rev.*⟩ — **eu·phe·mis·tic** \ˌyü-fə-'mis-tik\ *adj* — **eu·phe·mis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·phe·mize \'yü-fə-ˌmīz\ *vb* **-mized; -miz·ing** *vt* : to express by a euphemism ⟨the uneasy effort in America to ~ death —W. J. Fisher⟩ ~ *vi* : to make use of euphemistic expressions — **eu·phemiz·er** *n*

eu·phen·ics \yü-'fen-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [*eu-* + *phen-* (fr. *phenotype*) + *-ics*; after E *genotype: eugenics*] : a science that deals with the biological improvement of human beings after birth — **euphen·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

eu·pho·ni·ous \yü-'fō-nē-əs\ *adj* : pleasing to the ear — **eu·pho·ni·ous·ly** *adv* — **eu·pho·ni·ous·ness** *n* — **eu·pho·nize** \'yü-fə-ˌnīz\ *vt*

eu·pho·ni·um \yü-'fō-nē-əm\ *n* [Gk *euphōnos* + E *-ium* (as in *harmonium*)] : a brass instrument having a conical bore, a cup-shaped mouthpiece, and a range from B flat below the bass staff upward for three octaves



euphonium

eu·pho·ny \'yü-fə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [F *euphonie*, fr. LL *euphonia*, fr. Gk *euphōnia*, fr. *euphōnos* sweet-voiced, musical, fr. *eu-* + *phōnē* voice — more at BAN] **1** : pleasing or sweet sound; *esp* : the acoustic effect produced by words so formed or combined as to please the ear **2** : a harmonious succession of words having a pleasing sound — **eu·phon·ic** \yü-'fän-ik\ *adj* — **eu·phon·ical·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·phor·bia \yü-'fȯr-bē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, alter. of L *euphorbea* euphorbia, fr. *Euphorbus*, 1st cent. A.D. physician] : any of a large genus (*Euphorbia* of the family Euphorbiaceae) of plants that have a milky juice and flowers lacking a calyx and included in an involucre which surrounds a group of several staminate flowers and a central pistillate flower with 3-lobed pistils; *broadly* : SPURGE

eu·pho·ria \yü-'fōr-ē-ə, -'fȯr-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *euphoros* healthy, fr. *eu-* + *pherein* to bear — more at BEAR] : a feeling of well-being or elation — **eu·phor·ic** \-'fȯr-ik, -'fär-\ *adj* — **eu·phor·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·pho·tic \yü-'fōt-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or constituting the upper layers of a body of water into which sufficient light penetrates to permit growth of green plants

Eu·phros·y·ne \yü-'fräs-ᵊn-(ˌ)ē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Euphrosynē*] : one of the three Graces

eu·phu·ism \'yü-fyə-ˌwiz-əm\ *n* [*Euphues*, character in prose romances by John Lyly] **1** : an elegant Elizabethan literary style marked by excessive use of balance, antithesis, and alliteration and by frequent use of similes drawn from mythology and nature **2** : artificial elegance of language — **eu·phu·ist** \-wəst\ *n* — **eu·phu·is·tic** \ˌyü-fyə-'wis-tik\ *adj* — **eu·phu·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

eu·plas·tic \yü-'plas-tik\ *adj* : adapted to the formation of tissue : BLASTEMATIC

eu·ploid \'yü-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : having a chromosome number that is an exact multiple of the monoploid number — compare ANEUPLOID — **euploid** *n* — **eu·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*

eup·nea *also* **eup·noea** \'yüp-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *eupnoia*, fr. *eupnous* breathing freely, fr. *eu-* + *pnein* to breathe — more at SNEEZE] : normal respiration — **eup·ne·ic** \-nē-ik\ *adj*

Eur *abbr* Europe; European

Eur- *or* **Euro-** *comb form* [*Europe*] : European and ⟨*Eur*american⟩

Eur·amer·i·can \ˌyůr-ə-'mer-ə-kən\ *or* **Eu·ro–Amer·i·can** \ˌyůr-ō-ə-'mer-\ *adj* : common to Europe and America ⟨culture patterns that are variants of our common ~ culture —W. H. Wickwar⟩

Eur·asian \yů-'rā-zhən, -shən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Europe and Asia **2** : of a mixed European and Asiatic origin — **Eurasian** *n*

eu·re·ka \yů-'rē-kə\ *interj* [Gk *heurēka* I have found, fr. *heuriskein* to find; fr. the exclamation attributed to Archimedes on discovering a method for determining the purity of gold — more at HEURISTIC] — used to express triumph on a discovery

eu·ro \'yů(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **euros** [native name in Australia] : a large reddish gray kangaroo (*Macrobus robustus*)

Eu·ro·bond \'yůr-ō-ˌbänd\ *n* [*Europe* + *bond*] : a bond of a U.S. corporation that is sold outside the U.S. and that is denominated and paid for in dollars and yields interest in dollars

Eu·ro·crat \'yůr-ə-ˌkrat\ *n* [*Europe*an Common Market + *-crat* (as in *bureaucrat*)] : a staff member of the administrative commission of the European Common Market

Eu·ro·dol·lar \'yůr-ō-ˌdäl-ər\ *n* [*Europe* + *dollar*] : a U.S. dollar held (as by a bank) outside the U.S. and esp. in Europe

Eu·ro·pa \yů-'rō-pə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Eurōpē*] : a Phoenician princess carried off by Zeus in the form of a white bull and by him mother of Minos, Rhadamanthus, and Sarpedon

Eu·ro·pe·an \ˌyůr-ə-'pē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Europe **2** : a person of European descent — **European** *adj* — **Eu·ro·pe·an·iza·tion** \-ˌpē-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **Eu·ro·pe·an·ize** \-'pē-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt*

European chafer *n* : an Old World beetle (*Amphimallon majalis*) now established in parts of eastern No. America where its larva is a destructive pest on the roots of turf grasses

European corn borer *n* : an Old World moth (*Ostrinia nubilalis*) that is widespread in eastern No. America where its larva is a major pest esp. in the stems and crowns of Indian corn, dahlias, and potatoes

European plan *n* : a hotel plan whereby the daily rates cover only the cost of the room — compare AMERICAN PLAN

European red mite *n* : a small bright or brownish red oval mite (*Panonychus ulmi*) that is a destructive orchard pest

eu·ro·pi·um \yů-'rō-pē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *Europa* Europe] : a bivalent and trivalent metallic element of the rare-earth group found in monazite sand — see ELEMENT table

Eu·ro·po·cen·tric \yů-ˌrō-pə-'sen-trik\ *adj* [*Europe* + E *-o-* + *-centric*] : centered on Europe and the Europeans ⟨world history texts . . . showed a markedly ~ orientation —J. W. Hall⟩ — **Eu·ro·po·cen·trism** \-ˌtriz-əm\ *n*

eury- *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *eurys*; akin to Skt *uru* broad, wide] : broad : wide ⟨*eury*haline⟩

eu·ry·bath·ic \ˌyůr-i-'bath-ik\ *adj* [*eury-* + Gk *bathos* depth] : capable of living on the bottom in both deep and shallow water ⟨~ gastropods⟩

Eu·ryd·i·ce \yů-'rid-ə-(ˌ)sē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Eurydikē*] : the wife of Orpheus whom according to Greek myth he nearly succeeds in bringing back from Hades to the land of the living

eu·ry·ha·line \ˌyůr-i-'hā-ˌlīn, -'hal-ˌīn\ *adj* [ISV *eury-* + Gk *halinos* of salt, fr. *hals* salt — more at SALT] : able to live in waters of a wide range of salinity

eu·ryp·ter·id \yů-'rip-tə-rəd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *eury-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : any of an order (Eurypterida) of usu. large aquatic Paleozoic arthropods related to the king crabs — **eurypterid** *adj*

eu·ry·therm \'yůr-i-ˌthərm\ *n* [prob. fr. G *eurytherm* eurythermal, fr. *eury-* + Gk *thermē* heat] : an organism that tolerates a wide range of temperature — **eu·ry·ther·mal** \ˌyůr-i-'thər-məl\ *or* **eu·ry·ther·mic** \-mik\ *or* **eu·ry·ther·mous** \-məs\ *adj*

eu·ryth·mic *or* **eu·rhyth·mic** \yů-'rith-mik\ *adj* **1** : HARMONIOUS **2** : of or relating to eurythmy or eurythmics

eu·ryth·mics *or* **eu·rhyth·mics** \-miks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the art of harmonious bodily movement esp. through expressive timed movements in response to improvised music

eu·ryth·my *or* **eu·rhyth·my** \-mē\ *n* [G *eurhythmie*, fr. L *eurythmia* rhythmical movement, fr. Gk, fr. *eurythmos* rhythmical, fr. *eu-* + *rhythmos* rhythm] : a system of harmonious body movement to the rhythm of spoken words

eu·ry·top·ic \ˌyůr-i-'täp-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. G *eurytop*, fr. *eury-* + Gk *topos* place] : tolerant of wide variation in one or more physical factors of the environment — **eu·ry·to·pic·i·ty** \-tō-'pis-ət-ē, -tä-\ *n*

eu·sta·chian tube \yů-ˌstā-sh(ē-)ən- *also* -ˌstā-kē-ən-\ *n, often cap E* [Bartolommeo *Eustachio*] : a bony and cartilaginous tube connecting the middle ear with the nasopharynx and equalizing air pressure on both sides of the tympanic membrane — see EAR illustration

eu·stat·ic \yů-'stat-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to or characterized by worldwide change of sea level

eu·stele \'yü-ˌstēl, yů-'stē-lē\ *n* : a stele in which the vascular cylinder is broken at leaf emergences and by interfascicular areas

eu·tec·tic \yů-'tek-tik\ *adj* [Gk *eutēktos* easily melted, fr. *eu-* + *tēktos* melted, fr. *tēkein* to melt — more at THAW] **1** *of an alloy or solution* : having the lowest melting point possible **2** : of or relating to a eutectic alloy or solution or its melting or freezing point — **eutectic** *n* — **eu·tec·toid** \-ˌtȯid\ *adj or n*

Eu·ter·pe \yů-'tər-pē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Euterpē*] : the Greek Muse of music

eu·tha·na·sia \ˌyü-thə-'nā-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [Gk, easy death, fr. *eu-* + *thanatos* death — more at THANATOS] : the act or practice of killing individuals (as persons or domestic animals) that are hopelessly sick or injured for reasons of mercy — **eu·tha·na·sic** \-zik, -sik\ *adj*

eu·then·ics \yů-'then-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [Gk *euthenein* to thrive, fr. *eu-* + *-thenein* (akin to Skt *āhanas* swelling)] : a science that deals with development of human well-being by improvement of living conditions — **eu·the·nist** \yů-'then-əst, 'yü-thə-nəst\ *n*

eu·the·ri·an \yů-'thir-ē-ən\ *adj* [deriv. of NL *eu-* + Gk *thērion* beast — more at TREACLE] : of or relating to a major division (Eutheria) of mammals comprising the placental mammals — **eutherian** *n*

eu·thy·roid \(ˌ)yü-'thī-ˌrȯid\ *adj* : characterized by normal thyroid function

eu·tro·phic \yů-'trō-fik\ *adj* [prob. fr. G *eutroph* eutrophic, fr. Gk *eutrophos* well nourished, nourishing, fr. *eu-* + *trephein* to nourish — more at ATROPHY] *of a body of water* : rich in dissolved nutrients (as phosphates) but often shallow and seasonally deficient in oxygen — compare MESOTROPHIC, OLIGOTROPHIC — **eu·tro·phi·ca·tion** \-ˌtrō-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **eu·tro·phy** \'yü-trə-fē\ *n*

EV *abbr* electron volt

EVA *abbr* extravehicular activity

evac·u·ate \i-'vak-yə-ˌwāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *evacuatus*, pp. of *evacuare*, fr. *e-* + *vacuus* empty — more at VACUUM] *vt* **1** : to remove the contents of : EMPTY **2** : to discharge from the body as waste : VOID **3** : to remove something (as gas or water) from esp. by pumping **4 a** : to remove esp. from a military zone or dangerous area **b** : to withdraw from military occupation of **c** : VACATE ⟨were ordered to ~ the building⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to withdraw from a place in an organized way esp. for protection **2** : to pass urine or feces from the body — **evac·u·a·tive** \-ˌwāt-iv\ *adj*

evac·u·a·tion \i-ˌvak-yə-ˈwā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of evacuating **2** : something evacuated or discharged
evac·u·ee \i-ˌvak-yə-ˈwē\ *n* : an evacuated person
evade \i-ˈvād\ *vb* **evad·ed; evad·ing** [MF & L; MF *evader*, fr. L *evadere*, fr. *e-* + *vadere* to go, walk — more at WADE] *vi* **1** : to slip away **2** : to take refuge in evasion ~ *vt* **1** : to elude by dexterity or stratagem **2** **a** : to avoid facing up to ⟨*evaded* the real issues⟩ **b** : to avoid the performance of : DODGE, CIRCUMVENT; *esp* : to fail to pay (taxes) **c** : to avoid answering directly : turn aside **3** : to be elusive to : BAFFLE ⟨the simple, personal meaning *evaded* them —C. D. Lewis⟩ ***syn*** see ESCAPE — **evad·able** \-ˈvād-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **evad·er** *n*
evag·i·na·tion \i-ˌvaj-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* [LL *evagination-*, *evaginatio*, act of unsheathing, fr. L *evaginare* to unsheathe, fr. *e-* + *vagina* sheath] **1** : an act or instance of everting **2** : a product of eversion : OUTGROWTH
eval·u·ate \i-ˈval-yə-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [back-formation fr. *evaluation*] **1** : to determine or fix the value of **2** : to determine the significance or worth of usu. by careful appraisal and study ⟨~ a new antibiotic⟩ ***syn*** see ESTIMATE — **eval·u·a·tion** \-ˌval-yə-ˈwā-shən\ *n* — **eval·u·a·tive** \-ˈval-yə-ˌwāt-iv\ *adj* — **eval·u·a·tor** \-ˌwāt-ər\ *n*
ev·a·nesce \ˌev-ə-ˈnes\ *vi* **-nesced; -nesc·ing** [L *evanescere* — more at VANISH] : to dissipate like vapor
ev·a·nes·cence \ˌev-ə-ˈnes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the process or fact of evanescing **2** : evanescent quality
ev·a·nes·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *evanescent-*, *evanescens*, prp. of *evanescere*] : tending to vanish like vapor ***syn*** see TRANSIENT
¹evan·gel \i-ˈvan-jəl\ *n* [ME *evangile*, fr. MF, fr. LL *evangelium*, fr. Gk *euangelion* good news, gospel, fr. *euangelos* bringing good news, fr. *eu-* + *angelos* messenger] : GOSPEL
²evangel *n* : EVANGELIST
evan·gel·i·cal \ˌē-ˌvan-ˈjel-i-kəl, ˌev-ən-\ *also* **evan·gel·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being in agreement with the Christian gospel esp. as it is presented in the four Gospels **2** : PROTESTANT **3** : emphasizing salvation by faith in the atoning death of Jesus Christ through personal conversion, the authority of Scripture, and the importance of preaching as contrasted with ritual **4** **a** *cap* : of or relating to the Evangelical Church in Germany **b** *often cap* : of, adhering to, or marked by fundamentalism : FUNDAMENTALIST **c** *often cap* : Low Church **5** : marked by militant or crusading zeal : EVANGELISTIC, ZEALOUS ⟨the ~ ardor of the movement's leaders —Amos Vogel⟩ — **Evan·gel·i·cal·ism** \-i-kə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* — **evan·gel·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Evangelical *n* : one holding evangelical principles or belonging to an evangelical party or church
evan·ge·lism \i-ˈvan-jə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : the winning or revival of personal commitments to Christ **2** : militant or crusading zeal — **evan·ge·lis·tic** \-ˌvan-jə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj* — **evan·ge·lis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
evan·ge·list \i-ˈvan-jə-ləst\ *n* **1** *often cap* : a writer of any of the four Gospels **2** : one who evangelizes; *specif* : a Protestant minister or layman who preaches at special services
evan·ge·lize \i-ˈvan-jə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lized; -liz·ing** *vt* **1** : to preach the gospel to **2** : to convert to Christianity ~ *vi* : to preach the gospel — **evan·ge·li·za·tion** \-ˌvan-jə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
evan·ish \i-ˈvan-ish\ *vi* [ME *evanisshen*, fr. MF *evaniss-*, stem of *evanir*] : VANISH — **evan·ish·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
evap *abbr* evaporate
evap·o·rate \i-ˈvap-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [ME *evaporaten*, fr. L *evaporatus*, pp. of *evaporare*, fr. *e-* + *vapor* steam, vapor] *vi* **1** **a** : to pass off in vapor or in invisible minute particles **b** (1) : to pass off or away : DISAPPEAR ⟨my despair *evaporated* —J. F. Wharton⟩ (2) : to diminish quickly **2** : to give forth vapor ~ *vt* **1** **a** : to convert into vapor; *also* : to dissipate or draw off in vapor or fumes **b** : to deposit (as a metal) in the form of a film by sublimation **2** **a** : to expel moisture from **b** : EXPEL ⟨~ electrons from a hot wire⟩ — **evap·o·ra·tion** \-ˌvap-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* — **evap·o·ra·tive** \-ˈvap-ə-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj* — **evap·o·ra·tive·ly** *adv* — **evap·o·ra·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌvap-ə-rə-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n* — **evap·o·ra·tor** \-ˈvap-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
evaporated milk *n* : milk concentrated by evaporation without the addition of sugar to one half or less of its bulk and usu. to a specified amount of milk fat and milk solids
evap·o·rite \i-ˈvap-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [*evapor*ation + *-ite*] : a sedimentary rock (as gypsum) that originates by evaporation of sea water in an enclosed basin — **evap·o·rit·ic** \-ˌvap-ə-ˈrit-ik\ *adj*
evapo·trans·pi·ra·tion \i-ˈvap-ō-ˌtran(t)-spə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* [*evapor*ation + *transpiration*] : loss of water from the soil both by evaporation and by transpiration from the plants growing thereon
eva·sion \i-ˈvā-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *evasion-*, *evasio*, fr. L *evasus*, pp. of *evadere* to evade] **1** : the act or an instance of evading : ESCAPE ⟨suspected of tax ~⟩ **2** : a means of evading : DODGE
eva·sive \i-ˈvā-siv, -ziv\ *adj* : tending or intended to evade : EQUIVOCAL ⟨~ answers⟩ — **eva·sive·ly** *adv* — **eva·sive·ness** *n*
eve \ˈēv\ *n* [ME *eve*, *even*] **1** : EVENING **2** : the evening or the day before a special day **3** : the period immediately preceding
Eve \ˈēv\ *n* [OE *Ēfe*, fr. LL *Eva*, fr. Heb *Ḥawwāh*] : the first woman and wife of Adam
evec·tion \i-ˈvek-shən\ *n* [L *evection-*, *evectio* rising, fr. *evectus*, pp. of *evehere* to carry out, raise up, fr. *e-* + *vehere* to carry — more at WAY] : perturbation of the moon's orbital motion due to the attraction of the sun
¹even \ˈē-vən\ *n* [ME, *even*, *eve*, fr. OE *æfen*] *archaic* : EVENING
²even *adj* [ME, fr. OE *efen*; akin to OHG *eban* even] **1** **a** : having a horizontal surface : FLAT ⟨~ ground⟩ **b** : being without break, indentation, roughness, or other irregularity : SMOOTH **c** : being in the same plane or line **2** **a** : free from irregularity or variation : UNIFORM ⟨his disposition was ~⟩ **b** : LEVEL 4 **3** **a** *obs* : CANDID **b** : EQUAL, FAIR ⟨an ~ exchange⟩ **c** (1) : leaving nothing due on either side : SQUARE ⟨we will not be ~ until you repay my visit⟩ (2) : fully revenged **d** : being in equilibrium : BALANCED; *specif* : showing neither profit nor loss **4** **a** : being one of the sequence of natural numbers beginning with two and counting by twos that are exactly divisible by two **b** : marked by an even number **5** : EXACT, PRECISE ⟨an ~ dollar⟩ **6** : as likely as not : FIFTY-FIFTY ⟨he stands an ~ chance of winning⟩ ***syn*** **1** see LEVEL ***ant*** uneven **2** see STEADY ***ant*** uneven — **even·ly** *adv* — **even·ness** \-vən-nəs\ *n*
³even *adv* [ME, fr. OE *efne*, fr. *efen*, adj.] **1** **a** : EXACTLY, PRECISELY **b** : to a degree that extends : FULLY, QUITE ⟨faithful ~ unto death⟩ **c** : at the very time **2** **a** — used as an intensive to emphasize the identity or character of something ⟨he looked content, ~ happy⟩ **b** — used as an intensive to indicate something unexpected ⟨refused ~ to look at her⟩ **c** — used as an intensive to stress the comparative degree ⟨he did ~ better⟩
⁴even *vb* **evened; even·ing** \ˈēv-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make even ~ *vi* : to become even — **even·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*
even·fall \ˈē-vən-ˌfȯl\ *n* : the beginning of evening : DUSK
even function *n* : a function such that $f(x) = f(-x)$ where the value remains unchanged if the sign of the independent variable is reversed
even·hand·ed \ˌē-vən-ˈhan-dəd\ *adj* : FAIR, IMPARTIAL — **even·hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **even·hand·ed·ness** *n*
eve·ning \ˈēv-niŋ\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *æfnung*, fr. *æfnian* to grow toward evening, fr. *æfen* evening; akin to OHG *āband* evening and perh. to Gk *epi* on] **1** **a** : the latter part and close of the day and early part of the night **b** *chiefly South & Midland* : AFTERNOON **c** : the period from sunset or the evening meal to bedtime **2** : the latter portion **3** : the period of an evening's entertainment
evening dress *n* : dress for evening social occasions
evening prayer *n, often cap E & P* : the daily evening office of the Anglican liturgy
evening primrose *n* : any of several dicotyledonous plants of a family (Onagraceae, the evening-primrose family) and esp. of the type genus (*Oenothera*); *esp* : a coarse biennial herb (*O. biennis*) with yellow flowers that open in the evening
eve·nings \ˈēv-niŋz\ *adv* : in the evening repeatedly : on any evening ⟨goes bowling ~⟩
evening star *n* **1** : a bright planet (as Venus) seen esp. in the western sky at or after sunset **2** : a planet that rises before midnight
even permutation *n* : a permutation that is produced by the successive application of an even number of interchanges of pairs of elements
even·song \ˈē-vən-ˌsȯŋ\ *n, often cap* [ME, fr. OE *æfensang*, fr. *æfen* even + *sang* song] **1** : VESPERS 1 **2** : EVENING PRAYER
event \i-ˈvent\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *eventus*, fr. *eventus*, pp. of *evenire* to happen, fr. *e-* + *venire* to come — more at COME] **1** **a** : something that happens : OCCURRENCE **b** : a noteworthy happening **c** : a social occasion or activity **2** **a** *archaic* : OUTCOME **b** : the issue of a legal action as finally determined **c** : a postulated outcome, condition, or eventuality ⟨in the ~ that I am not there, call the house⟩ **3** : any of the contests in a program of sports **4** : the fundamental entity of observed physical reality represented by a point designated by three coordinates of place and one of time in the space-time continuum postulated by the theory of relativity **5** : a subset of the possible outcomes of an experiment ⟨7 is an ~ in the throwing of two dice⟩ ***syn*** see EFFECT, OCCURRENCE — **event·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **at all events** : in any case — **in any event** : in any case — **in the event** *Brit* : as it turns out
event·ful \i-ˈvent-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of or rich in events **2** : MOMENTOUS — **event·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **event·ful·ness** *n*
even·tide \ˈē-vən-ˌtīd\ *n* : the time of evening : EVENING
even·tu·al \i-ˈvench-(ə-)wəl, -ˈven-chəl\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : CONTINGENT, CONDITIONAL **2** : taking place at an unspecified later time : ultimately resulting ⟨they counted on his ~ success⟩ ***syn*** see LAST — **even·tu·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
even·tu·al·i·ty \i-ˌven-chə-ˈwal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : a possible event or outcome : POSSIBILITY
even·tu·ate \i-ˈven-chə-ˌwāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to come out finally : RESULT ⟨emotional growth . . . ~*s* in balance and control — *Encyc. Americana*⟩
ev·er \ˈev-ər\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *æfre*] **1** : ALWAYS ⟨~ striving to improve⟩ ⟨the *ever*-increasing population⟩ **2** **a** : at any time ⟨more than ~ before⟩ **b** : in any way ⟨how can I ~ thank you⟩ **3** — used as an intensive esp. with *so* ⟨looks ~ so angry⟩
ev·er·bloom·ing \ˌev-ər-ˈblü-miŋ\ *adj* : blooming more or less continuously throughout the growing season
ev·er·glade \ˈev-ər-ˌglād\ *n* [the *Everglades*, Fla.] : a swampy grassland esp. in southern Florida usu. containing sawgrass and at least seasonally covered by slowly moving water — usu. used in pl.
¹ev·er·green \ˈev-ər-ˌgrēn\ *adj* **1** : having foliage that remains green and functional through more than one growing season — compare DECIDUOUS **2** : ever retaining its freshness, interest, or popularity : PERENNIAL, ENDURING ⟨the ~ hope of discovering the consummate woman —A. L. Burt⟩
²evergreen *n* **1** : an evergreen plant; *also* : CONIFER **2** *pl* : twigs and branches of evergreen plants used for decoration **3** : something that retains its freshness, interest, or popularity
evergreen oak *n* : any of various oaks (as a holm oak or tan oak) with foliage that persists for two years so that the plant is more or less continuously green
¹ev·er·last·ing \ˌev-ər-ˈlas-tiŋ\ *adj* **1** : lasting or enduring through all time : ETERNAL **2** **a** (1) : continuing long or indefinitely (2) *of a plant* : retaining its form or color for a long time when dried **b** : tediously persistent ⟨the ~ sympathy-seeker who demands attention —H. A. Overstreet⟩ **3** : wearing indefinitely — **ev·er·last·ing·ly** \-tiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **ev·er·last·ing·ness** *n*
²everlasting *n* **1** *cap* : GOD 1 — used with *the* **2** : ETERNITY ⟨from ~⟩ **3** **a** : any of several chiefly composite plants (as cudweed) with flowers that can be dried without loss of form or color **b** : the flower of an everlasting
ev·er·more \ˌev-ər-ˈmō(ə)r, -ˈmȯ(ə)r\ *adv* **1** : ALWAYS, FOREVER **2** : in the future

evert \i-'vərt\ *vt* [L *evertere*, fr. *e-* + *vertere* to turn — more at WORTH] **1** : OVERTHROW, UPSET **2** : to turn outward or inside out — **ever·si·ble** \-'vər-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **ever·sion** \-zhən, -shən\ *n*

ev·ery \'ev-rē\ *adj* [ME *everich, every*, fr. OE *æfre ælc*, fr. *æfre* ever + *ælc* each] **1** : being each individual or part of a group without exception **2** *obs* : being all taken severally **3** : being each within a range of possibilities ⟨was given ~ chance⟩ **4** : COMPLETE, ENTIRE — **every now and then** *or* **every now and again** *or* **every so often** : at intervals : OCCASIONALLY

ev·ery·body \'ev-ri-ˌbäd-ē, -bəd-\ *pron* : every person : EVERYONE

ev·ery·day \ˌev-rē-ˌdā\ *adj* : encountered or used routinely or typically : ORDINARY ⟨clothes for ~ wear⟩ — **ev·ery·day·ness** \-'dā-nəs\ *n*

ev·ery·man \'ev-rē-ˌman\ *n* [*Everyman*, allegorical character in *The Summoning of Everyman*, 15th cent. E morality play] *often cap* : the typical or ordinary man ⟨an *Everyman*, always tempted, always guileless, always rueful —Walter Terry⟩

ev·ery·one \-(ˌ)wən\ *pron* : EVERYBODY

ev·ery·place \-ˌplās\ *adv* : EVERYWHERE

ev·ery·thing \'ev-rē-ˌthiŋ\ *pron* **1 a** : all that exists **b** : all that relates to the subject **2** : something that is most important or excellent : all that counts ⟨he meant ~ to her⟩

ev·ery·where \'ev-rē-ˌ(h)we(ə)r, -ˌ(h)wa(ə)r\ *adv* : in every place or part

every which way \ˌev-rē-'hwich-ˌwā, -'wich-\ *adv* [prob. by folk etymology fr. ME *everich way* every way] **1** : in every direction **2** : in a disorderly manner : IRREGULARLY ⟨toys scattered about *every which way*⟩

evg *abbr* evening

evict \i-'vikt\ *vt* [ME *evicten*, fr. LL *evictus*, pp. of *evincere*, fr. L, to vanquish, win a point — more at EVINCE] **1 a** : to recover (property) from a person by legal process **b** : to put (a tenant) out by legal process **2** : to force out : EXPEL ***syn*** see EJECT — **evic·tion** \-'vik-shən\ *n* — **evic·tor** \-'vik-tər\ *n*

evict·ee \i-ˌvik-'tē\ *n* : an evicted person

¹ev·i·dence \'ev-əd-ən(t)s, -ə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : an outward sign : INDICATION **b** : something that furnishes proof : TESTIMONY; *specif* : something legally submitted to a tribunal to ascertain the truth of a matter **2** : one who bears witness; *esp* : one who voluntarily confesses a crime and testifies for the prosecution against his accomplices — **in evidence** **1** : to be seen : CONSPICUOUS ⟨trim lawns . . . are everywhere *in evidence* —*Amer. Guide Series: N.C.*⟩ **2** : as evidence

²evidence *vt* **-denced; -denc·ing** : to offer evidence of : PROVE, EVINCE ***syn*** see SHOW

ev·i·dent \'ev-əd-ənt, -ə-ˌdent\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *evident-, evidens*, fr. *e-* + *vident-, videns*, prp. of *vidēre* to see — more at WIT] : clear to the vision or understanding

syn EVIDENT, MANIFEST, PATENT, DISTINCT, OBVIOUS, APPARENT, PLAIN, CLEAR *shared meaning element* : readily perceived or apprehended. EVIDENT implies the presence of signs that point unmistakably to a conclusion ⟨her enjoyment of the music was *evident*⟩ MANIFEST implies signs so evident that little or no inference is needed ⟨the verdict is against the *manifest* weight of the evidence —L. B. Howard⟩ PATENT applies to a cause, effect, or significant feature that is clear and unmistakable once attention is drawn to it ⟨*patent* defects are those readily perceptible on inspection⟩ ⟨a *patent* lie⟩ DISTINCT implies such sharpness of outline or definition as makes discernment or identification easy ⟨a neat *distinct* handwriting⟩ OBVIOUS implies such ease in discovering or accounting for as may suggest conspicuity in the thing or little need of perspicuity in the observer ⟨his guilt was *obvious* to all⟩ APPARENT may add to *evident* the notion of recognition through more or less elaborate reasoning ⟨it is *apparent* from comparison of their stories that one of them is lying⟩ *Plain* and *clear* both apply to something that is immediately apprehended or unmistakably understood, but PLAIN implies lack of complexity or elaboration and CLEAR, an absence of anything that confuses or obscures ⟨told the *plain* truth⟩ ⟨gave a *clear* account of the accident⟩

ev·i·den·tial \ˌev-ə-'den-chəl\ *adj* : being, relating to, or affording evidence ⟨photographs of ~ value⟩ — **ev·i·den·tial·ly** \-'dench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ev·i·den·tia·ry \ˌev-ə-'den-chə-rē, -chē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* **1** : EVIDENTIAL **2** : conducted so that evidence may be presented ⟨an ~ hearing⟩

ev·i·dent·ly \'ev-əd-ənt-lē, -ə-ˌdent-, *esp for 2 often* ˌev-ə-'dent-\ *adv* **1** : in an evident manner : CLEARLY, OBVIOUSLY ⟨any style that is . . . so ~ bad or second-rate —T. S. Eliot⟩ **2** : on the basis of available evidence ⟨he was born . . . ~ in Texas —Robert Coughlan⟩

¹evil \'ē-vəl\ *adj* **evil·er** *or* **evil·ler; evil·est** *or* **evil·lest** [ME, fr. OE *yfel*; akin to OHG *ubil* evil] **1 a** : morally reprehensible : SINFUL, WICKED ⟨an ~ impulse⟩ **b** : arising from actual or imputed bad character or conduct ⟨a man of ~ reputation⟩ **2 a** *archaic* : INFERIOR **b** : causing discomfort or repulsion : OFFENSIVE ⟨an ~ odor⟩ **c** : DISAGREEABLE ⟨woke late and in an ~ temper⟩ **3 a** : causing harm : PERNICIOUS ⟨the ~ institution of slavery⟩ **b** : marked by misfortune : UNLUCKY ***syn*** see BAD ***ant*** exemplary, salutary — **evil** *adv, archaic* — **evil·ly** \-və(l)-lē\ *adv* — **evil·ness** \-vəl-nəs\ *n*

²evil *n* **1** : something that brings sorrow, distress, or calamity **2 a** : the fact of suffering, misfortune, and wrongdoing **b** : a cosmic evil force

evil·do·er \ˌē-vəl-'dü-ər\ *n* : one who does evil

evil·do·ing \-'dü-iŋ\ *n* : the act or action of doing evil

evil eye *n* : an eye or glance held capable of inflicting harm; *also* : a person believed to have such an eye or glance

evil–mind·ed \ˌē-vəl-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : having an evil disposition or evil thoughts — **evil–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **evil–mind·ed·ness** *n*

evince \i-'vin(t)s\ *vt* **evinced; evinc·ing** [L *evincere* to vanquish, win a point, fr. *e-* + *vincere* to conquer — more at VICTOR] **1** : to constitute outward evidence of **2** : to display clearly : REVEAL ***syn*** see SHOW — **evinc·ible** \-'vin(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj*

evis·cer·ate \i-'vis-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *evisceratus*, pp. of *eviscerare*, fr. *e-* + *viscera*] *vt* **1 a** : to take out the entrails of : DISEMBOWEL **b** : to deprive of vital content or force **2** : to remove an organ from (a patient) or the contents of (an organ) ~ *vi* : to protrude through a surgical incision or suffer protrusion of a part through an incision — **evis·cer·a·tion** \-ˌvis-ə-'rā-shən\ *n*

ev·i·ta·ble \'ev-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *evitabilis*, fr. *evitare* to avoid, fr. *e-* + *vitare* to shun] : capable of being avoided

evo·ca·ble \'ev-ə-kə-bəl, i-'vō-kə-\ *adj* : capable of being evoked

evo·ca·tion \ˌē-vō-'kā-shən, ˌev-ə-\ *n* [L *evocation-, evocatio*, fr. *evocatus*, pp. of *evocare*] **1** : the act or fact of evoking : SUMMONING: as **a** : the summoning of a spirit **b** : imaginative recreation ⟨a contemporary film rather than an ~ of the past —R. M. Coles⟩ **2** : INDUCTION 4e; *specif* : initiation of development of a primary embryonic axis — **evo·ca·tor** \'ē-vō-ˌkāt-ər, 'ev-ə-\ *n*

evoc·a·tive \i-'väk-ət-iv\ *adj* : tending or serving to evoke ⟨settings . . . so ~ that they bring tears to the eyes —Eric Malpass⟩ — **evoc·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **evoc·a·tive·ness** *n*

evoke \i-'vōk\ *vt* **evoked; evok·ing** [F *évoquer*, fr. L *evocare*, fr. *e-* + *vocare* to call — more at VOCATION] **1** : to call forth or up: as **a** : CONJURE 2a ⟨~ evil spirits⟩ **b** : to cite esp. with approval or for support : INVOKE **c** : to bring to mind or recollection ⟨this place ~*s* memories of happier years⟩ **2** : to re-create imaginatively ***syn*** see EDUCE

evo·lute \'ev-ə-ˌlüt *also* 'ē-və-\ *n* : the locus of the center of curvature or the envelope of the normals of a curve

evo·lu·tion \ˌev-ə-'lü-shən *also* ˌē-və-\ *n* [L *evolution-, evolutio* unrolling, fr. *evolutus*, pp. of *evolvere*] **1 a** : a process of change in a certain direction : UNFOLDING **b** : the action or an instance of forming and giving something off : EMISSION **c** (1) : a process of continuous change from a lower, simpler, or worse to a higher, more complex, or better state : GROWTH (2) : a process of gradual and relatively peaceful social, political, and economic advance **d** : something evolved **2** : one of a set of prescribed movements **3** : the process of working out or developing **4** : the extraction of a mathematical root **5 a** : the historical development of a biological group (as a race or species) : PHYLOGENY **b** : a theory that the various types of animals and plants have their origin in other preexisting types and that the distinguishable differences are due to modifications in successive generations **6** : a process in which the whole universe is a progression of interrelated phenomena — **evo·lu·tion·ar·i·ly** \-shə-ˌner-ə-lē\ *adv* — **evo·lu·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* — **evo·lu·tion·ism** \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **evo·lu·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj*

evolve \i-'välv, -'vȯlv\ *vb* **evolved; evolv·ing** [L *evolvere* to unroll, fr. *e-* + *volvere* to roll — more at VOLUBLE] *vt* **1** : to give off : EMIT **2 a** : DERIVE, EDUCE **b** : to work out : DEVELOP ⟨~ social, political, and literary philosophies —L. W. Doob⟩ **c** : to produce by natural evolutionary processes ~ *vi* : to undergo evolutionary change — **evolv·able** \-'väl-və-bəl, -'vȯl-\ *adj* — **evolve·ment** \-'välv-mənt, -'vȯlv-\ *n*

evon·y·mus \i-'vän-ə-məs, e-\ *n* : EUONYMUS

EVR *abbr* electronic video recorder, electronic video recording

evul·sion \i-'vəl-shən\ *n* [L *evulsion-, evulsio*, fr. *evulsus*, pp. of *evellere* to pluck out, fr. *e-* + *vellere* to pluck — more at VULNERABLE] : EXTRACTION

ev·zone \'ev-ˌzōn\ *n* [NGk *euzōnos*, fr. Gk, active, lit., well girt, fr. *eu-* + *zōnē* girdle — more at ZONE] : a member of a select Greek infantry unit

EW *abbr* enlisted woman

ewe \'yü, 'yō\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ēowu*] : the female of the sheep esp. when mature; *also* : the female of various related animals

Ewe \'ā-ˌwā, 'ā-ˌvā\ *n* : a Kwa language of Ghana and Togo

ewe–neck \-'nek\ *n* : a thin neck having an insufficient, faulty, or concave arch and occurring as a defect in dogs and horses — **ewe–necked** \-'nekt\ *adj*

ew·er \'yü-ər, 'yu̇(-ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. OF *evier*, fr. (assumed) VL *aquarium*, fr. L, neut. of *aquarius* of water, fr. *aqua* water — more at ISLAND] : a vase-shaped pitcher or jug



ewer

¹ex \'eks\ *n* [¹*ex-*] : one that formerly held a specified position or place; *esp* : a former spouse

²ex \(ˌ)eks\ *prep* [L] **1** : out of : FROM: as **a** : from a specified place or source **b** : from a specified dam ⟨a promising calf by Eric XVI ~ Heatherbell⟩ **2** : free from : WITHOUT: as **a** : without an indicated value or right — used esp. of securities **b** : free of charges precedent to removal from the specified place with purchaser to provide means of subsequent transportation ⟨~ dock⟩

³ex \'eks\ *n* : the letter *x*

⁴ex *abbr* **1** example **2** exchange **3** executive **4** express **5** extra

Ex *abbr* Exodus

¹ex- \e *also occurs in this prefix where only* i *is shown below* (*as in "express"*) *and* ks *sometimes occurs where only* gz *is shown* (*as in "exact"*)\ *prefix* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L (also, intensive prefix), fr. *ex* out of, from; akin to Gk *ex, ex-* out of, from, OSlav *iz*] **1** : out of : outside ⟨*ex*clave⟩ **2** : not ⟨*ex*stipulate⟩ **3** \(ˌ)eks, 'eks\ [ME, fr. LL, fr. L] : former ⟨*ex*-president⟩ ⟨*ex*-child actor⟩

²ex- — see EXO-

ex·ac·er·bate \ig-'zas-ər-ˌbāt\ *vt* **-bat·ed; -bat·ing** [L *exacerbatus*, pp. of *exacerbare*, fr. *ex-* + *acerbus* harsh, bitter, fr. *acer* sharp — more at EDGE] : to make more violent, bitter, or severe ⟨the proposed shutdown . . . would ~ unemployment problems —*Science*⟩ — **ex·ac·er·ba·tion** \-ˌzas-ər-'bā-shən\ *n*

1ex·act \ig-'zakt\ *vt* [ME *exacten*, fr. L *exactus*, pp. of *exigere* to drive out, demand, measure, fr. *ex-* + *agere* to drive — more at AGENT] **1** : to call for forcibly or urgently and obtain : press for ⟨from them has been ~*ed* the ultimate sacrifice —D. D. Eisenhower⟩ **2** : to call for as necessary, appropriate, or desirable ***syn*** see DEMAND — **ex·act·able** \-'zak-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·ac·tor** *also* **ex·act·er** \-'zak-tər\ *n*

2exact *adj* [L *exactus*, fr. pp. of *exigere*] **1** : exhibiting or marked by strict, particular, and complete accordance with fact **2** : marked by thorough consideration or minute measurement of small factual details ***syn*** see CORRECT ***ant*** inexact — **exact·ness** \-'zak(t)-nəs\ *n*

ex·ac·ta \ig-'zak-tə\ *n* [AmerSp *quiniela exacta* exact quiniela] : PERFECTA

exact differential *n* : a differential expression of the form $X_1dx_1 + \ldots + X_ndx_n$ where the X's are the partial derivatives of a function $f(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ with respect to $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ respectively

ex·act·ing \ig-'zak-tiŋ\ *adj* **1** : tryingly or unremittingly severe in making demands **2** : requiring careful attention and precise accuracy ***syn*** see ONEROUS — **ex·act·ing·ly** \-tiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **ex·act·ing·ness** *n*

ex·ac·tion \ig-'zak-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of exacting **b** : EXTORTION **2** : something exacted; *esp* : a fee, reward, or contribution demanded or levied with severity or injustice

ex·ac·ti·tude \ig-'zak-tə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* : the quality or an instance of being exact : EXACTNESS

ex·act·ly \ig-'zak-(t)lē\ *adv* **1 a** : in an exact manner : PRECISELY **b** : ALTOGETHER, ENTIRELY ⟨not ~ what I had in mind⟩ **2** : quite so — used to express agreement

ex·ag·ger·ate \ig-'zaj-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *exaggeratus*, pp. of *exaggerare*, lit., to heap up, fr. *ex-* + *agger* heap, fr. *aggerere* to carry toward, fr. *ad-* + *gerere* to carry — more at CAST] *vt* **1** : to enlarge beyond bounds or the truth : OVERSTATE ⟨a friend ~*s* a man's virtues —Joseph Addison⟩ **2** : to enlarge or increase esp. beyond the normal : OVEREMPHASIZE ~ *vi* : to make an overstatement — **ex·ag·ger·at·ed·ly** *adv* — **ex·ag·ger·at·ed·ness** *n* — **ex·ag·ger·a·tion** \-ˌzaj-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **ex·ag·ger·a·tive** \-'zaj-ə-ˌrāt-iv, '-zaj-(-ə-)rət-\ *adj* — **ex·ag·ger·a·tor** \-'zaj-ə-rāt-ər\ *n* — **ex·ag·ger·a·to·ry** \-'zaj-(ə-)rə-ˌtōr-ē, -tȯr-\ *adj*

ex·alt \ig-'zȯlt\ *vb* [ME *exalten*, fr. MF & L; MF *exalter*, fr. L *exaltare*, fr. *ex-* + *altus* high — more at OLD] *vt* **1** : to raise high : ELEVATE **2** : to raise in rank, power, or character **3** : to elevate by praise or in estimation : GLORIFY **4** *obs* : ELATE **5** : to enhance the activity of : INTENSIFY ⟨rousing and ~*ing* the imagination — George Eliot⟩ ~ *vi* : to induce exaltation — **ex·alt·ed·ly** *adv* — **ex·alt·er** *n*

ex·al·ta·tion \ˌeg-ˌzȯl-'tā-shən, ˌek-ˌsȯl-\ *n* **1** : an act of exalting : the state of being exalted **2** : an excessively intensified sense of well-being, power, or importance ⟨pursued ~ through drink and sex —Howard Kaye⟩ **3** : an increase in degree or intensity ⟨~ of virulence of a virus⟩

ex·am \ig-'zam\ *n* : EXAMINATION

ex·a·men \ig-'zā-mən\ *n* [L, tongue of a balance, examination, fr. *exigere* — more at EXACT] **1** : EXAMINATION **2** : a critical study

ex·am·i·nant \-'zam-ə-nənt\ *n* **1** : one who examines : EXAMINER **2** : EXAMINEE

ex·am·i·na·tion \ig-ˌzam-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of examining : the state of being examined **2** : an exercise designed to examine progress or test qualification or knowledge **3** : a formal interrogation — **ex·am·i·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·am·i·na·to·ri·al \-nə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to an examiner or examination

ex·am·ine \ig-'zam-ən\ *vt* **ex·am·ined; ex·am·in·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ [ME *examinen*, fr. MF *examiner*, fr. L *examinare*, fr. *examen*] **1 a** : to inspect closely **b** : to test the condition of **c** : to inquire into carefully : INVESTIGATE **2 a** : to interrogate closely ⟨~ a prisoner⟩ **b** : to test by questioning in order to determine progress, fitness, or knowledge ***syn*** see SCRUTINIZE — **ex·am·in·able** \-'zam-ə-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·am·in·er** \-'zam-(ə-)nər\ *n*

ex·am·in·ee \ig-ˌzam-ə-'nē\ *n* : a person who is examined

1ex·am·ple \ig-'zam-pəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *exemplum*, fr. *eximere* to take out, fr. *ex-* + *emere* to take — more at REDEEM] **1** : a particular single item, fact, incident, or aspect that is representative of all of a group or type **2** : one that serves as a pattern to be imitated or not to be imitated ⟨a good ~ ⟩ ⟨a bad ~⟩ **3** : a parallel or closely similar case esp. when serving as a precedent or model **4** : a punishment inflicted on someone as a warning to others; *also* : an individual so punished **5** : an instance (as a problem to be solved) serving to illustrate a rule or precept or to act as an exercise in the application of a rule ***syn*** see INSTANCE, MODEL — **for example** \fər-ig-'zam-pəl, frig-\ : as an example ⟨there are many sources of air pollution; exhaust fumes, *for example*⟩

2example *vt* **ex·am·pled; ex·am·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to serve or use as an example of **2** *archaic* : to be or set an example to

ex·an·i·mate \eg-'zan-ə-mət\ *adj* [L *exanimatus*, pp. of *exanimare* to deprive of life or spirit, fr. *ex-* + *anima* breath, soul — more at ANIMATE] **1** : lacking animation : SPIRITLESS **2** : lifeless or appearing lifeless

ex·an·them \eg-'zan(t)-thəm, 'ek-ˌsan-ˌthem\ *also* **ex·an·the·ma** \ˌeg-ˌzan-'thē-mə\ *n, pl* **exanthems** *also* **ex·an·them·a·ta** \ˌeg-ˌzan-'them-ət-ə\ *or* **exanthemas** [LL *exanthema*, fr. Gk *exanthēma*, fr. *exanthein* to bloom, break out, fr. *ex-* + *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] : an eruptive disease (as measles) or its symptomatic eruption — **ex·an·them·a·tous** \ˌeg-ˌzan-'them-ət-əs\ *adj*

1ex·arch \'ek-ˌsärk\ *n* [LL *exarchus*, fr. LGk *exarchos*, fr. Gk, leader, fr. *exarchein* to begin, take the lead, fr. *ex-* + *archein* to rule, begin — more at ARCH-] **1** : a Byzantine viceroy **2** : an Eastern bishop ranking below a patriarch and above a metropolitan; *specif* : the head of an independent church — **ex·ar·chal** \ek-'sär-kəl\ *adj* — **ex·arch·ate** \'ek-ˌsär-kət\ *n* — **ex·ar·chy** \'ek-ˌsär-kē\ *n*

2exarch *adj* [*exo-* + *-arch*] : formed or taking place from the periphery toward the center ⟨~ xylem⟩

1ex·as·per·ate \ig-'zas-pə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *exasperatus*, pp. of *exasperare*, fr. *ex-* + *asper* rough] **1 a** : to excite or inflame the anger of : ENRAGE **b** : to cause irritation or annoyance to **2** *obs* : to make grievous or more grievous or malignant ***syn*** see IRRITATE — **ex·as·per·at·ed·ly** *adv* — **ex·as·per·at·ing·ly** \-ˌrāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

2ex·as·per·ate \-p(ə-)rət\ *adj* **1** : irritated or annoyed esp. to the point of injudicious action : EXASPERATED **2** : roughened with irregular prickles or elevations ⟨~ seed coats⟩

ex·as·per·a·tion \ig-ˌzas-pə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the state of being exasperated **2** : the act or an instance of exasperating

exc *abbr* **1** excellent **2** except

Ex·cal·i·bur \ek-'skal-ə-bər\ *n* [OF *Escalibor*, fr. ML *Caliburnus*] : the legendary sword of King Arthur

ex·car·di·na·tion \(ˌ)ek-ˌskärd-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n* [1*ex-* + *-cardination* (as in *incardination*)] : the transfer of a clergyman from one diocese to another

ex ca·the·dra \ˌek-skə-'thē-drə\ *adv or adj* [NL, lit., from the chair] : by virtue of or in the exercise of one's office ⟨*ex cathedra* pronouncements⟩

ex·ca·vate \'ek-skə-ˌvāt\ *vb* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** [L *excavatus*, pp. of *excavare*, fr. *ex-* + *cavare* to make hollow — more at CAVATINA] *vt* **1** : to form a cavity or hole in **2** : to form by hollowing **3** : to dig out and remove **4** : to expose to view by digging away a covering ~ *vi* : to make excavations

ex·ca·va·tion \ˌek-skə-'vā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action or process of excavating **2** : a cavity formed by cutting, digging, or scooping — **ex·ca·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·ca·va·tor \'ek-skə-ˌvāt-ər\ *n* : one that excavates; *esp* : a power-operated shovel

ex·ceed \ik-'sēd\ *vb* [ME *exceden*, fr. MF *exceder*, fr. L *excedere*, fr. *ex-* + *cedere* to go — more at CEDE] *vt* **1** : to extend outside of ⟨the river will ~ its banks⟩ **2** : to be greater than or superior to **3** : to go beyond a limit set by ⟨~*ed* his authority⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *obs* : OVERDO **2** : PREDOMINATE

syn EXCEED, SURPASS, TRANSCEND, EXCEL, OUTDO, OUTSTRIP *shared meaning element* : to go or be beyond a stated or implied limit, measure, or degree

ex·ceed·ing *adj* : exceptional in amount, quality, or degree ⟨the ~ darkness which surrounds man's existence —L. H. Harshbarger⟩

ex·ceed·ing·ly \-iŋ-lē\ *or* **ex·ceed·ing** *adv* : to an extreme degree : EXTREMELY

ex·cel \ik-'sel\ *vb* **ex·celled; ex·cel·ling** [ME *excellen*, fr. L *excellere*, fr. *ex-* + *-cellere* to rise, project; akin to L *collis* hill — more at HILL] *vt* : to be superior to : surpass in accomplishment or achievement ~ *vi* : to be distinguishable by superiority : surpass others ⟨~ in mathematics⟩ ***syn*** see EXCEED

ex·cel·lence \'ek-s(ə-)lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality of being excellent **2** : an excellent or valuable quality : VIRTUE **3** : EXCELLENCY 2

ex·cel·len·cy \-s(ə-)lən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : EXCELLENCE; *esp* : outstanding or valuable quality — usu. used in pl. ⟨so crammed, as he thinks, with *excellencies* —Shak.⟩ **2** — used as a title for certain high dignitaries of state (as a governor or an ambassador) and church (as a Roman Catholic archbishop or bishop)

ex·cel·lent \'ek-s(ə-)lənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *excellent-*, *excellens*, fr. prp. of *excellere*] **1** *archaic* : SUPERIOR **2** : very good of its kind : eminently good : FIRST-CLASS — **ex·cel·lent·ly** *adv*

ex·cel·si·or \ik-'sel-sē-ər\ *n* [trade name, fr. L, higher, compar. of *excelsus* high, fr. pp. of *excellere*] : fine curled wood shavings used esp. for packing fragile items

1ex·cept \ik-'sept\ *vb* [ME *excepten*, fr. MF *excepter*, fr. L *exceptare*, fr. *exceptus*, pp. of *excipere* to take out, except, fr. *ex-* + *capere* to take — more at HEAVE] *vt* : to take or leave out from a number or a whole : EXCLUDE ~ *vi* : to take exception : OBJECT

2except *also* **ex·cept·ing** *prep* : with the exclusion or exception of ⟨daily ~ Sundays⟩

3except *also* **excepting** *conj* **1** : on any other condition than that : UNLESS ⟨~ you repent⟩ **2** : ONLY ⟨I would go ~ it's too far⟩

except for *prep* : but for ⟨*except for* you I would be dead⟩

ex·cep·tion \ik-'sep-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of excepting : EXCLUSION **2** : one that is excepted; *esp* : a case to which a rule does not apply **3** : QUESTION, OBJECTION ⟨witnesses whose authority is beyond ~ —T. B. Macaulay⟩ **4** : an oral or written legal objection (as to a court's ruling)

ex·cep·tion·able \ik-'sep-sh(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* : being likely to cause objection : OBJECTIONABLE ⟨visitors even drink the ~ beer —W. D. Howells⟩ — **ex·cep·tion·abil·i·ty** \-ˌsep-sh(ə-)nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·cep·tion·ably** \-'sep-sh(ə-)nə-blē\ *adv*

ex·cep·tion·al \ik-'sep-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : forming an exception : RARE ⟨an ~ number of rainy days⟩ **2** : better than average : SUPERIOR **3** : deviating from the norm; *esp* : below average ⟨schools for ~ children⟩ — **ex·cep·tion·al·i·ty** \-ˌsep-shə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·cep·tion·al·ly** \-'sep-shnə-lē, -shən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **ex·cep·tion·al·ness** *n*

ex·cep·tive \ik-'sep-tiv\ *adj* **1** : relating to, containing, or constituting exception **2** *archaic* : CAPTIOUS

1ex·cerpt \ek-'sərpt, eg-'zərpt, 'ek-ˌ, 'eg-ˌ\ *vt* [L *excerptus*, pp. of *excerpere*, fr. *ex-* + *carpere* to gather, pluck — more at HARVEST] **1** : to select (a passage) for quoting : EXTRACT **2** : to take extracts from (as a book) — **ex·cerpt·er** *also* **ex·cerp·tor** *n* — **ex·cerp·tion** \ek-'sərp-shən, eg-'zərp-\ *n*

2ex·cerpt \'ek-ˌsərpt, 'eg-ˌzərpt\ *n* : a passage (as from a book or musical composition) selected, performed, or copied : EXTRACT

1ex·cess \ik-'ses, 'ek-ˌ\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF *exces*, fr. LL *excessus*, fr. L, departure, projection, fr. *excessus*, pp. of *excedere* to exceed] **1 a** : the state or an instance of surpassing usual, proper, or specified limits : SUPERFLUITY **b** : the amount or degree by which one thing or quantity exceeds another ⟨an ~ of ten bushels⟩ **2** : undue or immoderate indulgence : INTEMPERANCE ⟨prevent ~*es* and abuses by newly created local powers —Albert Shanker⟩ — **in excess of** : to an amount or degree beyond : OVER

2excess *adj* : more than the usual, proper, or specified amount ⟨charges for ~ baggage⟩

ex·ces·sive \ik-'ses-iv\ *adj* : exceeding the usual, proper, or normal — **ex·ces·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·ces·sive·ness** *n*
syn EXCESSIVE, IMMODERATE, INORDINATE, EXTRAVAGANT, EXORBITANT, EXTREME *shared meaning element* : going beyond a normal or acceptable limit ***ant*** deficient
exch *abbr* exchange; exchanged
¹ex·change \iks-'chānj, 'eks-ˌ\ *n, often attrib* [ME *exchaunge*, fr. MF *eschange*, fr. *eschangier* to exchange, fr. (assumed) VL *excambiare*, fr. L *ex-* + *cambiare* to exchange — more at CHANGE] **1** : the act of giving or taking one thing in return for another : TRADE ⟨an ~ of prisoners⟩ **2 a** : the act of substituting one thing for another **b** : reciprocal giving and receiving **3** : something offered, given, or received in an exchange; *also* : an item or article reprinted from a newspaper **4 a** : funds payable currently at a distant point either in a foreign currency or in domestic currency **b** (1) : interchange or conversion of the money of two countries or of current and uncurrent money with allowance for difference in value (2) : EXCHANGE RATE (3) : the amount of the difference in value between two currencies or between values of a particular currency at two places **c** : instruments (as checks or bills of exchange) presented in a clearinghouse for settlement **5** : a place where things or services are exchanged: as **a** : an organized market or center for trading in securities or commodities **b** : a store or shop specializing in merchandise usu. of a particular type **c** : a cooperative store or society **d** : a central office in which telephone lines are connected to permit communication
²exchange *vb* **ex·changed; ex·chang·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to part with, give, or transfer in consideration of something received as an equivalent **b** : to have replaced by other merchandise ⟨*exchanged* the shirt for one in a larger size⟩ **2** : to part with for a substitute ⟨*exchanging* future security for immediate pleasure⟩ **3** : BARTER, SWAP ~ *vi* **1** : to pass or become received in exchange **2** : to engage in an exchange — **ex·change·abil·i·ty** \iks-ˌchān-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·change·able** \iks-'chān-jə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·chang·er** \iks-'chān-jər, eks-ˌ\ *n*
ex·chang·ee \iks-ˌchān-'jē, ˌeks-\ *n* : a participant (as a student or teacher) in an exchange program
exchange rate *n* : the ratio at which the principal unit of two currencies may be traded
exchange student *n* : a student from one country received into an institution in another country in exchange for one sent to an institution in the home country of the first
Ex·chang·ite \iks-'chān-ˌjīt\ *n* [(*National*) *Exchange* (*club*)] : a member of a major national service club
ex·che·quer \'eks-ˌchek-ər, iks-'\ *n* [ME *escheker*, fr. AF, fr. OF *eschequier* chessboard, counting table — more at CHECKER] **1** *cap* : a department or office of state in medieval England charged with the collection and management of the royal revenue and judicial determination of all revenue causes **2** *cap* : a former superior court having jurisdiction in England and Wales primarily over revenue matters and now merged with King's Bench **3** *often cap* **a** : the department or office of state in Great Britain and Northern Ireland charged with the receipt and care of the national revenue **b** : the national banking account of this realm **4** : TREASURY; *esp* : a national or royal treasury **5** : pecuniary resources : FUNDS
ex·cide \ek-'sīd\ *vt* **ex·cid·ed; ex·cid·ing** [L *excidere*] : to cut out : EXCISE
ex·cip·i·ent \ik-'sip-ē-ənt\ *n* [L *excipient-, excipiens*, prp. of *excipere* to take out, take up — more at EXCEPT] : an inert substance (as gum arabic or starch) that forms a vehicle (as for a drug)
ex·ci·ple \'ek-sə-pəl\ *n* [NL *excipulum*, fr. L, receptacle, fr. *excipere*] : a saucer-shaped rim around the hymenium of various lichens
ex·cis·able \'ek-ˌsī-zə-bəl, -ˌsī-sə-, ek-'\ *adj* : subject to excise
¹ex·cise \'ek-ˌsīz, -ˌsīs\ *n* [obs. D *excijs* (now *accijus*), fr. MD, prob. modif. of OF *assise* session, assessment — more at ASSIZE] **1** : an internal tax levied on the manufacture, sale, or consumption of a commodity within a country **2** : any of various taxes on privileges often assessed in the form of a license or other fee
²excise *vt* **ex·cised; ex·cis·ing** : to impose an excise on
³ex·cise \ik-'sīz\ *vt* **ex·cised; ex·cis·ing** [L *excisus*, pp. of *excidere*, fr. *ex-* + *caedere* to cut — more at CONCISE] : to remove by or as if by cutting out — **ex·ci·sion** \-'sizh-ən\ *n*
ex·cise·man \'ek-ˌsīz-mən, -ˌsīs-, -ˌman, ek-'\ *n* : an officer who inspects and rates articles liable to excise under British law
ex·cit·able \ik-'sīt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being readily roused into action or a state of excitement or irritability; *specif* : capable of being activated by and reacting to stimuli — **ex·cit·abil·i·ty** \-ˌsīt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·cit·able·ness** \-'sīt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n*
ex·ci·tant \ik-'sīt-ᵊnt, 'ek-sət-ənt\ *adj* : tending to excite or augment ⟨~ drugs⟩ — **excitant** *n*
ex·ci·ta·tion \ˌek-ˌsī-'tā-shən, ˌek-sə-\ *n* : EXCITEMENT; *esp* : the disturbed or altered condition resulting from stimulation of an individual, organ, tissue, or cell
ex·cit·ative \ik-'sīt-ət-iv\ *adj* : tending or able to excite
ex·cit·ato·ry \ik-'sīt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : EXCITATIVE **2** : exhibiting or marked by excitement or excitation
ex·cite \ik-'sīt\ *vt* **ex·cit·ed; ex·cit·ing** [ME *exciten*, fr. MF *exciter*, fr. L *excitare*, fr. *ex-* + *citare* to rouse — more at CITE] **1 a** : to call to activity **b** : to rouse to feeling usu. by a profound moving ⟨scenes to ~ the hardest man to pity and help⟩ **c** : to arouse (as an emotional response) by appropriate stimuli ⟨~ enthusiasm for the new regime —Arthur Knight⟩ **2 a** : ENERGIZE ⟨~ an electromagnet⟩ **b** : to produce a magnetic field in ⟨~ a dynamo⟩ **3** : to increase the activity of (as a living organism) : STIMULATE **4** : to raise (as an atomic nucleus, an atom, or a molecule) to a higher energy level ***syn*** see PROVOKE ***ant*** soothe, quiet (*as persons*), allay (*as fears*)
ex·cit·ed *adj* : having or showing strong feelings — **ex·cit·ed·ly** *adv*
excited state *n* : a state of a physical system (as an atomic nucleus, an atom, or a molecule) that is higher in energy than the ground state
ex·cite·ment \ik-'sīt-mənt\ *n* **1** : the action of exciting : the state of being excited **2** : something that excites or rouses
ex·cit·er \ik-'sīt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that excites **2 a** : a dynamo or battery that supplies the electric current used to produce the magnetic field in another dynamo or motor **b** : an electrical oscillator that generates the carrier frequency (as for a radio transmitter)
ex·cit·ing \ik-'sīt-iŋ\ *adj* : producing excitement — **ex·cit·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
ex·ci·ton \'ek-sə-ˌtän, -ˌsī-\ *n* [ISV *excit*ation + *-on*] : a mobile combination of an electron and a hole in an excited crystal (as of a semiconductor) — **ex·ci·ton·ic** \ˌek-sə-'tän-ik, -ˌsī-\ *adj*
ex·ci·tor \ik-'sīt-ər\ *n, archaic* : EXCITER
ex·claim \iks-'klām\ *vb* [MF *exclamer*, fr. L *exclamare*, fr. *ex-* + *clamare* to cry out — more at CLAIM] *vi* **1** : to cry out or speak in strong or sudden emotion ⟨~*ed* in delight⟩ **2** : to speak loudly or vehemently ⟨~*ed* against immorality⟩ ~ *vt* : to utter sharply, passionately, or vehemently : PROCLAIM — **ex·claim·er** *n*
ex·cla·ma·tion \ˌeks-klə-'mā-shən\ *n* **1** : a sharp or sudden utterance **2** : vehement expression of protest or complaint
exclamation point *n* : a mark ! used esp. after an interjection or exclamation to indicate forceful utterance or strong feeling
ex·clam·a·to·ry \iks-'klam-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : containing, expressing, using, or relating to exclamation ⟨an ~ phrase⟩
ex·clave \'eks-ˌklāv, -ˌkläv\ *n* [*ex-* + *-clave* (as in *enclave*)] : a portion of a country separated from the main part and constituting an enclave in respect to the surrounding territory
ex·clo·sure \eks-'klō-zhər\ *n* [*ex-* + *-closure* (as in *enclosure*)] : an area from which intruders (as animals) are excluded esp. by fencing
ex·clud·able *or* **ex·clud·ible** \iks-'klüd-ə-bəl\ *adj* : subject to exclusion ⟨~ income⟩ — **ex·clud·abil·i·ty** \-ˌklüd-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
ex·clude \iks-'klüd\ *vt* **ex·clud·ed; ex·clud·ing** [ME *excluden*, fr. L *excludere*, fr. *ex-* + *claudere* to close — more at CLOSE] **1 a** : to shut out **b** : to bar from participation, consideration, or inclusion **2** : to expel esp. from a place or position previously occupied — **ex·clud·er** *n*
syn EXCLUDE, DEBAR, ELIMINATE, SUSPEND *shared meaning element* : to shut or put out ***ant*** admit (*persons*), include (*things*)
ex·clu·sion \iks-'klü-zhən\ *n* [L *exclusion-, exclusio*, fr. *exclusus*, pp. of *excludere*] **1** : the act or an instance of excluding **2** : the state of being excluded — **ex·clu·sion·ary** \-zhə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*
ex·clu·sion·ist \iks-'klüzh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one who would exclude another from some right or privilege — **exclusionist** *adj*
exclusion principle *n* : a principle in physics: no two electrons in an atom or molecule will be exactly equivalent
¹ex·clu·sive \iks-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1 a** : excluding or having power to exclude **b** : limiting or limited to possession, control, or use by a single individual or group **2 a** : excluding others from participation **b** : snobbishly aloof **3 a** : accepting or soliciting only a socially restricted patronage (as of the upper class) **b** : STYLISH, FASHIONABLE **c** : restricted in distribution, use, or appeal because of expense **4 a** : SINGLE, SOLE ⟨~ jurisdiction⟩ **b** : WHOLE, UNDIVIDED ⟨his ~ attention⟩ — **ex·clu·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·clu·sive·ness** *n*
²exclusive *n* : something exclusive: as **a** : a newspaper story at first released to or printed by only one newspaper **b** : an exclusive right (as to sell a particular product in a certain area)
exclusive disjunction *n* : a statement of a logical proposition expressing alternatives usu. taking the form $p + q$ meaning p or q but not both — see TRUTH TABLE table
exclusive of *prep* : not taking into account ⟨there were four of us *exclusive of* the guide⟩
ex·clu·siv·i·ty \ˌeks-ˌklü-'siv-ət-ē, iks-, -'ziv-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being exclusive **2** : exclusive rights or services
ex·cog·i·tate \ek-'skäj-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* [L *excogitatus*, pp. of *excogitare*, fr. *ex-* + *cogitare* to cogitate] : to think out : DEVISE — **ex·cog·i·ta·tion** \(ˌ)ek-ˌskäj-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* — **ex·cog·i·ta·tive** \ek-'skäj-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj*
¹ex·com·mu·ni·cate \ˌek-skə-'myü-nə-ˌkāt\ *vt* [ME *excommunicaten*, fr. LL *excommunicatus*, pp. of *excommunicare*, fr. L *ex-* + LL *communicare* to communicate] : to subject to excommunication — **ex·com·mu·ni·ca·tor** \-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
²ex·com·mu·ni·cate \-ni-kət\ *adj* : interdicted from the rites of the church : EXCOMMUNICATED — **excommunicate** *n*
ex·com·mu·ni·ca·tion \-ˌmyü-nə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an ecclesiastical censure depriving a person of the rights of church membership **2** : exclusion from fellowship in a group or community — **ex·com·mu·ni·ca·tive** \-'myü-nə-ˌkāt-iv, -ni-kət-\ *adj*
ex·co·ri·ate \ek-'skōr-ē-ˌāt, -'skȯr-\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ME *excoriaten*, fr. LL *excoriatus*, pp. of *excoriare*, fr. L *ex-* + *corium* skin, hide — more at CUIRASS] **1** : to wear off the skin of : ABRADE **2** : to censure scathingly ⟨we ~ and scorn the public servant who takes a bribe —Estes Kefauver⟩ — **ex·co·ri·a·tion** \(ˌ)ek-ˌskōr-ē-'ā-shən, -ˌskȯr-\ *n*
ex·cre·ment \'ek-skrə-mənt\ *n* [L *excrementum*, fr. *excernere*] : waste matter discharged from the body; *esp* : waste discharged from the alimentary canal — **ex·cre·men·tal** \ˌek-skrə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ex·cre·men·ti·tious** \-ˌmen-'tish-əs, -mən-\ *adj*
ex·cres·cence \ik-'skres-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : an often excessive or abnormal outgrowth or enlargement
ex·cres·cen·cy \-ᵊn-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : EXCRESCENCE
ex·cres·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *excrescent-, excrescens*, prp. of *excrescere* to grow out, fr. *ex-* + *crescere* to grow — more at CRESCENT] **1** : forming an abnormal, excessive, or useless outgrowth **2** : of, relating to, or constituting epenthesis — **ex·cres·cent·ly** *adv*
ex·cre·ta \ik-'skrēt-ə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. L, neut. pl. of *excretus*] : waste matter eliminated or separated from an organism; *esp* : EXCRETIONS — **ex·cre·tal** \-'skrēt-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·crete \ik-'skrēt\ *vt* **ex·cret·ed; ex·cret·ing** [L *excretus*, pp. of *excernere* to sift out, discharge, fr. *ex-* + *cernere* to sift — more at CERTAIN] : to separate and eliminate or discharge (waste) from the blood or tissues or from the active protoplasm — **ex·cret·er** *n*

ex·cre·tion \ik-'skrē-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of excreting **2** : something excreted; *esp* : useless, superfluous, or harmful material (as urea) that is eliminated from the body and that differs from a secretion in not being produced to perform a useful function

ex·cre·to·ry \'ek-skrə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or functioning in excretion ⟨~ ducts⟩

ex·cru·ci·ate \ik-'skrü-shē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *excruciatus*, pp. of *excruciare*, fr. *ex-* + *cruciare* to crucify, fr. *cruc-, crux* cross — more at RIDGE] **1** : to inflict intense pain on : TORTURE **2** : to subject to intense mental distress

ex·cru·ci·at·ing *adj* **1** : causing great pain or anguish : AGONIZING ⟨the nation's most ~ dilemma —W. H. Ferry⟩ **2** : very intense : EXTREME ⟨~ pain⟩ ⟨the characters are paired off with an ~ regard for balance —Douglas Watt⟩ — **ex·cru·ci·at·ing·ly** \-ˌāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

ex·cru·ci·a·tion \ik-ˌskrü-s(h)ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act of excruciating : the state or an instance of being excruciated

ex·cul·pate \'ek-(ˌ)skəl-ˌpāt, (')ek-'\ *vt* **-pat·ed; -pat·ing** [(assumed) ML *exculpatus*, pp. of *exculpare*, fr. L *ex* + *culpa* blame] : to clear from alleged fault or guilt — **ex·cul·pa·tion** \ˌek-(ˌ)skəl-'pā-shən\ *n*

ex·cul·pa·to·ry \ek-'skəl-pə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : tending or serving to exculpate

ex·cur·rent \(')ek-'skər-ənt, -'skə-rənt\ *adj* [L *excurrent-, excurrens*, prp. of *excurrere* to run out, extend, fr. *ex-* + *currere* to run — more at CAR] : running or flowing out: as **a** (1) : having the axis prolonged to form an undivided main stem or trunk (as in conifers) **a** (2) : projecting beyond the apex — used esp. of the midrib of a mucronate leaf **b** : characterized by a current that flows outward ⟨~ canals of a sponge⟩

ex·cur·sion \ik-'skər-zhən\ *n* [L *excursion-, excursio*, fr. *excursus*, pp. of *excurrere*] **1 a** : a going out or forth : EXPEDITION **b** (1) : a usu. brief pleasure trip (2) : a trip at special reduced rates **2** : deviation from a direct, definite, or proper course; *esp* : DIGRESSION ⟨needless ~*s* into abstruse theory⟩ **3 a** : a movement outward and back or from a mean position or axis; *also* : the distance traversed : AMPLITUDE ⟨the ~ of a piston⟩ **b** : one complete movement of expansion and contraction of the lungs and their membranes (as in breathing)

ex·cur·sion·ist \-'skərzh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a person who goes on an excursion

ex·cur·sive \-'skər-siv\ *adj* : constituting a digression : characterized by digression — **ex·cur·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·cur·sive·ness** *n*

ex·cur·sus \ik-'skər-səs\ *n, pl* **ex·cur·sus·es** *also* **ex·cur·sus** \-səs, -ˌsüs\ [L, digression, fr. *excursus*, pp.] : an appendix or digression that contains further exposition of some point or topic

ex·cu·sa·to·ry \-zə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : making or containing excuse

[1]ex·cuse \ik-'skyüz, *imperatively often without* ik-\ *vt* **ex·cused; ex·cus·ing** [ME *excusen*, fr. OF *excuser*, fr. L *excusare*, fr. *ex-* + *causa* cause, explanation] **1 a** : to make apology for ⟨quietly *excused* his clumsiness⟩ **b** : to try to remove blame from ⟨*excused* himself for being so careless⟩ **2** : to forgive entirely or overlook as of trivial import : regard as excusable ⟨she graciously *excused* his thoughtlessness⟩ **3** : to grant exemption or release to ⟨the class was *excused*⟩ **4** : to serve as excuse for : JUSTIFY ⟨nothing can ~ such heedlessness⟩ — **ex·cus·able** \ik-'skyü-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·cus·able·ness** *n* — **ex·cus·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **ex·cus·er** *n*

syn EXCUSE, CONDONE, PARDON, FORGIVE *shared meaning element* : to exact neither punishment nor redress for (an offense) or from (an offender). Both *excuse* and *condone* imply a passing over without censure or meet punishment. Distinctively, one may EXCUSE specific acts especially in social or conventional situations or the person responsible for these ⟨*excuse* an interruption⟩ ⟨always ready to *excuse* her children for little faults⟩ Often the term implies extenuating circumstances ⟨injustice *excuses* strong responses⟩ or in some contexts self-justification ⟨always ready to *excuse* himself from any responsibility for the results of his behavior⟩ One more often CONDONES a kind of behavior (as dishonesty, folly, or violence) and especially one that constitutes a grave breach (as of a moral or legal code) or a person or institution responsible for such behavior ⟨a culture that *condones* drink but not drugs⟩ *Pardon* and *forgive* are often interchangeable, but their implications can be distinct. One PARDONS when one remits a penalty rightfully due for an admitted or established offense ⟨*pardon* a criminal⟩ ⟨*pardon* the noisy enthusiasm of a child⟩ One FORGIVES when one gives up all claim to requital and to resentment or vengeful feelings ⟨to err is human, to *forgive* divine — Alexander Pope⟩ ***ant*** punish

[2]excuse \ik-'skyüs\ *n* **1** : the act of excusing **2 a** : something offered as justification or as grounds for being excused **b** *pl* : an expression of regret for failure to do something **c** : a note of explanation of an absence **3** : JUSTIFICATION, REASON ***syn*** see APOLOGY

ex–di·rec·to·ry \ˌeks-də-'rek-t(ə-)rē, -dī-\ *adj* [L *ex* out of — more at EX-] *Brit* : not listed in a telephone directory : UNLISTED

[1]ex·ec \ig-'zek\ *n* : EXECUTIVE OFFICER

[2]exec *abbr* executive

ex·e·cra·ble \'ek-si-krə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : deserving to be execrated : DETESTABLE ⟨~ crimes⟩ **2** : very bad : WRETCHED ⟨~ hotel food⟩ — **ex·e·cra·ble·ness** *n* — **ex·e·cra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

ex·e·crate \'ek-sə-ˌkrāt\ *vt* **-crat·ed; -crat·ing** [L *exsecratus*, pp. of *exsecrari* to put under a curse, fr. *ex* + *sacr-, sacer* sacred] **1** : to declare to be evil or detestable : DENOUNCE **2** : to detest utterly — **ex·e·cra·tive** \-ˌkrāt-iv\ *adj* — **ex·e·cra·tor** \-ˌkrāt-ər\ *n*

syn EXECRATE, CURSE, DAMN, ANATHEMATIZE *shared meaning element* : to denounce violently

ex·e·cra·tion \ˌek-sə-'krā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of cursing or denouncing; *also* : the curse so uttered **2** : an object of curses : something detested

ex·ec·u·tant \ig-'zek-(y)ət-ənt\ *n* : one who executes or performs; *esp* : one skilled in the technique of an art : PERFORMER

ex·e·cute \'ek-si-ˌkyüt\ *vt* **-cut·ed; -cut·ing** [ME *executen*, fr. MF *executer*, back-formation fr. *execution*] **1** : to carry out fully : put completely into effect ⟨is a soldier morally responsible for a command that he ~*s*⟩ **2** : to do what is provided or required by ⟨~ a decree⟩ **3** : to put to death esp. in compliance with a legal sentence **4** : to make or produce (as a work of art) esp. by carrying out a design **5** : to perform what is required to give validity to ⟨~ a deed⟩ **6** : PLAY ⟨~ a piece of music⟩ — **ex·e·cut·able** \-ˌkyüt-ə-bəl\ *adj*

syn **1** see PERFORM
2 EXECUTE, ADMINISTER *shared meaning element* : to carry out the declared intent of another
3 see KILL

ex·e·cu·tion \ˌek-si-'kyü-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *exsecution-, exsecutio*, fr. *exsecutus*, pp. of *exsequi* to execute, fr. *ex-* + *sequi* to follow — more at SUE] **1** : the act or process of executing : PERFORMANCE **2** : a putting to death esp. as a legal penalty **3** : a judicial writ empowering an officer to carry out a judgment **4** : the act or mode or result of performance **5** : effective or destructive action ⟨his brandished steel, which smoked with bloody ~ —Shak.⟩ — usu. used with *do* ⟨as soon as day came, we went out to see what ~ we had done —Daniel Defoe⟩

ex·e·cu·tion·er \-sh(ə-)nər\ *n* : one who executes; *esp* : one who puts to death

[1]ex·ec·u·tive \ig-'zek-(y)ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : designed for or relating to execution or carrying into effect ⟨~ board⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to the execution of the laws and the conduct of public and national affairs **b** : belonging to the branch of government that is charged with such powers as diplomatic representation, superintendence of the execution of the laws, and appointment of officials and that usu. has some power over legislation (as through veto) — compare JUDICIAL, LEGISLATIVE **3** : of or relating to an executive ⟨the ~ offices⟩

[2]executive *n* **1** : the executive branch of a government; *also* : the persons who constitute the executive magistracy of a state **2** : an individual or group constituting the agency that controls or directs an organization **3** : one who holds a position of administrative or managerial responsibility

executive agreement *n* : an agreement between the U.S. and a foreign government made by the executive branch of the government alone and dealing usu. with routine matters

executive council *n* **1** : a council constituted to advise or share in the functions of a political executive **2** : a council that exercises supreme executive power

executive officer *n* : the officer second in command of a military or naval organization

executive order *n* : REGULATION 2b

executive secretary *n* : a secretary having administrative duties; *specif* : a paid full-time official who is responsible for organizing and administering the activities and business affairs of an organization or association

executive session *n* : a usu. closed session (as of a legislative body) that functions as an executive council (as of the U.S. Senate when considering appointments or the ratification of treaties)

ex·ec·u·tor \ig-'zek-(y)ət-ər *or in sense 1* 'ek-sə-ˌkyüt-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *exsecutor*, fr. *exsecutus*] **1 a** : one who executes something **b** *obs* : EXECUTIONER **2** : the person appointed by a testator to execute his will — **ex·ec·u·to·ri·al** \ig-ˌzek-(y)ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj*

ex·ec·u·to·ry \ig-'zek-(y)ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : relating to administration **2** : designed or of such a nature as to be executed in time to come or to take effect on a future contingency ⟨an agreement to sell is an ~ contract⟩

ex·ec·u·trix \ig-'zek-(y)ə-(ˌ)triks\ *n, pl* **ex·ec·u·tri·ces** \-ˌzek-(y)ə-'trī-(ˌ)sēz\ *or* **ex·ec·u·trix·es** \-'zek-(y)ə-ˌtrik-səz\ : a female executor

ex·e·dra \'ek-sə-drə\ *n, pl* **-drae** \-ˌdrē, -ˌdrī\ [L, fr. Gk, fr. *ex-* + *hedra* seat — more at SIT] **1** *in ancient Greece and Rome* : a room for conversation formed by an open or columned recess often semicircular in shape and furnished with seats **2** : a large outdoor nearly semicircular seat with a solid back

ex·e·ge·sis \ˌek-sə-'jē-səs\ *n, pl* **-ge·ses** \-'jē-(ˌ)sēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *exēgēsis*, fr. *exēgeisthai* to explain, interpret, fr. *ex-* + *hēgeisthai* to lead — more at SEEK] : EXPOSITION, EXPLANATION; *esp* : an explanation or critical interpretation of a text

ex·e·gete \'ek-sə-ˌjēt\ *n* [Gk *exēgētēs*, fr. *exēgeisthai*] : one who practices exegesis

ex·e·get·i·cal \ˌek-sə-'jet-i-kəl\ *or* **ex·e·get·ic** \-ik\ *adj* [Gk *exēgētikos*, fr. *exēgeisthai*] : of or relating to exegesis : EXPLANATORY — **ex·e·get·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ex·e·get·ist \-'jet-əst\ *n* : EXEGETE

ex·em·plar \ig-'zem-ˌplär, -plər\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. *exemplum* example] : something that serves as a model or example: as **a** : an ideal model **b** : a typical or standard specimen **c** : a copy of a book or writing **d** : IDEA 1a ***syn*** see MODEL

ex·em·pla·ry \ig-'zem-plə-rē\ *adj* **1 a** : serving as a pattern **b** : deserving imitation : COMMENDABLE ⟨his courage was ~⟩ **2** : serving as a warning : MONITORY **3** : serving as an example, instance, or illustration — **ex·em·plar·i·ly** \ˌeg-ˌzem-'pler-ə-lē\ *adv* — **ex·em·pla·ri·ness** \ig-'zem-plə-rē-nəs\ *n* — **ex·em·plar·i·ty** \ˌeg-ˌzem-'plar-ət-ē\ *n*

ex·em·pli·fi·ca·tion \ig-ˌzem-plə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an exemplified copy of a document **2 a** : the act or process of exemplifying **b** : a case in point : EXAMPLE

ex·em·pli·fy \ig-'zem-plə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *exemplifien*, fr. MF *exemplifier*, fr. ML *exemplificare*, fr. L *exemplum*] **1** : to show or illustrate by example **2** : to make an attested copy or transcript of (a document) under seal **3 a** : to be an instance of or serve as an example : EMBODY **b** : to be typical of

ex·em·pli gra·tia \ig-ˌzem-(ˌ)plē-'grät-ē-ˌä\ *adv* [L] : for example

ex·em·plum \ig-'zem-pləm\ *n, pl* **-pla** \-plə\ [L] **1** : EXAMPLE, MODEL **2** : an anecdote or short narrative used to point a moral or sustain an argument

[1]ex·empt \ig-'zem(p)t\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *exemptus,* pp. of *eximere* to take out — more at EXAMPLE] **1** *obs* : set apart **2** : free or released from some liability or requirement to which others are subject ⟨was ~ from jury duty⟩

[2]exempt *n* : one exempted or freed from duty

[3]exempt *vt* **1** *obs* : to set apart **2** : to release or deliver from some liability or requirement to which others are subject : EXCUSE ⟨a man ~*ed* from military service⟩

ex·emp·tion \ig-'zem(p)-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of exempting or state of being exempt : IMMUNITY **2** : one that exempts or is exempted; *esp* : a source or amount of income exempted from taxation

ex·en·ter·ate \ig-'zent-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *exenteratus,* pp. of *exenterare* to disembowel, modif. of Gk *exenterizein,* fr. *ex-* + *enteron* intestine — more at INTER-] : to remove the contents of (as the orbit or pelvis) — **ex·en·ter·a·tion** \-ˌzent-ə-'rā-shən\ *n*

[1]ex·er·cise \'ek-sər-ˌsīz\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *exercice,* fr. L *exercitium,* fr. *exercitus,* pp. of *exercēre* to drive on, keep busy, fr. *ex-* + *arcēre* to enclose, hold off — more at ARK] **1 a** : the act of bringing into play or realizing in action : USE **b** : the discharge of an official function or professional occupation **2 a** : regular or repeated use of a faculty or bodily organ **b** : bodily exertion for the sake of developing and maintaining physical fitness **3** : something performed or practiced in order to develop, improve, or display a specific power or skill ⟨arithmetic ~*s*⟩ **4** : a performance having a strongly marked secondary or ulterior aspect ⟨party politics has always been an ~ in compromise —H.S. Ashmore⟩ **5 a** : a maneuver, operation, or drill carried out for training and discipline **b** *pl* : a program including speeches, announcements of awards and honors, and various traditional practices of secular or religious character ⟨commencement ~*s*⟩

[2]exercise *vb* **-cised; -cis·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to make effective in action : USE ⟨didn't ~ good judgment⟩ **b** : to bring to bear : EXERT ⟨~ influence⟩ **2 a** : to use repeatedly in order to strengthen or develop **b** : to train (as troops) by drills and maneuvers **c** : to put through exercises ⟨~ the horses⟩ **3 a** : to engage the attention and effort of **b** : to cause anxiety, alarm, or indignation in ⟨citizens *exercised* about pollution⟩ ~ *vi* : to take exercise ***syn*** see PRACTICE — **ex·er·cis·able** \-ˌsī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·er·cis·er** *n*

ex·er·ci·ta·tion \ig-ˌzər-sə-'tā-shən\ *n* [ME *exercitacioun,* fr. L *exercitation-, exercitatio,* fr. *exercitatus,* pp. of *exercitare* to exercise diligently, fr. *exercitus,* pp. of *exercēre*] : EXERCISE

ex·er·gon·ic \ˌek-(ˌ)sər-'gän-ik\ *adj* [*exo-* + Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] : liberating energy ⟨an ~ biochemical reaction⟩

ex·ergue \'ek-ˌsərg, 'eg-ˌzərg\ *n* [F, fr. NL *exergum,* fr. Gk *ex* out of + *ergon* work] : a space on a coin, token, or medal usu. on the reverse below the central part of the design

ex·ert \ig-'zərt\ *vt* [L *exsertus,* pp. of *exserere* to thrust out, fr. *ex-* + *serere* to join — more at SERIES] **1 a** : to put forth (as strength) **b** : to put (oneself) into action or to tiring effort **2** : to bring to bear esp. with sustained effort or lasting effect **3** : EMPLOY, WIELD ⟨~*ed* his leadership abilities intelligently⟩

ex·er·tion \ig-'zər-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of exerting; *esp* : a laborious or perceptible effort ***syn*** see EFFORT

ex·e·unt \'ek-sē-(ˌ)ənt, -ˌünt\ [L, they go out, fr. *exire* to go out — more at EXIT] — used as a stage direction to specify that all or certain named characters leave the stage

ex·fo·li·ate \(')eks-'fō-lē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *exfoliatus,* pp. of *exfoliare* to strip of leaves, fr. L *ex-* + *folium* leaf — more at BLADE] *vt* **1** : to cast off in scales, laminae, or splinters **2** : to remove the surface of in scales or laminae **3** : to spread or extend by or as if by opening out leaves ~ *vi* **1** : to split into or give off scales, laminae, or body cells **2** : to come off in a thin piece **3** : to grow by or as if by producing or unfolding leaves — **ex·fo·li·a·tion** \(ˌ)eks-ˌfō-lē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **ex·fo·li·a·tive** \eks-'fō-lē-ˌāt-iv\ *adj*

ex gra·tia \(')eks-'grā-sh(ē-)ə\ *adj or adv* [NL] : as a favor : not compelled by legal right ⟨*ex gratia* pension payments⟩

ex·hal·ant *or* **ex·hal·ent** \eks-'(h)ā-lənt\ *adj* : bearing out or outward : EMISSIVE ⟨an ~ siphon of a clam⟩

ex·ha·la·tion \ˌeks-(h)ə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of exhaling **2** : something exhaled or given off : EMANATION

ex·hale \eks-'(h)ā(ə)l\ *vb* **ex·haled; ex·hal·ing** [ME *exalen,* fr. L *exhalare,* fr. *ex-* + *halare* to breathe; akin to L *anima* breath — more at ANIMATE] *vt* **1 a** : to breathe out **b** : to give forth (gaseous matter) : EMIT **2** *archaic* : to cause to be emitted in vapor ~ *vi* **1** : to rise or be given off as vapor **2** : to emit breath or vapor

[1]ex·haust \ig-'zȯst\ *vb* [L *exhaustus,* pp. of *exhaurire,* fr. *ex-* + *haurire* to draw; akin to MHG *œsen* to empty, Gk *auein* to take] *vt* **1 a** : to draw off or let out completely **b** : to empty by drawing off the contents; *specif* : to create a vacuum in **2 a** : to use up : consume entirely ⟨~*ed* our funds in a week⟩ **b** : to tire extremely or completely ⟨~*ed* by overwork⟩ **c** : to deprive of a valuable quality or constituent ⟨~ a photographic developer⟩ ⟨~ a soil of fertility⟩ **3 a** : to develop (a subject) completely **b** : to try out the whole number of ⟨~*ed* all the possibilities⟩ ~ *vi* : DISCHARGE, EMPTY ⟨the engine ~*s* through the muffler⟩ ***syn*** see DEPLETE, TIRE — **ex·haust·er** *n* — **ex·haust·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌzȯ-stə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·haust·ible** \-'zȯ-stə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]exhaust *n* **1 a** : the escape of used gas or vapor from an engine **b** : the gas or vapor thus escaping **2 a** : the conduit through which used gases escape **b** : an arrangement for withdrawing fumes, dusts, or odors from an enclosure **3** : EXHAUSTION

ex·haus·tion \ig-'zȯs-chən\ *n* : the act or process of exhausting : the state of being exhausted

ex·haus·tive \ig-'zȯ-stiv\ *adj* **1** : serving or tending to exhaust **2** : testing all possibilities or considering all elements : THOROUGH ⟨conducted an ~ investigation⟩ — **ex·haus·tive·ly** *adv* — **ex·haus·tive·ness** *n* — **ex·haus·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌzȯ-'stiv-ət-ē\ *n*

ex·haust·less \ig-'zȯst-ləs\ *adj* : not to be exhausted : INEXHAUSTIBLE — **ex·haust·less·ly** *adv* — **ex·haust·less·ness** *n*

exhbn *abbr* exhibition

[1]ex·hib·it \ig-'zib-ət\ *vb* [ME *exhibiten,* fr. L *exhibitus,* pp. of *exhibēre,* fr. *ex-* + *habēre* to have, hold — more at GIVE] *vt* **1** : to present to view: as **a** : to show or display outwardly esp. by visible signs or actions ⟨~*ed* no fear⟩ **b** : to have as a readily discernible quality or feature ⟨in all cultures we know, men ~ an aesthetic sense —H. J. Muller⟩ **c** : to show publicly esp. for purposes of competition or demonstration **2** : to submit (as a document) to a court or officer in course of proceedings; *also* : to present or offer officially or in legal form **3** : to administer for medical purposes ⟨the patient should fast . . . before chloroform is ~*ed* —A. B. Garrod⟩ ~ *vi* : to display something for public inspection — **ex·hib·i·tive** \-ət-iv\ *adj* — **ex·hib·i·tor** \-ət-ər\ *n* — **ex·hib·i·to·ry** \-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

[2]exhibit *n* **1** : an act or instance of exhibiting **2** : something exhibited **3** : a document or material object produced and identified in court or before an examiner for use as evidence

ex·hi·bi·tion \ˌek-sə-'bish-ən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of exhibiting **2** *Brit* : a grant drawn from the funds of a school or university to help maintain a student **3** : a public showing (as of works of art, objects of manufacture, or athletic skill)

ex·hi·bi·tion·er \-'bish-(ə-)nər\ *n, Brit* : one who holds a grant from a school or university

ex·hi·bi·tion·ism \-'bish-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a perversion marked by a tendency to indecent exposure **b** : an act of such exposure **2** : the act or practice of behaving so as to attract attention to oneself — **ex·hi·bi·tion·ist** \-'bish-(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj* — **ex·hi·bi·tion·is·tic** \-ˌbish-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj*

ex·hil·a·rant \ig-'zil-ə-rənt\ *adj* : EXHILARATING

ex·hil·a·rate \ig-'zil-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *exhilaratus,* pp. of *exhilarare,* fr. *ex-* + *hilarare* to gladden, fr. *hilarus* cheerful — more at HILARIOUS] **1 a** : to make cheerful **b** : ENLIVEN, EXCITE **2** : REFRESH, STIMULATE — **ex·hil·a·ra·tive** \-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj*

ex·hil·a·rat·ing \-ˌrāt-iŋ\ *adj* : that exhilarates ⟨~ effect of mountain air⟩ — **ex·hil·a·rat·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

ex·hil·a·ra·tion \ig-ˌzil-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of exhilarating **2** : the feeling or the state of being exhilarated

ex·hort \ig-'zȯ(ə)rt\ *vb* [ME *exhorten,* fr. MF *exhorter,* fr. L *exhortari,* fr. *ex-* + *hortari* to incite — more at YEARN] *vt* : to incite by argument or advice : urge strongly ~ *vi* : to give warnings or advice : make urgent appeals — **ex·hort·er** *n*

ex·hor·ta·tion \ˌeks-ˌȯr-'tā-shən, ˌegz-, -ər-\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of exhorting **2** : language intended to incite and encourage

ex·hor·ta·tive \ig-'zȯrt-ət-iv\ *adj* : serving to exhort

ex·hor·ta·to·ry \-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : using exhortation : EXHORTATIVE

ex·hume \igz-'(y)üm, iks-'(h)yüm\ *vt* **ex·humed; ex·hum·ing** [F or ML; F *exhumer,* fr. ML *exhumare,* fr. L *ex* out of + *humus* earth — more at EX-, HUMBLE] **1** : DISINTER **2** : to bring back from neglect or obscurity — **ex·hu·ma·tion** \ˌeks-(h)yü-'mā-shən, ˌegz-(y)ü-\ *n* — **ex·hum·er** \igz-'(y)ü-mər, iks-'(h)yü-\ *n*

ex·i·gence \'ek-sə-jən(t)s\ *n* : EXIGENCY

ex·i·gen·cy \'ek-sə-jən-sē, ig-'zij-ən-\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1 a** : the quality or state of being exigent **b** : a state of affairs that makes urgent demands ⟨the president must be free to act in any sudden ~⟩ **2** : such need or necessity as belongs to the occasion : that which is required in a particular situation — usu. used in pl. ***syn*** see JUNCTURE, NEED

ex·i·gent \'ek-sə-jənt\ *adj* [L *exigent-, exigens,* prp. of *exigere* to demand — more at EXACT] **1** : requiring immediate aid or action **2** : requiring or calling for much : DEMANDING — **ex·i·gent·ly** *adv*

ex·i·gu·ity \ˌeg-zi-'gyü-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ities** : the quality or state of being exiguous : SCANTINESS

ex·ig·u·ous \ig-'zig-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *exiguus,* fr. *exigere*] : excessively scanty : INADEQUATE ⟨attempting to build up their ~ navy⟩ ***syn*** see MEAGER ***ant*** capacious, ample — **ex·ig·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **ex·ig·u·ous·ness** *n*

[1]ex·ile \'eg-ˌzīl, 'ek-ˌsīl\ *n* [ME *exil,* fr. MF, fr. L *exilium*] **1 a** : forced removal from one's country or home **b** : voluntary absence from one's country or home **2 a** : a person expelled from his country or home by authority **b** : one who separates himself from his home

[2]exile *vt* **ex·iled; ex·il·ing** : to banish or expel from one's own country or home ***syn*** see BANISH

ex·il·ic \eg-'zil-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to exile (as that of the Jews in Babylon)

ex·im·i·ous \eg-'zim-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *eximius,* fr. *eximere* to take out — more at EXAMPLE] *archaic* : CHOICE, EXCELLENT

ex·ine \'ek-ˌsēn, -ˌsīn\ *n* [prob. fr. G, fr. *ex-* + NL *in-* fibrous tissue, fr. Gk *in-, is* tendon] : the outer of the two major layers forming the walls of some spores and esp. pollen grains

ex·ist \ig-'zist\ *vi* [L *exsistere* to come into being, exist, fr. *ex-* + *sistere* to stand; akin to L *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1 a** : to have real being whether material or spiritual ⟨do unicorns ~⟩ **b** : to have being in space and time ⟨the greatest poet who ever ~*ed*⟩ **c** : to have being in a specified place or with respect to understood limitations or conditions ⟨strange ideas ~*ed* in his mind⟩ **2** : to continue to be ⟨racism still ~*s* to varying degrees⟩ **3 a** : to have life or the functions of vitality ⟨man cannot ~ without oxygen⟩ **b** : to live at an inferior level or under adverse circumstances ⟨starving people ~*ing* from one day to the next⟩ **4** *in existentialism* : to have contingent but free and responsible being

ex·is·tence \ig-'zis-tən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** *obs* : reality as opposed to appearance **b** : reality as presented in experience **c** (1) : the totality of existent things (2) : a particular being ⟨all the fair ~*s* of heaven —John Keats⟩ **d** : sentient or living being : LIFE **2 a** : the state or fact of having being esp. independently of human

consciousness and as contrasted with nonexistence **b** : the manner of being that is common to every mode of being **c** : being with respect to a limiting condition or under a particular aspect **3** : continued or repeated manifestation **4** *in existentialism* : the condition of a person aware of his radically contingent yet free and responsible nature

ex·is·tent \-tənt\ *adj* [L *exsistent-, exsistens,* prp. of *exsistere*] **1** : having being : EXISTING **2** : existing now : PRESENT — **existent** *n*

ex·is·ten·tial \ˌeg-(ˌ)zis-'ten-chəl, ˌek-(ˌ)sis-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or affirming existence ⟨~ propositions⟩ **2 a** : grounded in existence or the experience of existence : EMPIRICAL **b** : having being in time and space **3** [trans. of Dan *eksistentiel* & G *existential*] **a** : concerned with or involving an individual as radically free and responsible **b** : EXISTENTIALIST — **ex·is·ten·tial·ly** \-'tench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ex·is·ten·tial·ism \-'ten-chə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : a chiefly 20th century philosophy that is centered upon the analysis of existence and of the way man finds himself existing in the world, that regards human existence as not exhaustively describable or understandable in scientific terms, and that stresses the freedom and responsibility of the individual, the irreducible uniqueness of an ethical or religious situation, and usu. the isolation and subjective experiences (as of anxiety, guilt, dread, anguish) of an individual therein

1ex·is·ten·tial·ist \-ləst\ *n* : an adherent of existentialism

2existentialist *adj* **1** : of or relating to existentialism or existentialists **2** : EXISTENTIAL 3a — **ex·is·ten·tial·is·tic** \-ˌten-chə-'lis-tik\ *adj* — **ex·is·ten·tial·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

existential quantifier *n* : a quantifier that asserts that there exists at least one value of a variable — called also *existential operator*

1ex·it \'eg-zət, 'ek-sət\ [L, he goes out, fr. *exire* to go out, fr. *ex-* + *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] — used as a stage direction to specify who goes off stage

2exit *n* [L *exitus,* fr. *exitus,* pp. of *exire*] **1** [**1***exit*] : a departure from a stage **2 a** : the act of going out or going away **b** : DEATH **3** : a way out of an enclosed place or space — **exit** *vi*

ex li·bris \ek-'slē-brəs, -ˌbrēs\ *n, pl* **ex libris** [NL, from the books; used before the owner's name on bookplates] : BOOKPLATE

Ex·moor \'ek-ˌsmu̇(ə)r, -ˌsmō(ə)r, -ˌsmȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*Exmoor,* England] **1** : any of a breed of horned sheep of Devonshire in England valued esp. for mutton **2** : any of a breed of hardy heavy-maned ponies native to the Exmoor district

ex ni·hi·lo \(')eks-'nē-(h)ə-ˌlō, -'ni-, -'nī-\ *adv or adj* [L] : from or out of nothing ⟨creation *ex nihilo*⟩

exo- *or* **ex-** *comb form* [Gk *exō* out, outside, fr. *ex* out of — more at EX-] **1** : outside ⟨*exo*gamy⟩ : outer ⟨*exo*skeleton⟩ — compare ECT-, END- **2** : turning out ⟨*exo*ergic⟩

exo·bi·ol·o·gy \ˌek-sō-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : extraterrestrial biology — **exo·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **exo·bi·ol·o·gist** \-bī-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*

exo·carp \'ek-sō-ˌkärp\ *n* [ISV] : the outermost layer of the pericarp of a fruit — see ENDOCARP illustration

exo·crine \'ek-sə-krən, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* [ISV *exo-* + Gk *krinein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] : secreting externally ⟨~ pancreatic cells⟩

exocrine gland *n* : a gland (as a sweat gland or a kidney) that releases a secretion external to or at the surface of an organ by means of a canal or duct

exo·cy·clic \ˌek-sō-'sī-klik, -'sik-lik\ *adj* : situated outside of a ring in a chemical structure

Exod *abbr* Exodus

exo·der·mis \ˌek-sō-'dər-məs\ *n* [NL] : a layer of the outer living cortical cells that takes over the functions of the epidermis in roots lacking secondary thickening

ex·odon·tia \ˌek-sə-'dän-ch(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *ex-* + *-odontia*] : a branch of dentistry that deals with the extraction of teeth — **ex·odon·tist** \-'dänt-əst\ *n*

ex·o·dus \'ek-səd-əs, 'eg-zəd-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Exodos,* lit., road out, fr. *ex-* + *hodos* road — more at CEDE] **1** *cap* : the mainly narrative second book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table **2** : a mass departure : EMIGRATION

exo·en·zyme \ˌek-sō-'en-ˌzīm\ *n* [ISV] : an extracellular enzyme

exo·er·gic \ˌek-sō-'ər-jik\ *adj* : releasing energy : EXOTHERMIC ⟨~ nuclear reaction⟩

exo·eryth·ro·cyt·ic \ˌek-sō-i-ˌrith-rə-'sit-ik\ *adj* : occurring outside the red blood cells — used of stages of malaria parasites

ex of·fi·cio \ˌek-sə-'fish-ē-ˌō\ *adv or adj* [LL] : by virtue or because of an office ⟨the Vice President serves *ex officio* as president of the Senate⟩

ex·og·a·my \ek-'säg-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** **1** : marriage outside of a specific group esp. as required by custom or law **2** : sexual reproduction between organisms that are not closely related — **ex·og·a·mous** \ek-'säg-ə-məs\ *or* **exo·gam·ic** \ˌek-sə-'gam-ik\ *adj*

ex·og·e·nous \ek-'säj-ə-nəs\ *adj* [F *exogène* exogenous, fr. *exo-* + *-gène* (fr. Gk *-genēs* born) — more at -GEN] : originating from or due to external causes: as **a** : growing from or on the outside ⟨~ spores⟩ **b** (1) : caused by a factor (as food) or an agent from outside the organism ⟨~ obesity⟩ ⟨~ infection⟩ **b** (2) : introduced from or produced outside the organism ⟨~ supply of a vitamin⟩ **c** : of, relating to, or produced by the metabolism of nitrogenous substances obtained from food — **ex·og·e·nous·ly** *adv*

ex·on·er·ate \ig-'zän-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ME *exoneraten,* fr. L *exoneratus,* pp. of *exonerare* to unburden, fr. *ex-* + *oner-, onus* load] **1** : to relieve of a responsibility, obligation, or hardship **2** : to clear from accusation or blame — **ex·on·er·a·tion** \-ˌzän-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **ex·on·er·a·tive** \-'zän-ə-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj*

exo·nu·cle·ase \ˌek-sō-'n(y)ü-klē-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* [*exo-* + *nucle-* + *-ase*] : an enzyme that breaks down a nucleic acid by removing nucleotides one by one from the end of a chain — compare ENDONUCLEASE

exo·pep·ti·dase \-'pep-tə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* [*exo-* + *peptide* + *-ase*] : any of a group of enzymes that hydrolyze peptide bonds formed by the terminal amino acids of peptide chains : PEPTIDASE — compare ENDOPEPTIDASE

ex·oph·thal·mos *also* **ex·oph·thal·mus** \ˌek-säf-'thal-məs, -səf-, -säp-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *exophthalmos* having prominent eyes, fr. *ex* out + *ophthalmos* eye] : abnormal protrusion of the eyeball — **ex·oph·thal·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

exor *abbr* executor

ex·or·bi·tance \ig-'zȯr-bət-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : an exorbitant action or procedure; *esp* : excessive or gross deviation from rule, right, or propriety **2** : the tendency or disposition to be exorbitant

ex·or·bi·tant \-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *exorbitant-, exorbitans,* prp. of *exorbitare* to deviate, fr. L *ex-* + *orbita* track, rut — more at ORB] **1** : not coming within the orbit or scope of the law **2** : exceeding in intensity, quality, or size the customary or appropriate limits ***syn*** see EXCESSIVE ***ant*** just (*price, charge*) — **ex·or·bi·tant·ly** *adv*

ex·or·cise \'ek-ˌsȯr-ˌsīz, -sər-\ *vt* **-cised; -cis·ing** [ME *exorcisen,* fr. MF *exorciser,* fr. LL *exorcizare,* fr. Gk *exorkizein,* fr. *ex-* + *horkizein* to bind by oath, adjure, fr. *horkos* oath; akin to Gk *herkos* fence, L *sarcire* to mend] **1 a** : to expel (an evil spirit) by adjuration **b** : to get rid of (something troublesome, menacing, or oppressive) **2** : to free of an evil spirit — **ex·or·cis·er** *n*

ex·or·cism \-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of exorcising **2** : a spell or formula used in exorcising — **ex·or·cist** \-ˌsist, -səst\ *n* — **ex·or·cis·ti·cal** \ˌek-ˌsȯr-'sis-ti-kəl, -sər-\ *or* **ex·or·cis·tic** \-tik\ *adj*

ex·or·di·um \eg-'zȯrd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-diums** *or* **-dia** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. *exordiri* to begin, fr. *ex-* + *ordiri* to begin — more at ORDER] : a beginning or introduction esp. to a discourse or composition — **ex·or·di·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

exo·skel·e·ton \ˌek-sō-'skel-ət-ᵊn\ *n* **1** : an external supportive covering of an animal **2** : bony or horny parts of a vertebrate produced from epidermal tissues — **exo·skel·e·tal** \-ət-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·os·mo·sis \ˌek-(ˌ)säs-'mō-səs, -(ˌ)säz-\ *n* [alter. of obs. *exosmose,* fr. F, fr. *ex-* + Gk *ōsmos* act of pushing — more at ENDOSMOSIS] : passage of material through a membrane from a region of higher to a region of lower concentration — **ex·os·mot·ic** \-'mät-ik\ *adj*

exo·sphere \'ek-sō-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : the outer fringe region of the atmosphere of the earth or a planet — **exo·spher·ic** \ˌek-sō-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj*

exo·spore \'ek-sə-ˌspō(ə)r, -ˌspȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : an asexual spore formed by abstriction from a parent cell

ex·os·to·sis \ˌek-(ˌ)säs-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *exostōsis,* fr. *ex* out of + *osteon* bone — more at EX-, OSSEOUS] : a spur or bony outgrowth from a bone or the root of a tooth

ex·o·ter·ic \ˌek-sə-'ter-ik\ *adj* [L & Gk; L *exotericus,* fr. Gk *exōterikos,* lit., external, fr. *exōterō* more outside, compar. of *exō* outside — more at EXO-] **1 a** : suitable to be imparted to the public ⟨the ~ doctrine⟩ — compare ESOTERIC **b** : belonging to the outer or less initiate circle **2** : relating to the outside : EXTERNAL — **ex·o·ter·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

exo·ther·mic \ˌek-sō-'thər-mik\ *or* **exo·ther·mal** \-məl\ *adj* [ISV] : characterized by or formed with evolution of heat — **exo·ther·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

1ex·ot·ic \ig-'zät-ik\ *adj* [L *exoticus,* fr. Gk *exōtikos,* fr. *exō*] **1** : introduced from another country : not native to the place where found **2** *archaic* : OUTLANDISH, ALIEN **3** : strikingly or excitingly different or unusual **4** : of or relating to striptease ⟨~ dancing⟩ — **ex·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ex·ot·ic·ness** \-ik-nəs\ *n*

2exotic *n* : one that is exotic; *also* : STRIPTEASER

ex·ot·i·ca \ig-'zät-i-kə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. L, neut. pl. of *exoticus*] : things excitingly different or unusual; *esp* : literary or artistic items having an exotic theme or nature

ex·ot·i·cism \ig-'zät-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *also* **ex·o·tism** \'eg-zə-ˌtiz-əm, 'ek-sə-\ *n* : the quality or state of being exotic

exo·tox·in \ˌek-sō-'täk-sən\ *n* [ISV] : a soluble poisonous substance given off during growth of a microorganism

exp *abbr* **1** expense **2** experiment; experimental **3** export **4** express

ex·pand \ik-'spand\ *vb* [ME *expaunden,* fr. L *expandere,* fr. *ex-* + *pandere* to spread — more at FATHOM] *vt* **1** : to increase the extent, number, volume, or scope of : ENLARGE **2 a** : to express fully or in detail **b** : to write out in full **c** : to state in enlarged form : develop in a mathematical series ~ *vi* **1** : to open out **2** : to increase in extent, number, volume, or scope **3** : to speak or write fully or in detail ⟨intend to ~ on this theme tomorrow⟩ **4** : to feel generous or optimistic — **ex·pand·able** \-'span-də-bəl\ *adj*

syn EXPAND, AMPLIFY, SWELL, DISTEND, INFLATE, DILATE *shared meaning element* : to increase in size or volume ***ant*** contract, abridge

expanded metal *n* : sheet metal cut and expanded into a lattice and used esp. as lath

expanded plastic *n* : lightweight cellular plastic used esp. as insulation and protective packing material — called also *foamed plastic, plastic foam*

ex·pan·der \ik-'span-dər\ *n* : one that expands; *specif* : any of several colloidal substances of high molecular weight used as a blood or plasma substitute for increasing the blood volume

ex·panse \ik-'span(t)s\ *n* [NL *expansum,* fr. L, neut. of *expansus,* pp. of *expandere*] : something spread out typically over a wide area: as **a** : FIRMAMENT **b** : an extensive stretch of land or sea

ex·pan·si·ble \ik-'span(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being expanded — **ex·pan·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌspan(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

ex·pan·sile \ik-'span(t)-səl, -'span-ˌsīl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or capable of expansion

ex·pan·sion \ik-'span-chən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of expanding ⟨territorial ~⟩ **2** : the quality or state of being expanded **3** : EXPANSE **4** : the increase in volume of working fluid (as steam) in an engine cylinder after cutoff or in an internal-combustion engine after explosion **5 a** : an expanded part **b** : something that results from an act of expanding ⟨the book is an ~ of a lecture series⟩ **6** : the result of carrying out an indicated mathematical operation : the expression of a function in the form of a series — **ex·pan·sion·al** \-'panch-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·pan·sion·ary \ik-'span-chə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : tending toward expansion ⟨an ~ economy⟩

ex·pan·sion·ism \ik-'span-chə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a policy or practice of usu. territorial expansion by a nation — **ex·pan·sion·ist** \-'spanch-(ə-)nəst\ *n* — **expansionist** *or* **ex·pan·sion·is·tic** \-ˌspan-chə-'nis-tik\ *adj*

ex·pan·sive \ik-'span(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : having a capacity or a tendency to expand **2** : causing or tending to cause expansion **3 a** : characterized by high spirits or benevolent inclinations ⟨he grew ~ after dinner⟩ **b** : marked by or indicative of exaggerated euphoria and delusions of self-importance **4** : having considerable extent **5** : characterized by largeness or magnificence of scale ⟨~ living⟩ — **ex·pan·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·pan·sive·ness** *n*

ex·pan·siv·i·ty \ˌek-ˌspan-'siv-ət-ē, ik-\ *n* : the quality or state of being expansive; *esp* : the capacity to expand

ex par·te \(')ek-'spärt-ē\ *adv or adj* [ML] **1** : on or from one side only — used of legal proceedings **2** : from a one-sided or partisan point of view

ex·pa·ti·ate \ek-'spā-shē-ˌāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *exspatiatus*, pp. of *exspatiari* to wander, digress, fr. *ex-* + *spatium* space, course — more at SPEED] **1** : to move about freely or at will : WANDER **2** : to speak or write at length or in detail ⟨was *expatiating* upon the value of the fabric —Thomas Hardy⟩ — **ex·pa·ti·a·tion** \(ˌ)ek-ˌspā-shē-'ā-shən\ *n*

1ex·pa·tri·ate \ek-'spā-trē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *expatriatus*, pp. of *expatriare* to leave one's own country, fr. L *ex-* + *patria* native country, fr. fem. of *patrius* of a father, fr. *patr-, pater* father — more at FATHER] *vt* **1** : to drive into exile : BANISH **2** : to withdraw (oneself) from residence in or allegiance to one's native country ~ *vi* : to leave one's native country; *specif* : to renounce allegiance to one's native country — **ex·pa·tri·a·tion** \(ˌ)ek-ˌspā-trē-'ā-shən\ *n*

2ex·pa·tri·ate \ek-'spā-trē-ˌāt, -trē-ət\ *adj* : living in a foreign country : EXPATRIATED

3ex·pa·tri·ate \-ˌāt, -ət\ *n* : one who lives in a foreign country; *specif* : one who has renounced his native country

ex·pect \ik-'spekt\ *vb* [L *exspectare* to look forward to, fr. *ex-* + *spectare* to look at, fr. *spectus*, pp. of *specere* to look — more at SPY] *vi* **1** *archaic* : WAIT, STAY **2** : to look forward **3** : to be pregnant ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : to wait for **2** : SUPPOSE, THINK **3** : to anticipate or look forward to the coming or occurrence of ⟨~*ed* a telephone call⟩ **4 a** : to consider probable or certain ⟨~ to be forgiven⟩ **b** : to consider reasonable, due, or necessary ⟨he ~*ed* respect from his students⟩ **c** : to consider bound in duty or obligated ⟨they ~*ed* him to pay his dues⟩ — **ex·pect·able** \-'spek-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·pect·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **ex·pect·ed·ly** *adv* — **ex·pect·ed·ness** *n*
syn EXPECT, LOOK, HOPE, AWAIT *shared meaning element* : to anticipate in the mind some occurrence or outcome ***ant*** despair (*of*)

ex·pec·tance \ik-'spek-tən(t)s\ *n* : EXPECTANCY

ex·pec·tan·cy \-tən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1 a** : the act, action, or state of expecting **b** : the state of being expected **2 a** : something expected **b** : the expected amount (as of the number of years of life) based on statistical probability

1ex·pec·tant \-tənt\ *adj* **1** : characterized by expectation **2** : expecting the birth of a child — **ex·pec·tant·ly** *adv*

2expectant *n* : one who is expectant; *esp* : a candidate for a position

ex·pec·ta·tion \ˌek-ˌspek-'tā-shən, ik-\ *n* **1** : the act or state of expecting : ANTICIPATION ⟨had given rise to a general ~ of their marriage —Jane Austen⟩ **2 a** : something expected **b** : prospects of inheritance — usu. used in pl. **3** : the state of being expected **4 a** : EXPECTANCY 2b **b** : EXPECTED VALUE

ex·pec·ta·tive \ik-'spek-tət-iv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting an object of expectation

expected value *n* : the mean value of a random variable

ex·pec·to·rant \ik-'spek-t(ə-)rənt\ *adj* : tending to promote discharge of mucus from the respiratory tract — **expectorant** *n*

ex·pec·to·rate \-tə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *expectoratus*, pp. of *expectorare*, fr. L, to cast out of the mind, fr. *ex-* + *pector-, pectus* breast, soul — more at PECTORAL] *vt* **1** : to eject from the throat or lungs by coughing or hawking and spitting **2** : SPIT ~ *vi* **1** : to discharge matter from the throat or lungs by coughing or hawking and spitting **2** : SPIT — **ex·pec·to·ra·tion** \-ˌspek-tə-'rā-shən\ *n*

ex·pe·di·ence \ik-'spēd-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* : EXPEDIENCY

ex·pe·di·en·cy \-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** *obs* : HASTE, DISPATCH **2** : the quality or state of being suited to the end in view : SUITABILITY, FITNESS **3** : cultivation of or adherence to expedient means and methods ⟨put more emphasis on ~ than on principle —W. H. Jones⟩ **4** : a means of achieving a particular end : EXPEDIENT — **ex·pe·di·en·tial** \-ˌspēd-ē-'en-chəl\ *adj*

1ex·pe·di·ent \ik-'spēd-ē-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *expedient-, expediens* prp. of *expedire* to extricate, arrange, be advantageous, fr. *ex-* + *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] **1** : suitable for achieving a particular end **2** : characterized by concern with what is opportune; *specif* : governed by self-interest — **ex·pe·di·ent·ly** *adv*
syn EXPEDIENT, POLITIC, ADVISABLE *shared meaning element* : dictated by practical or prudential motives ***ant*** inexpedient

2expedient *n* **1** : something expedient : a means to an end **2** : a means devised or used in an exigency : MAKESHIFT ***syn*** see RESOURCE

ex·pe·dite \'ek-spə-ˌdīt\ *vt* **-dit·ed; -dit·ing** [L *expeditus*, pp. of *expedire*] **1** : to execute promptly **2** : to accelerate the process or progress of : FACILITATE ⟨the new representatives should ~ the passage of the bill⟩ **3** : to send out : DISPATCH

ex·pe·dit·er *also* **ex·pe·di·tor** \-ˌdīt-ər\ *n* : one that expedites; *specif* : one employed to ensure adequate supplies of raw materials and equipment or to coordinate the flow of materials, tools, parts, and processed goods within a plant

ex·pe·di·tion \ˌek-spə-'dish-ən\ *n* **1 a** : a journey or excursion undertaken for a specific purpose **b** : the group of persons making such a journey **2** : efficient promptness : SPEED **3** : a sending or setting forth ***syn*** see HASTE ***ant*** procrastination

ex·pe·di·tion·ary \-'dish-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting an expedition; *also* : sent on military service abroad ⟨an ~ force⟩

ex·pe·di·tious \ˌek-spə-'dish-əs\ *adj* : characterized by or acting with promptness and efficiency : SPEEDY ***syn*** see FAST ***ant*** sluggish — **ex·pe·di·tious·ly** *adv* — **ex·pe·di·tious·ness** *n*

ex·pel \ik-'spel\ *vt* **ex·pelled; ex·pel·ling** [ME *expellen*, fr. L *expellere*, fr. *ex-* + *pellere* to drive — more at FELT] **1** : to force out from or as if from a receptacle ⟨the well *expelled* great quantities of gas⟩ **2** : to drive away; *esp* : DEPORT **3** : to cut off from membership ⟨*expelled* from college⟩ ***syn*** see EJECT ***ant*** admit — **ex·pel·la·ble** \-'spel-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·pel·ler** *n*

ex·pel·lee \ˌek-ˌspel-'ē, ik-\ *n* : one who is expelled; *specif* : one transferred from the country of residence for resettlement in the country with which he is ethnically associated

ex·pend \ik-'spend\ *vt* [ME *expenden*, fr. L *expendere* to weigh out, expend, fr. *ex-* + *pendere* to weigh — more at SPAN] **1** : to pay out : SPEND ⟨the social services upon which public revenue is ~*ed* — J. A. Hobson⟩ **2** : to consume by use : use up ⟨projects on which he ~*ed* great energy⟩ — **ex·pend·er** *n*

1ex·pend·able \ik-'spen-də-bəl\ *adj* : that may be expended: as **a** : normally used up or consumed in service ⟨~ supplies like pencils and paper⟩ **b** : more economically replaced than rescued, salvaged, or protected — **ex·pend·abil·i·ty** \-ˌspen-də-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

2expendable *n* : one that is expendable — usu. used in pl.

ex·pen·di·ture \ik-'spen-di-chər, -də-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -də-ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [irreg. fr. *expend*] **1** : the act or process of expending ⟨renovations required an ~ of several thousand dollars⟩ **2** : something expended : DISBURSEMENT, EXPENSE

1ex·pense \ik-'spen(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. AF or LL; AF, fr. LL *expensa*, fr. L, fem. of *expensus*, pp. of *expendere*] **1 a** *archaic* : the act or practice of expending money : SPENDING **b** (1) *archaic* : the act or process of using up : CONSUMPTION (2) *obs* : LOSS **2 a** : something expended to secure a benefit or bring about a result **b** : financial burden or outlay : COST ⟨he built the monument at his own ~⟩ **c** : the charges incurred by an employee in connection with the performance of his duties — usu. used in pl. **d** : an item of business outlay chargeable against revenue for a specific period **3** : a cause or occasion of expenditure ⟨an estate is a great ~⟩ **4** : SACRIFICE — usu. used in the phrase *at the expense of* ⟨develop a boy's physique at the ~ of his intelligence —Bertrand Russell⟩

2expense *vt* **ex·pensed; ex·pens·ing** **1** : to charge with expenses **2 a** : to charge to an expense account **b** : to write off as an expense

expense account *n* : an account of expenses reimbursable to an employee

ex·pen·sive \ik-'spen(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : involving expense ⟨an ~ hobby⟩ **2** : commanding a high price and esp. one that is not based on intrinsic worth or is beyond a prospective buyer's means ***syn*** see COSTLY ***ant*** inexpensive — **ex·pen·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·pen·sive·ness** *n*

1ex·pe·ri·ence \ik-'spir-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *experientia* act of trying, fr. *experient-, experiens*, prp. of *experiri* to try, fr. *ex-* + *-periri* (akin to *periculum* attempt) — more at FEAR] **1 a** : the usu. conscious perception or apprehension of reality or of an external, bodily, or psychic event **b** : facts or events or the totality of facts or events observed **2 a** : direct participation in events **b** : the state or result of being engaged in an activity or in affairs ⟨business ~⟩ **c** : knowledge, skill, or practice derived from direct observation of or participation in events **3 a** : the conscious events that make up an individual life **b** : the events that make up the conscious past of a community or nation or mankind generally **4** : something personally encountered, undergone, or lived through

2experience *vt* **-enced; -enc·ing** **1** : to have experience of : UNDERGO ⟨*experienced* severe hardships as a child⟩ **2** : to learn by experience ⟨I have *experienced* that a landscape and the sky unfold the deepest beauty —Nathaniel Hawthorne⟩ — **experience religion** : to undergo religious conversion

ex·pe·ri·enced \-ən(t)st\ *adj* : made skillful or wise through observation of or participation in a particular activity or in affairs generally : PRACTICED ⟨an ~ driver⟩

ex·pe·ri·en·tial \ik-ˌspir-ē-'en-chəl\ *adj* : derived from, based on, or relating to experience : EMPIRICAL — **ex·pe·ri·en·tial·ly** \-'ench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

1ex·per·i·ment \ik-'sper-ə-mənt *also* -'spir-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *experimentum*, fr. *experiri*] **1 a** : TEST, TRIAL ⟨make another ~ of his suspicion —Shak.⟩ **b** : a tentative procedure or policy **c** : an operation carried out under controlled conditions in order to discover an unknown effect or law, to test or establish a hypothesis, or to illustrate a known law **2** *obs* : EXPERIENCE **3** : the process of testing : EXPERIMENTATION

2ex·per·i·ment \-ˌment\ *vi* : to carry out experiments — **ex·per·i·men·ta·tion** \ik-ˌsper-ə-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen- *also* -ˌspir-\ *n* — **ex·per·i·ment·er** \-'sper-ə-ˌment-ər *also* -'spir-\ *n*

ex·per·i·men·tal \ik-ˌsper-ə-'ment-ᵊl *also* -ˌspir-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or based on experience : EMPIRICAL **2** : founded on or derived from experiment ⟨the heart of the ~ method is the direct control of the thing studied —B. F. Skinner⟩ **3 a** : serving the ends of or used as a means of experimentation ⟨an ~ school⟩ **b** : relating to or having the characteristics of experiment : TENTATIVE ⟨still in the ~ stage⟩ — **ex·per·i·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

ex·per·i·men·tal·ism \-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : reliance on or advocacy of experimental or empirical principles and procedures; *specif* : INSTRUMENTALISM

ex·per·i·men·tal·ist \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : one who experiments; *specif* : a person conducting scientific experiments
experiment station *n* : an establishment for scientific research (as in agriculture) where experiments are carried out, studies of practical application are made, and information is disseminated
¹ex·pert \'ek-ˌspərt, ik-'\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *expertus*, fr. pp. of *experiri*] **1** *obs* : EXPERIENCED **2** : having, involving, or displaying special skill or knowledge derived from training or experience ***syn*** see PROFICIENT ***ant*** amateurish — **ex·pert·ly** *adv* — **ex·pert·ness** *n*
²ex·pert \'ek-ˌspərt\ *n* [F, fr. *expert*, adj.] : one who has acquired special skill in or knowledge of a particular subject : AUTHORITY
³ex·pert \'ek-ˌspərt\ *vt* : to serve as an expert for ~ *vi* : to serve as an expert
ex·per·tise \ˌek-(ˌ)spər-'tēz *also* -'tēs\ *n* [F, fr. MF, expertness, fr. *expert*] **1** : expert opinion or commentary **2** : skill in a particular field : KNOW-HOW ⟨technical ~⟩
ex·pert·ism \'ek-ˌspərt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : EXPERTISE 2
ex·pert·ize \'ek-spər-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to give a professional opinion usu. after careful study ~ *vt* : to examine and give expert judgment on
ex·pi·a·ble \'ek-spē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being expiated
ex·pi·ate \'ek-spē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *expiatus*, pp. of *expiare* to atone for, fr. *ex-* + *piare* to atone for, appease — more at PIOUS] *vt* **1** *obs* : to put an end to **2 a** : to extinguish the guilt incurred by **b** : to pay the penalty for **c** : to make amends for ⟨permission to ~ their offences by their assiduous labours —Francis Bacon⟩ ~ *vi* : to make expiation — **ex·pi·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
ex·pi·a·tion \ˌek-spē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of making atonement **2** : the means by which atonement is made
ex·pi·a·to·ry \'ek-spē-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : serving to expiate
ex·pi·ra·tion \ˌek-spə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of releasing air from the lungs through the nose or mouth **b** *archaic* : the last emission of breath : DEATH **2** : the fact of coming to an end : TERMINATION **3** : something produced by breathing out
ex·pi·ra·to·ry \ik-'spī-rə-ˌtōr-ē, ek-', -ˌtȯr-; 'ek-sp(ə-)rə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or employed in the expiration of air from the lungs
ex·pire \ik-'spī(ə)r, *oftenest for vi 3 and vt 2* ek-\ *vb* **ex·pired; ex·pir·ing** [ME *expiren*, fr. MF or L; MF *expirer*, fr. L *exspirare*, fr. *ex-* + *spirare* to breathe — more at SPIRIT] *vi* **1** : to breathe one's last breath : DIE **2** : to come to an end ⟨his term of office ~*s* this year⟩ **3** : to emit the breath ~ *vt* **1** *obs* : CONCLUDE **2** : to breathe out from or as if from the lungs **3** *archaic* : to give off
ex·pi·ry \ik-'spī(ə)r-ē, 'ek-spə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1 a** : exhalation of breath **b** : DEATH **2** : TERMINATION; *esp* : the termination of a time or period fixed by law, contract, or agreement
ex·plain \ik-'splān\ *vb* [ME *explanen*, fr. L *explanare*, lit., to make level, fr. *ex-* + *planus* level, flat — more at FLOOR] *vt* **1** : to make plain or understandable ⟨a commentary that ~*s* the more difficult passages of the poem⟩ **2** : to give the reason for or cause of ⟨unable to ~ his conduct⟩ **3** : to show the logical development or relationships of ~ *vi* : to make something plain or understandable — **ex·plain·able** \-'splā-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·plain·er** *n*
syn EXPLAIN, EXPOUND, EXPLICATE, ELUCIDATE, INTERPRET *shared meaning element* : to make something clear or understandable
— **explain oneself** : to clarify one's statements or the reasons for one's conduct
explain away *vt* **1** : to get rid of by or as if by explanation **2** : to minimize the significance of by or as if by explanation ⟨evidence which it was hard to *explain away* —A. G. N. Flew⟩
ex·pla·na·tion \ˌek-splə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of explaining **2** : something that explains ⟨the ~*s* offered for mistakes followed a set pattern —V. G. Heiser⟩ **3** : a mutual discussion designed to correct a misunderstanding or reconcile differences
ex·plan·a·tive \ik-'splan-ət-iv\ *adj* : EXPLANATORY — **ex·plan·a·tive·ly** *adv*
ex·plan·a·to·ry \ik-'splan-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : serving or disposed to explain ⟨~ notes⟩ — **ex·plan·a·to·ri·ly** \-ˌsplan-ə-'tōr-ə-lē, -'tȯr-\ *adv*
¹ex·plant \(')ek-'splant\ *vt* [*ex-* + *-plant* (as in *implant*)] : to remove (living tissue) esp. to a medium for tissue culture — **ex·plan·ta·tion** \ˌek-ˌsplan-'tā-shən\ *n*
²ex·plant \'ek-ˌsplant\ *n* : living tissue removed from an organism and placed in a medium for tissue culture
¹ex·ple·tive \'ek-splət-iv\ *adj* [LL *expletivus*, fr. L *expletus*, pp. of *explēre* to fill out, fr. *ex-* + *plēre* to fill — more at FULL] **1** : serving to fill up ⟨~ phrases⟩ **2** : marked by the use of expletives
²expletive *n* **1 a** : a syllable, word, or phrase inserted to fill a vacancy (as in a sentence or a metrical line) without adding to the sense; *esp* : a word (as *it* in "make it clear which you prefer") that occupies the position of the subject or object of a verb in normal English word order and anticipates a subsequent word or phrase that supplies the needed meaningful content **b** : an exclamatory word or phrase; *esp* : one that is obscene or profane **2** : one that serves as a filler
ex·ple·to·ry \'ek-splə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : EXPLETIVE
ex·pli·ca·ble \ek-'splik-ə-bəl, 'ek-(ˌ)splik-\ *adj* : capable of being explained — **ex·pli·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
ex·pli·cate \'ek-splə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *explicatus*, pp. of *explicare*, lit., to unfold, fr. *ex-* + *plicare* to fold — more at PLY] **1** : to give a detailed explanation of **2** : to develop the implications of : analyze logically ***syn*** see EXPLAIN — **ex·pli·ca·tion** \ˌek-splə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **ex·pli·ca·tor** \'ek-splə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
ex·pli·ca·tion de texte \ek-splē-kä-syōⁿ-də-tekst\ *n, pl* **explications de texte** *same*\ [F, lit., explanation of text] : a method of literary criticism involving a detailed analysis of each part of a work
¹ex·pli·ca·tive \ek-'splik-ət-iv, 'ek-splə-ˌkāt-\ *adj* : serving to explicate : EXPLANATORY; *specif* : serving to explain logically what is contained in the subject ⟨an ~ proposition⟩ — **ex·pli·ca·tive·ly** *adv*
²explicative *n* : an explicative expression
ex·pli·ca·to·ry \ek-'splik-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -'ek-(ˌ)splik-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : EXPLICATIVE
ex·plic·it \ik-'splis-ət\ *adj* [F or ML; F *explicite*, fr. ML *explicitus*, fr. L, pp. of *explicare*] **1 a** : free from all vagueness and ambiguity ⟨an ~ statement of the problem⟩ **b** : fully developed or formulated ⟨an ~ statement of his objectives⟩ **2** : unreserved and unambiguous in expression **3** : externally visible **4** : involving direct payment ⟨~ costs⟩ — **ex·plic·it·ly** *adv* — **ex·plic·it·ness** *n*
syn EXPLICIT, EXPRESS, SPECIFIC, DEFINITE *shared meaning element* : perfectly clear and unambiguous ***ant*** ambiguous
explicit function *n* : a mathematical function defined by an expression containing only independent variables — compare IMPLICIT FUNCTION
ex·plode \ik-'splōd\ *vb* **ex·plod·ed; ex·plod·ing** [L *explodere* to drive off the stage by clapping, fr. *ex-* + *plaudere* to clap] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to drive from the stage by noisy disapproval **2** : to bring into disrepute or discredit ⟨~ a rumor⟩ **3** : to cause to explode or burst noisily ⟨~ dynamite⟩ ⟨~ a bomb⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to burst forth with sudden violence or noise ⟨~ with anger⟩ **2 a** : to undergo a rapid chemical or nuclear reaction with the production of noise, heat, and violent expansion of gases ⟨dynamite ~*s*⟩ ⟨an atomic bomb ~*s*⟩ **b** : to burst violently as a result of pressure from within — **ex·plod·er** *n*
ex·plod·ed *adj* : showing the parts separated but in correct relationship to each other ⟨an ~ view of a carburetor⟩
ex·plod·ent \ik-'splōd-ᵊnt\ *n* [L *explodent-*, *explodens*, prp. of *explodere*] : EXPLOSIVE
¹ex·ploit \'ek-ˌsplȯit, ik-'\ *n* [ME, outcome, success, fr. OF, fr. L *explicitum*, neut. of *explicitus*, pp.] : DEED, ACT; *esp* : a notable or heroic act ***syn*** see FEAT
²ex·ploit \ik-'splȯit, 'ek-ˌ\ *vt* **1 a** : to turn to economic account ⟨~ a mine⟩ **b** : to take advantage of : UTILIZE ⟨~*ing* the qualities of the material⟩ **2** : to make use of meanly or unjustly for one's own advantage ⟨~*s* his friends⟩ — **ex·ploit·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·ploit·er** *n*
ex·ploi·ta·tion \ˌek-ˌsplȯi-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of exploiting: as **a** : utilization or working of a natural resource **b** : an unjust or improper use of another person for one's own profit or advantage **c** : coaction between organisms in which one is benefited at the expense of the other **2** : PUBLICITY, ADVERTISING — **ex·ploit·ative** \ik-'splȯit-ət-iv\ *adj* — **ex·ploit·ative·ly** *adv*
ex·ploit·ive \ik-'splȯit-iv\ *adj* : of or relating to exploitation
ex·plo·ra·tion \ˌek-splə-'rā-shən, -ˌsplȯ-\ *n* : the act or an instance of exploring — **ex·plo·ra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
ex·plor·ative \ik-'splōr-ət-iv, -'splȯr-\ *adj* : EXPLORATORY — **ex·plor·ative·ly** *adv*
ex·plor·ato·ry \-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to exploration ⟨~ surgery⟩
ex·plore \ik-'splō(ə)r, -'splȯ(ə)r\ *vb* **ex·plored; ex·plor·ing** [L *explorare*, fr. *ex-* + *plorare* to cry out; prob. fr. the outcry of hunters on sighting game] *vt* **1** *obs* : to seek for or after **2 a** : to search through or into ⟨~ the possibilities of reaching an agreement⟩ **b** : to examine minutely esp. for diagnostic purposes **c** : to penetrate into or range over for purposes of geographical discovery ~ *vi* : to make or conduct a systematic search ⟨~ for oil⟩
ex·plor·er \ik-'splōr-ər, -'splȯr-\ *n* : one that explores; *esp* : a person who travels in search of geographical or scientific information
ex·plo·si·ble \ik-'splō-zə-bəl, -'splō-sə-\ *adj* : capable of being exploded — **ex·plo·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌsplō-zə-'bil-ət-ē, -sə-\ *n*
ex·plo·sion \ik-'splō-zhən\ *n* [L *explosion-*, *explosio* act of driving off by clapping, fr. *explosus*, pp. of *explodere*] **1** : the act or an instance of exploding: as **a** : a large-scale, rapid, and spectacular expansion, outbreak, or upheaval ⟨the population ~⟩ **b** : a violent outburst of feeling **2** : the release of occluded breath that occurs in one kind of articulation of stop consonants
¹ex·plo·sive \ik-'splō-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1** : relating to, characterized by, or operated by explosion ⟨an ~ engine⟩ **2** : tending to explode ⟨an ~ person⟩ — **ex·plo·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·plo·sive·ness** *n*
²explosive *n* **1** : an explosive substance **2** : a consonant characterized by explosion in its articulation when it occurs in certain environments : STOP
ex·po \'ek-(ˌ)spō\ *n, pl* **expos** : EXPOSITION 3b
ex·po·nent \ik-'spō-nənt, 'ek-ˌ\ *n* [L *exponent-*, *exponens*, prp. of *exponere*] **1** : a symbol written above and to the right of a mathematical expression to indicate the operation of raising to a power ⟨in the expression a^3, the ~ *3* indicates that *a* is to be multiplied by itself twice⟩ **2 a** : one that expounds or interprets **b** : one that champions, advocates, or exemplifies
ex·po·nen·tial \ˌek-spə-'nen-chəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an exponent **2** : involving a variable in an exponent ⟨10^x is an ~ expression⟩ **3** : expressible or approximately expressible by an exponential equation ⟨an ~ growth rate⟩ — **ex·po·nen·tial·ly** \-'nench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
exponential equation *n* : an equation involving an exponential function of a variable
exponential function *n* : a mathematical function in which an independent variable appears in one of the exponents — called also *exponential*
ex·po·nen·ti·a·tion \ˌek-spə-ˌnen-chē-'ā-shən\ *n* [*exponent* + *-iation* (as in *differentiation*)] : INVOLUTION 2
¹ex·port \ek-'spō(ə)rt, -'spȯ(ə)rt, 'ek-ˌ\ *vb* [L *exportare*, fr. *ex-* + *portare* to carry — more at FARE] *vt* **1** : to carry away : REMOVE **2** : to carry or send (as a commodity) to some other place (as another country) ~ *vi* : to export something abroad — **ex·port·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)ek-ˌspōrt-ə-'bil-ət-ē, -ˌspȯrt-\ *n* — **ex·port·able** \ek-'spōrt-ə-bəl, -'spȯrt-, 'ek-ˌ\ *adj*
²ex·port \'ek-ˌspō(ə)rt, -ˌspȯ(ə)rt\ *n* **1** : something exported; *specif* : a commodity conveyed from one country or region to another for purposes of trade **2** : an act of exporting : EXPORTATION ⟨the ~ of wheat⟩
³export \'ek-ˌ\ *adj* : of or relating to exportation or exports ⟨~ duties⟩
ex·por·ta·tion \ˌek-ˌspōr-'tā-shən, -ˌspȯr-, -spər-\ *n* : an act of exporting; *also* : a commodity exported

ex·port·er \ek-'spōrt-ər, -'spȯrt-, 'ek-ˌ\ *n* : one that exports; *specif* : a wholesaler who sells to merchants or industrial consumers in foreign countries

ex·pose \ik-'spōz\ *vt* **ex·posed; ex·pos·ing** [ME *exposen*, fr. MF *exposer*, fr. L *exponere* to set forth, explain (perf. indic. *exposui*), fr. *ex-* + *ponere* to put, place — more at POSITION] **1 a** : to deprive of shelter, protection, or care ⟨~ troops needlessly⟩ **b** : to submit or subject to an action or influence; *specif* : to subject (a sensitive photographic film, plate, or paper) to the action of radiant energy **c** : to abandon (an infant) esp. by leaving in the open : DESERT **2** : to lay open to view: as **a** : to offer publicly for sale **b** : to exhibit for public veneration **c** : to reveal the face of (a playing card) **3 a** : to bring to light (as something shameful) : UNMASK **b** : to disclose the faults or crimes of ⟨~ a murderer⟩ — **ex·pos·er** *n*

ex·po·sé *or* **ex·po·se** \ˌek-spō-'zā, -spə-\ *n* [F *exposé*, fr. pp. of *exposer*] **1** : a formal recital or exposition of facts : STATEMENT **2** : an exposure of something discreditable ⟨a newspaper ~ of crime conditions⟩

ex·posed \ik-'spōzd\ *adj* **1** : open to view ⟨an ~ card⟩ **2** : not shielded or protected ⟨an ~ electric wire⟩

ex·pos·it \ik-'späz-ət\ *vt* [L *expositus*, pp. of *exponere*] : EXPOUND

ex·po·si·tion \ˌek-spə-'zish-ən\ *n* **1** : a setting forth of the meaning or purpose (as of a writing) **2 a** : discourse or an example of it designed to convey information or explain what is difficult to understand **b** (1) : the first part of a musical composition in sonata form in which the thematic material of the movement is presented (2) : the opening section of a fugue **3** : an act or an instance of exposing: as **a** : abandonment of an infant **b** : a public exhibition or show — **ex·po·si·tion·al** \-'zish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·pos·i·tive \ik-'späz-ət-iv\ *adj* : DESCRIPTIVE, EXPOSITORY

ex·pos·i·tor \-ət-ər\ *n* [ME *expositour*, fr. MF *expositeur*, fr. LL *expositor*, fr. L *expositus*] : one who expounds or explains : COMMENTATOR

ex·pos·i·to·ry \-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing exposition ⟨~ writing⟩

¹ex post fac·to \ˌek-ˌspōst-'fak-(ˌ)tō\ *adj* [LL, from a thing done afterward] **1** : done, made, or formulated after the fact ⟨*ex post facto* approval⟩ **2** : disregarding or altering the previous status or setting of the event or thing concerning which a conclusion is reached or at which action is directed ⟨*ex post facto* laws⟩

²ex post facto *adv* : after the fact : RETROACTIVELY

ex·pos·tu·late \ik-'späs-chə-ˌlāt\ *vb* [L *expostulatus*, pp. of *expostulare* to demand, dispute, fr. *ex-* + *postulare* to ask for — more at POSTULATE] *vt, obs* : DISCUSS, EXAMINE ~ *vi* : to reason earnestly with a person for purposes of dissuasion or remonstrance ***syn*** see OBJECT

ex·pos·tu·la·tion \-ˌspäs-chə-'lā-shən\ *n* : an act or an instance of expostulating : REMONSTRANCE ⟨all his ~*s* proved futile⟩ — **ex·pos·tu·la·to·ry** \-'späs-chə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

ex·po·sure \ik-'spō-zhər\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of exposing: as **a** : disclosure to view ⟨skillful ~ of goods in a store window⟩ **b** (1) : a disclosure esp. of a weakness or something shameful or criminal : UNMASKING ⟨continued his ~ of electoral frauds⟩ (2) : PRESENTATION, EXPOSITION **c** : an act of abandoning esp. in the open **d** (1) : the act of exposing a sensitized photographic material (2) : a section of a film for an individual picture (3) : the total amount of light or other radiant energy received per unit area on the sensitized material usu. expressed for cameras in terms of the time and the lens *f*-number **2 a** : a condition or an instance of being exposed; *specif* : the condition of being exposed to the elements **b** : a position with respect to the points of the compass or to climatic or weather influences ⟨a house with a western ~⟩

exposure meter *n* : a device for indicating correct photographic exposure under varying conditions of illumination

ex·pound \ik-'spaůnd\ *vb* [ME *expounden*, fr. MF *expondre*, fr. L *exponere* to explain — more at EXPOSE] *vt* **1 a** : to set forth : STATE **b** : to defend with argument **2** : to explain by setting forth in careful and often elaborate detail ⟨~ a law⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a statement ***syn*** see EXPLAIN — **ex·pound·er** *n*

¹ex·press \ik-'spres\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *expres*, fr. L *expressus*, pp. of *exprimere* to press out, express, fr. *ex-* + *premere* to press — more at PRESS] **1 a** : directly, firmly, and explicitly stated ⟨he disobeyed my ~ orders⟩ **b** : EXACT, PRECISE **2 a** : designed for or adapted to its purpose **b** : of a particular sort : SPECIFIC ⟨he came for that ~ purpose⟩ **3 a** : traveling at high speed; *specif* : traveling with few or no stops along the way ⟨~ train⟩ **b** : adapted or suitable for travel at high speed ⟨an ~ highway⟩ **c** *Brit* : designated to be delivered without delay by special messenger ⟨~ mail⟩ ***syn*** see EXPLICIT

²express *adv* **1** *obs* : EXPRESSLY **2** : by express ⟨send a package ~⟩

³express *n* **1 a** *Brit* : a messenger sent on a special errand **b** *Brit* : a dispatch conveyed by a special messenger **c** (1) : a system for the prompt and safe transportation of parcels, money, or goods at rates higher than standard freight charges (2) : a company operating such a merchandise freight service (3) : the goods or shipments so transported **d** *Brit* : SPECIAL DELIVERY **2** : an express vehicle

⁴express *vt* [ME *expressen*, fr. MF & L; MF *expresser*, fr. OF, fr. *expres*, adj., fr. L *expressus*, pp.] **1 a** : DELINEATE, DEPICT **b** : to represent in words : STATE **c** : to give or convey a true impression of : SHOW, REFLECT **d** : to make known the opinions or feelings of (oneself) ⟨~*ed* himself very strongly on that subject⟩ **e** : to give expression to the artistic or creative impulses or abilities of (oneself) **f** : to represent by a sign or symbol : SYMBOLIZE **2 a** : to force out (as the juice of a fruit) by pressure **b** : to subject to pressure so as to extract something **3** : to send by express — **ex·press·er** *n* — **ex·press·ible** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

syn EXPRESS, VENT, UTTER, VOICE, BROACH, AIR *shared meaning element* : to let out what one thinks or feels ***ant*** imply

ex·press·age \ik-'spres-ij\ *n* : a carrying of parcels by express; *also* : a charge for such carrying

ex·pres·sion \ik-'spresh-ən\ *n* **1 a** : an act, process, or instance of representing in a medium (as words) : UTTERANCE ⟨freedom of ~⟩ **b** (1) : something that manifests, embodies, or symbolizes something else ⟨this gift is an ~ of my admiration for you⟩ (2) : a significant word or phrase (3) : a mathematical or logical symbol or a meaningful combination of symbols (4) : the detectable effect of a gene; *also* : EXPRESSIVITY **2 a** : a mode, means, or use of significant representation or symbolism; *esp* : felicitous or vivid indication or depiction of mood or sentiment ⟨read the poem with ~⟩ **b** (1) : the quality or fact of being expressive (2) : facial aspect or vocal intonation as indicative of feeling **3** : an act or product of pressing out — **ex·pres·sion·al** \-'spresh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

ex·pres·sion·ism \ik-'spresh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a theory or practice in art of seeking to depict not objective reality but the subjective emotions and responses that objects and events arouse in the artist — **ex·pres·sion·ist** \-'spresh-(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj* — **ex·pres·sion·is·tic** \-ˌspresh-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj* — **ex·pres·sion·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ex·pres·sion·less \ik-'spresh-ən-ləs\ *adj* : lacking expression ⟨an ~ face⟩ — **ex·pres·sion·less·ly** *adv* — **ex·pres·sion·less·ness** *n*

ex·pres·sive \ik-'spres-iv\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to expression ⟨the ~ function of language⟩ **2** : serving to express, utter, or represent ⟨he used foul and novel terms ~ of rage —H. G. Wells⟩ **3** : full of expression : SIGNIFICANT ⟨an ~ silence⟩ — **ex·pres·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·pres·sive·ness** *n*

ex·pres·siv·i·ty \ˌek-ˌspres-'iv-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the relative capacity of a gene to affect the phenotype of the organism of which it is a part **2** : the quality of being expressive

ex·press·ly \ik-'spres-lē\ *adv* **1** : in an express manner : EXPLICITLY ⟨he ~ rejected socialism⟩ **2** : for the express purpose : PARTICULARLY ⟨needed a clinic ~ for the treatment of addicts⟩

ex·press·man \ik-'spres-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : a person employed in the express business

ex·press·way \ik-'spres-ˌwā\ *n* : a high-speed divided highway for through traffic with access partially or fully controlled and grade separations at important intersections with other roads

ex·pro·pri·ate \ek-'sprō-prē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *expropriatus*, pp. of *expropriare*, fr. L *ex-* + *proprius* own] **1** : to deprive of possession or proprietary rights **2** : to transfer (the property of another) to one's own possession ⟨*expropriated* all the land within a 10 mile radius⟩ — **ex·pro·pri·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

ex·pro·pri·a·tion \(ˌ)ek-ˌsprō-prē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act of expropriating or the state of being expropriated; *specif* : the action of the state in taking or modifying the property rights of an individual in the exercise of its sovereignty

expt *abbr* experiment

exptl *abbr* experimental

ex·pulse \ik-'spəls\ *vt* **ex·pulsed; ex·puls·ing** : EXPEL

ex·pul·sion \ik-'spəl-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *expulsion-*, *expulsio*, fr. *expulsus*, pp. of *expellere* to expel] : the act of expelling : the state of being expelled — **ex·pul·sive** \-'pəl-siv\ *adj*

ex·punc·tion \ik-'spəŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [L *expunctus*, pp. of *expungere*] : the act of expunging : the state of being expunged : ERASURE

ex·punge \ik-'spənj\ *vt* **ex·punged; ex·pung·ing** [L *expungere* to mark for deletion by dots, fr. *ex-* + *pungere* to prick — more at PUNGENT] **1** : to strike out, obliterate, or mark for deletion **2** : to efface completely : DESTROY ***syn*** see ERASE — **ex·pung·er** *n*

ex·pur·gate \'ek-spər-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *expurgatus*, pp. of *expurgare*, fr. *ex-* + *purgare* to purge] : to cleanse of something morally harmful, offensive, or erroneous; *esp* : to expunge objectionable parts from before publication or presentation ⟨~ a book⟩ — **ex·pur·ga·tion** \ˌek-spər-'gā-shən\ *n* — **ex·pur·ga·tor** \'ek-spər-ˌgāt-ər\ *n*

ex·pur·ga·to·ri·al \(ˌ)ek-ˌspər-gə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : relating to expurgation or an expurgator : EXPURGATORY

ex·pur·ga·to·ry \ek-'spər-gə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : serving to purify from something morally harmful, offensive, or erroneous

expy *abbr* expressway

¹ex·qui·site \ek-'skwiz-ət, 'ek-(ˌ)\ *adj* [ME *exquisit*, fr. L *exquisitus*, fr. pp. of *exquirere* to search out, fr. *ex-* + *quaerere* to seek] **1** : carefully selected : CHOICE **2** *archaic* : ACCURATE **3 a** : marked by flawless craftsmanship or by beautiful, ingenious, delicate, or elaborate execution **b** : keenly appreciative : DISCRIMINATING ⟨~ taste⟩ **c** : ACCOMPLISHED, PERFECTED ⟨an ~ gentleman⟩ **4 a** : pleasing through beauty, fitness, or perfection ⟨an ~ white blossom⟩ **b** : ACUTE, INTENSE ⟨~ pain⟩ **c** : having uncommon or esoteric appeal ***syn*** see CHOICE — **ex·qui·site·ly** *adv* — **ex·qui·site·ness** *n*

²exquisite *n* : one who is overly fastidious in dress or ornament

exrx *abbr* executrix

ex·san·gui·nate \ek(s)-'saŋ-gwə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *exsanguinatus* bloodless, fr. *ex-* + *sanguin-*, *sanguis* blood] : to drain of blood — **ex·san·gui·na·tion** \(ˌ)ek(s)-ˌsaŋ-gwə-'nā-shən\ *n*

ex·scind \ek-'sind\ *vt* [L *exscindere*, fr. *ex-* + *scindere* to cut, tear — more at SHED] : to cut off or out : EXCISE

ex·sert \ek-'sərt\ *vt* [L *exsertus*, pp. of *exserere* — more at EXERT] : to thrust out — **ex·ser·tile** \-'sərt-ᵊl, -'sər-ˌtīl\ *adj* — **ex·ser·tion** \-'sər-shən\ *n*

ex·sert·ed *adj* : projecting beyond an enclosing organ or part

ex·sic·cate \'ek-si-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *exsiccatus*, pp. of *exsiccare*, fr. *ex-* + *siccare* to dry, fr. *siccus* dry — more at SACK] : to remove moisture from : DRY — **ex·sic·ca·tion** \ˌek-si-'kā-shən\ *n*

ex·stip·u·late \(')ek(s)-'stip-yə-lət\ *adj* : having no stipules

ext *abbr* **1** extension **2** exterior **3** external **4** externally **5** extra **6** extract

ex·tant \'ek-stənt; ek-'stant, 'ek-ˌ\ *adj* [L *exstant-, exstans,* prp. of *exstare* to stand out, be in existence, fr. *ex-* + *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1** *archaic* : standing out or above **2 a** : currently or actually existing ⟨~ and projected programs⟩ ⟨the most charming writer ~ —G. W. Johnson⟩ **b** : not destroyed or lost ⟨~ manuscripts⟩

ex·tem·po·ral \ek-'stem-p(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [L *extemporalis,* fr. *ex tempore*] *archaic* : EXTEMPORANEOUS — **ex·tem·po·ral·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

ex·tem·po·ra·ne·ity \(ˌ)ek-ˌstem-pə-rə-'nē-ət-ē, -'nā-\ *n* : the quality or state of being extemporaneous

ex·tem·po·ra·ne·ous \(ˌ)ek-ˌstem-pə-'rā-nē-əs\ *adj* [LL *extemporaneus,* fr. L *ex tempore*] **1 a** (1) : composed, performed, or uttered on the spur of the moment : IMPROMPTU (2) : carefully prepared but delivered without notes or text **b** : skilled at or given to extemporaneous utterance **c** : happening suddenly and often unexpectedly and usu. without clearly known causes or relationships ⟨a great deal of criminal and delinquent behavior is . . . ~ —W. C. Reckless⟩ **2** : provided, made, or put to use as an expedient : MAKESHIFT — **ex·tem·po·ra·ne·ous·ly** *adv* — **ex·tem·po·ra·ne·ous·ness** *n*

ex·tem·po·rary \ik-'stem-pə-ˌrer-ē\ *adj* : EXTEMPORANEOUS — **ex·tem·po·rar·i·ly** \-ˌstem-pə-'rer-ə-lē\ *adv*

ex·tem·po·re \ik-'stem-pə-(ˌ)rē\ *adv* [L *ex tempore,* fr. *ex* + *tempore,* abl. of *tempus* time] : in an extemporaneous manner ⟨speaking ~⟩

ex·tem·po·ri·za·tion \ik-ˌstem-pə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of extemporizing : IMPROVISATION **2** : something extemporized

ex·tem·po·rize \ik-'stem-pə-ˌrīz\ *vb* **-rized; -riz·ing** *vi* **1** : to do something extemporaneously : IMPROVISE; *esp* : to speak extemporaneously **2** : to get along in a makeshift manner ~ *vt* : to compose, perform, or utter extemporaneously : IMPROVISE — **ex·tem·po·riz·er** *n*

ex·tend \ik-'stend\ *vb* [ME *extenden,* fr. MF or L; MF *estendre,* fr. L *extendere,* fr. *ex-* + *tendere* to stretch — more at THIN] *vt* **1** [ME *extenden,* fr. ML *extendere* (fr. L) or AF *estendre,* fr. OF] **a** *Brit* : to take possession of (as lands) by a writ of extent **b** *obs* : to take by force **2** : to spread or stretch forth : UNBEND ⟨~*ed* both her arms⟩ **3 a** : to stretch out to fullest length **b** : to cause (as a horse) to move at full stride **c** : to exert (oneself) to full capacity ⟨could work long and hard without seeming to ~ himself⟩ **d** (1) : to increase the bulk of (as by the addition of a cheaper substance or a modifier) (2) : ADULTERATE **4 a** : to make the offer of : PROFFER ⟨~*ing* aid to the needy⟩ **b** : to make available ⟨~*ing* credit to customers⟩ **5 a** : to cause to reach (as in distance or scope) ⟨national authority was ~*ed* over new territories⟩ **b** : to cause to be longer : prolong in time ⟨~*ed* their visit another day⟩; *esp* : to prolong the time of payment of **c** : ADVANCE, FURTHER ⟨~*ing* his potential through job training⟩ **6 a** : to cause to be of greater area or volume : ENLARGE **b** : to increase the scope, meaning, or application of : BROADEN ⟨beauty, I suppose, opens the heart, ~*s* the consciousness —Algernon Blackwood⟩ **c** *archaic* : EXAGGERATE ~ *vi* **1** : to stretch out in distance, space, or time : REACH ⟨his jurisdiction ~*ed* over the whole area⟩ **2** : to reach in scope or application ⟨his concern ~*s* beyond mere business to real service to his customers⟩ — **ex·tend·able** *or* **ex·tend·ible** \-'sten-də-bəl\ *adj*

syn EXTEND, LENGTHEN, ELONGATE, PROLONG, PROTRACT *shared meaning element* : to draw out or add to so as to increase in length ***ant*** abridge, shorten

ex·tend·ed *adj* **1** : INTENSIVE ⟨~ efforts⟩ **2** : having spatial magnitude : being larger than a point ⟨an ~ source of light⟩ **3** : EXTENSIVE ⟨made available ~ information —Ruth G. Strickland⟩ **4** : DERIVATIVE 1, SECONDARY 2a ⟨an ~ sense of a word⟩ — **ex·tend·ed·ly** *adv* — **ex·tend·ed·ness** *n*

extended family *n* : a family that includes in one household near relatives in addition to a nuclear family

extended play *n* : a 45-rpm phonograph record with a playing time of about 6 to 8 minutes

ex·tend·er \ik-'sten-dər\ *n* : one that extends; *esp* : a substance added to a product esp. in the capacity of a diluent, adulterant, or modifier

ex·ten·si·ble \ik-'sten(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being extended — **ex·ten·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌsten(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

ex·ten·sile \ik-'sten(t)-səl, -'sten-ˌsīl\ *adj* : EXTENSIBLE

ex·ten·sion \ik-'sten-chən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *extension-, extensio,* fr. L *extensus,* pp. of *extendere*] **1 a** : the action of extending : state of being extended **b** : an enlargement in scope or operation ⟨tools are ~*s* of human hands⟩ **2 a** : the total range over which something extends : COMPASS **b** : DENOTATION 2 **3 a** : the stretching of a fractured or luxated limb so as to restore it to its natural position **b** : the unbending of a joint between the bones of a limb by which the angle between the bones is increased — compare FLEXION **4** : a property whereby something occupies space **5** : an increase in length of time; *specif* : an increase in time allowed under agreement or concession ⟨was granted an ~⟩ **6** : a program that geographically extends the educational resources of an institution by special arrangements (as correspondence courses) to persons otherwise unable to take advantage of such resources **7 a** : a part constituting an addition **b** : a section forming an additional length **c** : an extra telephone connected to the principal line **8** : a mathematical set (as a field or group) that includes a given and similar set as a subset

ex·ten·sion·al \ik-'stench-nəl, -'sten-chən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or marked by extension; *specif* : DENOTATIVE **2** : concerned with objective reality — **ex·ten·sion·al·i·ty** \-ˌsten-chə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·ten·sion·al·ly** \-'stench-nə-lē, -'sten-chən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

extension cord *n* : CORD 3b

ex·ten·si·ty \ik-'sten(t)-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality of having extension **b** : degree of extension : RANGE **2** : an attribute of sensation whereby space or size is perceived

ex·ten·sive \ik-'sten(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : EXTENSIONAL **2** : having wide or considerable extent ⟨~ reading⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or constituting farming in which large areas of land are utilized with minimum outlay and labor — **ex·ten·sive·ly** *adv* — **ex·ten·sive·ness** *n*

ex·ten·som·e·ter \ˌek-ˌsten-'säm-ət-ər\ *n* [*extension* + *-o-* + *-meter*] : an instrument for measuring minute deformations of test specimens caused by tension, compression, bending, or twisting

ex·ten·sor \ik-'sten(t)-sər\ *n* : a muscle serving to extend a bodily part (as a limb)

ex·tent \ik-'stent\ *n* [ME, fr. AF & MF; AF *extente* land valuation, fr. MF, area, surveying of land, fr. *extendre* to extend] **1** *archaic* : valuation (as of land) in Great Britain esp. for taxation **2 a** : seizure (as of land) in execution of a writ of extent in Great Britain : the condition of being so seized **b** : a writ giving to a creditor temporary possession of his debtor's property **3 a** : the range over which something extends : SCOPE ⟨the ~ of his authority⟩ **b** : the point, degree, or limit to which something extends ⟨using talents to the greatest ~⟩ **c** : the amount of space or surface that something occupies or the distance over which it extends : MAGNITUDE ⟨the ~ of the forest⟩

ex·ten·u·ate \ik-'sten-yə-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *extenuatus,* pp. of *extenuare,* fr. *ex-* + *tenuis* thin — more at THIN] **1 a** *archaic* : to make light of **b** : to lessen or to try to lessen the seriousness or extent of by making partial excuses : MITIGATE **c** *obs* : DISPARAGE **2 a** *archaic* : to make thin or emaciated **b** : to lessen the strength or effect of — **ex·ten·u·a·tor** \-ˌwāt-ər\ *n* — **ex·ten·u·a·to·ry** \-wə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

ex·ten·u·a·tion \ik-ˌsten-yə-'wā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of extenuating or state of being extenuated; *esp* : partial justification **2** : something extenuating; *esp* : a partial excuse

¹ex·te·ri·or \ek-'stir-ē-ər\ *adj* [L, compar. of *exter, exterus* being on the outside, foreign, fr. *ex*] **1** : being on an outside surface : situated on the outside **2** : observable by outward signs ⟨his ~ quietness is belied by an occasional nervous twitch —*Current Biog.*⟩ **3** : suitable for use on outside surfaces — **ex·te·ri·or·ly** *adv*

²exterior *n* **1 a** : an exterior part or surface : OUTSIDE **b** : outward manner or appearance **2** : a representation of an outdoor scene

exterior angle *n* **1** : the angle between a side of a polygon and an extended adjacent side **2** : an angle between a line crossing two parallel lines and either of the latter on the outside

ex·te·ri·or·i·ty \(ˌ)ek-ˌstir-ē-'ȯr-ət-ē, -'är-\ *n* : the quality or state of being exterior or exteriorized : EXTERNALITY

ex·te·ri·or·ize \ek-'stir-ē-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : EXTERNALIZE **2** : to bring out of the abdomen (as for surgery) — **ex·te·ri·or·iza·tion** \-ˌstir-ē-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

ex·ter·mi·nate \ik-'stər-mə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *exterminatus,* pp. of *exterminare,* fr. *ex-* + *terminus* boundary — more at TERM] : to get rid of completely usu. by killing off ⟨~ crabgrass from a lawn⟩ — **ex·ter·mi·na·tion** \-ˌstər-mə-'nā-shən\ *n* — **ex·ter·mi·na·tor** \-'stər-mə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*

syn EXTERMINATE, EXTIRPATE, ERADICATE, UPROOT *shared meaning element* : to effect the destruction or abolition of

ex·ter·mi·na·to·ry \ik-'stərm-(ə-)nə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by extermination

ex·ter·mine \ik-'stər-mən\ *vt* **-mined; -min·ing** *obs* : EXTERMINATE

¹ex·tern \ek-'stərn, 'ek-ˌ\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *externe,* fr. L *externus*] *archaic* : EXTERNAL

²ex·tern *also* **ex·terne** \'ek-ˌstərn\ *n* : a person connected with an institution but not living or boarding in it; *specif* : a nonresident doctor or medical student at a hospital — **ex·tern·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

¹ex·ter·nal \ek-'stərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr L *externus* external, fr. *exter*] **1 a** : capable of being perceived outwardly ⟨~ signs of a disease⟩ ⟨~ reality⟩ **b** (1) : having merely the outward appearance of something : SUPERFICIAL (2) : not intrinsic or essential ⟨~ circumstances⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or connected with the outside or an outer part **b** : applied or applicable to the outside **3 a** (1) : situated outside, apart, or beyond; *specif* : situated away from the mesial plane (2) : arising or acting from outside ⟨~ force⟩ **b** : of or relating to dealings or relationships with foreign countries **c** : having existence independent of the mind ⟨~ reality⟩ — **ex·ter·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

²external *n* : something that is external: as **a** *archaic* : an outer part **b** : an external feature or aspect — usu. used in pl. ⟨the ~*s* of religion⟩

external–combustion engine *n* : a heat engine (as a steam engine) that derives its heat from fuel consumed outside the engine cylinder

ex·ter·nal·ism \ek-'stərn-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : EXTERNALITY 1 **2** : attention to externals; *esp* : excessive preoccupation with externals

ex·ter·nal·i·ty \ˌek-ˌstər-'nal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being external or externalized **2** : something that is external

ex·ter·nal·iza·tion \ek-ˌstərn-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action or process of externalizing **b** : the quality or state of being externalized **2** : something externalized : EMBODIMENT

ex·ter·nal·ize \ek-'stərn-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; iz·ing** **1** : to make external or externally manifest : EMBODY **2** : to attribute to causes outside the self : RATIONALIZE ⟨~ his failure⟩

external respiration *n* : exchange of gases between the external environment and a distributing system of the animal body (as the lungs of higher vertebrates or the tracheal tubes of insects) or between the alveoli of the lungs and the blood

ex·tero·cep·tive \ˌek-stə-rō-'sep-tiv\ *adj* [L *exter* + E *-o-* + *-ceptive* (as in *receptive*)] : activated by, relating to, or being stimuli received by an organism from outside

ex·tero·cep·tor \-tər\ *n* [NL, fr. L *exter* + NL *-o-* + *-ceptor* (as in *receptor*)] : a sense organ excited by exteroceptive stimuli

ex·ter·ri·to·ri·al \ˌek-ˌster-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : EXTRATERRITORIAL — **ex·ter·ri·to·ri·al·i·ty** \-ˌtōr-ē-'al-ət-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n*

extg *abbr* extracting

¹ex·tinct \ik-'stiŋ(k)t, 'ek-ˌ\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *exstinctus,* pp. of *exstinguere*] **1 a** : no longer burning **b** : no longer active ⟨an ~ volcano⟩ **2** : no longer existing ⟨an ~ animal⟩ **3 a** : gone out of use : SUPERSEDED **b** : having no qualified claimant ⟨an ~ title⟩

²extinct *vt, archaic* : EXTINGUISH

ex·tinc·tion \ik-'stiŋ(k)-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of making extinct or causing to be extinguished **2** : the condition or fact of being ex-

tinct or extinguished **3** : the process of eliminating or reducing a conditioned response by not reinforcing it

ex·tinc·tive \ik-'stiŋ(k)-tiv\ *adj* : tending or serving to extinguish or make extinct

ex·tin·guish \ik-'stiŋ-(g)wish\ *vt* [L *exstinguere* (fr. *ex-* + *stinguere* to extinguish) + E *-ish* (as in *abolish*); akin to L *instigare* to incite — more at STICK] **1 a** : to cause to cease burning : QUENCH **b** (1) : to bring to an end : make an end of ⟨hope for their safety was slowly ~*ed*⟩ (2) : to reduce to silence or ineffectiveness **c** : to cause extinction of (a conditioned response) **d** : to dim the brightness of : ECLIPSE **2 a** : to cause to be void : NULLIFY ⟨~ a claim⟩ **b** : to get rid of usu. by payment ⟨~ a debt⟩ ***syn*** **1** see CRUSH ***ant*** inflame **2** see ABOLISH — **ex·tin·guish·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·tin·guish·er** \-ər\ *n* — **ex·tin·guish·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

ex·tir·pate \'ek-stər-ˌpāt\ *vt* **-pat·ed; -pat·ing** [L *exstirpatus*, pp. *exstirpare*, fr. *ex-* + *stirp-*, *stirps* trunk, root — more at TORPID] **1 a** : to pull up by the root **b** : to destroy completely : wipe out **2** : to cut out by surgery ***syn*** see EXTERMINATE — **ex·tir·pa·tion** \ˌek-stər-'pā-shən\ *n* — **ex·tir·pa·tive** \'ek-stər-ˌpāt-iv, ek-'stər-pət-\ *adj* — ex·tir·pa·tor \'ek-stər-ˌpāt-ər\ *n*

ex·tol *also* **ex·toll** \ik-'stōl\ *vt* **ex·tolled; ex·tol·ling** [ME *extollen*, fr. L *extollere*, fr. *ex-* + *tollere* to lift up — more at TOLERATE] : to praise highly : GLORIFY — **ex·tol·ler** *n* — **ex·tol·ment** \-'stōl-mənt\ *n*

ex·tor·sion \ek-'stȯr-shən, 'ek-ˌ\ *n* : outward rotation (as of a body part) about an axis or fixed point

ex·tort \ik-'stȯ(ə)rt\ *vt* [L *extortus*, pp. of *extorquēre* to wrench out, extort, fr. *ex-* + *torquēre* to twist — more at TORTURE] : to obtain from a person by force or undue or illegal power or ingenuity : WRING ***syn*** see EDUCE — **ex·tort·er** *n* — **ex·tor·tive** \-'stȯrt-iv\ *adj*

ex·tor·tion \ik-'stȯr-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of extorting esp. money or other property; *specif* : the offense committed by an official engaging in such practice **2** : something extorted; *esp* : a gross overcharge — **ex·tor·tion·er** \-sh(ə-)nər\ *n* — **ex·tor·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*

ex·tor·tion·ary \-shəˌner-ē\ *adj, archaic* : EXTORTIONATE 1

ex·tor·tion·ate \ik-'stȯr-sh(ə-)nət\ *adj* **1** : characterized by extortion **2** : EXCESSIVE, EXORBITANT — **ex·tor·tion·ate·ly** *adv*

[1]ex·tra \'ek-strə\ *adj* [prob. short for *extraordinary*] **1 a** : more than is due, usual, or necessary : ADDITIONAL ⟨~ work⟩ **b** : subject to an additional charge ⟨room service is ~⟩ **2** : SUPERIOR ⟨~ quality⟩

[2]extra *n* **1** : something extra or additional: as **a** : an added charge **b** : a special edition of a newspaper **c** : an additional worker; *specif* : one hired to act in a group scene in a motion picture or stage production **2** : something of superior quality or grade

[3]extra *adv* : beyond the usual size, extent, or degree ⟨~ large⟩

extra- *prefix* [ME, fr. L, fr. *extra*, adv. & prep., outside, except, beyond, fr. *exter* being on the outside — more at EXTERIOR] : outside : beyond ⟨*extra*judicial⟩

extra–base hit *n* : a hit in baseball good for more than one base

ex·tra·cel·lu·lar \ˌek-strə-'sel-yə-lər\ *adj* : situated or occurring outside a cell or the cells of the body ⟨~ digestion⟩ ⟨~ enzymes⟩ — **ex·tra·cel·lu·lar·ly** *adv*

ex·tra·chro·mo·som·al \-ˌkrō-mə-'sō-məl, -'zō-\ *adj* : situated or controlled by factors outside the chromosome ⟨~ inheritance⟩

ex·tra·cor·po·re·al \-kȯr-'pōr-ē-əl, -'pȯr-\ *adj* : occurring or based outside the living body ⟨heart surgery employing ~ circulation⟩ — **ex·tra·cor·po·re·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

ex·tra·cra·ni·al \-'krā-nē-əl\ *adj* : situated or occurring outside the cranium

[1]ex·tract \ik-'strakt, *oftenest in sense* 5 'ek-ˌ\ *vt* [ME *extracten*, fr. L *extractus*, pp. of *extrahere*, fr. *ex-* + *trahere* to draw — more at DRAW] **1 a** : to draw forth (as by research) ⟨~ data⟩ **b** : to pull or take out forcibly ⟨~*ed* a wisdom tooth⟩ **c** : to obtain by much effort from someone unwilling ⟨~*ed* a confession⟩ **2** : to withdraw (as a juice or fraction) by physical or chemical process; *also* : to treat with a solvent so as to remove a soluble substance **3** : to separate (a metal) from an ore **4** : to determine (a mathematical root) by calculation **5** : to select (excerpts) and copy out or cite ***syn*** see EDUCE — **ex·tract·abil·i·ty** \ik-ˌstrak-tə-'bil-ət-ē, (ˌ)ek-\ *n* — **ex·tract·able** *or* **ex·tract·ible** \ik-'strak-tə-bəl, 'ek-ˌ\ *adj* — **ex·trac·tor** \ik-'strak-tər, 'ek-ˌ\ *n*

[2]ex·tract \'ek-ˌstrakt\ *n* **1** : a selection from a writing or discourse : EXCERPT **2** : a product (as an essence or concentrate) prepared by extracting; *esp* : a solution (as in alcohol) of essential constituents of a complex material (as meat or an aromatic plant) ⟨beef ~⟩ ⟨lemon ~⟩

ex·trac·tion \ik-'strak-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of extracting **2** : ORIGIN, LINEAGE **3** : something extracted

[1]ex·trac·tive \ik-'strak-tiv, 'ek-ˌ\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or involving extraction ⟨~ processes⟩ **b** : tending toward or resulting in withdrawal of natural resources by extraction with no provision for replenishment ⟨~ agriculture⟩ **2** : capable of being extracted — **ex·trac·tive·ly** *adv*

[2]extractive *n* : something extracted or extractable : EXTRACT

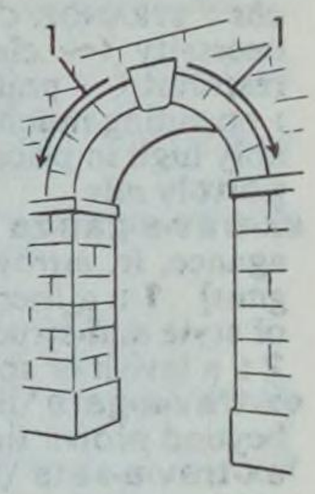
ex·tra·cur·ric·u·lar \ˌek-strə-kə-'rik-yə-lər\ *adj* **1** : not falling within the scope of a regular curriculum; *specif* : of or relating to officially or semiofficially approved and usu. organized student activities (as athletics) connected with school and usu. carrying no academic credit **2** : lying outside one's regular duties or routine ⟨worked extra hours on ~ tasks⟩

ex·tra·dit·able \'ek-strə-ˌdīt-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : subject or liable to extradition **2** : making liable to extradition ⟨an ~ offense⟩

ex·tra·dite \'ek-strə-ˌdīt\ *vt* **-dit·ed; -dit·ing** [back-formation fr. *extradition*] **1** : to deliver up to extradition **2** : to obtain the extradition of

ex·tra·di·tion \ˌek-strə-'dish-ən\ *n* [F, fr. *ex-* + L *tradition-*, *traditio* act of handing over — more at TRADITION] : the surrender of an alleged criminal usu. under the provisions of a treaty or statute by one state or other authority to another having jurisdiction to try the charge

ex·tra·dos \'ek-strə-ˌdäs, -ˌdō; ek-'strā-ˌdäs\ *n, pl* **ex·tra·dos** \-ˌdōz, -ˌdäs\ *or* **ex·tra·dos·es** \-ˌdäs-əz\ [F, fr. L *extra* + F *dos* back — more at DOSSIER] : the exterior curve of an arch



1 extrados

ex·tra·ga·lac·tic \ˌek-strə-gə-'lak-tik\ *adj* [ISV] : lying or coming from outside the Milky Way

ex·tra·he·pat·ic \-hi-'pat-ik\ *adj* : situated or originating outside the liver

ex·tra·ju·di·cial \-jü-'dish-əl\ *adj* **1 a** : not forming a valid part of regular legal proceedings ⟨an ~ investigation⟩ **b** : delivered without legal authority : PRIVATE 2a(2) ⟨the judge's ~ statements⟩ **2** : done in contravention of due process of law ⟨an ~ execution⟩ — **ex·tra·ju·di·cial·ly** \-'dish-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ex·tra·le·gal \ˌek-strə-'lē-gəl\ *adj* : not regulated or sanctioned by law — **ex·tra·le·gal·ly** \-gə-lē\ *adv*

ex·tra·lim·it·al \-'lim-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : not present in a given area — used of kinds of organisms (as species)

ex·tra·lin·guis·tic \-liŋ-'gwis-tik\ *adj* : lying outside the province of linguistics — **ex·tra·lin·guis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-kə-lē\ *adv*

ex·tral·i·ty \ek-'stral-ət-ē\ *n* [by contr.] : EXTRATERRITORIALITY

ex·tra·mar·i·tal \ˌek-strə-'mar-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to a married person's sexual intercourse with other than his or her spouse : ADULTEROUS

ex·tra·mun·dane \ˌek-strə-ˌmən-'dān, -'mən-ˌ\ *adj* [LL *extramundanus*, fr. L *extra* + *mundus* the world] : situated in or relating to a region beyond the material world

ex·tra·mu·ral \-'myůr-əl\ *adj* **1** : existing or functioning outside or beyond the walls, boundaries, or precincts of an organized unit ⟨~ medical care provided by hospital personnel⟩ **2** *chiefly Brit* : of, relating to, or taking part in extension courses or facilities — **ex·tra·mu·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

ex·tra·mu·si·cal \-'myü-zi-kəl\ *adj* : lying outside the province of music

ex·tra·ne·ous \ek-'strā-nē-əs\ *adj* [L *extraneus* — more at STRANGE] **1** : existing on or coming from the outside **2 a** : not forming an essential or vital part ⟨an ~ scene that added nothing to the play⟩ **b** : having no relevance ⟨~ points that do not serve his argument⟩ **3** : being a number obtained in solving an equation that is not a solution of the equation ⟨~ roots⟩ ***syn*** see EXTRINSIC ***ant*** relevant — **ex·tra·ne·ous·ly** *adv* — **ex·tra·ne·ous·ness** *n*

ex·tra·nu·cle·ar \ˌek-strə-'n(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj* **1** : situated in or affecting the parts of a cell external to the nucleus : CYTOPLASMIC **2** : situated outside the nucleus of an atom

extraocular muscle \ˌek-strə-'äk-yə-lər-\ *n* : any of six small voluntary muscles that pass between the eyeball and the orbit and control the movement of the eyeball in relation to the orbit

ex·traor·di·nary \ik-'strȯrd-ᵊn-ˌer-ē, ˌek-strə-'ȯrd-\ *adj* [ME *extraordinarie*, fr. L *extraordinarius*, fr. *extra ordinem* out of course, fr. *extra* + *ordinem*, acc. of *ordin-*, *ordo* order] **1 a** : going beyond what is usual, regular, or customary ⟨~ powers⟩ **b** : exceptional to a very marked extent : REMARKABLE ⟨~ beauty⟩ **2** : employed for or sent on a special function or service ⟨an ambassador ~⟩ — **ex·traor·di·nari·ly** \ik-ˌstrȯrd-ᵊn-'er-ə-lē, ˌek-strə-ˌȯrd-\ *adv* — **ex·traor·di·nari·ness** \ik-'strȯrd-ᵊn-ˌer-ē-nəs, ˌek-strə-'ȯrd-\ *n*

extra point *n* : a point gained on a conversion in football

ex·trap·o·late \ik-'strap-ə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *extra* outside + E *-polate* (as in *interpolate*) — more at EXTRA-] *vt* **1** : to infer (values of a variable in an unobserved interval) from values within an already observed interval **2 a** : to project, extend, or expand (known data or experience) into an area not known or experienced so as to arrive at a usu. conjectural knowledge of the unknown area ⟨~*s* present trends to construct an image of the future⟩ **b** : to predict by projecting past experience or known data ⟨~ public sentiment on one issue from known public reaction on others⟩ ~ *vi* : to perform the act or process of extrapolating — **ex·trap·o·la·tion** \-ˌstrap-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **ex·trap·o·la·tive** \-'strap-ə-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **ex·trap·o·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

ex·tra·sen·so·ry \ˌek-strə-'sen(t)s-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : residing beyond or outside the ordinary senses ⟨instances of ~ perception⟩

ex·tra·sys·to·le \-'sis-tə-(ˌ)lē\ *n* [NL] : a premature beat of one of the chambers of the heart that leads to momentary arrhythmia — **ex·tra·sys·tol·ic** \-sis-'täl-ik\ *adj*

[1]ex·tra·ter·res·tri·al \-tə-'res-trē-əl, -'res(h)-chəl\ *adj* : originating or existing outside the earth or its atmosphere ⟨~ life⟩; *also* : of or relating to extraterrestrial space ⟨~ exploration⟩

[2]extraterrestrial *n* : an extraterrestrial being

ex·tra·ter·ri·to·ri·al \-ˌter-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : existing or taking place outside the territorial limits of a jurisdiction

ex·tra·ter·ri·to·ri·al·i·ty \-ˌtōr-ē-'al-ət-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n* : exemption from the application or jurisdiction of local law or tribunals

ex·tra·trop·i·cal cyclone \ˌek-strə-ˌträp-i-kəl-\ *n* : a cyclone in the middle latitudes often being 1500 miles in diameter and usu. containing a cold front that extends toward the equator for hundreds of miles

ex·tra·uter·ine \ˌek-strə-'yüt-ə-rən, -ˌrīn\ *adj* [ISV] : situated or occurring outside the uterus ⟨~ pregnancy⟩

ex·trav·a·gance \ik-'strav-i-gən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : an instance of excess or prodigality; *specif* : an excessive outlay of money **b** : something extravagant **2** : the quality or fact of being extravagant

ex·trav·a·gan·cy \-gən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : EXTRAVAGANCE

ex·trav·a·gant \ik-'strav-i-gənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *extravagant-*, *extravagans*, fr. L *extra-* + *vagant-*, *vagans*, prp. of *vagari* to

wander about — more at VAGARY] **1 a** *archaic* : WANDERING **b** *obs* : STRANGE, CURIOUS **2 a** : exceeding the limits of reason or necessity ⟨~ claims⟩ **b** : lacking in moderation, balance, and restraint ⟨~ praise⟩ **c** : extremely or excessively elaborate **3 a** : spending much more than necessary **b** : PROFUSE **4** : unreasonably high in price ***syn*** see EXCESSIVE ***ant*** restrained — **ex·trav·a·gant·ly** *adv*

ex·trav·a·gan·za \ik-ˌstrav-ə-ˈgan-zə\ *n* [It *estravaganza*, lit., extravagance, fr. *estravagante* extravagant, fr. ML *extravagant-, extravagans*] **1** : a literary or musical work marked by extreme freedom of style and structure and usu. by elements of burlesque or parody **2** : a lavish or spectacular show or event

ex·trav·a·gate \ik-ˈstrav-ə-ˌgāt\ *vi* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** *archaic* : to go beyond proper limits

[1]ex·trav·a·sate \ik-ˈstrav-ə-ˌsāt, -ˌzāt\ *vb* **-sat·ed; -sat·ing** [L *extra* + *vas* vessel — more at VASE] *vt* : to force out or cause to escape from a proper vessel or channel ~ *vi* **1** : to pass by infiltration or effusion from a proper vessel or channel (as a blood vessel) into surrounding tissue **2** : to erupt in liquid form from a vent — **ex·trav·a·sa·tion** \-ˌstrav-ə-ˈsā-shən, -ˈzā-\ *n*

[2]extravasate *n* : an extravasated fluid (as blood)

ex·tra·vas·cu·lar \ˌek-strə-ˈvas-kyə-lər\ *adj* : destitute of or not contained in body vessels ⟨~ plant fibers⟩ ⟨~ tissue fluids⟩

ex·tra·ve·hic·u·lar \-vē-ˈhik-yə-lər\ *adj* : taking place outside a vehicle (as a spacecraft) ⟨~ activity⟩

ex·tra·ver·sion *or* **ex·tro·ver·sion** \ˌek-strə-ˈvər-zhən, -shən\ *n* [G, fr. *extra-* or *extro-* + L *versus*, pp. of *vertere* to turn] : the act, state, or habit of directing attention toward and obtaining gratification from what is outside the self — **ex·tra·ver·sive** \-siv, -zīv\ *adj*

[1]ex·tra·vert *or* **ex·tro·vert** \ˈek-strə-ˌvərt\ *adj* [modif. of G *extravertiert, extrovertiert*, fr. *extra-* or *extro-* + L *vertere*] : EXTRAVERTED

[2]extravert *or* **extrovert** *n* : one whose attention and interests are directed wholly or predominantly toward what is outside the self

ex·tra·vert·ed *or* **ex·tro·vert·ed** \-ˌvərt-əd\ *adj* : marked by extraversion

[1]ex·treme \ik-ˈstrēm\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *extremus*, superl. of *exter, exterus* being on the outside — more at EXTERIOR] **1 a** : existing in a very high degree ⟨~ poverty⟩ **b** : going to great or exaggerated lengths ⟨went on an ~ diet⟩ **c** : exceeding the ordinary, usual, or expected **2** *archaic* : LAST **3** : situated at the farthest possible point from a center ⟨the country's ~ north⟩ **4 a** : most advanced or thoroughgoing ⟨the ~ political left⟩ **b** : MAXIMUM ***syn*** see EXCESSIVE — **ex·treme·ness** *n*

[2]extreme *n* **1 a** : something situated at or marking one end or the other of a range ⟨~s of heat and cold⟩ **b** : the first term or the last term of a mathematical proportion **c** : the major term or minor term of a syllogism **2 a** : a very pronounced or excessive degree ⟨his enthusiasm was carried to an ~⟩ **b** : highest degree : MAXIMUM **3** : an extreme measure or expedient ⟨going to ~s⟩ — **in the extreme** : to the greatest possible extent ⟨find the task wearisome *in the extreme* —L. R. McColvin⟩

ex·treme·ly *adv* **1** : in an extreme manner **2** : to an extreme extent

extremely high frequency *n* : a radio frequency in the highest range of the radio spectrum — see RADIO FREQUENCY table

extremely low frequency *n* : a radio frequency in the lowest range of the radio spectrum — see RADIO FREQUENCY table

extreme unction \ik-ˌstrē-ˈməŋ(k)-shən, ˌek-(ˌ)strē-\ *n* : a sacrament in which a priest anoints a critically ill or injured person and prays for his recovery and salvation

ex·trem·ism \ik-ˈstrē-ˌmiz-əm\ *n* : the quality or state of being extreme; *esp* : advocacy of extreme political measures : RADICALISM — **ex·trem·ist** \-məst\ *n or adj*

ex·trem·i·ty \ik-ˈstrem-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the farthest or most remote part, section, or point **b** : a limb of the body; *esp* : a human hand or foot **2 a** : extreme danger or critical need **b** : a moment marked by imminent destruction or death **3 a** : an intense degree ⟨the ~ of his participation — *Saturday Rev.*⟩ **b** : the utmost degree (as of emotion or pain) **4** : a drastic or desperate act or measure ⟨driven to *extremities*⟩

ex·tre·mum \ik-ˈstrē-məm\ *n, pl* **-ma** \-mə\ [NL, fr. L, neut. of *extremus*] : a maximum or a minimum of a mathematical function

ex·tri·cate \ˈek-strə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *extricatus*, pp. of *extricare*, fr. *ex-* + *tricae* trifles, perplexities] **1 a** *archaic* : UNRAVEL **b** : to distinguish from a related thing **2** : to free or remove from an entanglement or difficulty — **ex·tri·ca·ble** \ik-ˈstrik-ə-bəl, ek-ˈ; ˈek-(ˌ)\ *adj* — **ex·tri·ca·tion** \ˌek-strə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*

syn EXTRICATE, DISENTANGLE, UNTANGLE, DISENCUMBER, DISEMBARRASS *shared meaning element* : to free from what binds or holds back

ex·trin·sic \ek-ˈstrin-zik, -ˈstrin(t)-sik\ *adj* [F & LL; F *extrinsèque*, fr. LL *extrinsecus*, fr. L, adv., from without; akin to L *exter* outward and to L *sequi* to follow — more at EXTERIOR, SUE] **1 a** : not forming part of or belonging to a thing : EXTRANEOUS **b** : originating from or on the outside; *esp* : originating outside a part and acting upon the part as a whole **2** : EXTERNAL — **ex·trin·si·cal·ly** \-zi-k(ə-)lē, -si-\ *adv*

syn EXTRINSIC, EXTRANEOUS, FOREIGN, ALIEN *shared meaning element* : external to a thing, its essential nature, or original character ***ant*** intrinsic

extrinsic factor *n* : VITAMIN B_{12}

extro- *prefix* [alter. of L *extra-*] : outward ⟨*extro*vert⟩ — compare INTRO-

ex·trorse \ˈek-ˌstrȯ(ə)rs\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *extrorsus*, fr. LL, adv., outward, fr. L *extra-* + *-orsus* (as in *introrsus*) — more at INTRORSE] : turned away from the axis of growth ⟨an ~ anther⟩ — **ex·trorse·ly** *adv*

extroversion, extrovert *var of* EXTRAVERSION, EXTRAVERT

ex·trude \ik-ˈstrüd\ *vb* **ex·trud·ed; ex·trud·ing** [L *extrudere*, fr. *ex-* + *trudere* to thrust] *vt* **1** : to force, press, or push out **2** : to shape (as metal or plastic) by forcing through a die ~ *vi* : to become extruded — **ex·trud·abil·i·ty** \-ˌstrüd-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ex·trud·able** \-ˈstrüd-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ex·trud·er** \-ˈstrüd-ər\ *n*

ex·tru·sion \ik-ˈstrü-zhən\ *n* [ML *extrusion-, extrusio*, fr. L *extrusus*, pp. of *extrudere*] : the act or process of extruding; *also* : a form or product produced by this process

ex·tru·sive \ik-ˈstrü-siv, -zīv\ *adj* : formed by crystallization of lava poured out at the earth's surface ⟨~ rock⟩

ex·u·ber·ance \ig-ˈzü-b(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being exuberant **2** : an exuberant act or expression

ex·u·ber·ant \-b(ə-)rənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *exuberant-, exuberans*, prp. of *exuberare* to be abundant, fr. *ex-* + *uber* fruitful, fr. *uber* udder — more at UDDER] **1 a** : joyously unrestrained and enthusiastic **b** : lacking compactness and discipline : flamboyantly overdone ⟨writing spoiled by ~ overdrawn metaphors⟩ **2** : extreme or excessive in degree, size, or extent **3** : produced in extreme abundance : PLENTIFUL ***syn*** see PROFUSE ***ant*** austere, sterile — **ex·u·ber·ant·ly** *adv*

ex·u·ber·ate \-bə-ˌrāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** **1** *archaic* : to have something in abundance : OVERFLOW **2** : to become exuberant : show exuberance ⟨*exuberated* over his victory⟩

ex·u·date \ˈek-s(y)ù-ˌdāt, -shù-\ *n* : exuded matter

ex·u·da·tion \ˌek-s(y)ù-ˈdā-shən, -shù-\ *n* **1** : the process of exuding **2** : EXUDATE — **ex·u·da·tive** \ig-ˈzüd-ət-iv; ˈek-s(y)ù-ˌdāt-iv, -shù-\ *adj*

ex·ude \ig-ˈzüd\ *vb* **ex·ud·ed; ex·ud·ing** [L *exsudare*, fr. *ex-* + *sudare* to sweat — more at SWEAT] *vi* **1** : to ooze out **2** : to undergo diffusion ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to ooze or spread out in all directions **2** : to display conspicuously or abundantly ⟨~s charm⟩

ex·ult \ig-ˈzəlt\ *vi* [MF *exulter*, fr. L *exsultare*, lit., to leap up, fr. *ex-* + *saltare* to leap — more at SALTATION] **1** *obs* : to leap for joy **2** : to be extremely joyful : REJOICE — **ex·ult·ing·ly** \-ˈzəl-tiŋ-lē\ *adv*

ex·ul·tance \ig-ˈzəlt-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : EXULTATION

ex·ul·tan·cy \-ˈzəlt-ᵊn-sē\ *n* : EXULTATION

ex·ul·tant \ig-ˈzəlt-ᵊnt\ *adj* : filled with or expressing great joy or triumph : JUBILANT — **ex·ul·tant·ly** *adv*

ex·ul·ta·tion \ˌek-(ˌ)səl-ˈtā-shən, ˌeg-(ˌ)zəl-\ *n* : the act of exulting : the state of being exultant

ex·urb \ˈek-ˌsərb, ˈeg-ˌzərb\ *n* [*ex-* + *-urb* (as in *suburb*)] : a region or district that lies outside a city and usu. beyond its suburbs and that is inhabited chiefly by well-to-do families — **ex·ur·ban** \ek-ˈsər-bən; eg-ˈzər-, ig-\ *adj*

ex·ur·ban·ite \ek-ˈsər-bə-ˌnīt; eg-ˈzər-, ig-\ *n* : one who lives in an exurb

ex·ur·bia \-bē-ə\ *n* : the generalized region of exurbs

ex·u·vi·ae \ig-ˈzü-vē-ˌē, -vē-ˌī\ *n pl* [L, fr. *exuere* to take off, fr. *ex-* + *-uere* to put on; akin to ORuss *izuti* to take off footwear] : the natural coverings of animals (as the skins of snakes) after they have been sloughed off — **ex·u·vi·al** \-vē-əl\ *adj*

ex·u·vi·a·tion \-ˌzü-vē-ˈā-shən\ *n* : the process of molting

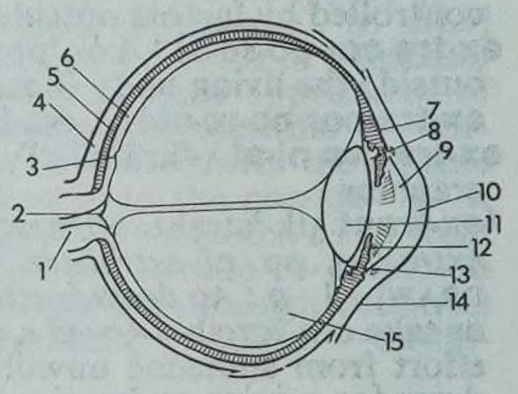
[1]ex–vo·to \(ˈ)eks-ˈvōt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **ex–votos** [L *ex voto* according to a vow] : a votive offering

[2]ex–voto *adj* : VOTIVE

-ey — see -Y

ey·as \ˈī-əs\ *n* [ME, alter. (by incorrect division of *a neias*) of *neias*, fr. MF *niais* fresh from the nest, fr. (assumed) VL *nidax* nestling, fr. L *nidus* nest — more at NEST] : an unfledged bird; *specif* : a nestling hawk

[1]eye \ˈī\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ēage*; akin to OHG *ouga* eye, L *oculus*, Gk *ōps* eye, face] **1 a** : an organ of sight; *esp* : a nearly spherical hollow organ that is lined with a sensitive retina, is lodged in a bony orbit in the skull, is the vertebrate organ of sight, and is normally paired **b** : all the visible structures within and surrounding the orbit and including eyelids, eyelashes, and eyebrows **c** (1) : the faculty of seeing with eyes (2) : the faculty of intellectual or aesthetic perception or appreciation ⟨an ~ for beauty⟩ **d** : LOOK, GLANCE ⟨caught his ~⟩ **e** : an attentive look ⟨kept an ~ on his valuables⟩ **f** : POINT OF VIEW, JUDGMENT ⟨beauty is in the ~ of the beholder⟩ — often used in pl. ⟨an offender in the ~s of the law⟩ **2** : something having an appearance suggestive of an eye: as **a** : the hole through the head of a needle **b** : a usu. circular marking (as on a peacock's tail) **c** : LOOP; *esp* : a loop or other catch to receive a hook **d** : an undeveloped bud (as on a potato) **e** : an area like a hole in the center of a tropical cyclone marked by only light winds or complete calm with no precipitation **f** : the center of a flower esp. when differently colored or marked; *specif* : the disk of a composite **g** (1) : a triangular piece of beef cut from between the top and bottom of a round (2) : the chief muscle of a chop (3) : a compact mass of muscular tissue usu. embedded in fat in a rib or loin cut of meat **h** : a device (as a photoelectric cell) that functions in a manner analogous to human vision **3** : something central : CENTER ⟨the ~ of the problem —Norman Mailer⟩ **4** : the direction from which the wind is blowing — **eye·less** \ˈī-ləs\ *adj* — **eye·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **my eye** — used to express mild disagreement or sometimes surprise ⟨a diamond, *my eye!* That's glass⟩ — **with an eye to** : with a view to



eye 1a: *1* optic nerve, *2* blind spot, *3* fovea, *4* sclera, *5* choroid, *6* retina, *7* ciliary body, *8* posterior chamber, *9* anterior chamber, *10* cornea, *11* lens, *12* iris, *13* suspensory ligament, *14* conjunctiva, *15* vitreous humor

[2]eye *vb* **eyed; eye·ing** *or* **ey·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to fix the eyes on **b** : to watch sharply **2** : to furnish with an eye ~ *vi, obs* : SEEM, LOOK — **ey·er** \ˈī(-ə)r\ *n*

[1]eye·ball \ˈī-ˌbȯl\ *n* : the more or less globular capsule of the vertebrate eye formed by the sclera and cornea together with their contained structures

[2]eyeball *vt* : to look at intently

eyeball–to–eyeball *adj* : FACE-TO-FACE

eye bank *n* : a storage place for human corneas from the newly dead for transplanting to the eyes of those blind through corneal defects
eye·bolt \'ī-'bōlt\ *n* : a bolt with a looped head
eye·bright \'ī-ˌbrīt\ *n* : any of several herbs (genus *Euphrasia*) of the figwort family with opposite toothed or cut leaves
eye·brow \'ī-ˌbraù\ *n* : the ridge over the eye or hair growing on it
eyebrow pencil *n* : a cosmetic pencil for the eyebrows
eye–catch·er \'ī-ˌkach-ər, -ˌkech-\ *n* : something strongly attracting the eye — **eye–catch·ing** \-iŋ\ *adj*
eye·cup \'ī-ˌkəp\ *n* : a small oval cup with a rim curved to fit the orbit of the eye used for applying liquid remedies to the eyes
eyed \'īd\ *adj* : having an eye or eyes esp. of a specified kind or number — often used in combination ⟨an almond-*eyed* girl⟩
eye dialect *n* : the use of pronunciation-based spellings (as *sez* for *says*) in the representation of speech esp. to convey an impression of illiteracy
eyed·ness \'īd-nəs\ *n* [*-eyed* (as in *right-eyed, left-eyed)*] : preference (as in using a monocular microscope) for the use of one eye instead of the other
eye·drop·per \'ī-ˌdräp-ər\ *n* : DROPPER 2 — **eye·drop·per·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*
eye·ful \'ī-ˌfůl\ *n* **1** : a full or completely satisfying view **2** : one that is visually attractive; *esp* : a strikingly beautiful woman
eye·glass \'ī-ˌglas\ *n* **1 a** : EYEPIECE **b** : a lens worn to aid vision; *specif* : MONOCLE **c** *pl* : GLASSES, SPECTACLES **2** : EYECUP
eye·hole \'ī-ˌhōl\ *n* **1** : ORBIT 1 **2** : PEEPHOLE
eye·lash \'ī-ˌlash\ *n* : the fringe of hair edging the eyelid; *esp* : a single hair of this fringe
eye lens *n* : the lens nearest the eye in an eyepiece
eye·let \'ī-lət\ *n* [ME *oilet*, fr. MF *oillet*, dim. of *oil* eye, fr. L *oculus*] **1 a** : a small hole designed to receive a cord or used for decoration (as in embroidery) **b** : a small typically metal ring to reinforce an eyelet : GROMMET **2** : an aperture for observing : PEEPHOLE, LOOPHOLE
eye·lid \'ī-ˌlid\ *n* : one of the movable lids of skin and muscle that can be closed over the eyeball
eye·lin·er \'ī-ˌlī-nər\ *n* : makeup used to emphasize the contour of the eyes
ey·en \'ī(-ə)n\ *archaic pl of* EYE
eye–open·er \'ī-ˌōp(-ə)-nər\ *n* **1** : a drink intended to wake one up **2** : something startling or surprising — **eye–open·ing** \-niŋ\ *adj*
eye·piece \'ī-ˌpēs\ *n* : the lens or combination of lenses at the eye end of an optical instrument
eye·point \'ī-ˌpȯint\ *n* : the point at which the eye is placed in using an optical instrument (as a microscope)
eye·pop·per \'ī-ˌpäp-ər\ *n* : something that excites or astonishes — **eye–pop·ping** \-ˌpäp-iŋ\ *adj*
eye rhyme *n* : an imperfect rhyme that appears to have identical vowel sounds from similarity of spelling (as *move* and *love*)
eye·shade \'ī-ˌshād\ *n* : a visor that shields the eyes from strong light and is fastened on with a headband
eye shadow *n* : a cosmetic cream or powder in one of various colors that is applied to the eyelids to accent the eyes
eye·shot \'ī-ˌshät\ *n* : the range of the eye : VIEW
eye·sight \'ī-ˌsīt\ *n* **1** : SIGHT 4a **2** *archaic* : OBSERVATION 1
eye·sore \'ī-ˌsō(ə)r, -ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *n* : something offensive to the sight
eye·spot \'ī-ˌspät\ *n* **1 a** : a simple visual organ of pigment or pigmented cells covering a sensory termination : OCELLUS **b** : a small pigmented body of various unicellular algae **2** : a spot of color
eye·stalk \'ī-ˌstȯk\ *n* : one of the movable peduncles bearing an eye at the tip in a decapod crustacean
eye·strain \'ī-ˌstrān\ *n* : weariness or a strained state of the eye
eye·strings \'ī-ˌstriŋz\ *n pl, obs* : organic eye attachments formerly believed to break at death or blindness
eye·tooth \'ī-'tüth\ *n* : a canine tooth of the upper jaw
eye·wash \'ī-ˌwȯsh, -ˌwäsh\ *n* **1** : an eye lotion **2** : misleading or deceptive statements, actions, or procedures
eye·wink \'ī-ˌwiŋk\ *n* **1** : a wink of the eye **2** *obs* : LOOK, GLANCE
eye·wit·ness \'ī-'wit-nəs\ *n* : one who sees an occurrence or an object; *esp* : one who gives a report on what he has seen
eyre \'a(ə)r, 'e(ə)r\ *n* [ME *eire*, fr. AF, fr. OF *erre* trip, fr. *errer* to travel — more at ERRANT] **1** : periodic circuit ⟨medieval English justices in ~⟩ **2** : a medieval English court held by itinerant royal justices
ey·rie \'ī(ə)r-ē, *or like* AERIE\ *var of* AERIE
ey·rir \'ā-ˌri(ə)r\ *n, pl* **au·rar** \'aù-ˌrär, 'œi-\ [Icel, fr. ON, money (in pl.)] — see *krona* at MONEY table
Ez *or* **Ezr** *abbr* Ezra
Ezech *abbr* Ezechiel
Eze·chiel \i-zē-kyəl, -kē-əl\ *n* [LL] : EZEKIEL
Ezek *abbr* Ezekiel
Eze·kiel \i-'zē-kyəl, -kē-əl\ *n* [LL *Ezechiel*, fr. Heb *Yĕḥezqēl*] **1** : a Hebrew priest and prophet of the 6th century B.C. **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture written by Ezekiel — see BIBLE table
Ez·ra \'ez-rə\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *'Ezrā*] **1** : a Hebrew priest, scribe, and reformer of Judaism of the 5th century B.C. in Babylon and Jerusalem **2** : a narrative book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

F

[1]f \'ef\ *n, pl* **f's** *or* **fs** \'efs\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 6th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *f* **2** : the 4th tone of a C-major scale **3** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *f* **4** : one designated *f* esp. as the 6th in order or class **5 a** : a grade rating a student's work as failing **b** : one graded or rated with an F **6** : something shaped like the letter F
[2]f *abbr, often cap* **1** Fahrenheit **2** failure **3** false **4** family **5** farad **6** feast **7** female **8** feminine **9** femto- **10** fermi **11** fine **12** finish **13** fluid; fluidness **14** *f*ollowing] and the following one **15** force **16** forte **17** fragile **18** French **19** frequency **20** from **21** full
[3]f *symbol* **1** faraday **2** focal length **3** the relative aperture of a photographic lens — often written *f/* **4** function ⟨$y = f(x)$⟩
F *symbol* fluorine
fa \'fä\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. the syllable sung to this note in a medieval hymn to St. John the Baptist] : the 4th tone of the diatonic scale in solmization
FA *abbr* **1** field artillery **2** fielding average **3** football association
FAA *abbr* **1** Federal Aviation Administration **2** free of all average
fa·ba·ceous \fə-'bā-shəs\ *adj* [NL *Fabaceae*, family of legumes, fr. *Faba*, type genus, fr. L, bean] **1** : of or relating to the legume family : LEGUMINOUS **2** : relating to, resembling, or being a bean
Fa·bi·an \'fā-bē-ən\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or in the manner of the Roman general Quintus Fabius Maximus known for his defeat of Hannibal in the Second Punic War by the avoidance of decisive contests **b** : CAUTIOUS, DILATORY **2** [the *Fabian* Society; fr. the members' belief in slow rather than revolutionary change in government] : of, relating to, or being a society of socialists organized in England in 1884 to spread socialist principles gradually — **Fabian** *n* — **Fa·bi·an·ism** \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
[1]fa·ble \'fā-bəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *fabula* conversation, story, play, fr. *fari* to speak — more at BAN] : a fictitious narrative or statement: as **a** : a legendary story of supernatural happenings **b** : a narration intended to enforce a useful truth; *esp* : one in which animals speak and act like human beings **c** : FALSEHOOD, LIE
[2]fable *vb* **fa·bled; fa·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ *vi, archaic* : to tell fables ~ *vt* : to talk or write about as if true — **fa·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*
fa·bled \'fā-bəld\ *adj* **1** : FICTITIOUS **2** : told or celebrated in fables
fab·li·au \'fab-lē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **-aux** \-ˌō(z)\ [F, fr. OF, dim. of *fable*] : a short usu. comic, frankly coarse, and often cynical tale in verse popular in the 12th and 13th centuries
fab·ric \'fab-rik\ *n* [MF *fabrique*, fr. L *fabrica* workshop, structure — more at FORGE] **1 a** : STRUCTURE, BUILDING **b** : underlying structure : FRAMEWORK ⟨the ~ of society⟩ **2** : an act of constructing : ERECTION; *specif* : the construction and maintenance of a church building **3 a** : structural plan or style of construction **b** : TEXTURE, QUALITY — used chiefly of textiles **c** : the arrangement of physical components (as of soil) in relation to each other **4 a** : CLOTH 1a **b** : a material that resembles cloth **5** : the appearance or pattern produced by the shapes and arrangement of the crystal grains in a rock
fab·ri·cant \'fab-ri-kənt\ *n* : MANUFACTURER
fab·ri·cate \'fab-ri-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [ME *fabricaten*, fr. L *fabricatus*, pp. of *fabricari*, fr. *fabrica*] **1** : CONSTRUCT, MANUFACTURE; *specif* : to construct from diverse and usu. standardized parts **2** : INVENT, CREATE **3** : to make up for the purpose of deception ***syn*** see MAKE — **fab·ri·ca·tion** \ˌfab-ri-'kā-shən\ *n* — **fab·ri·ca·tor** \'fab-ri-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
fab·u·lar \'fab-yə-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the form of a fable
fab·u·list \'fab-yə-ləst\ *n* **1** : a creator or writer of fables **2** : LIAR
fab·u·lous \'fab-yə-ləs\ *adj* [L *fabulosus*, fr. *fabula*] **1** : resembling a fable esp. in incredible, marvelous, or exaggerated quality **2** : told in or based on fable ***syn*** see FICTITIOUS — **fab·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **fab·u·lous·ness** *n*
fac *abbr* **1** facsimile **2** faculty

fa·cade *also* **fa·çade** \fə-'säd\ *n* [F *façade*, fr. It *facciata*, fr. *faccia* face, fr. (assumed) VL *facia*] **1** : the front of a building; *also* : any other face (as on a street or court) of a building given special architectural treatment **2** : a false, superficial, or artificial appearance or effect : FACE



facade 1

[1]face \'fās\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *facia*, fr. L *facies* make, form, face, fr. *facere* to make, do — more at DO] **1** : the front part of the human head including the chin, mouth, nose, cheeks, eyes, and usu. the forehead **2** *archaic* : PRESENCE, SIGHT **3 a** : facial expression **b** : GRIMACE **c** : MAKEUP 3a **4 a** : outward appearance ⟨suspicious on the ~ of it⟩ **b** : DISGUISE, PRETENSE **c** (1) : ASSURANCE, CONFIDENCE ⟨maintaining a firm ~ in spite of adversity⟩ (2) : EFFRONTERY ⟨how anyone could have the ~ to ask that question⟩ **d** : DIGNITY, PRESTIGE ⟨afraid to lose ~⟩ **5** : SURFACE: **a** (1) : a front, upper, or outer surface (2) : the front of something having two or four sides (3) : FACADE (4) : an exposed surface of rock (5) : any of the plane surfaces that bound a geometric solid **b** : a surface specially prepared: as (1) : the principal dressed surface (as of a disk) (2) : the right side (as of cloth or leather) (3) : an inscribed, printed, or marked side **c** (1) : the surface (as of type) that receives the ink and transfers it to the paper — see TYPE illustration (2) : a style of type **6** : the end or wall of a mine tunnel, drift, or excavation at which work is progressing — **face·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **face·less·ness** *n* — **face to face** **1** : within each other's sight or presence : in person ⟨we met *face to face* for the first time⟩ **2** : under the necessity of having to make a decision or to take action ⟨finally came *face to face* with the problem⟩ — **in the face of** *or* **in face of** : in opposition to : DESPITE ⟨succeed *in the face of* great difficulties⟩ — **to one's face** : in one's presence or so that one is fully aware of what is going on : FRANKLY

[2]face *vb* **faced; fac·ing** *vt* **1** : to confront impudently **2 a** : to line near the edge esp. with a different material **b** : to cover the front or surface of ⟨*faced* the building with marble⟩ **3** : to bring face-to-face **4 a** : to stand or sit with the face toward **b** : to front on ⟨a house *facing* the park⟩ **5 a** : to meet firmly and without evasion ⟨~ the facts⟩ **b** : to master by confronting with determination — used with *down* ⟨*faced* down the critics of his policy⟩ **6** : to turn (as a playing card) face-up **7** : to make the surface of (as a stone) flat or smooth **8** : to cause (troops) to face in a particular direction on command ~ *vi* **1** : to have the face or front turned in a specified direction **2** : to turn the face in a specified direction — **face the music** : to meet an unpleasant situation, a danger, or the consequences of one's actions

face angle *n* : an angle formed by two edges of a polyhedral angle

face card *n* : a king, queen, or jack in a deck of cards

face·cloth \'fās-ˌklȯth\ *n* : WASHCLOTH

-faced \'fāst\ *adj comb form* : having (such) a face or (so many) faces ⟨rosy-*faced*⟩ ⟨two-*faced*⟩

face·down \'fās-'daůn\ *adv* : with the face down ⟨sliding ~⟩

face fly *n* : a European fly (*Musca autumnalis*) that is similar to the house fly, is widely established in No. America, and causes great distress in livestock by clustering about the face

face–hard·en \'fās-ˌhärd-ᵊn\ *vt* : to harden the surface of (as steel)

face–lift·ing \'fā-ˌslif-tiŋ\ *n* **1** : a plastic operation for removal of facial defects (as wrinkles) typical of aging **2** : an alteration or restyling intended to modernize

face–off \'fā-ˌsȯf\ *n* **1** : a method of putting a puck in play in ice hockey by dropping it between two opposing players each of whom attempts to gain control of the puck or hit it to a teammate **2** : CONFRONTATION

face·plate \'fā-ˌsplāt\ *n* **1** : a disk fixed with its face at right angles to the live spindle of a lathe for the attachment of the work **2** : a protective cover for the human face (as of a diver) **3** : the glass front of a kinescope on which the image is seen

fac·er \'fā-sər\ *n* **1** : a stunning check or defeat **2** : one that faces; *specif* : a cutter for facing a surface

face–sav·er \'fās-ˌsā-vər\ *n* : something (as a compromise) that saves face

face–sav·ing \-ˌsā-viŋ\ *n* : the act or an instance of preserving one's prestige or dignity

fac·et \'fas-ət\ *n* [F *facette*, dim. of *face*] **1** : a small plane surface (as on a cut gem) — see BRILLIANT illustration **2** : any of the definable aspects that make up a subject (as of contemplation) or an object (as of consideration) **3** : the external corneal surface of an ommatidium **4** : a smooth flat circumscribed anatomical surface **5** : a fillet between the flutes of a column ***syn*** see PHASE — **fac·et·ed** *or* **fac·et·ted** \'fas-ət-əd\ *adj*

fa·cete \fə-'sēt\ *adj* [L *facetus*] *archaic* : FACETIOUS, WITTY

fa·ce·ti·ae \fə-'sē-shē-ˌē\ *n pl* [L, fr. pl. of *facetia* jest, fr. *facetus*] : witty or humorous writings or sayings

fa·ce·tious \fə-'sē-shəs\ *adj* [MF *facetieux*, fr. *facetie* jest, fr. L *facetia*] **1** : jocular in an often clumsy or inappropriate manner **2** : characterized by pleasantry or levity : JOCOSE ⟨a ~ remark⟩ ***syn*** see WITTY ***ant*** lugubrious — **fa·ce·tious·ly** *adv* — **fa·ce·tious·ness** *n*

face–to–face *adv or adj* : within each other's sight or presence ⟨met and talked ~ for the first time⟩

face·up \'fā-'səp\ *adv* : with the face up

face up *vi* : to meet without shrinking — usu. used with *to* ⟨*faced up* to the situation⟩

face value *n* **1** : the value indicated on the face (as of a postage stamp or a stock certificate) **2** : the apparent value or significance ⟨if their results may be taken at *face value*⟩

fa·cia \'fāsh-(ē-)ə\ *var of* FASCIA

[1]fa·cial \'fā-shəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the face **2** : concerned with or used in improving the appearance of the face — **fa·cial·ly** \-shə-lē\ *adv*

[2]facial *n* : a facial treatment

facial index *n* : the ratio of the breadth of the face to its length multiplied by 100

facial nerve *n* : either of the seventh pair of cranial nerves that supply motor fibers esp. to the muscles of the face and jaw and send a separate mixed branch to the tongue

-fa·cient \'fā-shənt\ *adj comb form* [L *-facient-*, *-faciens* (as in *calefacient-*, *calefaciens* making warm, prp. of *calefacere* to warm) — more at CHAFE] : making : causing ⟨somni*facient*⟩

fa·cies \'fā-sh(ē-ˌ)ēz\ *n, pl* **facies** [NL, fr. L, face] **1** : an appearance and expression of the face characteristic of a particular condition **2 a** : general appearance ⟨a plant species with a particularly distinct ~⟩ **b** : a particular local aspect or modification of an ecological community **3** : a rock or group of rocks that differs from comparable rocks (as in composition, age, or fossil content)

fac·ile \'fas-əl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *facilis*, fr. *facere* to do — more at DO] **1 a** (1) : easily accomplished or attained ⟨a ~ victory⟩ (2) : SPECIOUS, SUPERFICIAL ⟨I am not concerned . . . with offering any ~ solution for so complex a problem —T. S. Eliot⟩ **b** : used or comprehended with ease **c** : readily manifested and often lacking sincerity or depth ⟨~ tears⟩ **2** *archaic* : mild or pleasing in manner or disposition **3 a** : READY, FLUENT ⟨~ prose⟩ **b** : ASSURED, POISED — **fac·ile·ly** \-ə(l)-lē\ *adv* — **fac·ile·ness** \-əl-nəs\ *n*

fa·cil·i·tate \fə-'sil-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** : to make easier — **fa·cil·i·ta·tive** \-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* — **fa·cil·i·ta·tor** \-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

fa·cil·i·ta·tion \fə-ˌsil-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of facilitating : the state of being facilitated **2** : the lowering of the threshold for reflex conduction along a particular neural pathway esp. from repeated use of that pathway

fa·cil·i·ty \fə-'sil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality of being easily performed **2** : ease in performance : APTITUDE **3** : readiness of compliance **4 a** : something that promotes the ease of an action, operation, or course of conduct — usu. used in pl. ⟨provide books and other *facilities* for independent study⟩ **b** : something (as a hospital) that is built, installed, or established to serve a particular purpose

fac·ing \'fā-siŋ\ *n* **1 a** : a lining at the edge esp. of a garment **b** *pl* : the collar, cuffs, and trimmings of a uniform coat **2** : an ornamental or protective layer **3** : material for facing

fac·sim·i·le \fak-'sim-ə-lē\ *n* [L *fac simile* make similar] **1** : an exact copy **2** : the transmission of graphic matter (as printing or still pictures) by wire or radio and its reproduction — **facsimile** *vt*

fact \'fakt\ *n* [L *factum*, fr. neut. of *factus*, pp. of *facere*] **1** : a thing done: as **a** : CRIME ⟨accessory after the ~⟩ **b** *obs* : FEAT **c** *archaic* : ACTION **2** *archaic* : PERFORMANCE, DOING **3** : the quality of being actual : ACTUALITY ⟨a question of ~ brings on actual evidence⟩ **4 a** : something that has actual existence ⟨space travel is now a ~⟩ **b** : an actual occurrence : EVENT ⟨the ~ of his presence is proven by witnesses⟩ **5** : a piece of information presented as having objective reality — **fac·tic·i·ty** \fak-'tis-ət-ē\ *n* — **in fact** : in truth : ACTUALLY

fact finder *n* : one that tries to determine the realities of a case, situation, or relationship; *esp* : an impartial examiner designated by a government agency to appraise the facts underlying a particular matter (as a labor dispute) — **fact–find·ing** *n*

fac·tion \'fak-shən\ *n* [MF & L; MF, fr. L *faction-*, *factio* act of making, faction — more at FASHION] **1** : a party or group (as within a government) that is often contentious or self-seeking : CLIQUE **2** : party spirit esp. when marked by dissension — **fac·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **fac·tion·al·ism** \-shnə-ˌliz-əm, -shən-ᵊl-ˌiz-\ *n* — **fac·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

-fac·tion \'fak-shən\ *n comb form* [ME *-faccioun*, fr. MF & L; MF *-faction*, fr. L *-faction-*, *-factio* (as in *satisfaction-*, *satisfactio* satisfaction)] : making : -FICATION ⟨petri*faction*⟩

fac·tious \'fak-shəs\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *factieux*, fr. L *factiosus*, fr. *factio*] : of or relating to faction: as **a** : caused by faction ⟨~ disputes⟩ **b** : inclined to faction or the formation of factions **c** : SEDITIOUS — **fac·tious·ly** *adv* — **fac·tious·ness** *n*

fac·ti·tious \fak-'tish-əs\ *adj* [L *facticius*, fr. *factus*, pp. of *facere* to make, do — more at DO] **1** : produced by man rather than by natural forces **2 a** : formed by or adapted to an artificial or conventional standard **b** : produced by special effort : SHAM ⟨created a ~ demand by spreading rumors of shortage⟩ ***syn*** see ARTIFICIAL ***ant*** bona fide, veritable — **fac·ti·tious·ly** *adv* — **fac·ti·tious·ness** *n*

fac·ti·tive \'fak-tət-iv\ *adj* [NL *factitivus*, irreg. fr. L *factus*] : of or relating to a transitive verb that in some constructions requires an objective complement as well as an object — **fac·ti·tive·ly** *adv*

-fac·tive \'fak-tiv\ *adj comb form* [MF *-factif*, fr. *-faction*] : making : causing ⟨petri*factive*⟩

fact of life **1** *pl* : the fundamental physiological processes and behavior involved in sex and reproduction **2** : something that exists and must be taken into consideration

[1]fac·tor \'fak-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *facteur*, fr. L *factor* doer, fr. *factus*] **1** : one who acts or transacts business for another: as **a** : COMMISSION MERCHANT **b** : one that lends money to producers and dealers (as on the security of accounts receivable) **2 a** : something that actively contributes to the production of a result : INGREDIENT **b** : a good or service used in the process of production **3** : GENE **4 a** : any of the numbers or symbols in mathematics that when multiplied together form a product; *also* : a number or symbol that divides another number or symbol **b** : a quantity by which a given quantity is multiplied or divided in order to indicate a difference in measurement **c** : the number by which a given time is multiplied in photography to give the complete time for exposure or development ***syn*** see ELEMENT — **fac·tor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

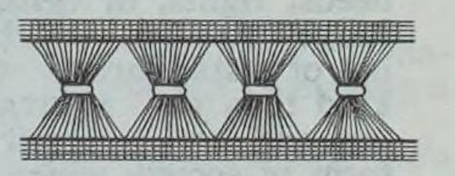
[2]factor *vb* **fac·tored; fac·tor·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to resolve into factors ~ *vi* : to work as a factor — **fac·tor·able** \-t(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj*

fac·tor·age \-t(ə-)rij\ *n* **1** : the charges made by a factor for his services **2** : the business of a factor

factor analysis *n* : the transformation of statistical data (as measurements) into linear combinations of variables that are usu. not correlated — **factor analytic** *adj*

[1]fac·to·ri·al \fak-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *n* **1** : the product of all the positive integers from one to *n* — symbol *n!* **2** : the quantity *0!* arbitrarily defined as equal to 1
[2]factorial *adj* : of or relating to a factor or a factorial
fac·tor·ize \'fak-tə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : FACTOR — **fac·tor·iza·tion** \ˌfak-tə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*
fac·to·ry \'fak-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a station where resident factors trade **2** **a** : a building or set of buildings with facilities for manufacturing **b** : the seat of some kind of production ⟨the vice *factories* of the slums⟩
fac·to·tum \fak-'tōt-əm\ *n* [NL, lit., do everything, fr. L *fac* do + *totum* everything] **1** : a person having many diverse activities or responsibilities **2** : a general servant
fac·tu·al \'fak-chə(-wə)l, 'faksh-wəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to facts **2** : restricted to or based on fact — **fac·tu·al·i·ty** \ˌfak-chə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* — **fac·tu·al·ly** \'fak-chə(-wə)-lē, 'faksh-wə-\ *adv* — **fac·tu·al·ness** *n*
fac·tu·al·ism \'fak-chə(-wə)-ˌliz-əm, 'faksh-wə-\ *n* : adherence or dedication to facts — **fac·tu·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n*
fac·ture \'fak-chər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *factura* action of making, fr. *factus*] : the manner in which something (as an artistic work) is made : EXECUTION ⟨his modelling of faces . . . his delicate yet firm ~ —J. C. Vandyke⟩
fac·u·la \'fak-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *fac-, fax* torch] : any of the bright regions of the sun's photosphere seen most easily near the sun's edge
fac·ul·ta·tive \'fak-əl-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* **1** **a** : of or relating to the grant of permission, authority, or privilege ⟨~ legislation⟩ **b** : OPTIONAL **2** : of or relating to a mental faculty **3** **a** : taking place under some conditions but not under others ⟨~ diapause⟩ ⟨~ parasitism⟩ **b** : showing the typical life style under some environmental conditions but not under others ⟨~ anaerobes⟩ ⟨~ homosexuals⟩ — **fac·ul·ta·tive·ly** *adv*
fac·ul·ty \'fak-əl-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *faculte*, fr. MF *faculté*, fr. ML & L; ML *facultat-, facultas* branch of learning or teaching, fr. L, ability, abundance, fr. *facilis* facile] **1** : ABILITY, POWER: as **a** : innate or acquired ability to act or do **b** : an inherent capability, power, or function ⟨the ~ of hearing⟩ **c** : one of the powers of the mind formerly held by psychologists to form a basis for the explanation of all mental phenomena **d** : natural aptitude ⟨he has a ~ for saying the right things⟩ **2** **a** : a branch of teaching or learning in an educational institution **b** *archaic* : something in which one is trained or qualified **3** **a** : the members of a profession **b** : the teaching and administrative staff and those members of the administration having academic rank in an educational institution **4** : power, authority, or prerogative given or conferred ***syn*** see POWER, GIFT
fad \'fad\ *n* [origin unknown] : a practice or interest followed for a time with exaggerated zeal : CRAZE ***syn*** see FASHION — **fad·dish** \'fad-ish\ *adj* — **fad·dish·ness** *n* — **fad·dism** \'fad-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **fad·dist** \'fad-əst\ *n*
FAD \ˌef-ˌā-'dē\ *n* : FLAVIN ADENINE DINUCLEOTIDE
[1]fade \'fād\ *vb* **fad·ed; fad·ing** [ME *faden*, fr. MF *fader*, fr. *fade* feeble, insipid, fr. (assumed) VL *fatidus*, alter. of L *fatuus* fatuous, insipid] *vi* **1** : to lose freshness or vitality : WITHER **2** *of an automobile brake* : to lose braking power gradually **3** : to lose freshness or brilliance of color **4** : to sink away : VANISH **5** : to change gradually in loudness, strength, or visibility — used of a motion-picture image or of an electronics signal and usu. with *in* or *out* **6** : to move back from the line of scrimmage — used of a quarterback ~ *vt* : to cause to fade
[2]fade *n* **1** : a gradual changing of one picture to another in a motion-picture or television sequence **2** : a fading of an automobile brake
[3]fade \'fäd\ *adj* [F, fr. MF] : INSIPID, COMMONPLACE
fade-away \'fād-ə-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of fading away **2** **a** : SCREWBALL 1 **b** : a slide in which a base runner throws his body sideways to avoid the tag
fad·ed·ly \'fād-əd-lē\ *adv* : in the manner of one that has faded ⟨a ~ handsome woman⟩
fade·less \'fād-ləs\ *adj* : not susceptible to fading — **fade·less·ly** *adv*
FADM *abbr* fleet admiral
fa·do \'fäth-(ˌ)ü, 'fath-\ *n, pl* **fados** [Pg, lit., fate, fr. L *fatum*] : a plaintive Portuguese folk song
fae·cal, fae·ces *var of* FECAL, FECES
fa·e·na \fä-'ā-(ˌ)nä\ *n* [Sp, lit., task, fr. obs. Catal, fr. L *facienda* things to be done, fr. *facere* to do — more at DO] : a series of final passes leading to the kill made by the matador in a bullfight
fa·er·ie *also* **fa·ery** \'fā-(ə-)rē, 'fa(ə)r-ē, 'fe(ə)r-ē\ *n, pl* **fa·er·ies** [MF *faerie* — more at FAIRY] **1** : the realm of fairies **2** : FAIRY — **faery** *adj*
Faero·ese \ˌfar-ə-'wēz, ˌfer-, -'wēs\ *n, pl* **Faeroese** **1** : a member of the Germanic people inhabiting the Faeroes **2** : the Germanic language of the Faeroese people — **Faeroese** *adj*
Faf·nir \'fäv-nər, -ˌni(ə)r\ *n* [ON *Fāfnir*] : a dragon of Norse myth that guards the Nibelungs' gold hoard until slain by Sigurd
[1]fag \'fag\ *vb* **fagged; fag·ging** [obs. *fag* to droop, perh. fr. *fag* (fag end)] *vi* **1** : to work hard : TOIL **2** : to act as a fag esp. in an English public school ⟨*fagging* for older boys during his first year⟩ ~ *vt* : to tire by strenuous activity : EXHAUST ***syn*** see TIRE
[2]fag *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : TOIL, DRUDGERY **2** **a** : an English public-school boy who acts as servant to an older schoolmate **b** : DRUDGE
[3]fag *n* [*fag end*] : CIGARETTE
[4]fag *n* [prob. short for *faggot*] : HOMOSEXUAL
fag end *n* [earlier *fag*, fr. ME *fagge* flap] **1** **a** : the last part or coarser end of a web of cloth **b** : the untwisted end of a rope **2** **a** : a poor or worn-out end : REMNANT **b** : the extreme end ⟨not quite too late for the *fag end* of lunch —Earle Birney⟩
fag·got \'fag-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] : HOMOSEXUAL
fa·gin \'fā-gən\ *n* [*Fagin*, character in Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* (1839)] : an adult who instructs others (as children) in crime
FAGO *abbr* Fellow of the American Guild of Organists

[1]fag·ot *or* **fag·got** \'fag-ət\ *n* [ME *fagot*, fr. MF] : BUNDLE: as **a** : a bundle of sticks **b** : a bundle of pieces of wrought iron to be shaped by rolling or hammering at high temperature
[2]fagot *or* **faggot** *vt* : to make a fagot of : bind together into a bundle ⟨~*ed* sticks⟩
fag·ot·ing *or* **fag·got·ing** *n* **1** : an embroidery produced by pulling out horizontal threads from a fabric and tying the remaining cross threads into groups of an hourglass shape **2** : an openwork stitch joining hemmed edges


fagoting 1

Fah *or* **Fahr** *abbr* Fahrenheit
Fahr·en·heit \'far-ən-ˌhīt\ *adj* [Gabriel D. *Fahrenheit*] : relating or conforming to a thermometric scale on which under standard atmospheric pressure the boiling point of water is at 212 degrees above the zero of the scale, the freezing point is at 32 degrees above zero, and the zero point approximates the temperature produced by mixing equal quantities by weight of snow and common salt — abbr. *F*
fa·ience *or* **fa·ïence** \fā-'än(t)s, fī-, -'ä⁰s\ *n* [F, fr. *Faenza*, Italy] : earthenware decorated with opaque colored glazes
[1]fail \'fā(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *failen*, fr. OF *faillir*, fr. (assumed) VL *fallire*, alter. of L *fallere* to deceive, disappoint; prob. akin to Gk *phēlos* deceitful] *vi* **1** **a** : to lose strength : WEAKEN ⟨her health was ~*ing*⟩ **b** : to fade or die away ⟨until our family line ~*s*⟩ **c** : to stop functioning ⟨the patient's heart ~*ed*⟩ **2** **a** : to fall short ⟨~*ed* in his duty⟩ **b** : to be or become absent or inadequate ⟨the water supply ~*ed*⟩ **c** : to be unsuccessful (as in passing an examination) **d** : to become bankrupt or insolvent ~ *vt* **1** **a** : to disappoint the expectations or trust of ⟨his friends ~*ed* him⟩ **b** : to miss performing an expected service or function for ⟨for once his wit ~*ed* him⟩ **2** : to be deficient in : LACK ⟨our youth . . . never ~*ed* an invincible courage —Douglas MacArthur⟩ **3** : to leave undone : NEGLECT **4** **a** : to be unsuccessful in passing (as a test) **b** : to grade (as a student) as not passing — **fail·ing·ly** \'fā-liŋ-lē\ *adv*
[2]fail *n* **1** : FAILURE — usu. used in the phrase *without fail* **2** : a failure (as by a security dealer) to deliver or receive securities within a prescribed period after purchase or sale
[1]fail·ing \'fā-liŋ\ *n* : a slight or insignificant defect in character or conduct ***syn*** see FAULT ***ant*** perfection
[2]failing *prep* : in absence or default of ⟨~ specific instructions, use your own judgment⟩
faille \'fī(ə)l\ *n* [F] : a somewhat shiny closely woven silk, rayon, or cotton fabric characterized by slight ribs in the weft
fail–safe \'fā(ə)l-ˌsāf\ *adj* **1** : incorporating some feature for automatically counteracting the effect of an anticipated possible source of failure **2** : being or relating to a safeguard that prevents continuing on a bombing mission according to a preconceived plan
fail·ure \'fā(ə)l-yər\ *n* [alter. of earlier *failer*, fr. AF, fr. OF *faillir* to fail] **1** **a** : omission of occurrence or performance; *specif* : a failing to perform a duty or expected action **b** : a state of inability to perform a normal function ⟨heart ~⟩ **2** **a** : lack of success **b** : a failing in business : BANKRUPTCY **3** **a** : a falling short : DEFICIENCY ⟨a crop ~⟩ **b** : DETERIORATION, DECAY **4** : one that has failed
[1]fain \'fān\ *adj* [ME *fagen, fayn*, fr. OE *fægen;* akin to ON *fegiun* happy, OE *fæger* fair] **1** *archaic* : HAPPY, PLEASED **2** *archaic* : INCLINED, DESIROUS **3** *archaic* : WILLING **b** : being obliged or constrained : COMPELLED
[2]fain *adv* **1** *archaic* : with pleasure **2** *archaic* : RATHER
[1]fai·né·ant \fā-nā-ä⁰\ *n, pl* **fainéants** \-ä⁰(z)\ [F, fr. MF *fait-nient*, lit., does nothing, by folk etymology fr. *faignant*, fr. prp. of *faindre, feindre* to feign] : an irresponsible idler
[2]fainéant \fā-nā-ä⁰\ *or* **fai·ne·ant** \'fā-nē-ənt\ *adj* : idle and ineffectual : INDOLENT
[1]faint \'fānt\ *adj* [ME *faint, feint*, fr. OF, fr. pp. of *faindre, feindre* to feign, shirk — more at FEIGN] **1** : lacking courage and spirit : COWARDLY **2** : weak, dizzy, and likely to faint **3** : lacking strength or vigor : performed, offered, or accomplished weakly or languidly **4** : producing a sensation of faintness : OPPRESSIVE ⟨the ~ atmosphere of a tropical port⟩ **5** : lacking distinctness : DIM — **faint·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **faint·ish·ness** *n* — **faint·ly** *adv* — **faint·ness** *n*
[2]faint *vi* **1** *archaic* : to lose courage or spirit **2** *archaic* : to become weak **3** : to lose consciousness because of a temporary decrease in the blood supply to the brain **4** : to lose brightness
[3]faint *n* : an act or condition of fainting : SYNCOPE
faint·heart·ed \'fānt-'härt-əd\ *adj* : lacking courage or resolution : TIMID — **faint·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **faint·heart·ed·ness** *n*
[1]fair \'fa(ə)r, 'fe(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *fager, fair* fr. OE *fæger;* akin to OHG *fagar* beautiful and perh. to Lith *puošti* to decorate] **1** : pleasing to the eye or mind esp. because of fresh, charming, or flawless quality **2** : superficially pleasing : SPECIOUS ⟨she trusted his ~ promises⟩ **3** **a** : CLEAN, PURE ⟨~ sparkling water⟩ ⟨a man of ~ fame⟩ **b** : CLEAR, LEGIBLE **4** : not stormy or foul : FINE ⟨a ~ sky⟩ ⟨~ weather⟩ **5** : AMPLE ⟨a ~ estate⟩ **6** **a** : marked by impartiality and honesty : free from self-interest, prejudice, or favoritism ⟨a very ~ man to do business with ⟩ **b** : conforming with the established rules : ALLOWED **c** : open to legitimate pursuit or attack ⟨~ game⟩ **7** **a** : PROMISING, LIKELY ⟨he was in a ~ way to win⟩ **b** : favorable to a ship's course ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **8** *archaic* : free of obstacles **9** : not dark : BLOND **10** : sufficient but not ample : ADEQUATE ⟨a ~ understanding of the work⟩ **11** : being such to the utmost : UTTER ⟨a ~ treat to watch him —*New Republic*⟩ — **fair·ness** *n*

syn **1** see BEAUTIFUL ***ant*** foul, ill-favored
2 FAIR, JUST, EQUITABLE, IMPARTIAL, UNBIASED, DISPASSIONATE, OBJECTIVE *shared meaning element* : free from favor toward either or any side. FAIR implies an elimination of personal feelings, interests, or prejudices so as to achieve a proper balance of conflicting needs, rights, or demands ⟨a *fair* distribution of a treat⟩ ⟨the judge's decision was absolutely *fair*⟩ JUST implies a precise following of a standard of what is right and proper ⟨it is easier to be kind than *just*⟩ EQUITABLE implies a less rigorous standard than *just* and usually a fair and equal treatment of all concerned ⟨a form of society which will provide for an *equitable* distribution of . . . riches —J. W. Krutch⟩ IMPARTIAL stresses absence of favor and prejudice ⟨law shall be uniform and *impartial* —B. N. Cardozo⟩ UNBIASED reinforces the notion of freedom from favoritism and prejudice with that of a firm interest to be fair to all ⟨furnish the cabinet with *unbiased* and helpful advice —R. M. Dawson⟩ DISPASSIONATE stresses freedom from emotional involvement and tends to imply cool detachment in judging ⟨a *dispassionate* appraisal of a health program⟩ OBJECTIVE stresses a tendency to view events or phenomena as apart from oneself and therefore to be judged dispassionately and without reference to personal feelings or interests ⟨we shall be like ice when relating passions and adventures . . . we shall be . . . *objective* and impersonal —William Troy⟩ ***ant*** unfair

²fair *n* **1** *obs* : BEAUTY, FAIRNESS **2** : something that is fair or fortunate **3** *archaic* : WOMAN; *esp* : SWEETHEART — **for fair** : to the greatest extent or degree : FULLY ⟨the rush was on *for fair* —R. L. Neuberger⟩ — **no fair** : something that is not according to the rules ⟨that's *no fair*⟩

³fair *adv* : FAIRLY

⁴fair *vi, of the weather* : CLEAR ~ *vt* : to join so that the external surfaces blend smoothly

⁵fair *n* [ME *feire*, fr. OF, fr. ML *feria* weekday, fair, fr. LL, festal day, fr. L *feriae* (pl.) holidays — more at FEAST] **1** : a gathering of buyers and sellers at a particular place and time for trade **2 a** : a competitive exhibition (as of farm products) usu. with accompanying entertainment and amusements **b** : an exhibition designed to acquaint prospective buyers or the general public with a product **3** : a sale of a collection of articles usu. for a charitable purpose

fair ball *n* : a batted baseball that lands within the foul lines or that is within the foul lines when bounding to the outfield past first or third base or when going beyond the outfield for a home run

fair catch *n* : a catch of a kicked football by a player who gives a prescribed signal, may not advance the ball, and may not be tackled

fair copy *n* : a neat and exact copy esp. of a corrected draft

fair·ground \'fa(ə)r-ˌgraůnd, 'fe(ə)r-\ *n* : an area where outdoor fairs, circuses, or exhibitions are held — often used in pl. with sing. constr. ⟨what a spot for a ~*s* —W. L. Gresham⟩

¹fair·ing \'fa(ə)r-iŋ, 'fe(ə)r-\ *n* **1** *Brit* **a** : a present bought or given at a fair **b** : GIFT **2** *Brit* : ³DESERT 2

²fairing *n* : a member or structure whose primary function is to produce a smooth outline and to reduce drag or air resistance (as on an airplane)

fair·ish \'fa(ə)r-ish, 'fe(ə)r-\ *adj* : fairly good ⟨a ~ wage for those days⟩ — **fair·ish·ly** *adv*

fair·lead \'fa(ə)r-ˌlēd, 'fe(ə)r-\ *n* **1** *also* **fair·lead·er** \-ər\ : a block, ring, or strip of plank with holes that serves as a guide for the running rigging or any ship's rope and keeps it from chafing **2** : a course of running ship's rope that avoids all chafing

fair·ly \'fa(ə)r-lē, 'fe(ə)r-\ *adv* **1** : in a handsome manner ⟨a table ~ set⟩ **2** *obs* **a** : in a gentle manner : QUIETLY **b** : in a courteous manner **3** : in a manner of speaking : QUITE ⟨~ bursting with pride⟩ **4 a** : in a proper or legal manner ⟨~ priced stocks⟩ **b** : without bias or distortion : IMPARTIALLY ⟨a story told ~ and objectively⟩ **5** : to a full degree or extent : PLAINLY, DISTINCTLY ⟨had ~ caught sight of him⟩ **6** : for the most part : RATHER ⟨a ~ easy job⟩

fair–mind·ed \'fa(ə)r-'mīn-dəd, 'fe(ə)r-\ *adj* : JUST, UNPREJUDICED — **fair–mind·ed·ness** *n*

fair play *n* : equitable or impartial treatment : JUSTICE

fair shake *n* : a fair chance ⟨give the negative side a *fair shake* —S. L. Payne⟩

fair–spok·en \'fa(ə)r-'spō-kən, 'fe(ə)r-\ *adj* : pleasant and courteous in speech ⟨a ~ youth⟩

fair–trade \'fa(ə)r-'trād, 'fe(ə)r-\ *vt* : to market (a commodity) in compliance with the provisions of a fair-trade agreement — **fair trader** *n*

fair trade *n* : trade in conformity with a fair-trade agreement

fair–trade agreement *n* : an agreement between a producer and a seller that commodities bearing a trademark, label, or brand name belonging to the producer be sold at or above a specified price

fair·way \'fa(ə)r-ˌwā, 'fe(ə)r-\ *n* **1 a** : a navigable part of a river, bay, or harbor **b** : an open path or space **2** : the mowed part of a golf course between a tee and a green

fair–weather *adj* **1** : suitable for, done during, or made in fair weather ⟨a ~ sail⟩ **2** : loyal only during a time of success ⟨a ~ friend⟩

fairy \'fa(ə)r-ē, 'fe(ə)r-\ *n, pl* **fairies** [ME *fairie* fairyland, fairy people, fr. OF *faerie*, fr. *feie, fee* fairy, fr. L *Fata*, goddess of fate, fr. *fatum* fate] **1** : a mythical being of folklore and romance usu. having diminutive human form and magic powers **2** : a male homosexual — **fairy** *adj* — **fairy·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

fairy·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n, archaic* : the power to enchant

fairy·land \-ˌland\ *n* **1** : the land of fairies **2** : a place of delicate beauty or magical charm

fairy ring *n* [fr. the folk belief that such rings were dancing places of the fairies] **1** : a ring of mushrooms produced at the periphery of a body of mycelium which has grown centrifugally from an initial growth point; *also* : a ring of luxuriant vegetation associated with these mushrooms **2** : a mushroom (esp. *Marasmius oreades*) that commonly grows in fairy rings

fairy shrimp *n* : any of several delicate transparent freshwater branchiopod crustaceans (order Anostraca)

fairy–tale *adj* : characteristic of or suitable to a fairy tale; *esp* : marked by unusual grace or beauty

fairy tale *n* **1** : a narrative of adventures involving fantastic forces and beings (as fairies, wizards, and goblins) — called also *fairy story* **2** : a made-up story usu. designed to mislead

fait ac·com·pli \'fāt-ˌak-ˌō⁽ⁿ⁾(m)-'plē, ˌfe-ˌtak-\ *n, pl* **faits accomplis** *same, or* -'plēz\ [F, accomplished fact] : a thing accomplished and presumably irreversible

¹faith \'fāth\ *n, pl* **faiths** \'fāths, 'fāthz\ [ME *feith*, fr. OF *feid, foi*, fr. L *fides;* akin to L *fidere* to trust — more at BIDE] **1 a** : allegiance to duty or a person : LOYALTY **b** : fidelity to one's promises **2 a** (1) : belief and trust in and loyalty to God (2) : belief in the traditional doctrines of a religion **b** (1) : firm belief in something for which there is no proof (2) : complete confidence **3** : something that is believed esp. with strong conviction; *esp* : a system of religious beliefs ***syn*** see BELIEF ***ant*** doubt — **in faith** : without doubt or question : VERILY

²faith *vt, archaic* : BELIEVE, TRUST

¹faith·ful \'fāth-fəl\ *adj* **1** *obs* : full of faith **2** : steadfast in affection or allegiance : LOYAL **3** : firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty : CONSCIENTIOUS **4** : given with strong assurance : BINDING ⟨~ promise⟩ **5** : true to the facts or to an original ⟨the portrait is a ~ likeness⟩ — **faith·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **faith·ful·ness** *n*

syn FAITHFUL, LOYAL, CONSTANT, STAUNCH, STEADFAST, RESOLUTE *shared meaning element* : firm in adherence to whatever one owes allegiance ***ant*** faithless

²faithful *n, pl* **faithful** *or* **faithfuls** : one that is faithful: as **a** : church members in full communion and good standing — used with *the* **b** : the body of adherents of the Muslim religion — used with *the* **c** : a loyal follower or member ⟨party ~*s*⟩

faith healing *n* : a method of treating diseases by prayer and exercise of faith in God — **faith healer** *n*

faith·less \'fāth-ləs\ *adj* **1** : not true to allegiance or duty : TREACHEROUS, DISLOYAL ⟨a ~ servant⟩ **2** : not to be relied on : UNTRUSTWORTHY ⟨a ~ tool⟩ — **faith·less·ly** *adv* — **faith·less·ness** *n*

syn FAITHLESS, FALSE, DISLOYAL, TRAITOROUS, TREACHEROUS, PERFIDIOUS *shared meaning element* : untrue to what has a right to one's fidelity or allegiance ***ant*** faithful

fai·tour \'fāt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. OF *faitor* perpetrator, fr. L *factor* doer — more at FACTOR] *archaic* : CHEAT, IMPOSTOR

¹fake \'fāk\ *vt* **faked; fak·ing** [ME *faken*] : to coil (as a fire hose) in fakes

²fake *n* : one loop of a coil (as of ship's rope) coiled free for running

³fake *vb* **faked; fak·ing** [origin unknown] *vt* **1** : to alter, manipulate, or treat so as to impart a false character or appearance to **2** : COUNTERFEIT, SIMULATE **3 a** : to deceive (an opponent) in a sports contest by simulated movement **b** : to give a fake to (an opponent) **4** : IMPROVISE, AD-LIB ⟨whistle a few bars . . . and I'll ~ the rest —Robert Sylvester⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to engage in faking something : PRETEND **2** : to give a fake to an opponent — **fak·er** *n* — **fak·ery** \'fā-k(ə-)rē\ *n*

⁴fake *n* : one that is not what it purports to be: as **a** : a worthless imitation passed off as genuine **b** : IMPOSTOR, CHARLATAN **c** : a simulated movement in a sports contest (as a pretended kick, pass, or jump or a quick movement in one direction before going in another) designed to deceive an opponent **d** : a device or apparatus used by a magician to achieve the illusion of magic in a trick ***syn*** see IMPOSTURE

⁵fake *adj* : COUNTERFEIT, SHAM

fa·kir *n* [Ar *faqīr*, lit., poor man] **1** \fə-'ki(ə)r, fä-, fa-\ **a** : a Muslim mendicant : DERVISH **b** : an itinerant Hindu ascetic or wonder-worker **2** \'fā-kər\ : IMPOSTOR; *esp* : SWINDLER

fa la \fä-'lä\ *n* [*fa-la*, meaningless syllables often occurring in its refrain] : a 16th and 17th century part-song

Fa·lan·gist \fə-'lan-jəst, 'fā-ˌ\ *n* [Sp *Falangista*, fr. *Falange española* Spanish Phalanx, a fascist organization] : a member of the fascist political party governing Spain after the civil war of 1936–39

fal·cate \'fal-ˌkāt, 'fȯl-\ *also* **fal·cat·ed** \-ˌkāt-əd\ *adj* [L *falcatus*, fr. *falc-, falx* sickle, scythe] : hooked or curved like a sickle

fal·chion \'fȯl-chən\ *n* [ME *fauchoun*, fr. OF *fauchon*, fr. *fauchier* to mow, fr. (assumed) VL *falcare*, fr. L *falc-, falx*] **1** : a broad-bladed slightly curved sword of medieval times **2** *archaic* : SWORD

fal·ci·form \'fal-sə-ˌfȯrm, 'fȯl-\ *adj* [L *falc-, falx* + E *-iform*] : having the shape of a scythe or sickle

fal·con \'fal-kən *also* 'fȯl- *sometimes* 'fȯ-kən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *falcon-, falco*, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *falcho* falcon] **1 a** : any of various hawks trained for use in falconry; *esp* : PEREGRINE — used technically only of a female; compare TIERCEL **b** : any of various hawks (family Falconidae) distinguished by long wings and a notch and tooth on the edge of the upper mandible **c** : HAWK 1 **2** : a light cannon used from the 15th to the 17th centuries

fal·con·er \-kə-nər\ *n* **1** : one who hunts with hawks **2** : a breeder or trainer of hawks for hunting

fal·con·et \ˌfal-kə-'net, ˌfȯ(l)-\ *n* **1** : a very small cannon used in the 16th and 17th centuries **2** : any of several very small Asiatic falcons constituting a genus (*Microhierax*)


faldstool 1

fal·con–gen·tle \-kən-'jent-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *faucon gentil* peregrine falcon, fr. MF, lit., noble falcon] : the female peregrine falcon

fal·con·ry \'fal-kən-rē *also* 'fȯl- *sometimes* 'fȯ-kən-\ *n* **1** : the art of training falcons to pursue game **2** : the sport of hunting with falcons

fal·de·ral \'fäl-də-ˌräl\ *var of* FOLDEROL

fald·stool \'fȯl(d)-ˌstül\ *n* [ML *faldistolium*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *faltistuol* folding chair, fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose first constituent is akin to OHG *faldan* to fold and whose second constituent is repre-

sented by OHG *stuol* chair — more at FOLD, STOOL] **1** : a folding stool or chair; *specif* : one used by a bishop **2** : a folding stool or small desk at which one kneels during devotions; *esp* : one used by the sovereign of England at his coronation **3** : the desk from which the litany is read in Anglican churches

[1]fall \'fȯl\ *vb* **fell** \'fel\; **fall·en** \'fȯ-lən\; **fall·ing** [ME *fallen*, fr. OE *feallan;* akin to OHG *fallan* to fall and perh. to Lith *pulti*] *vi* **1 a** : to descend freely by the force of gravity **b** : to hang freely ⟨her hair ~*s* over her shoulders⟩ **c** : to drop oneself to a lower position ⟨*fell* to his knees⟩ **d** : to come as if by descending ⟨darkness ~*s* early in the winter⟩ **2** : to become born — usu. used of lambs **3 a** : to become lower in degree or level ⟨the temperature *fell* 10°⟩ **b** : to drop in pitch or volume ⟨their voices *fell* to a whisper⟩ **c** : ISSUE ⟨wisdom that *fell* from his lips⟩ **d** : to become lowered ⟨her eyes *fell*⟩ **4 a** : to leave an erect position suddenly and involuntarily ⟨slipped and *fell* on the ice⟩ **b** : to enter as if unawares : STUMBLE, STRAY ⟨*fell* into error⟩ **c** : to drop down wounded or dead; *esp* : to die in battle **d** : to suffer military capture ⟨after a long siege the city *fell*⟩ **e** : to lose office ⟨the party *fell* from power⟩ **f** : to suffer ruin, defeat, or failure ⟨we must stand or ~ together⟩ ⟨the deal *fell* through⟩ **5** : to commit an immoral act; *esp* : to lose one's chastity **6 a** : to move or extend in a downward direction ⟨the land ~*s* away to the east⟩ **b** : SUBSIDE, ABATE ⟨the wind is ~*ing*⟩ **c** : to decline in quality, activity, or quantity ⟨production *fell* off because of the strike⟩ **d** : to lose weight — used with *off* or *away* **e** : to assume a look of shame, disappointment, or dejection ⟨his face *fell*⟩ **f** : to decline in financial value or price ⟨stocks *fell* sharply after the President's speech⟩ **7 a** : to occur at a certain time **b** : to come by chance ⟨it *fell* into my mind to write you⟩ ⟨*fell* in with a fast crowd⟩ **c** : to come or pass by lot, assignment, or inheritance : DEVOLVE ⟨it *fell* to him to break the news⟩ **d** : to have the proper place or station ⟨the accent ~*s* on the second syllable⟩ **8** : to come within the limits, scope, or jurisdiction of something ⟨this word ~*s* into the class of verbs⟩ **9** : to pass suddenly and passively into a state of body or mind or a new state or condition ⟨~ asleep⟩ ⟨~ in love⟩ ⟨the book *fell* apart⟩ **10** : to set about heartily or actively ⟨*fell* to work⟩ **11** : STRIKE, IMPINGE ⟨music ~*ing* on the ear⟩ ~ *vt* : FELL 1 — **fall behind 1** : to lag behind **2** : to be in arrears — **fall flat** : to produce no response or result ⟨the joke *fell flat*⟩ — **fall for 1** : to fall in love with **2** : to become a victim of ⟨he *fell for* the trick⟩ — **fall foul 1** : to have a collision — used chiefly of ships **2** : to have a quarrel : CLASH — often used with *of* — **fall from grace 1** : to lapse morally : SIN **2** : BACKSLIDE — **fall home** : to curve inward — used of the timbers or upper parts of a ship's side — **fall into line** : to comply with a certain course of action — **fall on** *or* **fall upon** : to meet with ⟨he *fell on* hard times⟩ — **fall over oneself** *or* **fall over backward** : to display excessive eagerness — **fall short 1** : to be deficient **2** : to fail to attain something (as a goal or target)

[2]fall *n* **1** : the act of falling by the force of gravity **2 a** : a falling out, off, or away : DROPPING ⟨the ~ of leaves⟩ ⟨a ~ of snow⟩ **b** : the season when leaves fall from trees : AUTUMN **c** : a thing or quantity that falls or has fallen ⟨a ~ of rock at the base of the cliff⟩; *specif* : one or more meteorites or their fragments that have fallen together **d** (1) : BIRTH (2) : the quantity born — usu. used of lambs **3 a** : a costume decoration of lace or thin fabric arranged to hang loosely and gracefully **b** : a very wide turned-down collar worn in the 17th century **c** : the part of a turned-over collar from the crease to the outer edge **d** : a wide front flap on trousers (as those worn by sailors) **e** : the freely hanging lower edge of the skirt of a coat **f** : one of the three outer and often drooping segments of the flower of an iris **g** : long hair overhanging the face of certain terriers **h** : a usu. long straight portion of hair that is attached to a person's own hair **4** : a hoisting-tackle rope or chain; *esp* : the part of it to which the power is applied **5 a** : loss of greatness : COLLAPSE ⟨the ~ of the Roman Empire⟩ **b** : the surrender or capture of a besieged place ⟨the ~ of Troy⟩ **c** : lapse or departure from innocence or goodness **d** : loss of a woman's chastity **6 a** : the downward slope (as of a hill) : DECLIVITY **b** : a precipitous descent of water : WATERFALL — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **c** : a musical cadence **d** : a falling-pitch intonation in speech **7** : a decrease in size, quantity, or degree; *specif* : a decrease in price or value **8 a** : the distance which something falls **b** : INCLINATION, PITCH **9 a** : the act of felling **b** : the quantity of trees cut down **c** (1) : an act of forcing a wrestler's shoulders to the mat for a specified time (as three seconds) (2) : a bout of wrestling **10** *Scot* : FORTUNE, LOT

[3]fall *adj* : of or relating to autumn ⟨a new ~ coat⟩

fal·la·cious \fə-'lā-shəs\ *adj* **1** : embodying a fallacy **2** : tending to deceive or mislead : DELUSIVE — **fal·la·cious·ly** *adv* — **fal·la·cious·ness** *n*

fal·la·cy \'fal-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [L *fallacia*, fr. *fallac-, fallax* deceitful, fr. *fallere* to deceive — more at FAIL] **1 a** *obs* : GUILE, TRICKERY **b** : deceptive appearance : DECEPTION **2 a** : a false idea ⟨the popular ~ that poets are impractical⟩ **b** : erroneous or fallacious character : ERRONEOUSNESS **3** : an argument failing to satisfy the conditions of valid or correct inference

fal–lal \fa-'lal, 'fal-ˌ(l)al\ *n* [perh. alter. of *falbala* (furbelow)] : a fancy ornament esp. in dress — **fal·lal·ery** \fa-'lal-ə-rē\ *n*

fall armyworm *n* : a migratory American moth (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) that is esp. destructive to small grains and grasses as a larva

fall away *vi* **1 a** : to withdraw friendship or support **b** : to renounce one's faith **2 a** : to diminish gradually in size **b** : to drift off a course

fall·back \'fȯl-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : something on which one can fall back : RESERVE **2** : a falling back : RETREAT **3** : something that falls back ⟨the ~ from an explosion⟩

fall back \-'bak\ *vi* : RETREAT, RECEDE — **fall back on** *or* **fall back upon** : to have recourse to ⟨when facts were scarce he *fell back on* his imagination⟩

fall down *vi* : to fail to meet expectations or requirements ⟨he *fell down* on the job⟩

fall·er \'fȯ-lər\ *n* **1** : a logger who fells trees **2** : a machine part that acts by falling

fall·fish \'fȯl-ˌfish\ *n* : a common cyprinid fish (*Semotilus corporalis*) of the streams of northeastern No. America — compare CHUB

fall guy *n* **1** : one that is easily duped **2** : SCAPEGOAT

fal·li·bil·i·ty \ˌfal-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : liability to err

fal·li·ble \'fal-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *fallibilis*, fr. L *fallere*] **1** : liable to be erroneous ⟨a ~ generalization⟩ **2** : capable of making a mistake ⟨all men are ~⟩ — **fal·li·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

fall in *vi* **1** : to sink inward ⟨the roof *fell in*⟩ **2** : to take one's proper place in a military formation — **fall in with 1** : to concur with ⟨had to *fall in with* her wishes⟩ **2** : to harmonize with ⟨it *falls in* exactly *with* my views⟩

falling diphthong *n* : a diphthong with less stress on the second element than on the first (as \ȯi\ in \'nȯiz\ *noise*)

fall·ing–out \ˌfȯ-liŋ-'au̇t\ *n, pl* **fallings–out** *or* **falling–outs** : an instance of falling out : QUARREL

falling rhythm *n* : rhythm with stress occurring regularly on the first syllable of each foot — compare RISING RHYTHM

falling star *n* : METEOR 2a

fall line *n* **1** : a line joining the waterfalls on numerous rivers that marks the point where each river descends from the upland to the lowland and the limit of the navigability of each river **2** : the natural downhill course (as for skiing) between two points on a slope

fall·off \'fȯ-ˌlȯf\ *n* : a decline esp. in quantity or quality ⟨a ~ in exports⟩ ⟨a ~ of light intensity⟩

fall off \(')fȯ-'lȯf\ *vi* **1** : TREND 1b **2** *of a ship* : to deviate to leeward of the point to which the bow was directed

fal·lo·pi·an tube \fə-ˌlō-pē-ən-\ *n, often cap F* [Gabriel *Fallopius* †1562 It anatomist] : either of the pair of tubes conducting the egg from the ovary to the uterus

fall·out \'fȯ-ˌlau̇t\ *n* **1 a** : the often radioactive particles stirred up by or resulting from a nuclear explosion and descending through the atmosphere; *also* : other polluting particles (as volcanic ash) descending likewise **b** : descent (as of fallout) through the atmosphere **2** : an incidental result or product ⟨the war . . . produced its own literary ~ —a profusion of books —*Newsweek*⟩

fall out \(')fȯ-'lau̇t\ *vi* **1** : to turn out : HAPPEN ⟨as it *fell out* we couldn't have made it on time⟩ **2** : QUARREL ⟨friends who have *fallen out*⟩ **3 a** : to leave one's place in the ranks **b** : to leave a building in order to take one's place in a military formation

[1]fal·low \'fal-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *adj* [ME *falow*, fr. OE *fealu;* akin to OHG *falo* pale, fallow, L *pallēre* to be pale, Gk *polios* gray] : of a light yellowish brown color

[2]fallow *n* [ME *falwe, falow*, fr. OE *fealg* — more at FELLY] **1** *obs* : plowed land **2** : usu. cultivated land that is allowed to lie idle during the growing season **3** : the state or period of being fallow **4** : the tilling of land without sowing it for a season

[3]fallow *vt* : to plow, harrow, and break up (land) without seeding to destroy weeds and conserve soil moisture

[4]fallow *adj* **1** : left untilled or unsown after plowing **2** : DORMANT, INACTIVE — used esp. in the phrase *to lie fallow* ⟨at this very moment there are probably important inventions lying ~ —*Harper's*⟩ — **fal·low·ness** *n*

fallow deer *n* : a small European deer (*Dama dama*) with broad antlers and a pale yellow coat spotted with white in the summer



fallow deer

fall to \'fȯl-'tü\ *vi* : to begin doing something (as working or eating) esp. vigorously — often used in invitation or command

[1]false \'fȯls\ *adj* **fals·er; fals·est** [ME *fals*, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *falsus*, fr. pp. of *fallere* to deceive] **1** : not genuine ⟨~ documents⟩ ⟨~ teeth⟩ **2 a** : intentionally untrue ⟨~ testimony⟩ **b** : adjusted or made so as to deceive ⟨~ scales⟩ ⟨a trunk with a ~ bottom⟩ **c** : tending to mislead ⟨a ~ promise⟩ **3** : not true ⟨~ concepts⟩ **4 a** : not faithful or loyal : TREACHEROUS **b** *obs* : not solid **5 a** : not essential or permanent — used of parts of a structure that are temporary or supplemental **b** : fitting over a main part to strengthen it, to protect it, or to disguise its appearance ⟨a ~ ceiling⟩ **c** : appearing forced or artificial : UNCONVINCING ⟨a ~ scene in a movie⟩ **6** : of a kind related to or resembling another kind that is usu. designated by the unqualified vernacular ⟨~ oats⟩ **7** : inaccurate in pitch ⟨a ~ note⟩ **8 a** : based on mistaken ideas ⟨~ pride⟩ **b** : inconsistent with the true facts ⟨a ~ position⟩ ⟨a ~ sense of security⟩ **9** : IMPRUDENT, UNWISE ⟨don't make a ~ move⟩ — **false·ly** *adv* — **false·ness** *n*

syn **1** FALSE, WRONG *shared meaning element* : neither true nor right ***ant*** true
2 see FAITHLESS ***ant*** true

[2]false *adv* : in a false or faithless manner : TREACHEROUSLY ⟨his wife played him ~⟩

false alarm *n* **1** : an alarm (as a fire or burglar alarm) that is set off needlessly **2** : one that raises but fails to meet expectations

false arrest *n* : an arrest not justifiable under law

false·hood \'fȯls-ˌhu̇d\ *n* **1** : an untrue statement : LIE **2** : absence of truth or accuracy : FALSITY **3** : the practice of lying : MENDACITY

false horizon *n* : HORIZON 1c

false imprisonment *n* : imprisonment of a person contrary to law

false miterwort *n* : FOAMFLOWER
false pregnancy *n* : PSEUDOCYESIS, PSEUDOPREGNANCY
false rib *n* : a rib whose cartilages unite indirectly or not at all with the sternum — compare FLOATING RIB
false Solomon's-seal *n* : any of a genus (*Smilacina*) of herbs of the lily family that differ from Solomon's seal in having flowers in a terminal raceme or panicle
[1]fal·set·to \ˌfȯl-ˈset-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** [It, fr. dim. of *falso* false, fr. L *falsus*] **1** : an artificially high voice; *specif* : an artificially produced singing voice that overlaps and extends above the range of the full voice esp. of a tenor **2** : a singer who uses falsetto
[2]falsetto *adv* : in falsetto
fals·ie \ˈfȯl-sē\ *n* : a breast-shaped usu. fabric or rubber cup used to pad a brassiere — usu. used in pl.
fal·si·fy \ˈfȯl-səˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *falsifien*, fr. MF *falsifier*, fr. ML *falsificare*, fr. L *falsus*] *vt* **1** : to prove or declare false **2** : to make false: as **a** : to make false by mutilation or addition ⟨his accounts were *falsified* to conceal a theft⟩ **b** : to represent falsely : MISREPRESENT **3** : to prove unsound by experience ~ *vi* : to tell lies : LIE *syn* see MISREPRESENT — **fal·si·fi·ca·tion** \ˌfȯl-sə-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* — **fal·si·fi·er** \ˈfȯl-sə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
fal·si·ty \ˈfȯl-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : something false : LIE **2** : the quality or state of being false
Fal·staff \ˈfȯl-ˌstaf\ *n* : a convivial roguish character in Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Henry IV* — **Fal·staff·ian** \fȯl-ˈstaf-ē-ən\ *adj*
falt·boat \ˈfält-ˌbōt, ˈfȯlt-\ *n* [part trans. of G *faltboot* folding boat, fr. *falten* to fold (fr. OHG *faldan*) + *boot* boat] : FOLDBOAT
[1]fal·ter \ˈfȯl-tər\ *vb* **fal·tered; fal·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *falteren*] *vi* **1 a** : to walk unsteadily : STUMBLE **b** : to give way : TOTTER ⟨could feel his legs ~*ing*⟩ **c** : to move waveringly or hesitatingly ⟨forced to bail out of ~*ing* airplanes —*Nat'l Geographic*⟩ **2** : to speak brokenly or weakly : STAMMER **3 a** : to hesitate in purpose or action : WAVER **b** : to lose drive or effectiveness : FAIL, WEAKEN ⟨the business was ~*ing*⟩ ~ *vt* : to utter hesitatingly or brokenly *syn* see HESITATE — **fal·ter·er** \-tər-ər\ *n* — **fal·ter·ing·ly** \-t(ə-)riŋ-lē\ *adv*
[2]falter *n* : an act or instance of faltering
fam *abbr* **1** familiar **2** family
[1]fame \ˈfām\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *fama* report, fame; akin to L *fari* to speak — more at BAN] **1 a** : public estimation : REPUTATION **b** : popular acclaim : RENOWN **2** *archaic* : RUMOR
[2]fame *vt* **famed; fam·ing** **1** : REPORT, REPUTE **2** : to make famous
famed \ˈfāmd\ *adj* : known widely and well : FAMOUS ⟨a ~ university⟩
fa·mil·ial \fə-ˈmil-yəl\ *adj* [F, fr. L *familia*] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a family **2** : tending to occur in more members of a family than expected by chance alone ⟨a ~ disorder⟩
[1]fa·mil·iar \fə-ˈmil-yər\ *n* **1** : an intimate associate : COMPANION **2** : a member of the household of a high official **3** : a spirit often embodied in an animal and held to attend and serve or guard a person **4 a** : one who is well acquainted with something **b** : one who frequents a place
[2]familiar *adj* [ME *familier*, fr. OF, fr. L *familiaris*, fr. *familia*] **1** : closely acquainted : INTIMATE ⟨a ~ family friend⟩ **2** *obs* : AFFABLE, SOCIABLE **3 a** : of or relating to a family ⟨remembering past ~ celebrations⟩ **b** : frequented by families ⟨a ~ resort⟩ **4 a** : being free and easy ⟨the ~ association of old friends⟩ **b** : marked by informality ⟨a ~ essay⟩ **c** : overly free and unrestrained : PRESUMPTUOUS ⟨grossly ~ behavior⟩ **d** : moderately tame ⟨~ animals⟩ **5 a** : frequently seen or experienced **b** : of everyday occurrence *syn* see COMMON — **fa·mil·iar·ly** *adv* — **fa·mil·iar·ness** *n*
fa·mil·iar·i·ty \fə-ˌmil-ˈyar-ət-ē, -ˌmil-ē-ˈ(y)ar-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being familiar **b** : a state of close relationship : INTIMACY **2 a** : absence of ceremony : INFORMALITY **b** : an unduly informal act or expression : IMPROPRIETY **c** : a sexual liberty **3** : close acquaintance with something ⟨his ~ with American history⟩
fa·mil·iar·ize \fə-ˈmil-yə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make known or familiar ⟨Shakespeare . . . ~*s* the wonderful —Samuel Johnson⟩ **2** : to make well acquainted ⟨~ students with good literature⟩ — **fa·mil·iar·iza·tion** \-ˌmil-yə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
familiar spirit *n* **1** : a spirit or demon that serves or prompts an individual **2** : the spirit of a dead person invoked by a medium to advise or prophesy
[1]fam·i·ly \ˈfam-(ə-)lē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [ME *familie*, fr. L *familia* household (including servants as well as kin of the householder), fr. *famulus* servant; perh. akin to Skt *dhāman* dwelling place] **1 a** : a group of people united by certain convictions (as of religion or philosophy) : FELLOWSHIP **b** : the staff of a high official (as the President) **2 a** : a group of persons of common ancestry : CLAN **b** : a people or group of peoples regarded as deriving from a common stock : RACE **3** : a group of individuals living under one roof and usu. under one head : HOUSEHOLD **4 a** : a group of things related by common characteristics or properties **b** : a closely related series of elements or chemical compounds **c** : a group of soils that have similar profiles and include one or more series **d** : a group of related languages descended from a single ancestral language **5** : the basic unit in society having as its nucleus two or more adults living together and cooperating in the care and rearing of their own or adopted children **6 a** : a group of related plants or animals forming a category ranking above a genus and below an order and usu. comprising several to many genera **b** *in livestock breeding* (1) : the descendants or line of a particular individual esp. of some outstanding female (2) : an identifiable strain within a breed **c** : an ecological community consisting of a single kind of organism and usu. being of limited extent and representing an early stage of a succession **7** : a set of curves or surfaces whose equations differ only in parameters
[2]family *adj* : of or relating to a family
family Bible *n* : a large Bible usu. having special pages for recording births, marriages, and deaths
family circle *n* : a gallery in a theater or opera house usu. located above or behind a gallery containing more expensive seats
family court *n* : COURT OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS
family doctor *n* : a doctor regularly called by a family in time of illness — called also *family physician*
family man *n* **1** : a man with a wife and children dependent on him **2** : a responsible man of domestic habits
family name *n* : SURNAME 2
family planning *n* : a system of controlling family size and approximate birth dates of children by appropriate use of contraceptive techniques
family room *n* : a large room designed as a recreation center for members of a family
family style *adv or adj* : with the food placed on the table in serving dishes from which those eating may help themselves ⟨meals are served *family style*⟩
family tree *n* **1** : GENEALOGY **2** : a genealogical diagram
fam·ine \ˈfam-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *famina*, fr. L *fames* hunger] **1** : an extreme scarcity of food **2** *archaic* : STARVATION **3** *archaic* : a ravenous appetite **4** : a great shortage
fam·ish \ˈfam-ish\ *vb* [ME *famishen*, prob. alter. of *famen*, fr. MF *afamer*, fr. (assumed) VL *affamare*, fr. L *ad-* + *fames*] *vt* **1** : to cause to suffer severely from hunger **2** *archaic* : to cause to starve to death ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : STARVE **2** : to suffer for lack of something necessary ⟨this invention of language, at a moment when French poetry in particular was ~*ing* for such invention —T. S. Eliot⟩ — **fam·ish·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
fa·mous \ˈfā-məs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *fameux*, fr. L *famosus*, fr. *fama* fame] **1 a** : widely known **b** : honored for achievement **2** : EXCELLENT, FIRST-RATE ⟨~ weather for a walk⟩ — **fa·mous·ly** *adv* — **fa·mous·ness** *n*
syn FAMOUS, RENOWNED, CELEBRATED, NOTED, DISTINGUISHED, EMINENT, ILLUSTRIOUS *shared meaning element* : known far and wide *ant* obscure
fam·u·lus \ˈfam-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [G, assistant to a professor, fr. L, servant] : a private secretary or attendant
[1]fan \ˈfan\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fann*, fr. L *vannus* — more at WINNOW] **1** : any of various devices for winnowing grain **2** : an instrument for producing a current of air: as **a** : a device for cooling the person that is usu. shaped like a segment of a circle and is composed of material (as feathers or paper) mounted on thin rods or slats moving about a pivot so that the device may be closed compactly when not in use **b** : a device for producing a current of air that consists of a series of vanes radiating from a hub rotated on its axle by a motor **c** *slang* : an airplane propeller **3** : something resembling an open fan — **fan·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
[2]fan *vb* **fanned; fan·ning** *vt* **1 a** : to drive away the chaff of (grain) by means of a current of air **b** : to eliminate (as chaff) by winnowing **2** : to move or impel (air) with a fan **3** : to blow or breathe upon ⟨the breeze *fanning* her hair⟩ **4 a** : to direct a current of air upon with a fan **b** : to stir up to activity as if by fanning : STIMULATE ⟨he was *fanning* her antagonism with insults⟩ **5** *archaic* : WAVE **6** *slang* : SPANK **7** : to spread like a fan ⟨the peacock *fanned* his tail⟩ **8** : to strike (a batter) out in baseball **9** : to fire a series of shots from (a revolver) by holding the trigger back and successively striking the hammer to the rear with the free hand ~ *vi* **1** : to move like a fan : FLUTTER **2** : to spread like a fan — often used with *out* ⟨deputies *fanning* out on the hunt⟩ **3** *of a baseball batter* : to strike out
[3]fan *n* [prob. short for *fanatic*] **1** : an enthusiastic devotee (as of a sport or a performing art) usu. as a spectator **2** : an ardent admirer or enthusiast (as of a celebrity or a pursuit) ⟨science-fiction ~*s*⟩
fa·nat·ic \fə-ˈnat-ik\ *or* **fa·nat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *fanaticus* inspired by a deity, frenzied, fr. *fanum* temple — more at FEAST] : marked by excessive enthusiasm and often intense uncritical devotion ⟨he's ~ about politics⟩ — **fanatic** *n* — **fa·nat·i·cal·ly** \fə-ˈnat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **fa·nat·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*
fa·nat·i·cism \fə-ˈnat-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : fanatic outlook or behavior
fa·nat·i·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : to cause to become fanatic
fan·ci·er \ˈfan(t)-sē-ər\ *n* : one that has a special liking or interest; *esp* : a person who breeds or grows a particular animal or plant for points of excellence ⟨a pigeon ~⟩
fan·ci·ful \ˈfan(t)-si-fəl\ *adj* **1** : marked by fancy or unrestrained imagination rather than by reason and experience **2** : existing in fancy only **3** : marked by or as if by fancy or whim ⟨gave ~ names to her children⟩ *syn* see IMAGINARY *ant* realistic — **fan·ci·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **fan·ci·ful·ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*
fan·ci·ly \ˈfan(t)-sə-lē\ *adv* **1** : with fancy or imagination esp. when studied or affected **2** : in an elaborate or ornate manner ⟨~ dressed⟩
fan·ci·ness \-sē-nəs\ *n* : fancy quality or form
[1]fan·cy \ˈfan(t)-sē\ *n, pl* **fancies** [ME *fantasie, fantsy* fantasy, fancy, fr. MF *fantasie*, fr. L *phantasia*, fr. Gk, appearance, imagination, fr. *phantazein* to present to the mind (middle voice, to imagine), fr. *phainein* to show; akin to OE *gebōned* polished, Gk *phōs* light] **1 a** : a liking formed by caprice rather than reason : INCLINATION ⟨took a ~ to the strange little animal⟩ **b** : amorous fondness : LOVE **2 a** : NOTION, WHIM **b** : an image or representation of something formed in the mind **3** *archaic* : fantastic quality or state **4 a** : imagination esp. of a capricious or delusive sort **b** : the power of conception and representation used in artistic expression (as by a poet) **5** : TASTE, JUDGMENT **6 a** : devotees of some particular art, practice, or amusement **b** : the object of interest of such a fancy; *esp* : PUGILISM *syn* see IMAGINATION
[2]fancy *vt* **fan·cied; fan·cy·ing** **1** : to have a fancy for : LIKE **2** : to form a conception of : IMAGINE ⟨~ our embarrassment⟩ **3** : to form an idea about on the basis of inadequate evidence or in the absence of evidence ⟨she *fancied* she had met him before⟩ *syn* see THINK
[3]fancy *adj* **fan·ci·er; -est** **1** : dependent or based on fancy : WHIMSICAL **2 a** : not plain : ORNAMENTAL ⟨a ~ hairdo⟩ **b** : of particular excellence or highest grade ⟨~ tuna⟩ **c** *of an animal or plant* : bred esp. for bizarre or ornamental qualities that lack prac-

tical utility **3** : based on conceptions of the fancy ⟨~ sketches⟩ **4 a** : dealing in fancy goods **b** : above real value or the usual market price; *esp* : EXTRAVAGANT ⟨paying ~ prices for inferior goods⟩ **5** : executed with technical skill and superior grace ⟨~ diving⟩ **6** : PARTI-COLORED ⟨~ carnations⟩

fancy dress *n* : a costume (as for a masquerade) chosen to suit the wearer's fancy

fan·cy–free \'fan(t)-sē-ˌfrē\ *adj* **1** : free to imagine or fancy **2** : free from amorous attachment or engagement

fancy man *n* : a woman's paramour; *also* : PIMP

fancy up *vt* : to add superficial adornment to ⟨*fancy up* an old dress with ruffles⟩

fancy woman *n* : a woman of questionable morals; *specif* : PROSTITUTE

fan·cy·work \'fan(t)-sē-ˌwərk\ *n* : decorative needlework

F and A *abbr* fore and aft

fan·dan·go \fan-'daŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **-gos** [Sp] **1** : a lively Spanish or Spanish-American dance in triple time that is usu. performed by a man and a woman to the accompaniment of guitar and castanets; *also* : music for this dance **2** : TOMFOOLERY

fan·dom \'fan-dəm\ *n* : all the fans (as of a sport)

fane \'fān\ *n* [ME, fr. L *fanum* — more at FEAST] **1** : TEMPLE **2** : CHURCH

fan·fare \'fan-ˌfa(ə)r, -ˌfe(ə)r\ *n* [F] **1** : a flourish of trumpets **2** : a showy outward display

fan·far·o·nade \ˌfan-ˌfar-ə-'nād, -'näd\ *n* [F *fanfaronnade*, fr. Sp *fanfarronada*, fr. *fanfarrón* braggart] : empty boasting : BLUSTER

fan·fold \'fan-ˌfōld\ *n* : a business form made from a web of paper folded like a fan both lengthwise and crosswise

fang \'faŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fang* seizure, OE *fōn* to seize — more at PACT] **1 a** : a long sharp tooth: as (1) : one by which an animal's prey is seized and held or torn (2) : one of the long hollow or grooved and often erectile teeth of a venomous snake **b** : one of the chelicerae of a spider at the tip of which a poison gland opens **2** : the root of a tooth or one of the processes or prongs into which a root divides **3** : a projecting tooth or prong — **fanged** \'faŋd\ *adj*



1 fangs of a rattlesnake

fan·ion \'fan-yən\ *n* [F, fr. *fanon* maniple, pennon, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *fano* cloth — more at VANE] : a small flag used by soldiers and surveyors to mark positions

fan–jet \'fan-ˌjet\ *n* **1** : a jet engine having a fan that operates in a duct and draws in extra air whose compression and expulsion provide extra thrust **2** : an airplane powered by a fan-jet engine

fan letter *n* : a letter sent to a public figure (as in sports or the movies) by an admirer

fan·light \'fan-ˌlīt\ *n* : a semicircular window with radiating sash bars like the ribs of a fan that is placed over a door or window

fan mail *n* : FAN LETTERS

fan·ner \'fan-ər\ *n* : one that fans

fan·ny \'fan-ē\ *n, pl* **fannies** [fr. *Fanny*, nickname of *Frances*] : BUTTOCKS

fan·tail \'fan-ˌtāl\ *n* **1** : a fan-shaped tail or end **2** : a domestic pigeon having a broad rounded tail often with 30 or 40 feathers **3** : an architectural part resembling a fan **4** : a counter or after overhang of a ship shaped like a duck's bill

fan–tan \'fan-ˌtan\ *n* [Chin *fan*[1]*-t'an*[1]] **1** : a Chinese gambling game in which the banker divides a pile of objects (as beans) into fours and players bet on what number will be left at the end of the count **2** : a card game in which players must build in sequence upon sevens and attempt to be the first one out of cards

fan·ta·sia \fan-'tā-zhə, -z(h)ē-ə; ˌfant-ə-'zē-ə\ *also* **fan·ta·sie** \ˌfant-ə-'zē, ˌfänt-\ *n* [It *fantasia* & G *fantasie*, lit., fancy, fr. L *phantasia* — more at FANCY] **1 a** : a free instrumental composition not in strict form **b** : a potpourri of operatic arias or familiar airs **2 a** : a work (as a poem or play) in which the author's fancy roves unrestricted **b** : something possessing grotesque, bizarre, or unreal qualities

fan·ta·sied \'fant-ə-sēd, -zēd\ *adj* **1** : existing only in the imagination : FANCIED **2** *obs* : full of fancies or strange whims

fan·ta·sist \-səst, -zəst\ *n* : one who creates fantasias or fantasies

fan·ta·size \-ˌsīz\ *vb* **-sized; -siz·ing** *vt* : FANTASY ⟨likes to ~ herself as very wealthy⟩ ~ *vi* : to indulge in reverie : create or develop imaginative and often fantastic views or ideas ⟨doing things I'd *fantasized* about in my sheltered childhood —Diane Arbus⟩

fantasm *var of* PHANTASM

fan·tast \'fan-ˌtast\ *n* [G, fr. ML *fantasta*, prob. back-formation fr. LL *phantasticus*] **1** : VISIONARY **2** : a fantastic or eccentric person **3** : FANTASIST

[1]fan·tas·tic \fan-'tas-tik, fən-\ *adj* [ME *fantastic, fantastical*, fr. MF & LL; MF *fantastique*, fr. LL *phantasticus*, fr. Gk *phantastikos* producing mental images, fr. *phantazein* to present to the mind] **1 a** : based on fantasy : not real **b** : conceived or seemingly conceived by unrestrained fancy **c** : so extreme as to challenge belief : UNBELIEVABLE; *broadly* : excessively large or great **2** : marked by extravagant fantasy or extreme individuality : ECCENTRIC — **fan·tas·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **fan·tas·ti·cal·i·ty** \(ˌ)fan-ˌtas-tə-'kal-ət-ē, fən-\ *n* — **fan·tas·ti·cal·ly** \fan-'tas-ti-k(ə-)lē, fən-\ *adv* — **fan·tas·ti·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

syn **1** see IMAGINARY

2 FANTASTIC, BIZARRE, GROTESQUE *shared meaning element* : conceived or made or carried out without evident reference to reality, truth, or common sense

[2]fantastic *n* : ECCENTRIC 2

fan·tas·ti·cate \fan-'tas-tə-ˌkāt, fən-\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** : to make fantastic — **fan·tas·ti·ca·tion** \(ˌ)fan-ˌtas-tə-'kā-shən, fən-\ *n*

fan·tas·ti·co \fan-'tas-ti-ˌkō, fən-\ *n, pl* **-coes** [It, fantastic (adj.), fr. LL *phantasticus*] : a ridiculously fantastic individual

[1]fan·ta·sy \'fant-ə-sē, -zē\ *n, pl* **-sies** [ME *fantasie* — more at FANCY] **1** *obs* : HALLUCINATION **2** : FANCY; *esp* : the free play of creative imagination **3** : a creation of the imaginative faculty whether expressed or merely conceived: as **a** : a fanciful design or invention **b** : a chimerical or fantastic notion **c** : FANTASIA 1 **d** : imaginative fiction featuring esp. strange settings and grotesque characters — called also *fantasy fiction* **4** : CAPRICE **5** : the power or process of creating esp. unrealistic or improbable mental images in response to psychological need ⟨an object of ~⟩; *also* : a mental image so created : DAYDREAM ⟨sexual *fantasies* of adolescence⟩ **6** : a coin usu. not intended for circulation as currency and often issued by a dubious authority (as a government-in-exile)

syn see IMAGINATION

[2]fantasy *vb* **-sied; -sy·ing** *vt* : to portray in the mind : FANCY ~ *vi* : to indulge in reverie : DAYDREAM

fan·toc·ci·ni \ˌfänt-ə-'chē-nē, ˌfant-\ *n pl* [It, pl. of *fantoccino*, dim. of *fantoccio* doll, aug. of *fante* child, fr. L *infant-, infans* infant] **1** : puppets operated by strings or mechanical devices **2** : a puppet show using fantoccini

fan·tod \'fan-ˌtäd\ *n* [perh. alter. of E dial. *fantique, fanteeg*] **1** *pl* **a** : a state of irritability and tension **b** : FIDGETS **2** : an emotional outburst : FIT

fantom *var of* PHANTOM

fan tracery *n* : decorative tracery on vaulting in which the ribs diverge like the rays of a fan

fan·wise \'fan-ˌwīz\ *adv or adj* : in the manner or position of the slats of an open fan ⟨boats anchored ~ at the pier⟩

FAO *abbr* Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FAQ *abbr* fair average quality

[1]far \'fär\ *adv* **far·ther** \-thər\ *or* **fur·ther** \'fər-\; **far·thest** *or* **fur·thest** \-thəst\ [ME *fer*, fr. OE *feorr*; akin to OHG *ferro* far, OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] **1** : at or to a considerable distance in space ⟨wandered ~ from home⟩ **2 a** : by a broad interval : WIDELY ⟨the ~ distant future⟩ **b** : of a distinctly different quality — usu. used with *from* ⟨the trip was ~ from a failure⟩ **3** : to or at a definite distance, point, or degree ⟨as ~ as I know⟩ **4 a** : to an advanced point or extent ⟨a bright student will go ~⟩ ⟨worked ~ into the night⟩ **b** : to a great extent : MUCH ⟨~ better methods⟩ **5** : at a considerable distance in time ⟨not ~ from the year 1870⟩ — **by far** : far and away ⟨is *by far* the best runner⟩ — **far and away** : by a considerable margin ⟨was *far and away* the superior team⟩ — **how far** : to what extent, degree, or distance ⟨didn't know *how far* to trust him⟩ — **so far** **1** : to a certain extent, degree, or distance ⟨when the water rose *so far*, the villagers sought higher ground⟩ **2** : up to the present ⟨has written just one novel *so far*⟩ — **thus far** : so far ⟨*thus far* our findings have been negative⟩

[2]far *adj* **farther** *or* **further; farthest** *or* **furthest** **1 a** : remote in space **b** : distinctly different in quality or relationship **c** : remote in time **2 a** : LONG ⟨a ~ journey⟩ **b** : of notable extent : COMPREHENSIVE ⟨a man of ~ vision⟩ **3** : the more distant of two **4** *of a political position* : EXTREME ⟨the ~ left⟩ ⟨a ~ right organization⟩

syn see DISTANT ***ant*** near, nigh, nearby

[3]far *abbr* farthing

far·ad \'fa(ə)r-ˌad, 'far-əd\ *n* [Michael *Faraday*] : the unit of capacitance equal to the capacitance of a capacitor between whose plates there appears a potential of one volt when it is charged by one coulomb of electricity

far·a·day \'far-ə-ˌdā, -əd-ē\ *n* [Michael *Faraday*] : the quantity of electricity transferred in electrolysis per equivalent weight of an element or ion equal to about 96,500 coulombs

fa·rad·ic \fə-'rad-ik, far-'ad-\ *also* **far·a·da·ic** \ˌfar-ə-'dā-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to an asymmetric alternating current of electricity produced by an induction coil

far·a·dism \'far-ə-ˌdiz-əm\ *n* : the application of a faradic current of electricity (as for therapeutic purposes)

far·an·dole \'far-ən-ˌdōl\ *n* [F *farandole*, fr. Prov *farandoulo*] **1** : a lively Provençal dance in which men and women hold hands, form a chain, and follow a leader through a serpentine course **2** : music in sextuple time for a farandole

far and wide *adv* : in every direction : EVERYWHERE ⟨advertised the event *far and wide*⟩

far·away \ˌfär-ə-ˌwā\ *adj* **1** : lying at a great distance : REMOTE **2** : DREAMY, ABSTRACTED ⟨a ~ look in her eyes⟩

syn see DISTANT ***ant*** near, nigh, nearby

[1]farce \'färs\ *vt* **farced; farc·ing** [ME *farsen*, fr. MF *farcir*, fr. L *farcire*; akin to Gk *phrassein* to enclose] **1** : STUFF **2** : to make more acceptable (as a literary work) by padding or spicing

[2]farce *n* [ME *farse*, fr. MF *farce*, fr. (assumed) VL *farsa*, fr. L, fem. of *farsus*, pp. of *farcire*] **1** : a savory stuffing : FORCEMEAT **2** : a light dramatic composition marked by broadly satirical comedy and improbable plot **3** : the broad humor characteristic of farce or pretense **4 a** : ridiculous or empty show **b** : MOCKERY ⟨the upholding of this law became a ~⟩

far·ceur \fär-'sər\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *farcer* to joke, fr. OF, fr. *farce*] **1** : JOKER, WAG **2** : a writer or actor of farce

far·ci *or* **far·cie** \fär-'sē\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *farcir*] : stuffed esp. with forcemeat ⟨oysters ~⟩

far·ci·cal \'fär-si-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling farce : LUDICROUS **2** : laughably inept : ABSURD — **far·ci·cal·i·ty** \ˌfär-sə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **far·ci·cal·ly** \'fär-si-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

far·cy \'fär-sē\ *n* [ME *farsin, farsi*, fr. MF *farcin*, fr. LL *farcimen*, fr. L, sausage, fr. *farcire*] **1** : GLANDERS; *esp* : cutaneous glanders **2** : a chronic ultimately fatal actinomycosis of cattle

[1]fard \'färd\ *vt* [ME *farden*, fr. MF *farder*; akin to OHG *faro* colored — more at PERCH] **1** : to paint (the face) with cosmetics **2** *archaic* : to gloss over
[2]fard *n*, *archaic* : paint used on the face
far·del \'färd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, prob. fr. Ar *fardah*] **1** : BUNDLE **2** : BURDEN
[1]fare \'fa(ə)r, 'fe(ə)r\ *vi* **fared; far·ing** [ME *faren*, fr. OE *faran*; akin to OHG *faran* to go, L *portare* to carry, Gk *peran* to pass through, *poros* passage, journey] **1** : GO, TRAVEL **2** : to get along : SUCCEED ⟨how did you ~ on your exam?⟩ **3** : EAT, DINE
[2]fare *n* [ME, journey, passage, supply of food, fr. OE *faru*, *fær*; akin to OE *faran* to go] **1 a** : the price charged to transport a person **b** : a paying passenger on a public conveyance **2 a** : range of food : DIET **b** : material provided for use, consumption, or enjoyment
fare–thee–well \'fa(ə)r-(ˌ)thē-ˌwel, 'fe(ə)r-\ *or* **fare–you–well** \-yə-, -yü-, -yē-\ *n* **1** : a state of perfection ⟨imitated the speaker's pompous manner to a ~⟩ **2** : the utmost degree ⟨drubbed the burglar to a ~⟩
[1]fare·well \fa(ə)r-'wel, fe(ə)r-\ *vb imper* : get along well — used interjectionally to or by one departing
[2]farewell *n* **1** : a wish of well-being at parting : GOOD-BYE **2 a** : an act of departure : LEAVE-TAKING **b** : a formal occasion honoring a person about to leave or retire
[3]fare·well \ˌfa(ə)r-ˌwel, ˌfe(ə)r-\ *adj* : of or relating to leave-taking : FINAL ⟨a ~ appearance⟩
[4]fare·well \fa(ə)r-'wel, fe(ə)r-\ *vt* : to bid farewell
far·fel *or* **far·fal** \'fär-fəl\ *n* [Yiddish *farfl* (pl.), fr. MHG *varveln*] : noodles in the form of small pellets or granules
far·fetched \'fär-'fecht\ *adj* **1** : brought from a remote time or place **2** : not easily or naturally deduced or introduced : IMPROBABLE — **far·fetched·ness** \-'fech(t)-nəs, -'fech-əd-nəs\ *n*
far–flung \-'fləŋ\ *adj* **1** : widely spread or distributed ⟨~ trading operations⟩ **2** : REMOTE ⟨~ sections of the city⟩
far–gone \'fär-'gȯn *also* -'gän\ *adj* : nearing an end ⟨a nightmare vision of the . . . mother, ~ in pregnancy, clawing with her hands —R. E. Long⟩
fa·ri·na \fə-'rē-nə\ *n* [L, meal, flour, fr. *far* spelt — more at BARLEY] **1** : a fine meal of vegetable matter (as cereal grains) used chiefly for puddings or as a breakfast cereal **2** : any of various powdery or mealy substances
far·i·na·ceous \ˌfar-ə-'nā-shəs\ *adj* **1** : containing or rich in starch **2** : having a mealy texture or surface — **far·i·na·ceous·ly** *adv*
fa·ri·nha \fə-'rēn-yə\ *n* [Pg, flour, cassava meal, fr. L *farina*] : cassava meal
far·kle·ber·ry \'fär-kəl-ˌber-ē\ *n* [prob. alter. of *whortleberry*] : a shrub or small tree (*Vaccinium arboreum*) of the heath family of the southeastern U.S. having a black berry with stony seeds
farl *or* **farle** \'fär(ə)l\ *n* [contr. of Sc *fardel*, lit., fourth part, fr. ME (Sc), fr. *ferde del*; fr. *ferde* fourth + *del* part] *Scot* : a small scone
[1]farm \'färm\ *n* [ME *ferme* rent, lease, fr. OF, lease, fr. *fermer* to fix, make a contract, fr. L *firmare* to make firm, fr. *firmus* firm] **1** *obs* : a sum or due fixed in amount and payable at fixed intervals **2** : a letting out of revenues or taxes for a fixed sum to one authorized to collect and retain them **3** : a district or division of a country leased out for the collection of government revenues **4** : a tract of land devoted to agricultural purposes **5 a** : a plot of land devoted to the raising of animals and esp. domestic livestock **b** : a tract of water reserved for the artificial cultivation of some aquatic life form **6** : a minor-league baseball club associated with a major-league club as a subsidiary to which recruits are assigned until needed or for further training
[2]farm *vt* **1** *obs* : RENT **2** : to collect and take the fees or profits of (an occupation or business) on payment of a fixed sum **3** : to give up (as an estate or a business) to another on condition of receiving in return a fixed sum **4 a** : to devote to agriculture **b** : to manage and cultivate as a farm ~ *vi* : to engage in raising crops or livestock
farm·er \'fär-mər\ *n* **1** : a person who pays a fixed sum for some privilege or source of income **2** : a person who cultivates land or crops or raises livestock **3** : YOKEL, BUMPKIN
farmer cheese *n* : a pressed unripened cheese similar to but drier and firmer than cottage cheese — called also *farm cheese*
farm·er·ette \ˌfär-mə-'ret\ *n* : a female farmer or farmhand
farm·hand \'färm-ˌhand\ *n* : a farm laborer; *esp* : a hired laborer on a farm
farm·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* : a dwelling on a farm
farm·ing *n* : the practice of agriculture
farm·land \'färm-ˌland\ *n* : land used or suitable for farming
farm out *vt* **1** : to turn over for performance (as a job) or use usu. on contract **2 a** : to put (as children or prisoners) into the hands of a private individual for care in return for a fee **b** : to send (a baseball player) to a farm team **3** : to exhaust (land) by farming esp. by continuously raising one crop
farm·stead \'färm-ˌsted\ *also* **farm·stead·ing** \-iŋ\ *n* : the buildings and adjacent service areas of a farm
farm·yard \-ˌyärd\ *n* : space around or enclosed by farm buildings; *esp* : BARNYARD
faro \'fa(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, 'fe(ə)r-\ *n, pl* **faros** [prob. alter. of earlier *pharaoh*, trans. of F *pharaon*] : a gambling game in which players bet on cards drawn from a dealing box
Faroese *var of* FAEROESE
far–off \'fär-'ȯf\ *adj* : remote in time or space ***syn*** see DISTANT ***ant*** near, nigh, nearby
fa·rouche \fə-'rüsh\ *adj* [F, wild, shy, fr. LL *forasticus* belonging outside, fr. L *foras* outdoors; akin to L *fores* door — more at DOOR] : marked by shyness and lack of polish; *also* : WILD
far–out \'fär-'au̇t\ *adj* : marked by a considerable departure from the conventional or traditional : EXTREME ⟨~ clothes⟩ — **far–out·ness** *n*
far point *n* : the point farthest from the eye at which an object is accurately focused on the retina at full accommodation
far·rag·i·nous \fə-'raj-ə-nəs\ *adj* : formed of various materials
far·ra·go \fə-'räg-(ˌ)ō, -'rā-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **-goes** [L *farragin-*, *farrago* mixed fodder, mixture, fr. *far* spelt — more at BARLEY] : a confused collection : MIXTURE
far–reach·ing \'fär-'rē-chiŋ\ *adj* : having a wide range or effect
far–red \-'red\ *adj* **1** : lying in the part of the infrared spectrum farthest from the red — used of radiations with wavelengths between 30 and about 1000 microns **2** : lying in the part of the infrared spectrum nearest to the red — used of radiations with wavelengths starting at about .8 micron
far·ri·er \'far-ē-ər\ *n* [alter. of ME *ferrour*, fr. MF *ferrour* blacksmith, fr. OF *ferreor*, fr. *ferrer* to fit with iron, fr. (assumed) VL *ferrare*, fr. L *ferrum* iron] : one that attends to or shoes horses
[1]far·row \'far-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *vb* [ME *farwen*, fr. (assumed) OE *fearrgian*, fr. OE *fearh* young pig; akin to OHG *farah* young pig, L *porcus* pig] *vt* : to give birth to (a farrow) ~ *vi, of swine* : to bring forth young — often used with *down*
[2]farrow *n* **1** : a litter of pigs **2** : an act of farrowing
[3]farrow *adj* [ME (Sc) *ferow*; prob. akin to OE *fearr* bull, ox — more at PARE] *of a cow* : not in calf : not settled
far·see·ing \'fär-'sē-iŋ\ *adj* : FARSIGHTED 1
far side *n* : the farther side — **on the far side of** : BEYOND ⟨just *on the far side of* 40⟩
far·sight·ed \'fär-'sīt-əd\ *adj* **1 a** : seeing or able to see to a great distance **b** : having foresight or good judgment : SAGACIOUS **2** : affected with hyperopia — **far·sight·ed·ly** *adv*
far·sight·ed·ness *n* **1** : the quality or state of being farsighted **2** : HYPEROPIA
[1]fart \'färt\ *vi* [ME *ferten*, *farten*; akin to OHG *ferzan* to break wind, ON *freta*, Gk *perdesthai*, Skt *pardate* he breaks wind] : to expel intestinal gas from the anus — usu. considered vulgar
[2]fart *n* [ME *fert*, *fart*, fr. *ferten*, *farten*; v.] : an expulsion of intestinal gas — usu. considered vulgar
[1]far·ther \'fär-thər\ *adv* [ME *ferther*, alter. of *further*] **1** : at or to a greater distance or more advanced point ⟨~ down the corridor⟩ **2** : to a greater degree or extent ⟨we do not extend the one-man idea any ~ than we have to —G. F. Eliot⟩
[2]farther *adj* **1** : more distant : REMOTER **2** : [2]FURTHER 2 ⟨clearing his throat preparatory to ~ revelations —Edith Wharton⟩
far·ther·most \-ˌmōst\ *adj* : most distant : FARTHEST
[1]far·thest \'fär-thəst\ *adj* : most distant in space or time
[2]farthest *adv* **1** : to or at the greatest distance in space or time ⟨who can jump the ~⟩ **2** : to the most advanced point ⟨goes ~ toward answering the question⟩ **3** : by the greatest degree or extent : MOST ⟨the essay ~ removed from this reviewer's comprehension —*Saturday Rev.*⟩
far·thing \'fär-thiŋ\ *n* [ME *ferthing*, fr. OE *fēorthung*; akin to MHG *vierdunc* fourth part, OE *fēortha* fourth] **1 a** : a former British monetary unit equal to ¼ of a penny **b** : a coin representing this unit **2** : something of small value : MITE
far·thin·gale \'fär-thən-ˌgāl, -thiŋ-\ *n* [modif. of MF *verdugale*, fr. OSp *verdugado*, fr. *verdugo* young shoot of a tree, fr. *verde* green, fr. L *viridis* — more at VERDANT] : a support (as of hoops) worn esp. in the 16th century beneath a skirt to expand it at the hip line



Queen Elizabeth in a farthingale

FAS *abbr* **1** firsts and seconds **2** Foreign Agricultural Service **3** free alongside ship
fasc *abbr* fascicle
fas·ces \'fas-ˌēz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [L, fr. pl. of *fascis* bundle; akin to L *fascia*] : a bundle of rods and among them an ax with projecting blade borne before ancient Roman magistrates as a badge of authority
fas·cia *1b, 1c, & 4 are usu* 'fāsh-(ē-)ə, *other senses are usu* 'fash-\ *n, pl* **-ci·ae** \-ē-ˌē\ *or* **-cias** [It, fr. L, band, bandage; akin to MIr *basc* necklace] **1** : a flat horizontal member of an order or building having the form of a flat band or broad fillet: as **a** : one of the three bands making up the architrave in the Ionic order **b** *or* **fascia board** : a horizontal piece (as a board) covering the joint between the top of a wall and the projecting eaves **c** : a nameplate over the front of a shop **2** : a broad and well-defined band of color **3** : a sheet of connective tissue covering or binding together body structures; *also* : tissue of this character **4** *Brit* : the dashboard of an automobile — **fas·cial** \'fash-(ē-)əl\ *adj*
fas·ci·at·ed \'fash-ē-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : arranged in fascicles **2** : exhibiting fasciation
fas·ci·a·tion \ˌfas(h)-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : a malformation of plant stems commonly manifested as enlargement and flattening as if several were fused
fas·ci·cle \'fas-i-kəl\ *n* [L *fasciculus*, dim. of *fascis*] **1** : a small bundle: as **a** : an inflorescence consisting of a compacted cyme less capitate than a glomerule **b** : FASCICULUS 1 **2** : one of the divisions of a book published in parts — **fas·ci·cled** \-kəld\ *adj*
fas·cic·u·lar \fə-'sik-yə-lər, fa-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or consisting of fascicles — **fas·cic·u·lar·ly** *adv*
fas·cic·u·late \-lət\ *adj* : FASCICULAR
fas·cic·u·la·tion \fə-ˌsik-yə-'lā-shən, fa-\ *n* [NL *fasciculus* + E *-ation* (as in *fibrillation*)] : muscular twitching involving contiguous groups of muscle fibers
fas·ci·cule \'fas-i-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *fasciculus*] : FASCICLE 2
fas·cic·u·lus \fə-'sik-yə-ləs, fa-\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L] **1** : a slender bundle of anatomical fibers **2** : FASCICLE 2
fas·ci·nate \'fas-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *fascinatus*, pp. of *fascinare*, fr. *fascinum* witchcraft] *vt* **1** *obs* : BEWITCH **2 a** : to transfix and hold spellbound by an irresistible power ⟨believed that the serpent could ~ its prey⟩ **b** : to command the interest of

: ALLURE ⟨was *fascinated* by her personality⟩ ~ *vi* : to be irresistibly attractive ***syn*** see ATTRACT

fas·ci·nat·ing *adj* : extremely interesting or charming : CAPTIVATING — **fas·ci·nat·ing·ly** \-ˌnāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

fas·ci·na·tion \ˌfas-ᵊn-ˈā-shən\ *n* **1** : the quality or power of fascinating **2** : the state of being fascinated

fas·ci·na·tor \ˈfas-ᵊn-ˌāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that fascinates **2** : a woman's lightweight head scarf usu. of crochet or lace

fas·cine \fa-ˈsēn, fə-\ *n* [F, fr. L *fascina*, fr. *fascis*] : a long bundle of sticks of wood bound together and used for such purposes as filling ditches and making revetments for river banks

fa·sci·o·li·a·sis \fə-ˌsē-ə-ˈlī-ə-səs, -ˌsī-\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Fasciola*, genus of flukes + *-iasis*] : infestation with or disease caused by liver flukes (genus *Fasciola*)

fas·cism \ˈfash-ˌiz-əm *also* ˈfas-ˌiz-\ *n* [It *fascismo*, fr. *fascio* bundle, fasces, group, fr. L *fascis* bundle & *fasces* fasces] **1** : a political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition **2** : a tendency toward or actual exercise of strong autocratic or dictatorial control ⟨early instances of army ~ and brutality —J. W. Aldridge⟩ — **fas·cist** \-əst\ *n or adj, often cap* — **fas·cis·tic** \fa-ˈshis-tik *also* -ˈsis-\ *adj, often cap* — **fas·cis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv, often cap*

Fa·sci·sta \fä-ˈshē-(ˌ)stä\ *n, pl* **-sti** \-(ˌ)stē\ [It, fr. *fascio*] : a member of an Italian political organization under Mussolini governing Italy 1922–1943 according to the principles of fascism

fas·cist·ize \ˈfash-ə-ˌstīz *also* ˈfas-ə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make over or transform into a Fascista : convert to the principles of fascism — **fas·cist·iza·tion** \ˌfash-ə-stə-ˈzā-shən *also* ˌfas-ə-\ *n*

fash \ˈfash\ *vb* [MF *fascher*, fr. (assumed) VL *fastidiare* to disgust, fr. L *fastidium* disgust — more at FASTIDIOUS] *chiefly Scot* : VEX — **fash** *n, chiefly Scot*

¹fash·ion \ˈfash-ən\ *n* [ME *facioun, fasoun* shape, manner, fr. OF *façon*, fr. L *faction-, factio* act of making, faction, fr. *factus*, pp. of *facere* to make — more at DO] **1 a** : the make or form of something **b** *archaic* : KIND, SORT **2 a** : an often personal manner or way ⟨he will, after his sour ~, tell you —Shak.⟩ **b** : mode of action or operation ⟨the people assembled in an orderly ~⟩ **3 a** : a prevailing custom, usage, or style **b** (1) : the prevailing style (as in dress) during a particular time (2) : a garment in such a style ⟨always wears the latest ~*s*⟩ **c** : social standing or prominence esp. as signalized by dress or conduct

syn **1** see METHOD
2 FASHION, STYLE, MODE, VOGUE, FAD, RAGE, CRAZE *shared meaning element* : the choice or usage (as in dressing, decorating, or living) generally accepted by those who regard themselves as up-to-date and sophisticated

— **after a fashion** : in an approximate or rough way ⟨became an artist *after a fashion*⟩

²fashion *vt* **fash·ioned; fash·ion·ing** \ˈfash-(ə-)niŋ\ **1 a** : to give shape or form to : MOLD **b** : ALTER, TRANSFORM **c** : to mold into a particular character by influencing or training **d** : to make or construct usu. with the use of imagination and ingenuity ⟨~ a lamp from an old churn⟩ **2** : FIT, ADAPT **3** *obs* : CONTRIVE ***syn*** see MAKE — **fash·ion·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*

¹fash·ion·able \ˈfash-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : conforming to the custom, fashion, or established mode **2** : of or relating to the world of fashion — **fash·ion·abil·i·ty** \ˌfash-(ə-)nə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **fash·ion·able·ness** \ˈfash-(ə-)nə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **fash·ion·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

²fashionable *n* : a fashionable person

fash·ion·mon·ger \ˈfash-ən-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n* : one that studies, imitates, or sets the fashion

fashion plate *n* **1** : an illustration of a clothing style **2** : a person who dresses in the newest fashion

¹fast \ˈfast\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *fæst;* akin to OHG *festi* firm, ON *fastr*, Arm *hast*] **1 a** : firmly fixed ⟨roots that are ~ in the ground⟩ **b** : tightly shut ⟨all the drawers were ~⟩ **c** : adhering firmly ⟨the glued sheets became ~⟩ **d** : not easily freed : STUCK ⟨a shell ~ in the chamber of a gun⟩ **e** : STABLE ⟨movable items were made ~ to the deck⟩ **2** : firmly loyal ⟨became ~ friends over the years⟩ **3 a** : characterized by quick motion, operation, or effect: (1) : moving or able to move rapidly : SWIFT (2) : taking a comparatively short time (3) : imparting quickness of motion ⟨a ~ bowler⟩ (4) : accomplished quickly (5) : agile of mind; *esp* : quick to learn ⟨a special class for ~ students⟩ **b** : conducive to rapidity of play or action ⟨a ~ track⟩ **c** (1) *of a timepiece or weighing device* : indicating in advance of what is correct (2) : according to daylight saving time **d** : contributing to a shortening of exposure time ⟨~ lens⟩ **e** : acquired with unusually little effort and often by shady or dishonest methods ⟨made some ~ money on the numbers⟩ **4 a** : securely attached ⟨a rope ~ to the wharf⟩ **b** : TENACIOUS ⟨kept a ~ hold on her purse⟩ **5 a** *archaic* : sound asleep **b** *of sleep* : not easily disturbed **6** : permanently dyed **7 a** : WILD ⟨runs around with a pretty ~ bunch⟩ **b** : daringly unconventional esp. in sexual matters ⟨a ~ woman⟩ **8** : resistant to change (as from destructive action or fading) — often used in combination ⟨ sun-*fast*⟩ ⟨acid-*fast* bacteria⟩

syn FAST, RAPID, SWIFT, FLEET, QUICK, SPEEDY, HASTY, EXPEDITIOUS *shared meaning element* : moving, proceeding, or acting with celerity ***ant*** slow

²fast *adv* **1** : in a firm or fixed manner **2** : in a sound manner : DEEPLY ⟨fell ~ asleep⟩ **3 a** : in a rapid manner : QUICKLY **b** : in quick succession ⟨kaleidoscopic impressions that come so thick and ~ —M. B. Tucker⟩ **4** : in a reckless manner : DISSIPATEDLY **5** : ahead of a correct time or posted schedule **6** *archaic* : CLOSE, NEAR

³fast *vi* [ME *fasten*, fr. OE *fæstan*] **1** : to abstain from food **2** : to eat sparingly or abstain from some foods

⁴fast *n* **1** : the practice of fasting **2** : a time of fasting

⁵fast *n* [alter. of ME *fest*, fr. ON *festr* rope, mooring cable, fr. *fastr* firm] : something that fastens or holds a fastening

fast and loose *adv* **1** : in a craftily deceitful way ⟨manipulated evidence . . . and played *fast and loose* with the truth —C. V. Woodward⟩ **2** : in a reckless or irresponsible manner ⟨playing *fast and loose* with his wife's money⟩

fast·back \ˈfas(t)-ˌbak\ *n* : an automobile roof with a long curving downward slope to the rear; *also* : an automobile with such a roof

fast·ball \ˈfas(t)-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a baseball pitch thrown at full speed and often rising slightly as it nears the plate — compare CURVEBALL, SLIDER, KNUCKLE BALL, CHANGE-UP, SCREWBALL

fast break *n* : a quick offensive drive toward a goal (as in basketball) in an attempt to score before the opponent's defense is set up — **fast–break** *vi*

fas·ten \ˈfas-ᵊn\ *vb* **fas·tened; fas·ten·ing** \ˈfas-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ [ME *fastnen*, fr. OE *fæstnian* to make fast; akin to OHG *festinōn* to make fast, OE *fæst* fast] *vt* **1 a** : to attach esp. by pinning, tying, or nailing **b** : to make fast and secure **c** : to fix firmly or securely **d** : to secure against opening **2** : to fix or set steadily ⟨~*ed* his attention on the main problem⟩ **3** : to take a firm grip with ⟨the dog ~*ed* his teeth in the old shoe⟩ **4 a** : to attach (oneself) persistently and usu. objectionably **b** : IMPOSE ⟨~*ed* the blame on the wrong man⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become fast or fixed **2 a** : to take a firm grip or hold **b** : to focus attention — **fas·ten·er** \ˈfas-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

syn FASTEN, FIX, ATTACH, AFFIX *shared meaning element* : to make something stay firmly in place ***ant*** unfasten, loosen, loose

fas·ten·ing *n* : something that fastens : FASTENER

fast–food \ˌfas(t)-ˌfüd\ *adj* : specializing in the rapid preparation and service of food (as hamburgers or fried chicken) ⟨a ~ restaurant chain⟩

fas·tid·i·ous \fa-ˈstid-ē-əs, fə-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *fastidiosus*, fr. *fastidium* disgust, prob. fr. *fastus* arrogance + *taedium* irksomeness; akin to L *fastigium* top] **1** *archaic* : SCORNFUL **2 a** : having high and often capricious standards : difficult to satisfy or please ⟨must surely give pleasure to the most ~ reader, for her art is scrupulous —Richard Church⟩ **b** : showing or demanding excessive delicacy or care ⟨highbrow critics . . . so ~ that they can talk only to a small circle of initiates —Granville Hicks⟩ **c** : reflecting a meticulous, sensitive, or demanding attitude ⟨~ workmanship⟩ **3** : having complex nutritional requirements ⟨~ microorganisms⟩ ***syn*** see NICE — **fas·tid·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **fas·tid·i·ous·ness** *n*

fas·tig·i·ate \fa-ˈstij-ē-ət\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *fastigiatus*, fr. L *fastigium*] : narrowing toward the top; *esp* : having upright usu. clustered branches — **fas·tig·i·ate·ly** *adv*

fas·tig·i·um \-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, top, gable end] : the period of greatest intensity (as of a disease)

fast·ness \ˈfas(t)-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being fast: as **a** : the quality or state of being fixed **b** : the quality or state of being swift **c** : colorfast quality **d** : resistance (as of an organism) to the action of a usu. toxic substance **2 a** : a fortified or secure place **b** : a remote and secluded place ⟨spent the weekend in his mountain ~⟩

Fast of Esther : a Jewish fast day observed the day before Purim in commemoration of a fast proclaimed by Queen Esther

fast–talk \ˈfas(t)-ˈtȯk\ *vt* : to influence or persuade by fluent, facile, and usu. deceptive or tricky talk ⟨~*ed* tribal chieftains . . . out of a parcel of rain-drenched, tropical real estate —*Newsweek*⟩

fas·tu·ous \ˈfas-chə-wəs\ *adj* [L *fastuosus*, fr. *fastus* arrogance — more at FASTIDIOUS] **1** : HAUGHTY, ARROGANT ⟨a ~ air of finality —Carl Van Vechten⟩ **2** : OSTENTATIOUS, SHOWY ⟨a period when ~ living was very much the order of the day —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

¹fat \ˈfat\ *adj* **fat·ter; fat·test** [ME, fr. OE *fǣtt*, pp. of *fǣtan* to cram; akin to OHG *feizit* fat, L *opimus* fat, copious] **1** : notable for having an unusual amount of fat: **a** : PLUMP **b** : OBESE **c** *of a meat animal* : fattened for market **d** *of food* : OILY, GREASY **2 a** : well filled out : THICK, BIG ⟨a ~ volume of verse⟩ **b** : FULL, RICH ⟨a gorgeous ~ bass voice —*Irish Digest*⟩ **c** : well stocked ⟨a ~ refrigerator⟩ **d** : PROSPEROUS, WEALTHY ⟨grew ~ on the war —*Time*⟩ **e** : being substantial and impressive ⟨a ~ bank account⟩ **3 a** : richly rewarding or profitable ⟨a ~ part in a new play⟩ ⟨accepted a ~ contract⟩ **b** : practically nonexistent ⟨a ~ chance⟩ **4** : PRODUCTIVE, FERTILE ⟨a ~ year for crops⟩ **5 a** *of soil* : containing minerals that cause a greasy feel **b** *of wood* : having a high resin content **6** : STUPID, FOOLISH **7** : SWOLLEN ⟨got a ~ lip from the fight⟩ — **fat·ness** *n*

²fat *n* **1** : animal tissue consisting chiefly of cells distended with greasy or oily matter **2 a** : oily or greasy matter making up the bulk of adipose tissue and often abundant in seeds **b** : any of numerous compounds of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen that are glycerides of fatty acids, the chief constituents of plant and animal fat, and a major class of energy-rich food, that are soluble in organic solvents (as ether) but not in water, and that are widely used industrially **c** : a solid or semisolid fat as distinguished from an oil **3** : the best or richest part **4** : the condition of fatness : OBESITY **5** : something in excess : SUPERFLUITY

³fat *vt* **fat·ted; fat·ting** : to make fat : FATTEN

⁴fat *var of* PHAT

fa·tal \ˈfāt-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *fatalis*, fr. *fatum*] **1** *obs* : FATED **2** : FATEFUL ⟨a ~ hour⟩ **3 a** : of or relating to fate **b** : resembling fate in foretelling destiny : PROPHETIC **c** : resembling fate in proceeding according to a fixed sequence **d** : determining one's fate **4 a** : causing death **b** : bringing ruin ***syn*** see DEADLY

fa·tal·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a doctrine that events are fixed in advance for all time in such a manner that human beings are powerless to change them; *also* : a belief in or attitude determined by this doc-

trine — **fa·tal·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **fa·tal·is·tic** \ˌfāt-ᵊl-ˈis-tik\ *adj* — **fa·tal·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

fa·tal·i·ty \fā-ˈtal-ət-ē, fə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : something established by fate **2** **a** : the quality or state of causing death or destruction : DEADLINESS **b** : the quality or condition of being destined for disaster **3** **a** : FATE 1 **b** : FATALISM **4** : the agent or agency of fate **5** **a** : death resulting from a disaster **b** : one that experiences or is subject to a fatal outcome ⟨one of the *fatalities* was a small child⟩

fa·tal·ly \ˈfāt-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* **1** : in a way determined by fate **2** : in a manner suggesting fate or an act of fate: as **a** : in a manner resulting in death : MORTALLY ⟨~ wounded⟩ **b** : beyond repair : IRREVOCABLY **c** : in a manner resulting in ruin or evil ⟨it is ~ easy to pass off our prejudices as our opinions —W. F. Hambly⟩ **d** : IRRESISTIBLY ⟨thinks she is ~ attractive —J. W. Krutch⟩

fa·ta mor·ga·na \ˌfät-ə-mȯr-ˈgän-ə, -ˈgan-\ *n* [It, lit., Morgan the fay, sorceress of Arthurian legend] : MIRAGE

fat·back \ˈfat-ˌbak\ *n* : the strip of fat from the back of a hog carcass usu. cured by drying and salting — see PORK illustration

fat body *n* : an insect fatty tissue esp. of nearly mature larvae that serves as a food reserve

fat cat *n* **1** **a** : a wealthy contributor to a political campaign fund **b** : a wealthy and privileged person **c** : BIG SHOT **2** : a lethargic, complacent person

¹fate \ˈfāt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *fatum*, lit., what has been spoken, fr. neut. of *fatus*, pp. of *fari* to speak — more at BAN] **1** : the principle or determining cause or will by which things in general are believed to come to be as they are or events to happen as they do : DESTINY **2** **a** : an inevitable and often adverse outcome, condition, or end **b** : DISASTER; *esp* : DEATH **3** **a** : final outcome **b** : the expected result of normal development ⟨prospective ~ of embryonic cells⟩ **4** *pl, cap* : the three goddesses of classical mythology who determine the course of human life

syn FATE, DESTINY, LOT, PORTION, DOOM *shared meaning element* : a predetermined state or end

²fate *vt* **fat·ed; fat·ing** : DESTINE; *also* : DOOM ⟨the deep antipathy . . . seeming to ~ them to antagonism —Les Savage⟩

fat·ed *adj* : decreed, controlled, or marked by fate

fate·ful \ˈfāt-fəl\ *adj* **1** : having a quality of ominous prophecy ⟨a ~ remark⟩ **2** **a** : involving momentous consequences : DECISIVE ⟨made his ~ decision to declare war —W. L. Shirer⟩ **b** : DEADLY, CATASTROPHIC **3** : controlled by fate : FOREORDAINED ***syn*** see OMINOUS — **fate·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **fate·ful·ness** *n*

fath *abbr* fathom

fat·head \ˈfat-ˌhed\ *n* : a slow-witted or stupid person : FOOL — **fat·head·ed** \-ˈhed-əd\ *adj* — **fat·head·ed·ly** *adv* — **fat·head·ed·ness** *n*

¹fa·ther \ˈfäth-ər, ˈfȧth-\ *n* [ME *fader*, fr. OE *fæder*; akin to OHG *fater* father, L *pater*, Gk *patēr*] **1** **a** : a man who has begotten a child; *also* : SIRE 3 **b** *cap* (1) : GOD 1 (2) : the first person of the Trinity **2** : FOREFATHER **3** **a** : one related to another in a way suggesting that of father to child **b** : an old man — used as a respectful form of address **4** *often cap* : a pre-Scholastic Christian writer accepted by the church as an authoritative witness to its teaching and practice — called also *church father* **5** **a** : one that originates or institutes ⟨the ~ of modern science⟩ **b** : SOURCE ⟨the sun, the ~ of warmth and light —Lena M. Whitney⟩ **c** : PROTOTYPE **6** : a priest of the regular clergy; *broadly* : PRIEST — used esp. as a title **7** : one of the leading men (as of a city) — usu. used in pl. — **fa·ther·hood** \-ˌhu̇d\ *n* — **fa·ther·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²father *vb* **fa·thered; fa·ther·ing** \ˈfäth-(ə-)riŋ, ˈfȧth-\ *vt* **1** **a** : BEGET **b** : to make oneself the founder, producer, or author of ⟨~*ed* a plan for improving the city's schools⟩ **c** : to accept responsibility for **2** : to fix the paternity or origin of **3** : FOIST, IMPOSE ~ *vi* : to care for or look after someone as a father might

Father Christmas *n, Brit* : SANTA CLAUS

father figure *n* : one often of particular power or influence who serves as an emotional substitute for a father

father image *n* : an idealization of one's father often projected onto someone to whom one looks for guidance and protection

father–in–law \ˈfäth-(ə-)rən-ˌlȯ, -ərn-ˌlȯ, ˈfȧth-\ *n, pl* **fa·thers–in–law** \-ər-zən-\ **1** : the father of one's spouse **2** : STEPFATHER

fa·ther·land \ˈfäth-ər-ˌland, ˈfȧth-\ *n* **1** : one's native land or country **2** : the native land or country of one's father or ancestors

fa·ther·like \-ˌlīk\ *adj or adv* : FATHERLY

fa·ther·li·ness \-lē-nəs\ *n* : paternal quality

fa·ther·ly \ˈfäth-ər-lē, fȧth-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or befitting a father ⟨~ responsibilities⟩ **2** : resembling a father (as in affection or care) ⟨a ~ old man⟩ — **fatherly** *adv*

Father's Day *n* : the third Sunday in June appointed for the honoring of fathers

¹fath·om \ˈfath-əm\ *n* [ME *fadme*, fr. OE *fæthm* outstretched arms, length of the outstretched arms; akin to ON *fathmr* fathom, L *patēre* to be open, *pandere* to spread out, Gk *petannynai*] **1** : a unit of length equal to 6 feet used esp. for measuring the depth of water **2** : COMPREHENSION

²fathom *vt* **1** : to measure by a sounding line **2** : to penetrate and come to understand ⟨couldn't ~ the problem⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to take soundings **2** : PROBE — **fath·om·able** \ˈfath-ə-mə-bəl\ *adj*

Fa·thom·e·ter \fa-ˈthäm-ət-ər, ˈfath-ə(m)-ˌmēt-\ *trademark* — used for a sonic depth finder

fath·om·less \ˈfath-əm-ləs\ *adj* : incapable of being fathomed — **fath·om·less·ly** *adv* — **fath·om·less·ness** *n*

fa·tid·ic \fā-ˈtid-ik, fə-\ *or* **fa·tid·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *fatidicus*, fr. *fatum* fate + *dicere* to say — more at DICTION] : of or relating to prophecy

fa·ti·ga·bil·i·ty \fə-ˌtē-gə-ˈbil-ət-ē, ˌfat-i-gə-\ *n* : susceptibility to fatigue

fa·ti·ga·ble \fə-ˈtē-gə-bəl, ˈfat-i-gə-\ *adj* : susceptible to fatigue

¹fa·tigue \fə-ˈtēg\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *fatiguer* to fatigue, fr. L *fatigare*; akin to L af*fatim* sufficiently and prob. to L *fames* hunger] **1** **a** (1) : weariness from labor or exertion (2) : nervous exhaustion **b** : the temporary loss of power to respond induced in a sensory receptor or motor end organ by continued stimulation **2** **a** : LABOR **b** : manual or menial work performed by military personnel **c** *pl* : the uniform or work clothing worn on fatigue and in the field **3** : the tendency of a material to break under repeated stress

²fatigue *vb* **fa·tigued; fa·tigu·ing** *vt* **1** : to weary with labor or exertion **2** : to induce a condition of fatigue in ~ *vi* : to suffer fatigue ***syn*** see TIRE — **fa·tigu·ing·ly** \-ˈtē-giŋ-lē\ *adv*

³fatigue *adj* **1** : consisting of, done, or used in fatigue ⟨~ detail⟩ **2** : belonging to fatigues ⟨a ~ cap⟩

fat·ling \ˈfat-liŋ\ *n* : a young animal fattened for slaughter

fat·ly *adv* **1** : RICHLY **2** : in the manner of one that is fat **3** : in a smug manner : COMPLACENTLY ⟨snickered ~ at his wife's mistake⟩

fats·hed·era \fats-ˈ(h)ed-ə-rə\ *n* [NL *Fatsia*, genus of shrubs + *Hedera*, genus of vines, fr. L, ivy] : a vigorous upright hybrid ornamental foliage plant (*Hedera helix* × *Aralia elata*) with glossy deeply lobed palmate leaves

fat·so \ˈfat-(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **fatsoes** [prob. fr. *Fats*, nickname for a fat person + *-o*] : a fat person — often used as a disparaging form of address

fat–sol·u·ble \ˈfat-ˌsäl-yə-bəl\ *adj* : soluble in fats or fat solvents

fat·stock \-ˌstäk\ *n* : livestock that is fat and ready for market

fat–tailed sheep \ˌfat-ˌtāld-\ *n* : a coarse-wooled mutton sheep that has great quantities of fat on each side of the tail bones

fat·ten \ˈfat-ᵊn\ *vb* **fat·tened; fat·ten·ing** \ˈfat-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** **a** : to make fat, fleshy, or plump; *esp* : to feed (as a stock animal) for slaughter **b** : to make more substantial **2** : to make fertile ~ *vi* : to become fat — **fat·ten·er** \ˈfat-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

fat·tish \ˈfat-ish\ *adj* : somewhat fat

¹fat·ty \ˈfat-ē\ *adj* **fat·ti·er; -est** **1** : containing fat esp. in unusual amounts; *also* : unduly stout : CORPULENT **2** : GREASY **3** : derived from or chemically related to fat — **fat·ti·ness** *n*

²fatty *n, pl* **fatties** : one that is fat

fatty acid *n* **1** : any of numerous saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acids $C_nH_{2n+1}COOH$ (as acetic acid) including many that occur naturally usu. in the form of esters in fats, waxes, and essential oils **2** : any of the saturated or unsaturated monocarboxylic acids (as palmitic acid) usu. with an even number of carbon atoms that occur naturally in the form of glycerides in fats and fatty oils

fa·tu·ity \fə-ˈt(y)ü-ət-ē, fa-\ *n, pl* **-ities** [MF *fatuité* foolishness, fr. L *fatuitat-, fatuitas*, fr. *fatuus*] **1** **a** : something foolish or stupid **b** : STUPIDITY, FOOLISHNESS **2** *archaic* : IMBECILITY, DEMENTIA

fat·u·ous \ˈfach-(ə-)wəs\ *adj* [L *fatuus* foolish — more at BATTLE] : complacently or inanely foolish : SILLY ***syn*** see SIMPLE ***ant*** sensible — **fat·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **fat·u·ous·ness** *n*

fat–wit·ted \ˈfat-ˈwit-əd\ *adj* : STUPID, IDIOTIC

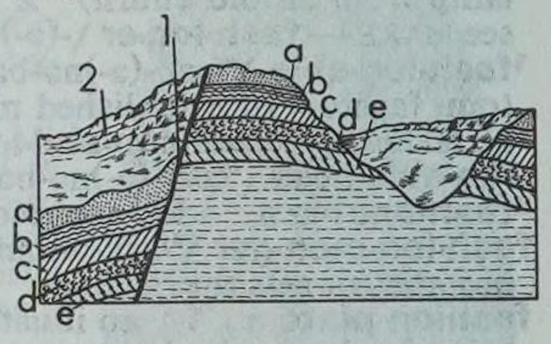
fau·bourg \fō-ˈbu̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME *fabour*, fr. MF *fauxbourg*, alter. of *forsbourg*, fr. OF *forsborc*, fr. *fors* outside + *borc* town] **1** : SUBURB; *esp* : a suburb of a French city **2** : a city quarter

fau·ces \ˈfȯ-ˌsēz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [L, pl., throat, fauces] : the narrow passage from the mouth to the pharynx situated between the soft palate and the base of the tongue — **fau·cial** \ˈfȯ-shəl\ *adj*

fau·cet \ˈfȯs-ət, ˈfäs-\ *n* [ME, bung, faucet, fr. MF *fausset* bung, fr. *fausser* to damage, fr. LL *falsare* to falsify, fr. L *falsus* false] : a fixture for drawing a liquid from a pipe, cask, or other vessel

faugh *a strong* p-*sound or lip trill; often read as* ˈfȯ\ *interj* — used to express contempt, disgust, or abhorrence

¹fault \ˈfȯlt\ *n* [ME *faute*, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *fallita*, fr. fem. of *fallitus*, pp. of L *fallere* to deceive, disappoint — more at FAIL] **1** *obs* : LACK **2** **a** : WEAKNESS, FAILING; *esp* : a moral weakness less serious than a vice **b** : a physical or intellectual imperfection or impairment **c** : an error in a racket game (as tennis) **3** **a** : MISDEMEANOR **b** : MISTAKE **4** : responsibility for wrongdoing or failure ⟨the accident was the driver's ~⟩ **5** : a fracture in the earth's crust accompanied by a displacement of one side of the fracture with respect to the other and in a direction parallel to the fracture



fault 5: *1* fault with strata a,b,c,d,e; parts with the same letter are of the same stratum; *2* scarp

syn FAULT, FAILING, FRAILTY, FOIBLE, VICE *shared meaning element* : an imperfection or weakness of character ***ant*** merit

— **at fault** **1** : unable to find the scent and continue chase : PUZZLED **2** : open to blame : RESPONSIBLE ⟨couldn't determine who was really *at fault*⟩ — **to a fault** : to an excessive degree ⟨particular *to a fault*⟩

²fault *vi* **1** : to commit a fault : ERR **2** : to fracture so as to produce a geologic fault ~ *vt* **1** : to find a fault in ⟨equally easy to praise this book and to ~ it —H. G. Roepke⟩ **2** : to produce a geologic fault in **3** : BLAME, CENSURE ⟨one cannot ~ him for publishing as much as he did —R. M. Elman⟩

fault·find·er \ˈfȯlt-ˌfīn-dər\ *n* : one given to faultfinding

¹fault·find·ing \-diŋ\ *n* : CRITICISM; *esp* : petty, nagging, or unreasonable censure

²faultfinding *adj* : disposed to find fault : captiously critical ***syn*** see CRITICAL

fault·less \ˈfȯlt-ləs\ *adj* : having no fault : IRREPROACHABLE ⟨~ workmanship⟩ — **fault·less·ly** *adv* — **fault·less·ness** *n*

faulty \ˈfȯl-tē\ *adj* **fault·i·er; -est** : marked by fault, blemish, or defect : IMPERFECT — **fault·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **fault·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

faun \ˈfȯn, ˈfän\ *n* [ME, fr. L *faunus*, fr. *Faunus*] : a figure of Roman mythology similar to the satyr

fau·na \ˈfȯn-ə, ˈfän-\ *n, pl* **faunas** *also* **fau·nae** \-ˌē, -ˌī\ [NL, fr. LL *Fauna*, sister of Faunus] : animals or animal life: as **a** : the animals or animal life of a region, period, or geological stratum — compare FLORA **b** : the animals or animal life developed or adapted for living in a specified environment — **fau·nal** \-ᵊl\ *adj* — **fau·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

fau·nis·tic \fȯ-ˈnis-tik, fä-\ *adj* : of or relating to zoogeography : FAUNAL — **fau·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Fau·nus \'fȯn-əs, 'fän-\ *n* [L] : the Roman god of animals
Faust \'faůst\ *or* **Fau·stus** \'faů-stəs, 'fȯ-\ *n* [G] : a magician of German legend who enters into a compact with the devil
Faust·ian \'faů-stē-ən, 'fȯ-\ *adj* : of, belonging to, resembling, or befitting Faust or Faustus: as **a** : sacrificing spiritual values for material gains **b** : striving insatiably for knowledge and mastery **c** : constantly troubled and tormented by spiritual dissatisfaction or spiritual striving
faute de mieux \ˌfōt-də-'myə(r), -'myœ̄\ *adv* [F] : for lack of something better or more desirable ⟨sherry made him dopey but he drank it *faute de mieux* —F. T. Marsh⟩
fau·vism \'fō-ˌviz-əm\ *n, often cap* [F *fauvisme*, fr. *fauve* wild animal, fr. *fauve* tawny, wild, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *falo* fallow — more at FALLOW] : a movement in painting typified by the work of Matisse and characterized by vivid colors, free treatment of form, and a resulting vibrant and decorative effect — **fau·vist** \-vəst\ *n, often cap*
faux pas \'fō-'pä\ *n, pl* **faux pas** \-'pä(z)\ [F, lit., false step] : BLUNDER; *esp* : a social blunder
fa·va bean \ˌfäv-ə-\ *n* [It *fava*, fr. L *faba* bean] : BROAD BEAN
fa·vo·ni·an \fə-'vō-nē-ən\ *adj* [L *favonianus*, fr. *Favonius*, the west wind] : of or relating to the west wind : MILD
[1]fa·vor \'fā-vər\ *n* [ME, friendly regard, attractiveness, fr. OF *favor* friendly regard, fr. L, fr. *favēre* to be favorable; akin to OHG *gouma* attention, OSlav *gověti* to revere] **1** *archaic* **a** : APPEARANCE **b** (1) : FACE (2) : a facial feature **2 a** (1) : friendly regard shown toward another esp. by a superior (2) : approving consideration or attention : APPROBATION **b** : PARTIALITY **c** *archaic* : LENIENCY **d** *archaic* : PERMISSION **e** : POPULARITY **3 a** : gracious kindness; *also* : an act of such kindness **b** *archaic* : HELP, ASSISTANCE **c** *pl* : effort in one's behalf or interest : ATTENTION **4 a** : a token of love (as a ribbon) usu. worn conspicuously **b** : a small gift or decorative item given out at a party **c** : BADGE **5 a** : a special privilege or right granted or conceded **b** : sexual privileges — usu. used in pl. **6** *archaic* : LETTER **7** : BEHALF, INTEREST
syn FAVOR, GOODWILL, COUNTENANCE *shared meaning element* : approving interest ***ant*** disfavor, animus
— **in favor of 1 a** : in accord or sympathy with **b** : for the acquittal of ⟨returned a verdict *in favor of* the accused⟩ **c** : in support of **2** : to the order of **3** : in order to choose : out of preference for ⟨was offered athletic scholarships . . . but he turned them down *in favor of* a career in professional baseball —*Current Biog.*⟩ — **in one's favor 1** : in one's good graces ⟨doing extra work to get back *in the teacher's favor*⟩ **2** : to one's advantage ⟨the odds were *in his favor*⟩ — **out of favor** : UNPOPULAR, DISLIKED ⟨was *out of favor* with his neighbors⟩
[2]favor *vt* **fa·vored; fa·vor·ing** \'fāv-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to regard or treat with favor **b** (1) : to do a kindness for : OBLIGE (2) : ENDOW **c** : to treat gently or carefully : SPARE ⟨~*ed* his injured leg⟩ **2** : to show partiality toward : PREFER **3 a** : to give support or confirmation to : SUSTAIN **b** : to afford advantages for success to : FACILITATE ⟨good weather ~*ed* the outing⟩ **4** : to bear a resemblance to ⟨he ~*s* his father⟩ ***syn*** see OBLIGE — **fa·vor·er** \'fā-vər-ər\ *n*
fa·vor·able \'fāv-(ə-)rə-bəl, 'fā-vər-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : disposed to favor : PARTIAL **b** : expressing approval : COMMENDATORY **c** : giving a result that is in one's favor ⟨a ~ comparison⟩ **d** : AFFIRMATIVE **2** : winning approval : PLEASING **3 a** : tending to promote or facilitate : ADVANTAGEOUS ⟨~ wind⟩ **b** : marked by success — **fa·vor·able·ness** *n* — **fa·vor·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
syn FAVORABLE, AUSPICIOUS, PROPITIOUS *shared meaning element* : pointing towards a felicitous outcome ***ant*** unfavorable, antagonistic
fa·vored \'fā-vərd\ *adj* **1** : endowed with special advantages or gifts **2** : having an appearance or features of a particular kind ⟨hard-*favored*⟩ **3** : providing preferential treatment
[1]fa·vor·ite \'fāv-(ə-)rət\ *n* [It *favorito*, pp. of *favorire* to favor, fr. *favore* favor, fr. L *favor*] **1** : one that is treated or regarded with special favor or liking; *specif* : one unusually loved, trusted, or provided with favors by a person of high rank or authority **2** : a competitor (as a horse in a race) judged most likely to win
[2]favorite *adj* : constituting a favorite; *specif* : markedly popular
favorite son *n* : one favored by the delegates of his state as presidential candidate at a national political convention
fa·vor·it·ism \'fāv-(ə-)rət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the showing of special favor : PARTIALITY **2** : the state or fact of being a favorite
fa·vour *chiefly Brit var of* FAVOR
fa·vus \'fā-vəs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, honeycomb] : a contagious skin disease caused by a fungus (as *Achorion schoenleinii*) occurring in man and many domestic animals and fowls
[1]fawn \'fȯn, 'fän\ *vi* [ME *faunen*, fr. OE *fagnian* to rejoice, fr. *fægen, fagan* glad — more at FAIN] **1** : to show affection — used esp. of a dog **2** : to court favor by a cringing or flattering manner : GROVEL — **fawn·er** *n* — **fawn·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn FAWN, TOADY, TRUCKLE, CRINGE, COWER *shared meaning element* : to act or behave with abjectness ***ant*** domineer
[2]fawn *n* [ME *foun*, fr. MF *feon, faon* young of an animal, fr. (assumed) VL *feton-, feto*, fr. L *fetus* offspring — more at FETUS] **1** : a young deer; *esp* : one still unweaned or retaining a distinctive baby coat **2** : KID 1 **3** : a variable color averaging a light grayish brown
fawn lily *n* : DOGTOOTH VIOLET
fawny \'fȯn-ē, 'fän-\ *adj* : of a color approximating fawn
[1]fay \'fā\ *vb* [ME *feien*, fr. OE *fēgan;* akin to OHG *fuogen* to fit, L *pangere* to fasten — more at PACT] : to fit or join closely or tightly
[2]fay *n* [ME *fai, fei*, fr. OF *feid, fei* — more at FAITH] *obs* : FAITH
[3]fay *n* [ME *faie*, fr. MF *feie, fee* — more at FAIRY] : FAIRY, ELF
[4]fay *adj* : resembling an elf
[5]fay *n* : OFAY
faze \'fāz\ *vt* **fazed; faz·ing** [alter. of *feeze* (to drive away, frighten), fr. ME *fesen*, fr. OE *fēsian* to drive away] : to disturb the composure of : DISCONCERT, DAUNT ***syn*** see EMBARRASS
FB *abbr* **1** foreign body **2** freight bill
FBA *abbr* Fellow of the British Academy
FBI *abbr* Federal Bureau of Investigation
FBOA *abbr* Fellow of the British Optical Association
FC *abbr* **1** fire control; fire controlman **2** follow copy **3** food control **4** footcandle
FCA *abbr* **1** Farm Credit Administration **2** Fellow of the Chartered Accountants
FCC *abbr* Federal Communications Commission
FCIS *abbr* Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries
F clef *n* : BASS CLEF
fcp *abbr* foolscap
FCS *abbr* Fellow of the Chemical Society
fcy *abbr* fancy
FD *abbr* **1** fire department **2** free dock
FDA *abbr* Food and Drug Administration
FDIC *abbr* Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
F distribution *n* [Sir Ronald *Fisher* †1962 E geneticist and statistician] : a probability density function that is used esp. in analysis of variance and is a function of the ratio of two independent random variables (as the variances of two random samples) each of which has a chi-square distribution and is divided by its number of degrees of freedom
Fe *symbol* [L *ferrum*] iron
fe·al·ty \'fē(-ə)l-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [alter. of ME *feute*, fr. OF *feelté, fealté*, fr. L *fidelitat-, fidelitas* — more at FIDELITY] **1 a** : the fidelity of a vassal or feudal tenant to his lord **b** : the obligation of such fidelity **2** : intense and compelling fidelity ***syn*** see FIDELITY ***ant*** perfidy
[1]fear \'fi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *fer*, fr. OE *fær* sudden danger; akin to L *periculum* attempt, peril, Gk *peiran* to attempt, OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] **1 a** : an unpleasant often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger **b** (1) : an instance of this emotion (2) : a state marked by this emotion **2** : anxious concern : SOLICITUDE **3** : profound reverence and awe esp. toward God **4** : reason for alarm : DANGER
syn **1** FEAR, DREAD, FRIGHT, ALARM, PANIC, TREPIDATION *shared meaning element* : painful agitation in the presence or anticipation of danger ***ant*** fearlessness
2 see REVERENCE
[2]fear *vt* **1** *archaic* : FRIGHTEN **2** *archaic* : to feel fear in (oneself) **3** : to have a reverential awe of ⟨~ God⟩ **4** : to be afraid of : consider or expect with alarm ~ *vi* : to be afraid or apprehensive — **fear·er** *n*
fear·ful \'fi(ə)r-fəl\ *adj* **1** : causing or likely to cause fear, fright, or alarm esp. because of dangerous quality ⟨a ~ storm⟩ **2 a** : full of fear **b** : indicating or arising from fear ⟨a ~ glance⟩ **c** : inclined to fear : TIMOROUS **3** : being extreme (as in badness, intensity, or size) ⟨a ~ waste⟩ ⟨~ slum conditions⟩ — **fear·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **fear·ful·ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*
syn **1** FEARFUL, APPREHENSIVE, AFRAID *shared meaning element* : disturbed by fear ***ant*** fearless, intrepid
2 FEARFUL, AWFUL, DREADFUL, FRIGHTFUL, TERRIBLE, TERRIFIC, APPALLING *shared meaning element* : of a kind to cause grave distress of mind. Additionally, all these words and their corresponding adverbs have a lighter, chiefly conversational value in which they are used as intensives and mean little more than *extreme* (or *extremely*). Basically, FEARFUL applies to what produces fear, agitation, or loss of courage ⟨our *fearful* trip is done, the ship has weathered every rack —Walt Whitman⟩ AWFUL implies striking with an awareness of transcendent overpowering force, might, or significance ⟨the *awful* arithmetic of the atomic bomb —D. D. Eisenhower⟩ DREADFUL applies to what fills one with dread and suggests a blending of fear and aversion ⟨shuddering at the *dreadful* loss of life⟩ FRIGHTFUL implies a startling or outrageous quality that induces utter consternation or a paralysis of fear ⟨a *frightful* spectacle of poverty, barbarity, and ignorance —T. B. Macaulay⟩ TERRIBLE suggests painfulness too great to be endured or a capacity to induce and prolong intense fear ⟨those five *terrible* days of war —*New Yorker*⟩ TERRIFIC applies to what is intended or fitted to inspire fear ⟨the storm was *terrific* beyond imagining⟩ APPALLING describes something that strikes with dismay as well as fear or horror ⟨taken aback when he grasped the *appalling* risk involved⟩
fear·less \'fi(ə)r-ləs\ *adj* : free from fear : BRAVE — **fear·less·ly** *adv* — **fear·less·ness** *n*
fear·some \'fi(ə)r-səm\ *adj* **1** : causing fear **2** : TIMID, TIMOROUS — **fear·some·ly** *adv* — **fear·some·ness** *n*
fea·si·ble \'fē-zə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *faisible*, fr. MF, fr. *fais-*, stem of *faire* to make, do, fr. L *facere*] **1** : capable of being done or carried out ⟨a ~ plan⟩ **2** : capable of being used or dealt with successfully : SUITABLE **3** : REASONABLE, LIKELY ***syn*** see POSSIBLE ***ant*** unfeasible, infeasible, chimerical (*as a scheme or project*) — **fea·si·bil·i·ty** \ˌfē-zə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **fea·si·ble·ness** \'fē-zə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **fea·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
[1]feast \'fēst\ *n* [ME *feste* festival, feast, fr. OF, festival, fr. L *festa*, pl. of *festum* festival, fr. neut. of *festus* solemn, festal; akin to L *feriae* holidays, *fanum* temple, Arm *dik'* gods] **1 a** : an elaborate meal often accompanied by a ceremony or entertainment : BANQUET **b** : something that gives unusual or abundant pleasure **2** : a periodic religious observance commemorating an event or honoring a deity, person, or thing
[2]feast *vi* : to take part in a feast ~ *vt* **1** : to give a feast for **2** : DELIGHT, GRATIFY — **feast·er** *n*
Feast of Tabernacles : SUKKOTH
[1]feat \'fēt\ *adj* [ME *fete, fayt*, fr. MF *fait*, pp. of *faire*] **1** *archaic* : BECOMING, NEAT **2** *archaic* : SMART, DEXTEROUS

[2]feat *n* [ME *fait*, fr. MF, fr. L *factum*, fr. neut. of *factus*, pp. of *facere* to make, do — more at DO] **1** : ACT, DEED **2 a** : a deed notable esp. for courage **b** : an act or product of skill, endurance, or ingenuity
syn FEAT, EXPLOIT, ACHIEVEMENT *shared meaning element* : a remarkable deed

[1]feath·er \'feth-ər\ *n* [ME *fether*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *federa* wing, L *petere* to go to, seek, Gk *petesthai* to fly, *piptein* to fall, *pteron* wing] **1 a** : one of the light horny epidermal outgrowths that form the external covering of the body of birds and that consist of a shaft bearing on each side a series of barbs which bear barbules which in turn bear barbicels commonly ending in hooked hamuli and interlocking with the barbules of an adjacent barb to link the barbs into a continuous vane **b** : PLUME **c** : the vane of an arrow **2 a** : PLUMAGE **b** : KIND, NATURE ⟨birds of a ~ flock together⟩ **c** : ATTIRE, DRESS **d** : CONDITION, MOOD **3** : FEATHERING 2 **4** : a projecting strip, rib, fin, or flange **5** : a feathery flaw in the eye or in a precious stone **6** : the act of feathering an oar — **feath·ered** \-ərd\ *adj* — **a feather in one's cap** : a mark of distinction : HONOR

[2]feather *vb* **feath·ered; feath·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to furnish (as an arrow) with a feather **b** : to cover, clothe, or adorn with feathers **2 a** : to turn (an oar blade) almost horizontal when lifting from the water at the end of a stroke to reduce air resistance **b** (1) : to change the angle of (airplane propeller blades) so that the chords become approximately parallel to the line of flight; *also* : to change the angle of airplane propeller blades of (an engine) in such a manner (2) : to change the angle of (a rotor blade of a rotary-wing aircraft) periodically in forward flight **3** : to reduce the edge of to a featheredge **4** : to cut (as air) with or as if with a wing **5** : to join by a tongue and groove ~ *vi* **1** : to grow or form feathers **2** : to have or take on the appearance of a feather or something feathered **3** : to soak in and spread : BLUR — used of ink or a printed impression **4** : to feather an oar or an airplane propeller blade — **feather one's nest** : to provide for oneself esp. while in a position of trust

[1]feath·er·bed \'feth-ər-ˌbed\ *adj* : calling for, sanctioning, or resulting from featherbedding

[2]featherbed *vi* **1 a** : to require more workmen than are needed **b** : to limit production under a featherbed rule **2** : to do featherbed work or put in time under a featherbed rule ~ *vt* **1** : to bring under a featherbed rule **2** : to assist (as an industry) by government aid

feather bed *n* **1** : a feather mattress **2** : a bed having a feather mattress

feath·er·bed·ding *n* : the requiring of an employer usu. under a union rule or safety statute to hire more employees than are needed or to limit production

feath·er·brain \-ˌbrān\ *n* : a foolish scatterbrained person — **feath·er·brained** \ˌfeth-ər-'brānd\ *adj*

feath·er·edge \'feth-ə-ˌrej, ˌfeth-ə-'\ *n* : a very thin sharp edge; *esp* : one that is easily broken or bent over — **featheredge** *vt*

feath·er·head \'feth-ər-ˌhed\ *n* : FEATHERBRAIN — **feath·er·headed** \ˌfeth-ər-'hed-əd\ *adj*

feath·er·ing \'feth-(ə-)riŋ\ *n* **1 a** : a covering of feathers : PLUMAGE **b** : a style in which feathers are attached to arrows; *also* : the feathers of an arrow **2** : a fringe of hair (as on the legs of a dog)

feath·er·less \'feth-ər-ləs\ *adj* : having no feathers

feather star *n* : COMATULID

feath·er·stitch \'feth-ər-ˌstich\ *n* : an embroidery stitch consisting of a line of diagonal blanket stitches worked alternately to the left and right — **featherstitch** *vb*

feath·er·weight \-ˌwāt\ *n* **1** : one that is very light in weight; *specif* : a boxer who weighs more than 118 but not more than 126 pounds **2** : a person of limited intelligence or effectiveness

feath·ery \'feth-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : resembling, suggesting, or covered with feathers

[1]feat·ly \'fēt-lē\ *adv* [ME *fetly*, fr. *fete* feat (adj.)] **1** : SUITABLY, PROPERLY **2** : in a graceful manner : NIMBLY **3** : with skill and ingenuity

[2]featly *adj* : GRACEFUL, NEAT

[1]fea·ture \'fē-chər\ *n* [ME *feture*, fr. MF, fr. L *factura* act of making, fr. *factus*, pp. of *facere* to make — more at DO] **1 a** : the structure, form, or appearance esp. of a person **b** *obs* : physical beauty **2 a** : the makeup or appearance of the face or its parts **b** : a part of the face : LINEAMENT **3** : a prominent part or characteristic **4** : a special attraction: as **a** : the principal motion picture shown on a program with other pictures **b** : a distinctive article, story, or special department in a newspaper or magazine **c** : something offered to the public or advertised as particularly attractive

[2]feature *vb* **fea·tured; fea·tur·ing** \'fēch-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : to resemble in features **2** : to picture or portray in the mind : IMAGINE **3 a** : to give special prominence to **b** : to have as a characteristic or feature ~ *vi* : to play an important part

fea·tured \'fē-chərd\ *adj* **1** : having facial features of a particular kind — used in combination ⟨a heavy-*featured* man⟩ ⟨a grim-*featured* shrew⟩ **2** : displayed, advertised, or presented as a special attraction

fea·ture·less \'fē-chər-ləs\ *adj* : having no distinctive features

feaze \'fēz, 'fāz\ *var of* FAZE

Feb *abbr* February

febri- *comb form* [LL, fr. L *febris*] : fever ⟨*febri*fic⟩

fe·brif·ic \fi-'brif-ik\ *adj, archaic* : FEVERISH

feb·ri·fuge \'feb-rə-ˌfyüj\ *n* [F *fébrifuge*, prob. fr. (assumed) NL *febrifuga*, fr. LL *febrifuga, febrifugia* centaury, fr. *febri-* + *-fuga* -fuge] : ANTIPYRETIC — **febrifuge** *adj*

fe·brile \-ˌrīl *also* 'fēb-\ *adj* [ML *febrilis*, fr. L *febris* fever — more at FEVER] : of or relating to fever : FEVERISH

Feb·ru·ary \'feb-(y)ə-ˌwer-ē, 'feb-rə-\ *n* [ME *Februarie*, fr. L *Februarius*, fr. *Februa*, pl., feast of purification; perh. akin to L *fumus* smoke] : the 2d month of the Gregorian calendar

fec *abbr* [L *fecit*] he made it

fe·cal \'fē-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting feces

fe·ces \'fē-(ˌ)sēz\ *n pl* [ME, fr. L *faec-, faex* (sing.) dregs] : bodily waste discharged through the anus : EXCREMENT

feck·less \'fek-ləs\ *adj* [Sc, fr. *feck* effect, majority, fr. ME (Sc) *fek*, alter. of ME *effect*] **1** : INEFFECTUAL, WEAK **2** : WORTHLESS, IRRESPONSIBLE — **feck·less·ly** *adv* — **feck·less·ness** *n*

feck·ly \'fek-lē\ *adv* [Sc, fr. *feck* + *-ly*] *chiefly Scot* : ALMOST, NEARLY

fec·u·lent \'fek-yə-lənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *faeculentus*, fr. *faec-, faex*] : foul with impurities : FECAL — **fe·cu·lence** \-lən(t)s\ *n*

fe·cund \'fek-ənd, 'fēk-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *fecond*, fr. L *fecundus* — more at FEMININE] **1** : fruitful in offspring or vegetation : PROLIFIC **2** : intellectually productive or inventive to a marked degree
syn see FERTILE ***ant*** barren — **fe·cun·di·ty** \fi-'kən-dət-ē, fe-\ *n*

fe·cun·date \'fek-ən-ˌdāt, 'fē-kən-\ *vt* **-dated; -dat·ing** [L *fecundatus*, pp. of *fecundare*, fr. *fecundus*] **1** : to make fecund **2** : to make fertile : IMPREGNATE — **fe·cun·da·tion** \ˌfek-ən-'dā-shən, ˌfē-kən-\ *n*

[1]fed \'fed\ *n, often cap* : FEDERAL 2

[2]fed *abbr* federal; federation

fe·da·yee \fi-ˌda-'(y)ē, -ˌdä-\ *n, pl* **fe·da·yeen** \-'(y)ēn\ [Ar *fidā'ī*, lit., one who sacrifices himself] : a member of an Arab commando group operating esp. against Israel

fed·er·al \'fed(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* [L *foeder-, foedus* compact, league; akin to L *fidere* to trust — more at BIDE] **1** *archaic* : of or relating to a compact or treaty **2 a** : formed by a compact between political units that surrender their individual sovereignty to a central authority but retain limited residuary powers of government **b** : of or constituting a form of government in which power is distributed between a central authority and a number of constituent territorial units **c** : of or relating to the central government of a federation as distinguished from the governments of the constituent units **3** *cap* : advocating or friendly to the principle of a federal government with strong centralized powers; *esp* : of or relating to the American Federalists **4** *often cap* : of, relating to, or loyal to the federal government or the Union armies of the U.S. in the American Civil War — **fed·er·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*

Federal *n* **1** : a supporter of the government of the U.S. in the Civil War; *specif* : a soldier in the federal armies **2** : a federal agent or officer

federal court *n* : a court established by authority of a federal government; *esp* : one established under the constitution and laws of the U.S.

federal district *n* : a district set apart as the seat of the central government of a federation

federal district court *n* : a district trial court of law and equity that hears cases under federal jurisdiction

fed·er·al·ism \'fed(-ə)-rə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1 a** *often cap* : the federal principle of organization **b** : support or advocacy of this principle **2** *cap* : the principles of the Federalists

fed·er·al·ist \-ləst\ *n* **1** : an advocate of federalism: as **a** *often cap* : an advocate of a federal union between the American colonies after the Revolution and of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution **b** *often cap* : WORLD FEDERALIST **2** *cap* : a member of a major political party in the early years of the U.S. favoring a strong centralized national government — **federalist** *adj, often cap*

fed·er·al·iza·tion \ˌfed(-ə)-rə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of federalizing **2** : the state of being federalized

fed·er·al·ize \'fed(-ə)-rə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to unite in or under a federal system **2** : to bring under the jurisdiction of a federal government

Federal Reserve bank *n* : one of 12 banks set up under the Federal Reserve system to hold reserves and discount commercial paper for affiliated banks in their respective districts

[1]fed·er·ate \'fed(-ə)-rət\ *adj* [L *foederatus*, fr. *foeder-, foedus*] : united in an alliance or federation : FEDERATED

[2]fed·er·ate \'fed-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to join in a federation

federated church *n* : a local church uniting two or more congregations that maintain different denominational ties

fed·er·a·tion \ˌfed-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of federating; *esp* : the formation of a federal union **2** : something formed by federation: as **a** : a federal government **b** : a union of organizations

fed·er·a·tive \'fed-ə-ˌrāt-iv, 'fed(-ə)-rət-\ *adj* : FEDERAL — **fed·er·a·tive·ly** *adv*

fedn *abbr* federation

fe·do·ra \fi-'dōr-ə, -'dȯr-\ *n* [*Fédora*, drama by V. Sardou] : a low soft felt hat with the crown creased lengthwise

fed up *adj* : tired, sated, or disgusted beyond endurance ⟨*fed up* with things as they are⟩

[1]fee \'fē\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *fé, fief*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *feoh* cattle, property, OHG *fihu* cattle; akin to L *pecus* cattle, *pecunia* money, *pectere* to comb] **1 a** (1) : an estate in land held in feudal law from a lord on condition of homage and service (2) : a piece of land so held **b** : an inherited or heritable estate in land **2 a** (1) : a fixed charge (2) : a charge for a professional service **b** : TIP
syn see WAGE — **in fee** : in absolute and legal possession

[2]fee *vt* **feed; fee·ing** **1** *chiefly Scot* : HIRE **2** : TIP

fee·ble \'fē-bəl\ *adj* **fee·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\; **fee·blest** \-b(ə-)ləst\ [ME *feble*, fr. OF, fr. L *flebilis* lamentable, wretched, fr. *flēre* to weep — more at BLEAT] **1 a** : markedly lacking in strength **b** : indicating weakness **2 a** : deficient in qualities or resources that indicate vigor, authority, force, or efficiency **b** : INADEQUATE, INFERIOR
syn see WEAK ***ant*** robust — **fee·ble·ness** \-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **fee·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

fee·ble·mind·ed \ˌfē-bəl-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* **1** *obs* : IRRESOLUTE, VACILLATING **2** : mentally deficient **3** : FOOLISH, STUPID — **fee·ble·mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **fee·ble·mind·ed·ness** *n*

fee·blish \'fē-b(ə-)lish\ *adj* : somewhat feeble

[1]feed \'fēd\ *vb* **fed** \'fed\; **feed·ing** [ME *feden*, fr. OE *fēdan*; akin to OE *fōda* food — more at FOOD] *vt* **1 a** : to give food to **b** : to give as food **2** : to furnish something essential to the growth, sustenance, maintenance, or operation of **3** : to produce or provide food for **4 a** : SATISFY, GRATIFY **b** : SUPPORT, ENCOURAGE **5 a** : to supply for use or consumption **b** (1) : to supply (a signal) to an electronic circuit (2) : to send by wire to a transmitting

station for broadcast **6** : to supply with cues and situations that make a role more effective **7** : to pass or throw a ball or puck to (a teammate) esp. for a shot at the goal ~ *vi* **1 a** : to consume food : EAT **b** : PREY — used with *on, upon,* or *off* **2** : to become nourished or satisfied as if by food **3** : to move into a machine or opening in order to be used or processed

²feed *n* **1 a** : an act of eating **b** : MEAL; *esp* : a large meal **2 a** : food for livestock; *specif* : a mixture or preparation for feeding livestock **b** : the amount given at each feeding **3 a** : material supplied (as to a furnace or machine) **b** : a mechanism by which the action of feeding is effected **c** : the motion or process of carrying forward the material to be operated upon (as in a machine) **4** : ASSIST 2

feed·back \'fēd-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : the return to the input of a part of the output of a machine, system, or process (as for producing changes in an electronic circuit that improve performance or in an automatic control device that provide self-corrective action) **2 a** : the partial reversion of the effects of a process to its source or to a preceding stage **b** : the return to a point of origin of evaluative or corrective information about an action or process ⟨student ~ was solicited to help revise the curriculum⟩ ⟨we welcome . . . ~ from our readers — brickbats as well as bouquets —*Johns Hopkins Mag.*⟩; *also* : the information so transmitted

feedback inhibition *n* : inhibition of an enzyme controlling an early stage of a series of biochemical reactions by the end product when it reaches a critical concentration

feed·er \'fēd-ər\ *n* : one that feeds: as **a** : a device or apparatus for supplying food **b** (1) : TRIBUTARY **b** (2) : a source of supply **b** (3) : a heavy wire conductor supplying electricity at some point of an electric distribution system (as from a substation) **b** (4) : a transmission line running from a radio transmitter to an antenna **b** (5) : a branch transportation line **c** : an animal being fattened or suitable for fattening **d** : an actor or role that serves as a foil for another

feed·lot \'fēd-ˌlät\ *n* : a plot of land on which livestock are fattened for market

feed·stock \-ˌstäk\ *n* : raw material supplied to a machine or processing plant

feed·stuff \-ˌstəf\ *n* : FEED 2a; *also* : any of the constituent nutrients of an animal ration

¹feel \'fē(ə)l\ *vb* **felt** \'felt\; **feel·ing** [ME *felen,* fr. OE *fēlan;* akin to OHG *fuolen* to feel, L *palpare* to caress, and perh. to Gk *pallein* to brandish — more at POLEMIC] *vt* **1 a** : to handle or touch in order to examine, test, or explore some quality ⟨*felt* the coat to see if it was wet⟩ **b** : to perceive by a physical sensation coming from discrete end organs (as of the skin or muscles) **2 a** : to undergo passive experience of **b** : to have one's sensibilities markedly affected by **3** : to ascertain by cautious trial — often used with *out* **4 a** : to be aware of by instinct or inference **b** : BELIEVE, THINK ~ *vi* **1 a** : to receive or be able to receive a tactile sensation **b** : to search for something by using the sense of touch **2** : to be conscious of an inward impression, state of mind, or physical condition **3** : to seem esp. to the sense of touch **4** : to have sympathy or pity ***syn*** see TOUCH

²feel *n* **1** : the sense of touch **2** : SENSATION, FEELING **3 a** : the quality of a thing as imparted through or as if through touch **b** : typical or peculiar quality or atmosphere **4** : intuitive knowledge or ability

feel·er \'fē-lər\ *n* : one that feels: as **a** : a tactile process (as a tentacle) of an animal **b** : something (as a proposal) ventured to ascertain the views of others

¹feel·ing \'fē-liŋ\ *n* **1 a** (1) : the one of the basic physical senses of which the skin contains the chief end organs and of which the sensations of touch and temperature are characteristic : TOUCH (2) : a sensation experienced through this sense **b** : generalized bodily consciousness or sensation **c** : appreciative or responsive awareness or recognition ⟨experienced a ~ of safety⟩ **2 a** : an emotional state or reaction ⟨had a kindly ~ toward the child⟩ **b** *pl* : susceptibility to impression : SENSITIVITY ⟨the remark hurt her ~s⟩ **3 a** : the undifferentiated background of one's awareness considered apart from any identifiable sensation, perception, or thought **b** : the overall quality of one's awareness **c** : conscious recognition : SENSE **4 a** : often unreasoned opinion or belief : SENTIMENT **b** : PRESENTIMENT **5** : capacity to respond emotionally esp. with the higher emotions ⟨a man of noble ~⟩ **6** : the character ascribed to something as a result of one's impression or emotional state : ATMOSPHERE **7 a** : the quality of a work of art that embodies and conveys the emotion of the artist **b** : sympathetic aesthetic response **8** : FEEL 4 ⟨lacks a ~ for words⟩

syn **1** see SENSATION
2 FEELING, AFFECTION, EMOTION, SENTIMENT, PASSION *shared meaning element* : subjective response or reaction (as to a person or situation) or an instance of this

²feeling *adj* **1 a** : SENTIENT, SENSITIVE **b** : easily moved emotionally **2** *obs* : deeply felt **3** : expressing emotion or sensitivity — **feel·ing·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv* — **feel·ing·ness** *n*

fee simple *n, pl* **fees simple** : a fee without limitation to any class of heirs or restrictions on transfer of ownership

fee splitting *n* : payment by a specialist (as a doctor or a lawyer) of a part of his fee to the person who made the referral

feet *pl of* FOOT

fee tail *n, pl* **fees tail** : a fee limited to a particular class of heirs

feet·first \'fēt-'fərst\ *adv* : with the feet foremost ⟨jumped into the water ~⟩

feet of clay [fr. the feet of the idol in Dan 2:33] : a generally concealed or unobserved but marked weakness or frailty ⟨a towering figure, posthumously judged to have *feet of clay* —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

feeze \'fēz, 'fāz\ *n* [ME *veze,* fr. *fesen, vesen* to drive away — more at FAZE] **1** *chiefly dial* : RUSH **2** *dial* : a state of alarm or excitement

Feh·ling's solution \'fā-liŋz-\ *n* [Hermann *Fehling* †1885 G chemist] : a blue solution of Rochelle salt and copper sulfate used as an oxidizing agent in testing for sugars and aldehydes

feign \'fān\ *vb* [ME *feignen,* fr. OF *feign-,* stem of *feindre,* fr. L *fingere* to shape, feign — more at DOUGH] *vt* **1 a** : to give a false appearance of : induce as a false impression ⟨~ death⟩ ⟨he ~*ed* that he believed her story⟩ **b** : to assert as if true : PRETEND **2** *archaic* **a** : INVENT, IMAGINE **b** : to give fictional representation to **3** *obs* : DISGUISE, CONCEAL ~ *vi* : PRETEND, DISSEMBLE ***syn*** see ASSUME — **feign·er** *n*

feigned *adj* **1** : FICTITIOUS **2** : not genuine or real

¹feint \'fānt\ *n* [F *feinte,* fr. OF, fr. *feint,* pp. of *feindre*] : something feigned; *specif* : a mock blow or attack on or toward one part in order to distract attention from the point one really intends to attack ***syn*** see TRICK

²feint *vi* : to make a feint ~ *vt* **1** : to lure or deceive with a feint **2** : to make a pretense of

fei·rie \'fē-rē\ *adj* [ME (Sc) *fery,* fr. ME *fere* strong, fr. OE *fēre* able to go; akin to OE *faran* to travel, fare] *Scot* : NIMBLE, STRONG

feist \'fīst\ *n* [obs. *fisting hound,* fr. obs. *fist* (to break wind)] *chiefly dial* : a small dog

feisty \'fī-stē\ *adj* **feist·i·er; -est** : being in a state of excitement or agitation: as **a** : full of nervous energy : FIDGETY **b** : being touchy and quarrelsome ⟨found us irritated, upset, ~ —E. E. Rebstock⟩ **c** : being frisky and exuberant

feld·spar \'fel(d)-ˌspär\ *n* [modif. of obs. G *feldspath* (now *feldspat*), fr. G *feld* field + obs. G *spath* (now *spat*) spar] : any of a group of crystalline minerals that consist of aluminum silicates with either potassium, sodium, calcium, or barium and that are an essential constituent of nearly all crystalline rocks (hardness 6–6.5, sp. gr. 2.5–2.9)

feld·spath·ic \fel(d)-'spath-ik\ *adj* [*feldspath* (var. of *feldspar*), fr. obs. G] : relating to or containing feldspar — used esp. of a porcelain glaze

fe·li·cif·ic \ˌfē-lə-'sif-ik\ *adj* [L *felic-, felix*] : causing or intended to cause happiness

felicific calculus *n* : a method of determining the rightness of an action by balancing the probable pleasures and pains that it would produce

¹fe·lic·i·tate \fi-'lis-ə-ˌtāt\ *adj* [LL *felicitatus,* pp. of *felicitare* to make happy, fr. L *felicitas*] *obs* : made happy

²felicitate *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** **1** *archaic* : to make happy **2 a** : to consider happy or fortunate **b** : to offer congratulations to — **fe·lic·i·ta·tion** \-ˌlis-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* — **fe·lic·i·ta·tor** \-'lis-ə-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

fe·lic·i·tous \fi-'lis-ət-əs\ *adj* **1** : very well suited or expressed : APT ⟨a ~ remark⟩ **2** : PLEASANT, DELIGHTFUL ***syn*** see FIT ***ant*** infelicitous — **fe·lic·i·tous·ly** *adv* — **fe·lic·i·tous·ness** *n*

fe·lic·i·ty \fi-'lis-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *felicite,* fr. MF *felicité,* fr. L *felicitat-, felicitas,* fr. *felic-, felix* fruitful, happy — more at FEMININE] **1 a** : the quality or state of being happy; *esp* : great happiness **b** : an instance of happiness **2** : something that causes happiness **3** : a pleasing faculty esp. in art or language : APTNESS **4** : an apt expression

fe·lid \'fē-ləd\ *n* [NL *Felidae,* family name, fr. *Felis,* genus of cats, fr. L, cat] : CAT 1b — **felid** *adj*

fe·line \'fē-ˌlīn\ *adj* [L *felinus,* fr. *felis*] **1** : of or relating to cats or the cat family **2** : resembling a cat: as **a** : sleekly graceful **b** : SLY, TREACHEROUS **c** : STEALTHY — **feline** *n* — **fe·line·ly** *adv* — **fe·lin·i·ty** \fē-'lin-ət-ē\ *n*

feline distemper *n* **1** : PANLEUCOPENIA **2** : a gastrointestinal disease of cats closely related to panleucopenia

¹fell \'fel\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fel* skin, L *pellis*] : SKIN, HIDE, PELT

²fell *vt* [ME *fellen,* fr. OE *fellan;* akin to OE *feallan* to fall — more at FALL] **1 a** : to cut, beat, or knock down **b** : KILL **2** : to sew (a seam) by folding one raw edge under the other and sewing flat on the wrong side — **fell·able** \'fel-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **fell·er** *n*

³fell *past of* FALL

⁴fell *adj* [ME *fel,* fr. OF — more at FELON] **1 a** : FIERCE, CRUEL, TERRIBLE **b** : very destructive or painful : DEADLY **2** *Scot* : SHARP, PUNGENT — **fell·ness** *n* — **fel·ly** \'fel-lē\ *adv* — **at one fell swoop** : all at once; *also* : with a single concentrated effort

fel·lah \'fel-ə, fə-'lä\ *n, pl* **fel·la·hin** *or* **fel·la·heen** \ˌfel-ə-'hēn, fə-ˌlä-'hēn\ [Ar *fallāḥ*] : a peasant or agricultural laborer in an Arab country (as Egypt)

fel·la·tio \fə-'lā-shē-ˌō, fe-, -'lät-ē-\ *also* **fel·la·tion** \-'lā-shən\ *n* [NL *fellation-, fellatio,* fr. L *fellatus,* pp. of *felare, fellare,* lit., to suck — more at FEMININE] : oral stimulation of the penis

fell·mon·ger \'fel-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n, Brit* : one who removes hair or wool from hides in preparation for leather making — **fell·mongered** \-gərd\ *adj, Brit* — **fell·mon·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ *or* **fell·mon·gery** \-g(ə-)rē\ *n, Brit*

fel·low \'fel-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *felawe,* fr. OE *fēolaga,* fr. ON *fēlagi,* fr. *fēlag* partnership, fr. *fē* cattle, money + *lag* act of laying] **1** : COMRADE, ASSOCIATE **2 a** : an equal in rank, power, or character : PEER **b** : one of a pair : MATE **3** : a member of a group having common characteristics; *specif* : a member of an incorporated literary or scientific society **4 a** *obs* : a person of one of the lower social classes **b** : a worthless man or boy **c** : MAN, BOY **d** : BOYFRIEND, BEAU **5** : an incorporated member of a college or collegiate foundation esp. in a British university **6** : a person appointed to a position granting a stipend and allowing for advanced study or research

fellow feeling *n* : a feeling of community of interest or of mutual understanding ⟨*fellow feeling* . . . in the face of the impersonality of urban life —Richard Poirier⟩

fel·low·ly \-ō-lē, -ə-lē\ *adj* : SOCIABLE — **fellowly** *adv*

fel·low·man \ˌfel-ō-'man, -ə-\ *n* : a kindred human being

ə abut ᵊ kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart
aù out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life
j joke ŋ sing ō flow ȯ flaw ȯi coin th thin t͟h this
ü loot u̇ foot y yet yü few yu̇ furious zh vision

fellow servant *n* : an employee working with another employee under such circumstances that each one if negligent may expose the other to harm which the employer cannot reasonably be expected to guard against or be held legally liable for

[1]fel·low·ship \'fel-ō-ˌship, -ə-\ *n* **1** : COMPANIONSHIP, COMPANY **2 a** : community of interest, activity, feeling, or experience **b** : the state of being a fellow or associate **3** : a company of equals or friends : ASSOCIATION **4** : the quality or state of being comradely **5** *obs* : MEMBERSHIP, PARTNERSHIP **6 a** : the position of a fellow (as of a university) **b** : the stipend of a fellow **c** : a foundation for the providing of such a stipend

[2]fellowship *vb* **-shipped** *also* **-shiped** \-ˌshipt\; **-ship·ping** *also* **-ship·ing** \-ˌship-iŋ\ *vi* : to join in fellowship esp. with a church member ~ *vt* : to admit to fellowship (as in a church)

fellow traveler *n* [trans. of Russ *poputchik*] : one that sympathizes with and often furthers the ideals and program of an organized group (as the Communist party) without membership in the group or regular participation in its activities — **fel·low–trav·el·ing** *adj*

fel·ly \'fel-ē\ *or* **fel·loe** \-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **fellies** *or* **felloes** [ME *fely, felive,* fr. OE *felg;* akin to OHG *felga* felly, OE *fealg* piece of plowed land] : the exterior rim or a segment of the rim of a wheel supported by the spokes

felo–de–se \ˌfel-ōd-ə-'sā, -'sē\ *n, pl* **fe·lo·nes–de–se** \fə-ˌlō-(ˌ)nēz-də-\ *or* **felos–de–se** \ˌfel-ōz-də-\ [ML *felo de se, fello de se,* lit., evildoer upon himself] **1** : one who deliberately kills himself or who dies from the effects of his commission of an unlawful malicious act **2** : an act of deliberate self-destruction : SUICIDE

[1]fel·on \'fel-ən\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *felon, fel,* fr. ML *fellon-, fello* evildoer, villain] **1** *archaic* **a** : CRUEL **b** : EVIL **2** *archaic* : WILD

[2]felon *n* **1** : one who has committed a felony **2** *archaic* : VILLAIN **3** : a deep usu. suppurative inflammation of the finger or toe esp. near the end or around the nail

fe·lo·ni·ous \fə-'lō-nē-əs\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : very evil : VILLAINOUS **2** : of, relating to, or having the quality of a felony — **fe·lo·ni·ous·ly** *adv* — **fe·lo·ni·ous·ness** *n*

fel·on·ry \'fel-ən-rē\ *n* : FELONS; *specif* : the convict population of a penal colony

fel·o·ny \'fel-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** **1** : an act on the part of a feudal vassal involving the forfeiture of his fee **2 a** : a grave crime formerly differing from a misdemeanor under English common law by involving forfeiture in addition to any other punishment **b** : a grave crime declared to be a felony by the common law or by statute regardless of the punishment actually imposed **c** : a crime declared a felony by statute because of the punishment imposed **d** : a crime for which the punishment in federal law may be death or imprisonment for more than one year

fel·site \'fel-ˌsīt\ *n* [*felspar*] : a dense igneous rock that consists almost entirely of feldspar and quartz — **fel·sit·ic** \fel-'sit-ik\ *adj*

fel·spar *var of* FELDSPAR

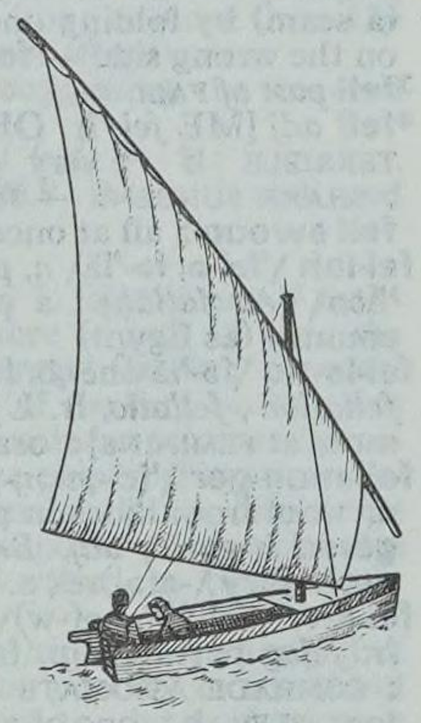
[1]felt \'felt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *filz* felt, L *pellere* to drive, beat, Gk *pelas* near] **1 a** : a cloth made of wool and fur often mixed with natural or synthetic fibers through the action of heat, moisture, chemicals, and pressure **b** : a firm woven cloth of wool or cotton heavily napped and shrunk **2** : an article made of felt **3** : a material resembling felt: as **a** : a heavy paper of organic or asbestos fibers impregnated with asphalt and used in building construction **b** : semirigid pressed fiber insulation used in building

[2]felt *vt* **1** : to make into felt or a similar substance **2** : to cause to adhere and mat together **3** : to cover with felt

[3]felt *past of* FEEL

felt·ing \'fel-tiŋ\ *n* **1** : the process by which felt is made **2** : FELT

fe·luc·ca \fə-'lü-kə, -'lək-ə\ *n* [It *feluca*] : a narrow fast lateen-rigged sailing ship chiefly of the Mediterranean area



felucca

fem *abbr* **1** female **2** feminine

[1]fe·male \'fē-ˌmāl\ *n* [ME, alter. of *femel, femelle,* fr. MF & ML; MF *femelle,* fr. ML *femella,* fr. L, girl, dim. of *femina*] **1** : an individual that bears young or produces eggs as distinguished from one that begets young; *esp* : a woman or girl as distinguished from a man or boy **2** : a pistillate plant

[2]female *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or being the sex that bears young or produces eggs **b** : PISTILLATE **2** : having some quality (as gentleness or delicacy) associated with the female sex **3** : designed with a hollow into which a corresponding male part fits ⟨~ coupling of a hose⟩ — **fe·male·ness** *n*

[1]fem·i·nine \'fem-ə-nən\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *feminin,* fr. L *femininus,* fr. *femina* woman; akin to OE *delu* nipple, L *filius* son, *felix, fetus, & fecundus* fruitful, *felare* to suck, Gk *thēlē* nipple] **1** : FEMALE 1a **2** : characteristic of or appropriate or peculiar to women **3** : of, relating to, or constituting the gender that ordinarily includes most words or grammatical forms referring to females ⟨a ~ noun⟩ **4 a** : having an unstressed and usu. hypermetric final syllable ⟨~ ending⟩ **b** *of rhyme* : having an unstressed final syllable **c** : having the final chord occurring on a weak beat ⟨music in ~ cadences⟩ — **fem·i·nine·ly** *adv* — **fem·i·nine·ness** \-nə(n)-nəs\ *n*

[2]feminine *n* **1** : the female principle ⟨eternal ~⟩ **2 a** : a noun, pronoun, adjective, or inflectional form or class of the feminine gender **b** : the feminine gender

fem·i·nin·i·ty \ˌfem-ə-'nin-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or nature of the female sex **2** : EFFEMINACY **3** : WOMEN, WOMANKIND

fem·i·nism \'fem-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : the theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes **2** : organized activity on behalf of women's rights and interests — **fem·i·nist** \-nəst\ *n or adj* — **fem·i·nis·tic** \ˌfem-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj*

fe·min·i·ty \fe-'min-ət-ē, fə-\ *n* : FEMININITY

fem·i·nize \'fem-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1** : to give a feminine quality to **2** : to cause (a male or castrate) to take on feminine characters (as by implantation of ovaries or administration of estrogenic substances) — **fem·i·ni·za·tion** \ˌfem-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

femme fa·tale \ˌfem-fə-'tal, ˌfam-, -'täl\ *n, pl* **femmes fa·tales** \-'tal(z), -'täl(z)\ [F, lit., disastrous woman] **1** : a seductive woman who lures men into dangerous or compromising situations : SIREN **2** : a woman who attracts men by an aura of charm and mystery

fem·o·ral \'fem-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the femur or thigh

femoral artery *n* : the chief artery of the thigh lying in its anterior inner part

fem·to- \ˌfem(p)-tō\ *comb form* [ISV, fr. Dan or Norw *femten* fifteen, fr. ON *fimmtān;* akin to OE *fīftēne* fifteen] : one quadrillionth (10^{-15}) part of ⟨*femto*ampere⟩

fe·mur \'fē-mər\ *n, pl* **fe·murs** *or* **fem·o·ra** \'fem-(ə-)rə\ [NL *femor-, femur,* fr. L, thigh] **1** : the proximal bone of the hind or lower limb — called also *thighbone* **2** : the segment of an insect's leg that is third from the body

[1]fen \'fen\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fenn;* akin to OHG *fenna* fen, Skt *paṅka* mud] : low land covered wholly or partly with water unless artificially drained

[2]fen \'fən\ *n, pl* **fen** [Chin (Pek) *fên*[1]] — see *yuan* at MONEY table

[1]fence \'fen(t)s\ *n, often attrib* [ME *fens,* short for *defens* defense] **1** *archaic* : a means of protection : DEFENSE **2** : a barrier intended to prevent escape or intrusion or to mark a boundary; *esp* : such a barrier made of posts and wire or boards **3** : FENCING 1 **4 a** : a receiver of stolen goods **b** : a place where stolen goods are bought — **fence·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **fence·less·ness** *n* — **on the fence** : in a position of neutrality or indecision

[2]fence *vb* **fenced; fenc·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to enclose with a fence **b** (1) : to keep in or out with a fence (2) : to ward off **2** : to provide a defense for ~ *vi* **1 a** : to practice fencing **b** (1) : to use tactics of attack and defense resembling those of fencing (2) : to parry arguments by shifting ground **2** *archaic* : to provide protection — **fenc·er** *n*

fence–sit·ting \'fen(t)s-ˌsit-iŋ\ *n* : a state of indecision or neutrality with respect to conflicting positions — **fence sitter** *n*

fenc·ing *n* **1** : the art or practice of attack and defense with the foil, épee, or saber **2 a** (1) : FENCE 2 (2) : the fences of a property or region **b** : material used for building fences

[1]fend \'fend\ *vb* [ME *fenden,* short for *defenden*] *vt* **1** : DEFEND **2** : to keep or ward off : REPEL — often used with *off* **3** *dial Brit* : to provide for : SUPPORT ~ *vi* **1** *dial Brit* : to make an effort : STRUGGLE **2 a** : to try to get along without help : SHIFT **b** : to provide a livelihood

[2]fend *n, chiefly Scot* : an effort or attempt esp. for oneself

fend·er \'fen-dər\ *n* : a device that protects: as **a** : a cushion (as foam rubber, a bundle of rope, or a wood float) between a boat and a dock or between two boats that lessens shock and prevents chafing **b** : RAILING **c** : a device in front of locomotives and streetcars to lessen injury to animals or pedestrians in case of collision **d** : a guard over the wheel of a motor vehicle **e** : a low metal frame or a screen before an open fireplace **f** : an oblong or triangular shield of leather attached to the stirrup leather of a saddle to protect a rider's legs

fe·nes·tra \fə-'nes-trə\ *n, pl* **-trae** \-ˌtrē, -ˌtrī\ [NL, fr. L, window] **1** : a small opening: as **a** : an oval opening between the middle ear and the vestibule having the base of the stapes or columella attached to its membrane — called also *fenestra ovalis, fenestra vestibuli* **b** : a round opening between the middle ear and the cochlea — called also *fenestra cochleae, fenestra rotunda* **2** : an opening cut in bone **3** : a transparent spot (as in the wings of a moth) — **fe·nes·tral** \-trəl\ *adj*

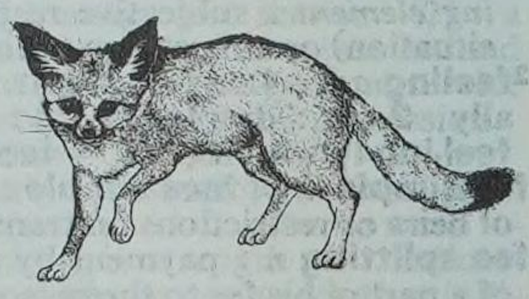
fe·nes·trate \fə-'nes-ˌtrāt, 'fen-ə-ˌstrāt\ *adj* [L *fenestratus,* fr. *fenestra*] : FENESTRATED 2

fen·es·trat·ed \'fen-ə-ˌstrāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : provided with or characterized by windows **2** : having one or more openings or pores ⟨~ blood capillaries⟩

fen·es·tra·tion \ˌfen-ə-'strā-shən\ *n* **1** : the arrangement, proportioning, and design of windows and doors in a building **2** : an opening in a surface (as a wall or membrane) **3** : the operation of cutting an opening in the bony labyrinth between the inner ear and tympanum to replace natural fenestrae that are not functional

Fe·ni·an \'fē-nē-ən\ *n* [IrGael *Fēinne,* pl. of *Fiann,* legendary band of Irish warriors] **1** : one of a legendary band of warriors defending Ireland in the 2d and 3d centuries A.D. **2** : a member of a secret 19th century Irish and Irish-American organization dedicated to the overthrow of British rule in Ireland — **Fenian** *adj* — **Fe·ni·an·ism** \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

fen·nec \'fen-ik\ *n* [Ar *fanak*] : a small pale-fawn African fox (*Fennecus zerda*) with large ears



fennec

fen·nel \'fen-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *fenel,* fr. OE *finugl,* fr. (assumed) VL *fenuculum,* fr. L *feniculum* fennel, dim. of *fenum* hay; perh. akin to L *fetus* fruitful — more at FEMININE] : a perennial European herb (*Foeniculum vulgare*) of the carrot family adventive in No. America and cultivated for its aromatic seeds and its foliage

fen·ny \'fen-ē\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *fennig,* fr. *fenn* fen] **1** : having the characteristics of a fen : BOGGY **2** : peculiar to or found in a fen

fenu·greek \'fen-yə-ˌgrēk\ *n* [ME *fenugrek,* fr. MF *fenugrec,* fr. L *fenum Graecum,* lit., Greek hay] : a leguminous annual Asiatic herb (*Trigonella foenumgraecum*) with aromatic seeds

feoff·ee \fe-'fē, fē-'fē\ *n* : the person to whom a feoffment is made

feoff·ment \'fef-mənt, 'fēf-\ *n* [ME *feoffement,* fr. AF, fr. *feoffer* to invest with a fee, fr. OF *fief* fee] : the granting of a fee

feof·for \'fef-ər, 'fēf-; fe-'fȯ(ə)r, fē-\ *or* **feoff·er** \'fef-ər, 'fēf-\ *n* : one who makes a feoffment

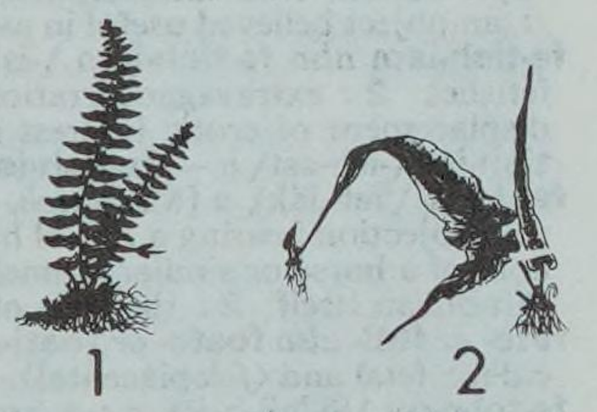
FEPA *abbr* Fair Employment Practices Act

FEPC *abbr* Fair Employment Practices Commission
-fer \fər\ *n comb form* [F & L; F *-fère*, fr. L *-fer* bearing, one that bears, fr. *ferre* to carry — more at BEAR] : one that bears ⟨aqui*fer*⟩
FERA *abbr* Federal Emergency Relief Administration
fe·rae na·tu·rae \ˈfer-ˌī-nə-ˈtü(ə)r-ˌī\ *adj* [L, of a wild nature] : wild by nature and not usu. tamed
fe·ral \ˈfir-əl, ˈfer-\ *adj* [ML *feralis*, fr. L *fera* wild animal, fr. fem. of *ferus* wild — more at FIERCE] **1** : of, relating to, or suggestive of a wild beast : SAVAGE **2 a** : not domesticated or cultivated : WILD 1a **b** : having escaped from domestication and become wild
fer·bam \ˈfər-ˌbam\ *n* [*fer*ric dimethyl-dithiocar*bam*ate] : an agricultural fungicide $FeC_9H_{18}N_3S_6$ used esp. on fruit trees
fer-de-lance \ˈferd-ᵊl-ˈan(t)s, -ˈän(t)s\ *n, pl* **fer-de-lance** [F, lit., lance iron, spearhead] : a large extremely venomous pit viper (*Bothrops atrox*) of Central and So. America
fere \ˈfi(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gefēra;* akin to OE *faran* to go, travel — more at FARE] **1** *archaic* : COMPANION, COMRADE **2** *archaic* : SPOUSE
¹fe·ria \ˈfir-ē-ə, ˈfer-\ *n* [ML — more at FAIR] : a weekday of a church calendar on which no feast is celebrated — **fe·ri·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
²fe·ria \ˈfer-ē-ə, -ē-ˌä\ *n* [Sp, fair, market, fr. ML — more at FAIR] : an Hispanic market festival often in observance of a religious holiday
fe·rine \ˈfi(ə)r-ˌīn\ *adj* [L *ferinus*, fr. *fera*] : FERAL
fer·i·ty \ˈfer-ət-ē\ *n* [L *feritas*, fr. *ferus*] : the quality or state of being feral
fer·lie *also* **fer·ly** \ˈfer-lē\ *n, pl* **ferlies** [ME, fr. *ferly* strange, fr. OE *fǽrlīc* unexpected, fr. *fǽr* sudden danger — more at FEAR] *Scot* : WONDER
Ferm *abbr* Fermanagh
fer·ma·ta \fer-ˈmät-ə\ *n* [It, lit., stop, fr. *fermare* to stop, fr. L *firmare* to make firm] : a prolongation at the discretion of the performer of a musical note, chord, or rest beyond its given time value; *also* : the sign denoting such a prolongation



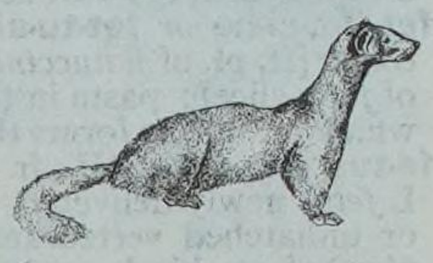
fermata

¹fer·ment \(ˌ)fər-ˈment\ *vi* **1** : to undergo fermentation **2** : to be in a state of agitation or intense activity ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to undergo fermentation **2** : to work up (as into a state of agitation) : FOMENT — **fer·ment·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **fer·ment·er** *n*
²fer·ment \ˈfər-ˌment *also* (ˌ)fər-ˈ\ *n* [ME, fr. L *fermentum* yeast — more at BARM] **1** : an agent (as an enzyme or an organism) capable of bringing about fermentation **2 a** : FERMENTATION 1 **b** (1) : a state of unrest : AGITATION (2) : a process of active often disorderly development ⟨the great period of creative ~ in literature —William Barrett⟩
fer·men·ta·tion \ˌfər-mən-ˈtā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* **1 a** : a chemical change with effervescence **b** : an enzymatically controlled anaerobic breakdown of an energy-rich compound (as a carbohydrate to carbon dioxide and alcohol or to an organic acid); *broadly* : an enzymatically controlled transformation of an organic compound **2** : FERMENT 2b
fer·men·ta·tive \(ˌ)fər-ˈment-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : causing fermentation **2** : of, relating to, or produced by fermentation **3** : capable of undergoing fermentation
fer·mi \ˈfe(ə)r-(ˌ)mē, ˈfər-\ *n* [Enrico *Fermi*] : a unit of length equal to 10^{-13} centimeter
fer·mi·on \ˈfer-mē-ˌän, ˈfər-\ *n* [Enrico *Fermi* + E ²*-on*] : a particle (as an electron, proton, or neutron) having a half-odd-integer number of units of spin (as $^1/_2$, $^3/_2$, $^5/_2$)
fer·mi·um \ˈfer-mē-əm, ˈfər-\ *n* [Enrico *Fermi*] : a radioactive metallic element artificially produced (as by bombardment of plutonium with neutrons) — see ELEMENT table
fern \ˈfərn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fearn;* akin to OHG *farn* fern, Skt *parṇa* wing, leaf] : any of numerous flowerless seedless plants constituting a class (Filicineae) of lower vascular plants; *esp* : any of an order (Filicales) resembling seed plants in being differentiated into root, stem, and leaflike fronds and in having vascular tissue but differing in reproducing by spores — **fern·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **ferny** \ˈfər-nē\ *adj*



ferns: *1* Christmas fern, *2* walking leaf

fern·ery \ˈfərn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : a place or stand where ferns grow **2** : a collection of growing ferns
fern seed *n* : the dustlike asexual spores of ferns formerly taken for seeds and thought to make the possessor invisible
fe·ro·cious \fə-ˈrō-shəs\ *adj* [L *feroc-, ferox*, lit., fierce looking, fr. *ferus* + *-oc-, -ox* (akin to Gk *ōps* eye) — more at EYE] **1** : exhibiting or given to extreme fierceness and unrestrained violence and brutality **2** : unbearably intense : EXTREME ⟨~ heat⟩ ***syn*** see FIERCE — **fe·ro·cious·ly** *adv* — **fe·ro·cious·ness** *n*
fe·roc·i·ty \fə-ˈräs-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being ferocious
-f·er·ous \f-(ə-)rəs\ *adj comb form* [ME, fr. L *-fer* & MF *-fere* (fr. L *-fer*)] : bearing : producing ⟨carboni*ferous*⟩
fer·rate \ˈfe(ə)r-ˌāt\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *ferrum* iron] : a compound containing iron and oxygen in the anion; *esp* : a red salt analogous to the chromates and sulfates
fer·re·dox·in \ˌfer-ə-ˈdäk-sən\ *n* [L *ferrum* iron + E *redox* + *-in*] : an iron-containing plant protein that functions as an electron carrier in photosynthetic organisms and in some anaerobic bacteria



ferret 1

¹fer·ret \ˈfer-ət\ *n* [ME *furet, ferret*, fr. MF *furet*, fr. (assumed) VL *furittus*, lit., little thief, dim. of L *fur* thief] **1** : a partially domesticated usu. albino European polecat that is sometimes classed as a separate species (*Mustela furo*) and is used esp. for hunting rodents **2** : an active and persistent searcher — **fer·rety** \-ət-ē\ *adj*
²ferret *vi* **1** : to hunt with ferrets **2** : to search about ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to hunt (as rabbits) with ferrets (2) : to drive esp. from covert **b** : to find and bring to light by searching — usu. used with *out* ⟨~ out the answers⟩ **2** : HARRY, WORRY — **fer·ret·er** *n*
³ferret *n* [prob. modif. of It *fioretti* floss silk, fr. pl. of *fioretto*, dim. of *fiore* flower, fr. L *flor-, flos* — more at BLOW] : a narrow cotton, silk, or wool tape — called also *ferreting*
ferri- *comb form* [L, fr. *ferrum*] **1** : iron ⟨*ferri*ferous⟩ **2** : ferric iron ⟨*ferri*cyanic⟩
fer·ri·age \ˈfer-ē-ij\ *n* **1** : the fare paid for a ferry passage **2** : the act or business of transporting by ferry
fer·ric \ˈfer-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or containing iron **2** : being or containing iron usu. with a valence of three
ferric ammonium citrate *n* : a complex salt containing varying amounts of iron and used esp. for making blueprints
ferric chloride *n* : a deliquescent dark salt $FeCl_3$ that readily hydrates to the yellow-orange form and that is used in sewage treatment and as an astringent
ferric hydroxide *n* : a hydrate $Fe_2O_3.nH_2O$ of ferric oxide that is capable of acting both as a base and as a weak acid
ferric oxide *n* : the red or black oxide of iron Fe_2O_3 found in nature as hematite and as rust and also obtained synthetically and used as a pigment and for polishing
fer·ri·cy·a·nide \ˌfer-ˌī-ˈsī-ə-ˌnīd, ˌfer-i-\ *n* [ISV] : a complex iron salt containing the trivalent radical $Fe(CN)_6$ and used in making blue pigments
fer·rif·er·ous \fə-ˈrif-(ə-)rəs, fe-\ *adj* : containing or yielding iron
fer·ri·mag·net·ic \ˈfer-ˌī-mag-ˈnet-ik, ˌfer-i-\ *adj* : of or relating to a substance (as ferrite) characterized by magnetization in which one group of magnetic ions is polarized in a direction opposite to the other — **fer·ri·mag·net** \ˈfer-ˌī-ˌmag-nət, ˈfer-i-\ *n* — **fer·ri·mag·net·i·cal·ly** \ˈfer-ˌī-mag-ˈnet-i-k(ə-)lē, ˌfer-i-\ *adv* — **fer·ri·mag·ne·tism** \-ˈmag-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n*
Fer·ris wheel \ˈfer-əs-\ *n* [G. W. G. *Ferris* †1896 Am engineer] : an amusement device consisting of a large upright power-driven wheel carrying seats that remain horizontal around its rim
fer·rite \ˈfe(ə)r-ˌīt\ *n* **1** : any of several magnetic substances that consist essentially of an iron oxide combined with one or more metals (as manganese, nickel, or zinc), have high magnetic permeability and high electrical resistivity, and are used esp. in computer memories **2** : a solid solution in which alpha iron is the solvent — **fer·rit·ic** \fə-ˈrit-ik, fe-\ *adj*
fer·ri·tin \ˈfer-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [*ferrite* + *-in*] : a crystalline iron-containing protein that functions in the storage of iron and is found esp. in the liver and spleen
ferro- *comb form* [ML, fr. L *ferrum*] **1** : iron ⟨*ferro*concrete⟩ **2** : iron and ⟨*ferro*nickel⟩ — chiefly in names of alloys **3** : ferrous iron ⟨*ferro*cyanic⟩
fer·ro·cene \ˈfer-ō-ˌsēn\ *n* [*ferro-* + *cyclopentadiene*] : a crystalline stable organometallic coordination compound $(C_5H_5)_2Fe$; *also* : an analogous compound with a heavy metal (as chromium)
fer·ro·con·crete \ˌfer-ō-ˈkän-ˌkrēt, -kän-ˈ\ *n* : REINFORCED CONCRETE
fer·ro·cy·a·nide \-ˈsī-ə-ˌnīd\ *n* : a complex iron salt containing the tetravalent radical $Fe(CN)_6$ and used in making blue pigments (as Prussian blue)
fer·ro·elec·tric \ˌfer-ō-i-ˈlek-trik\ *adj* : of or relating to crystalline substances having spontaneous electric polarization reversible by an electric field — **ferroelectric** *n* — **fer·ro·elec·tric·i·ty** \-ˌlek-ˈtris-ət-ē, -ˈtris-tē\ *n*
fer·ro·mag·ne·sian \-mag-ˈnē-zhən, -shən\ *adj* : containing iron and magnesium ⟨~ minerals⟩
fer·ro·mag·net·ic \-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to substances with an abnormally high magnetic permeability, a definite saturation point, and appreciable residual magnetism and hysteresis — **ferromagnetic** *n* — **fer·ro·mag·ne·tism** \-ˈmag-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n*
¹fer·ro·type \ˈfer-ə-ˌtīp\ *n* **1** : a positive photograph made by a collodion process on a thin iron plate having a darkened surface **2** : the process by which a ferrotype is made
²ferrotype *vt* : to give a gloss to (a photographic print) by squeegeeing facedown while wet on a ferrotype plate and allowing to dry
fer·rous \ˈfer-əs\ *adj* [NL *ferrosus*, fr. L *ferrum*] **1** : of, relating to, or containing iron **2** : being or containing iron with a valence of two
ferrous oxide *n* : a black easily oxidizable powder FeO that is the monoxide of iron
ferrous sulfate *n* : a salt $FeSO_4$; *esp* : COPPERAS
fer·ru·gi·nous \fə-ˈrü-jə-nəs, fe-\ *or* **fer·ru·gin·e·ous** \ˌfer-(y)ü-ˈjin-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *ferrugineus, ferruginus*, fr. *ferrugin-, ferrugo* iron rust, fr. *ferrum*] **1** : of, relating to, or containing iron ⟨a ~ soil⟩ **2** : resembling iron rust in color
¹fer·rule \ˈfer-əl\ *n* [alter. of ME *virole*, fr. MF, fr. L *viriola*, dim. of *viria* bracelet, of Celtic origin; akin to OIr *fiar* oblique — more at VEER] **1** : a ring or cap usu. of metal put around a slender shaft (as a cane or a tool handle) to strengthen it or prevent splitting **2** : a short tube or bushing for making a tight joint (as between pipes)
²ferrule *vt* **fer·ruled; fer·rul·ing** : to supply with a ferrule
¹fer·ry \ˈfer-ē\ *vb* **fer·ried; fer·ry·ing** [ME *ferien*, fr. OE *ferian* to carry, convey; akin to OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] *vt* **1 a** : to carry by boat over a body of water **b** : to cross by a ferry **2 a** : to convey (as by aircraft or motor vehicle) from one place to

another : TRANSPORT **b** : to fly (an airplane) from the factory or other shipping point to a designated delivery point or from one base to another ~ *vi* : to cross water in a boat

²ferry *n, pl* **ferries** **1** : a place where persons or things are carried across a body of water (as a river) in a boat **2** : FERRYBOAT **3** : a franchise or right to operate a ferry service across a body of water **4** : an organized service and route for flying airplanes esp. across a sea or continent for delivery to the user

fer·ry·boat \'fer-ē-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat used to ferry passengers, vehicles, or goods

fer·ry·man \-mən\ *n* : a person who operates a ferry

fer·tile \'fərt-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *fertilis*, fr. *ferre* to carry, bear — more at BEAR] **1 a** : producing or bearing fruit in great quantities : PRODUCTIVE **b** : characterized by great resourcefulness of thought or imagination : INVENTIVE ⟨a ~ mind⟩ **c** *obs* : PLENTIFUL **2 a** (1) : capable of sustaining abundant plant growth ⟨~ soil⟩ (2) : affording abundant possibilities for development ⟨a ~ area for research⟩ **b** : capable of growing or developing ⟨~ egg⟩ **c** (1) : capable of producing fruit (2) *of an anther* : containing pollen (3) : developing spores or spore-bearing organs **d** : capable of breeding or reproducing **3** : capable of being converted into fissionable material ⟨~ uranium 238⟩ — **fer·tile·ly** \-ᵊl-(l)ē\ *adv* — **fer·tile·ness** \-ᵊl-nəs\ *n*

syn FERTILE, FECUND, FRUITFUL, PROLIFIC *shared meaning element* : producing or having the power to produce offspring or fruit ***ant*** infertile, sterile

fer·til·i·ty \(ˌ)fər-'til-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being fertile **2** : the birthrate of a population

fer·til·iza·tion \ˌfərt-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* : an act or process of making fertile: as **a** : the application of fertilizer **b** (1) : an act or process of fecundation, insemination, impregnation, or pollination **b** (2) : the process of union of two germ cells whereby the somatic chromosome number is restored and the development of a new individual is initiated — **fer·til·iza·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

fer·til·ize \'fərt-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make fertile: as **a** : to cause the fertilization of **b** : to apply a fertilizer to ⟨~ land⟩ — **fer·til·iz·able** \-ˌī-zə-bəl\ *adj*

fer·til·iz·er \-ˌī-zər\ *n* : one that fertilizes; *specif* : a substance (as manure or a chemical mixture) used to make soil more fertile

fer·u·la \'fer-(y)ə-lə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, giant fennel] : any of a genus (*Ferula*) of Old World plants of the carrot family yielding various gum resins (as galbanum and asafetida)

fer·ule \'fer-əl\ *also* **fer·u·la** \'fer-(y)ə-lə\ *n* [L *ferula* giant fennel, ferule] **1** : an instrument (as a flat piece of wood) used to punish children **2** : school discipline

fe·ru·lic acid \fə-ˌrü-lik-\ *n* [*ferula*] : a white crystalline acid that is structurally related to vanillin and is obtained esp. from plant sources (as aspen bark)

fer·ven·cy \'fər-vən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : FERVOR

fer·vent \'fər-vənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *fervent-, fervens*, prp. of *fervēre* to boil, glow — more at BURN] **1** : very hot : GLOWING **2** : marked by great warmth of feeling : exhibiting deep sincere emotion ⟨~ prayers⟩ ***syn*** see IMPASSIONED — **fer·vent·ly** *adv*

fer·vid \'fər-vəd\ *adj* [L *fervidus*, fr. *fervēre*] **1** : very hot : BURNING **2** : marked by warm spontaneity or sometimes febrile urgency ⟨his ~ manner of lovemaking offended her —Arnold Bennett⟩ ***syn*** see IMPASSIONED — **fer·vid·ly** *adv* — **fer·vid·ness** *n*

fer·vor \'fər-vər\ *n* [ME *fervour*, fr. MF & L; MF *ferveur*, fr. L *fervor*, fr. *fervēre*] **1** : intense heat **2** : warm steady intensity of feeling or expression ***syn*** see PASSION

fer·vour *chiefly Brit var of* FERVOR

fes·cen·nine \'fes-ᵊn-ˌīn, -ˌēn\ *adj* [L *fescennini* (*versus*), ribald songs sung at rustic weddings, prob. fr. *fescinninus* of Fescennium, fr. *Fescennium*, town in Etruria] : SCURRILOUS, OBSCENE

fes·cue \'fes-(ˌ)kyü\ *n* [ME *festu* stalk, straw, fr. MF, fr. LL *festucum*, fr. L *festuca*] **1** : a small pointer (as a stick) used to point out letters to children learning to read **2** : any of a genus (*Festuca*) of tufted perennial grasses with panicled spikelets

fescue foot *n* : a disease of the feet of cattle resembling ergotism that is associated with feeding on fescue grasses

¹fess *also* **fesse** \'fes\ *n* [ME *fesse*, fr. MF *faisse*, fr. L *fascia* band] **1** : a broad horizontal bar across the middle of a heraldic field **2** : the center point of an armorial escutcheon

²fess \'fes\ *vi* [short for *confess*] : to own up : CONFESS — usu. used with *up*

-fest \ˌfest\ *n comb form* [G, fr. *fest* celebration, fr. L *festum*] : meeting or occasion marked by (such) activity ⟨song*fest*⟩

fes·tal \'fest-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *festum* festival — more at FEAST] : of or relating to a feast or festival : FESTIVE — **fes·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

¹fes·ter \'fes-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *festre*, fr. L *fistula* pipe, fistulous ulcer] : a suppurating sore : PUSTULE

²fester *vb* **fes·tered; fes·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to generate pus **2** : PUTREFY, ROT **3 a** : to cause increasing poisoning or irritation : RANKLE **b** : to undergo or exist in a state of progressive deterioration ~ *vt* : to make inflamed or corrupt

¹fes·ti·nate \'fes-tə-nət, -nāt\ *adj* [L *festinatus*, pp. of *festinare* to hasten — more at BORZOI] : HASTY — **fes·ti·nate·ly** *adv*

²fes·ti·nate \-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** : HASTEN

¹fes·ti·val \'fes-tə-vəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *festivus* festive] : of, relating to, appropriate to, or set apart as a festival

²festival *n* **1 a** : a time of celebration marked by special observances **b** : FEAST 2 **2** : a periodic season or program of cultural events or entertainment **3** : GAIETY, CONVIVIALITY

fes·ti·val·go·er \-ˌgō(-ə)r\ *n* : one who attends a festival

fes·tive \'fes-tiv\ *adj* [L *festivus*, fr. *festum*] **1** : of, relating to, or suitable for a feast or festival **2** : JOYOUS, GAY — **fes·tive·ly** *adv* — **fes·tive·ness** *n*

fes·tiv·i·ty \fes-'tiv-ət-ē, fəs-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : FESTIVAL 1 **2** : the quality or state of being festive : GAIETY **3** : festive activity

¹fes·toon \fes-'tün\ *n* [F *feston*, fr. It *festone*, fr. *festa* festival, fr. L — more at FEAST] **1** : a decorative chain or strip hanging between two points **2** : a carved, molded, or painted ornament representing a decorative chain **3** : one of the somewhat quadrangular segments bordering the body of some ticks

²festoon *vt* **1** : to hang or form festoons on **2** : to shape into festoons

fes·toon·ery \fes-'tü-nə-rē\ *n* : an arrangement of festoons

fest·schrift \'fest-ˌshrift\ *n, pl* **fest·schrif·ten** \-ˌshrif-tən\ *or* **fest·schrifts** *often cap* [G, fr. *fest* festival, celebration + *schrift* writing] : a volume of writings by different authors presented as a tribute or memorial esp. to a scholar

fe·ta \'fet-ə, 'fe-ˌtä\ *n* [NGk (*tyri*) *pheta*, fr. *tyri* cheese + *pheta* slice, fr. It *fetta*] : a firm white Greek cheese made of sheep's or goat's milk and cured in brine

fe·tal \'fēt-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a fetus

fetal hemoglobin *n* : a hemoglobin variant that predominates in the blood of a newborn and persists in increased proportions in some forms of anemia (as thalassemia)

fetal position *n* : a resting position in which the body is curved, the legs and arms are bent and drawn toward the chest, and the head is bowed forward and which is assumed in some forms of psychic regression

fe·ta·tion \fē-'tā-shən\ *n* : the formation of a fetus : PREGNANCY

¹fetch \'fech\ *vb* [ME *fecchen*, fr. OE *fetian, feccan;* akin to OE *fōt* foot — more at FOOT] *vt* **1 a** : to go or come after and bring or take back **b** : DERIVE, DEDUCE **2 a** : to cause to come **b** : to bring in (as a price) : REALIZE **c** : INTEREST, ATTRACT **3 a** : to give (a blow) by striking : DEAL **b** *chiefly dial* : to bring about : ACCOMPLISH **c** (1) : to take in (as a breath) : DRAW (2) : to bring forth (as a sound) : HEAVE ⟨~ a sigh⟩ **4 a** : to reach by sailing esp. against the wind or tide **b** : to arrive at : REACH ~ *vi* **1** : to get and bring something; *specif* : to retrieve killed game **2** : to take a roundabout way : CIRCLE **3 a** : to hold a course on a body of water **b** : VEER — **fetch·er** *n*

²fetch *n* **1** : an act or instance of fetching **2** : TRICK, STRATAGEM **3 a** : the distance along open water or land over which the wind blows **b** : the distance traversed by waves without obstruction

³fetch *n* [origin unknown] **1** : DOPPELGÄNGER **2** : GHOST

fetch·ing *adj* : ATTRACTIVE, PLEASING — **fetch·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

fetch up *vt* **1** : to bring up or out : PRODUCE **2** : to make up (as leeway) **3** : to bring to a stop ~ *vi* : to come to a standstill, stopping place, or result : ARRIVE

¹fete *or* **fête** \'fāt, 'fet\ *n* [F *fête*, fr. OF *feste* — more at FEAST] **1** : FESTIVAL **2 a** : a lavish often outdoor entertainment **b** : a large elaborate party

²fete *or* **fête** *vt* **fet·ed** *or* **fêt·ed; fet·ing** *or* **fêt·ing** **1** : to honor or commemorate with a fete **2** : to pay high honor to

fête cham·pê·tre \ˌfāt-ˌshäⁿ(m)-'petrᵊ, ˌfet-\ *n, pl* **fêtes cham·pêtres** *same*\ [F, lit., rural festival] : an outdoor entertainment

fet·er·i·ta \ˌfet-ə-'rēt-ə\ *n* [Sudanese Ar] : any of various grain sorghums with compact oval heads of large soft white seeds

fe·ti·cide \'fēt-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : the act of killing a fetus

fet·id \'fet-əd, *esp Brit* 'fē-tid\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *foetidus*, fr. *foetēre* to stink; akin to L *fumus* smoke — more at FUME] : having a heavy offensive smell ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **fet·id·ly** *adv* — **fet·id·ness** *n*

fe·tish *also* **fe·tich** \'fet-ish *also* 'fēt-\ *n* [F & Pg; F *fétiche*, fr. Pg *feitiço*, fr. *feitiço* artificial, false, fr. L *facticius* factitious] **1 a** : an object believed among a primitive people to have magical power to protect or aid its owner; *broadly* : a material object regarded with superstitious or extravagant trust or reverence **b** : an object of irrational reverence or obsessive devotion : PREPOSSESSION **c** : an object or bodily part whose real or fantasied presence is psychologically necessary for sexual gratification and that is an object of fixation to the extent that it may interfere with complete sexual expression **2** : a rite or cult of fetish worshipers **3** : FIXATION

syn FETISH, TALISMAN, CHARM, AMULET *shared meaning element* : an object believed useful in averting evil or attracting good

fe·tish·ism *also* **fe·tich·ism** \-ish-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : belief in magical fetishes **2** : extravagant irrational devotion **3** : the pathological displacement of erotic interest and satisfaction to a fetish — **fe·tish·ist** \-ish-əst\ *n* — **fe·tish·is·tic** \ˌfet-ish-'is-tik *also* ˌfēt-\ *adj*

fet·lock \'fet-ˌläk\ *n* [ME *fitlok, fetlak;* akin to OE *fōt* foot] **1 a** : a projection bearing a tuft of hair on the back of the leg above the hoof of a horse or similar animal — see HORSE illustration **b** : the tuft of hair itself **2** : the joint of the limb at the fetlock

feto- *or* **feti-** *also* **foeto-** *or* **foeti-** *comb form* [NL *fetus*] : fetus ⟨*feti*cide⟩ : fetal and ⟨*feto*placental⟩

fe·tol·o·gy \fē-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of medical science concerned with the study and treatment of the fetus in the uterus — **fe·tol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

fe·tor \'fēt-ər, 'fē-ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *fetoure*, fr. L *foetor*, fr. *foetēre*] : a strong offensive smell : STENCH

¹fet·ter \'fet-ər\ *n* [ME *feter*, fr. OE; akin to OE *fōt* foot] **1** : a chain or shackle for the feet **2** : something that confines : RESTRAINT

²fetter *vt* **1** : to put fetters on : SHACKLE **2** : to restrain from motion or action ***syn*** see HAMPER

¹fet·tle \'fet-ᵊl\ *vt* **fet·tled; fet·tling** \'fet-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *fetlen* to shape, prepare; prob. akin to OE *fæt* vessel — more at VAT] : to cover or line the hearth of (as a reverberatory furnace) with fettling

²fettle *n* **1 a** : a state of physical fitness or order : CONDITION **b** : state of mind : SPIRITS ⟨the good news put him in fine ~⟩ **2** : FETTLING

fet·tling \'fet-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *n* : loose material (as ore or sand) thrown on the hearth of a furnace to protect it

fet·tuc·ci·ne *or* **fet·tu·ci·ni** \ˌfet-ə-'chē-nē\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [It, pl. of *fettuccina*, dim. of *fettuccia* small slice, ribbon, dim. of *fetta* slice] : pasta in the form of narrow ribbons; *also* : a dish of which fettuccine forms the base

fe·tus \'fēt-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, act of bearing young, offspring; akin to L *fetus* newly delivered, fruitful — more at FEMININE] : an unborn or unhatched vertebrate esp. after attaining the basic structural plan of its kind; *specif* : a developing human from usu. three months after conception to birth

[1]feud \'fyüd\ *n* [alter. of ME *feide*, fr. MF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *fēhida* hostility, feud, OE *fāh* hostile — more at FOE] : a mutual enmity or quarrel that is often prolonged or inveterate; *esp* : a lasting state of hostilities between families or clans marked by violent attacks for revenge — **feud** *vi*

[2]feud *n* [ML *feodum, feudum*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *feoh* cattle, property — more at FEE] : FEE 1a

feu·dal \'fyüd-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a medieval fee **2** : of, relating to, or suggestive of feudalism ⟨~ law⟩ — **feu·dal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

feu·dal·ism \'fyüd-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the system of political organization prevailing in Europe from the 9th to about the 15th centuries having as its basis the relation of lord to vassal with all land held in fee and as chief characteristics homage, the service of tenants under arms and in court, wardship, and forfeiture **2** : any of various political or social systems similar to medieval feudalism — **feu·dal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* — **feu·dal·is·tic** \ˌfyüd-ᵊl-'is-tik\ *adj*

feu·dal·i·ty \fyü-'dal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being feudal **2** : a feudal holding, domain, or concentration of power

feu·dal·ize \'fyüd-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make feudal — **feu·dal·iza·tion** \ˌfyüd-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

[1]feu·da·to·ry \'fyüd-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [ML *feudatorius*, fr. *feudatus*, pp. of *feudare* to enfeoff, fr. *feudum*] **1** : owing feudal allegiance **2** : being under the overlordship of a foreign state

[2]feudatory *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : one holding lands by feudal tenure **2** : a dependent lordship : FEE

[1]feud·ist \'fyüd-əst\ *n* : a specialist in feudal law

[2]feudist *n* : one who feuds

feuil·le·ton \ˌfə(r)-yə-'tōⁿ, ˌfœ-yə-\ *n* [F, fr. *feuillet* sheet of paper, fr. OF *foillet*, dim. of *foille* leaf — more at FOIL] **1** : a part of a European newspaper or magazine devoted to material designed to entertain the general reader **2** : something (as an installment of a novel) printed in a feuilleton **3 a** : a novel printed in installments **b** : a work of fiction catering to popular taste **4** : a short literary composition often having a familiar tone and reminiscent content — **feuil·le·ton·ism** \-'tō(ⁿ)-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **feuil·le·ton·ist** \-nəst\ *n*

Feul·gen \'fȯil-gən\ *adj* : of, relating to, utilizing, or staining by the Feulgen reaction ⟨positive ~ mitochondria⟩

Feulgen reaction *n* [Robert *Feulgen b*1884 G physiologist] : the development of a brilliant purple color by DNA in a microscopic preparation stained with a modified Schiff's reagent

[1]fe·ver \'fē-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fēfer*, fr. L *febris*; akin to L *fovēre* to warm] **1 a** : a rise of body temperature above the normal **b** : any of various diseases of which fever is a prominent symptom **2 a** : a state of heightened or intense emotion or activity **b** : a contagious usu. transient enthusiasm : CRAZE

[2]fever *vb* **fe·vered; fe·ver·ing** \'fēv-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to throw into a fever : UPSET ~ *vi* : to contract or be in a fever : be or become feverish

fever blister *n* : COLD SORE

fe·ver·few \'fē-vər-ˌfyü\ *n* [ME, fr. (assumed) AF *fevrefue*, fr. LL *febrifugia* centaury — more at FEBRIFUGE] : a perennial European composite herb (*Chrysanthemum parthenium*)

fe·ver·ish \'fēv-(ə-)rish\ *adj* **1 a** : having the symptoms of a fever **b** : indicating or relating to fever **c** : tending to cause fever **2** : marked by intense emotion, activity, or instability — **fe·ver·ish·ly** *adv* — **fe·ver·ish·ness** *n*

fe·ver·ous \'fēv-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : FEVERISH — **fe·ver·ous·ly** *adv*

fever pitch *n* : a state of intense excitement and agitation

fe·ver·root \'fē-və(r)-ˌrüt, -ˌrůt\ *n* : FEVERWORT

fever thermometer *n* : CLINICAL THERMOMETER

fever tree *n* : any of several shrubs or trees that are thought to indicate regions free from fever or that yield remedies for fever: as **a** : a blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*) **b** : an ornamental tree (*Pinckneya pubens*) of the southeastern U.S.

fe·ver·wort \'fē-vər-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : a coarse American herb (*Triosteum perfoliatum*) of the honeysuckle family — called also *feverroot, horse gentian*

[1]few \'fyü\ *pron, pl in constr* [ME *fewe*, pron. & adj., fr. OE *fēawa*; akin to OHG *fō* little, L *paucus* little, *pauper* poor, Gk *paid-, pais* child, Skt *putra* son] : not many persons or things ⟨~ were present⟩ ⟨~ of his stories are true⟩

[2]few *adj* **1** : consisting of or amounting to only a small number ⟨one of his ~ pleasures⟩ **2** : at least some but indeterminately small in number — used with *a* ⟨caught a ~ fish⟩ — **few·ness** *n*

[3]few *n, pl in constr* **1** : a small number of units or individuals ⟨a ~ of them⟩ **2** : a special limited number ⟨the discriminating ~⟩

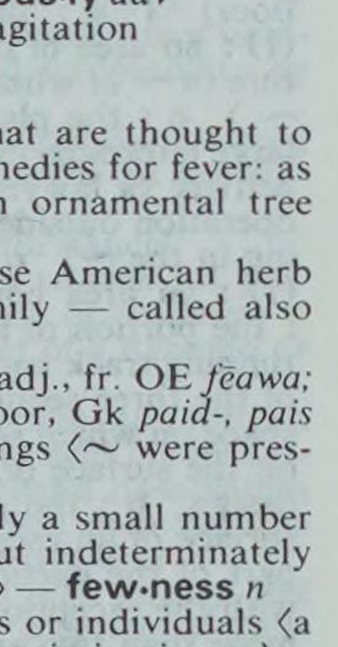
[1]few·er *pron, pl in constr* : a smaller number of persons or things

[2]fewer *adj, comparative of* FEW ***syn*** see LESS

few·trils \'fyü-trəlz\ *n pl* [origin unknown] *dial Eng* : things of little value : TRIFLES

fey \'fā\ *adj* [ME *feye*, fr. OE *fǣge*; akin to OHG *feigi* fey and perh. to OE *fāh* hostile, outlawed — more at FOE] **1 a** *chiefly Scot* : fated to die : DOOMED **b** : marked by a foreboding of death or calamity **2 a** : able to see into the future : VISIONARY **b** : marked by an otherworldly air or attitude **c** : CRAZY, TOUCHED — **fey·ness** *n*

fez \'fez\ *n, pl* **fez·zes** *also* **fez·es** [F, fr. *Fez*, Morocco] : a brimless cone-shaped flat-crowned hat that usu. has a tassel, is usu. made of red felt, and is worn esp. by men in eastern Mediterranean countries



fez

ff *abbr* **1** folios **2** [*following*] and the following ones **3** fortissimo

FG *abbr* fine grain

FHA *abbr* Federal Housing Administration

FHWA *abbr* Federal Highway Administration

fi·acre \fē-'äkrᵊ\ *n, pl* **fi·acres** *same, or* -'äk-rəz\ [F, fr. the Hotel St. *Fiacre*, Paris] : a small hackney coach

fi·an·cé \ˌfē-ˌän-'sā, fē-'än-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. pp. of *fiancer* to promise, betroth, fr. OF *fiancier*, fr. *fiance* promise, trust, fr. *fier* to trust, fr. (assumed) VL *fidare*, alter. of L *fidere* — more at BIDE] : a man engaged to be married

fi·an·cée \ˌfē-ˌän-'sā, fē-'än-ˌ\ *n* [F, fem. of *fiancé*] : a woman engaged to be married

fi·an·chet·to \ˌfē-ən-'ket-(ˌ)ō, -'chet-\ *vb* [*fianchetto* (an opening in chess), fr. It, dim. of *fianco* side, flank, fr. OF *flanc*] *vt* : to develop (a bishop) in a chess game to the second square on the adjacent knight's file ~ *vi* : to fianchetto a bishop in a chess game

fi·as·co *n, pl* **-coes** [It, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *flaska* bottle] **1** \fē-'äs-(ˌ)kō\ *pl also* **fi·as·chi** \-(ˌ)kē\ : BOTTLE, FLASK; *esp* : a long-necked straw-covered bottle for wine **2** \-'as- *also* -'äs-\ [F, fr. It] : a complete failure

fi·at \'fē-ət, -ˌat, -ˌät; 'fī-ət, -ˌat\ *n* [L, let it be done, 3d sing. pres. subj. of *fieri* to become, be done — more at BE] **1** : a command or act of will that creates something without or as if without further effort **2** : an authoritative decision of consciousness ⟨a ~ of conscience⟩ **3** : an authoritative or arbitrary order : DECREE ⟨government by ~⟩

fiat money *n* : money (as paper currency) not convertible into coin or specie of equivalent value

[1]fib \'fib\ *n* [perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *fable*] : a trivial or childish lie

[2]fib *vi* **fibbed; fib·bing** : to tell a fib ***syn*** see LIE — **fib·ber** *n*

[3]fib *vb* **fibbed; fib·bing** [origin unknown] *Brit* : BEAT, PUMMEL

fi·ber *or* **fi·bre** \'fī-bər\ *n* [F *fibre*, fr. L *fibra*] **1** : a thread or a structure or object resembling a thread: as **a** (1) : a slender root (as of a grass) (2) : an elongated tapering thick-walled plant cell void at maturity that imparts elasticity, flexibility, and tensile strength **b** (1) : a strand of nerve tissue : AXON, DENDRITE (2) : one of the filaments composing most of the intercellular matrix of connective tissue (3) : one of the elongated contractile cells of muscle tissue **c** : a slender and greatly elongated natural or synthetic filament (as of wool, cotton, asbestos, gold, glass, or rayon) typically capable of being spun into yarn **2** : material made of fibers; *specif* : VULCANIZED FIBER **3 a** : an element that gives texture or substance **b** : basic toughness : STRENGTH, FORTITUDE **c** : essential structure or character ⟨the very ~ of a person's being⟩ — **fi·bered** \-bərd\ *adj*

fi·ber·board \-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a material made by compressing fibers (as of wood) into stiff sheets

fi·ber·glass \-ˌglas\ *n* : glass in fibrous form used in making various products (as glass wool, yarns, textiles, and structures) ⟨a ~ boat⟩ ⟨~ insulation⟩

fi·ber·ize \'fī-bə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to break into fibers — **fi·ber·iza·tion** \ˌfī-b(ə-)rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

fi·ber–op·tic \'fī-bə-ˌräp-tik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or using fiber optics

fiber optics *n pl* **1** : thin transparent fibers of glass or plastic that are enclosed by material of a lower index of refraction and that transmit light throughout their length by internal reflections; *also* : a bundle of such fibers used in an instrument (as for viewing body cavities) **2** *sing in constr* : the technique of the use of fiber optics

fi·ber·scope \'fī-bər-ˌskōp\ *n* : a flexible instrument utilizing fiber optics and used esp. in medicine for examination of inaccessible areas (as the stomach)

Fi·bo·nac·ci number \ˌfē-bə-ˌnäch-ē-\ *n* [Leonardo *Fibonacci* †*ab* 1250 It mathematician] : an integer in the infinite sequence 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, . . . of which the first two terms are 1 and 1 and each succeeding term is the sum of the two immediately preceding

fibr- *or* **fibro-** *comb form* [L *fibra*] : fiber : fibrous tissue ⟨*fibr*oid⟩ : fibrous and ⟨*fibro*vascular⟩

fi·bril \'fīb-rəl, 'fib-\ *n* [NL *fibrilla*, dim. of L *fibra*] : a small filament or fiber: as **a** : ROOT HAIR **b** (1) : one of the fine threads into which a striated muscle fiber can be longitudinally split **b** (2) : NEUROFIBRIL — **fi·bril·lar** \'fib-rə-lər, 'fīb-\ *adj* — **fi·bril·li·form** \fī-'bril-ə-ˌfȯrm, fə-\ *adj* — **fi·bril·lose** \'fib-rə-ˌlōs, 'fīb-\ *adj*

fi·bril·late \'fib-rə-ˌlāt, 'fīb-\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** *vi* : to undergo or exhibit fibrillation ~ *vt* : to cause to undergo fibrillation ⟨~ plastic film into fibrils⟩

fi·bril·la·tion \ˌfib-rə-'lā-shən, ˌfīb-\ *n* **1** : an act or process of forming fibers or fibrils **2 a** : a muscular twitching involving individual muscle fibers acting without coordination **b** : very rapid irregular contractions of the muscle fibers of the heart resulting in a lack of synchronism between heartbeat and pulse

fi·brin \'fī-brən\ *n* : a white insoluble fibrous protein formed from fibrinogen by the action of thrombin esp. in the clotting of blood

fi·brin·o·gen \fī-'brin-ə-jən\ *n* [ISV] : a globulin that is produced in the liver, that is present esp. in the blood plasma, and that is converted into fibrin during clotting of blood

fi·bri·noid \'fib-rə-ˌnȯid, 'fīb-\ *n* : a homogeneous acidophilic refractile material that somewhat resembles fibrin and is formed in the walls of blood vessels and in connective tissue in some pathological conditions and normally in the placenta

fi·bri·no·ly·sin \ˌfī-brən-ᵊl-'īs-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV] **1** : PLASMIN **2** : STREPTOKINASE

fi·bri·no·ly·sis \-'ī-səs, -brə-'näl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the usu. enzymatic breakdown of fibrin — **fi·bri·no·lyt·ic** \-brən-ᵊl-'it-ik\ *adj*

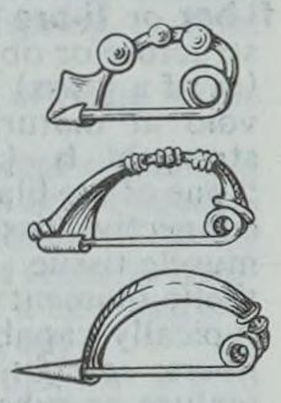
fi·bri·nous \'fib-rə-nəs, 'fīb-\ *adj* : marked by the presence of fibrin

fi·bro·blast \'fīb-rə-ˌblast, 'fib-\ *n* [ISV] : a mesenchyme cell giving rise to connective tissue — **fi·bro·blas·tic** \ˌfīb-rə-'blas-tik, ˌfib-\ *adj*

fi·bro·cyte \'fīb-rə-ˌsīt, 'fib-\ *n* [ISV] : a spindle-shaped cell of fibrous tissue — **fi·bro·cyt·ic** \ˌfīb-rə-'sit-ik, ˌfib-\ *adj*

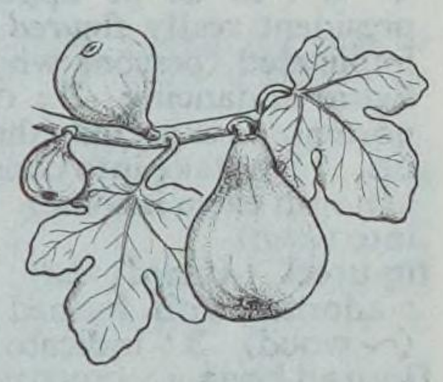
[1]fi·broid \'fīb-ròid, 'fib-\ *adj* : resembling, forming, or consisting of fibrous tissue

²fibroid *n* : a benign tumor made up of fibrous and muscular tissue that occurs esp. in the uterine wall
fi·bro·in \ˈfīb-rə-wən, ˈfib-\ *n* [F *fibroïne*, fr. *fibr-* + *-ine* -in] : an insoluble protein comprising the filaments of the raw silk fiber
fi·bro·ma \fī-ˈbrō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *also* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ : a benign tumor consisting mainly of fibrous tissue — **fi·bro·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*
fi·bro·sar·co·ma \ˌfīb-rə-sär-ˈkō-mə, ˌfib-\ *n* : a sarcoma of relatively low malignancy made up chiefly of spindle-shaped cells that tend to form collagenous fibrils
fi·bro·sis \fī-ˈbrō-səs\ *n* : a condition marked by increase of interstitial fibrous tissue — **fi·brot·ic** \-ˈbrät-ik\ *adj*
fi·bro·si·tis \ˌfīb-rə-ˈsīt-əs, ˌfib-\ *n* [NL, fr. *fibrosus* fibrous, fr. ISV *fibrous*] : a rheumatic disorder of fibrous tissue
fi·brous \ˈfī-brəs\ *adj* [F *fibreux*, fr. *fibre* fiber, fr. L *fibra*] **1 a** : containing, consisting of, or resembling fibers **b** : characterized by fibrosis **c** : capable of being separated into fibers ⟨a ~ mineral⟩ **2** : TOUGH, SINEWY ⟨~ texture⟩ — **fi·brous·ly** *adv* — **fi·brous·ness** *n*
fibrous root *n* : a root (as in most grasses) that has no prominent central axis and that branches in all directions
fi·bro·vas·cu·lar \ˈfīb-rō-ˈvas-kyə-lər, ˌfib-\ *adj* : having or consisting of fibers and conducting cells ⟨~ bundles in leaves⟩
fibrovascular bundle *n* : VASCULAR BUNDLE
fib·u·la \ˈfib-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-lē, -lī\ *or* **-las** [L] **1** : a clasp resembling a safety pin used by the ancient Greeks and Romans **2** : the outer and usu. the smaller of the two bones of the hind limb below the knee — **fib·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*


fibulae 1

-fic \fik\ *adj suffix* [MF & L; MF *-fique*, fr. L *-ficus*, fr. *facere* to make — more at DO] : making : causing ⟨feli*cific*⟩
FICA *abbr* Federal Insurance Contributions Act
-fi·ca·tion \fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n comb form* [ME *-ficacioun*, fr. MF & L; MF *-fication*, fr. L *-fication-*, *-ficatio*, fr. *-ficatus*, pp. ending of verbs ending in *-ficare* to make, fr. *-ficus*] : making : production ⟨rei*fication*⟩
fice \ˈfīs\ *var of* FEIST
fiche \ˈfēsh *also* ˈfish\ *n, pl* **fiche** *also* **fiches** : MICROFICHE
fi·chu \ˈfish-(ˌ)ü, ˈfēsh-\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *ficher* to stick in, throw on, fr. (assumed) VL *figicare*, fr. L *figere* to fasten, pierce — more at DIKE] : a woman's light triangular scarf that is draped over the shoulders and fastened in front or worn to fill in a low neckline
fi·cin \ˈfīs-ᵊn\ *n* [L *ficus* fig] : a proteinase that is obtained from the latex of fig trees and is used as an anthelmintic and protein digestive
fick·le \ˈfik-əl\ *adj* [ME *fikel* deceitful, inconstant, fr. OE *ficol* deceitful; akin to OE be*fician* to deceive, L *pigēre* to irk and prob. to OE *fāh* hostile — more at FOE] : marked by lack of steadfastness, constancy, or stability : given to erratic and even perverse changeableness ***syn*** see INCONSTANT ***ant*** constant, true — **fick·le·ness** *n*
fi·co \ˈfē-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **ficoes** [obs. *fico*, obscene gesture of contempt, modif. of It *fica* fig, vulva, gesture of contempt, fr. (assumed) VL *fica* fig — more at FIG] : FIG 2
fict *abbr* **1** fiction **2** fictitious
fic·tile \ˈfik-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* [L *fictilis* molded of clay, fr. *fictus*] **1** : molded or moldable of earth, clay, or other soft material **2** : of or relating to pottery
fic·tion \ˈfik-shən\ *n* [ME *ficcioun*, fr. MF *fiction*, fr. L *fiction-*, *fictio* act of fashioning, fiction, fr. *fictus*, pp. of *fingere* to shape, fashion, feign — more at DOUGH] **1 a** : something invented by the imagination or feigned; *specif* : an invented story ⟨distinguish fact from ~⟩ **b** : fictitious literature (as novels or short stories) ⟨a writer of ~⟩ **2** : an assumption of a possibility as a fact irrespective of the question of its truth ⟨a legal ~⟩ **3** : the action of feigning or of creating with the imagination — **fic·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **fic·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
fic·tion·al·iza·tion \ˌfik-shnə-lə-ˈzā-shən, -shən-ᵊl-ə-ˈzā-\ *n* : an act, process, or product of fictionalizing
fic·tion·al·ize \ˈfik-shnə-ˌlīz, -shən-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make into or treat in the manner of fiction ⟨~ the diary he kept in prison⟩
fic·tion·eer \ˌfik-shə-ˈni(ə)r\ *n* : one who writes fiction esp. in quantity and without high standards — **fic·tion·eer·ing** *n*
fic·tion·ist \ˈfik-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a writer of fiction; *esp* : NOVELIST
fic·tion·ize \ˈfik-shə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : FICTIONALIZE — **fic·tion·iza·tion** \ˌfik-shə-nə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
fic·ti·tious \fik-ˈtish-əs\ *adj* [L *ficticius* artificial, feigned, fr. *fictus*] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of fiction : IMAGINARY **2 a** : conventionally or hypothetically assumed or accepted ⟨a ~ concept⟩ **b** *of a name* : FALSE, ASSUMED **3** : not genuinely felt : FEIGNED, SIMULATED — **fic·ti·tious·ly** *adv* — **fic·ti·tious·ness** *n*
syn FICTITIOUS, FABULOUS, LEGENDARY, MYTHICAL, APOCRYPHAL *shared meaning element* : being the product of imagination or mental invention ***ant*** historical
fic·tive \ˈfik-tiv\ *adj* **1** : not genuine : FEIGNED **2** : of, relating to, or capable of imaginative creation — **fic·tive·ly** *adv*
fid \ˈfid\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a square bar of wood or iron used to support a topmast **2** : a pin usu. of hard wood that tapers to a point and is used in opening the strands of a rope
-fid \fəd, ˌfid\ *adj comb form* [L *-fidus*, fr. *findere* to split — more at BITE] : divided into (so many) parts ⟨sexi*fid*⟩ or (such) parts ⟨pinnati*fid*⟩
¹fid·dle \ˈfid-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *fidel*, fr. OE *fithele*, prob. fr. ML *vitula*] **1** : VIOLIN **2** : a device (as a slat, rack, or light railing of cords) to keep dishes from sliding off a table aboard ship **3** : FIDDLESTICKS — used as an interjection **4** *Brit* : SWINDLE
²fiddle *vb* **fid·dled; fid·dling** \ˈfid-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vi* **1** : to play on a fiddle **2 a** : to move the hands or fingers restlessly **b** : to spend time in aimless or fruitless activity : PUTTER ⟨*fiddled* around with the engine for hours⟩ **c** : MEDDLE, TAMPER ~ *vt* : to play (as a tune) on a fiddle — **fid·dler** \ˈfid-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
fiddle away *vt* : to fritter away ⟨*fiddled away* his time⟩
fid·dle·back \ˈfid-ᵊl-ˌbak\ *n* : something resembling a fiddle
fid·dle–fad·dle \ˈfid-ᵊl-ˌfad-ᵊl\ *n* [redupl. of *fiddle* (fiddlesticks)] : NONSENSE — often used as an interjection
fid·dle–foot·ed \ˌfid-ᵊl-ˈfůt-əd\ *adj* **1** : SKITTISH, JUMPY ⟨a ~ horse⟩ **2** : prone to wander ⟨the nameless ~ drifters, the shifty riders who traveled the back trails —Luke Short⟩
fid·dle·head \ˈfid-ᵊl-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : an ornament on a ship's bow curved like the scroll at the head of a violin **2** : one of the young unfurling fronds of some ferns that are often eaten as greens
fiddler crab *n* : a burrowing crab (genus *Uca*) that has one claw much enlarged in the male
fid·dle·stick \ˈfid-ᵊl-ˌstik\ *n* **1 a** *archaic* : a violin bow **b** *South* : a small stick or switch used to strike the strings of a fiddle in time to the music while the fiddler plays with a bow — usu. used in pl. **2 a** : something of little value : TRIFLE ⟨didn't care a ~ for that⟩ **b** *pl* : NONSENSE — used as an interjection
fid·dling \ˈfid-liŋ, -lən\ *adj* : TRIFLING, PETTY ⟨made some ~ excuse⟩
fi·de·ism \ˈfēd-(ˌ)ā-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [prob. fr. F *fidéisme*, fr. L *fides* faith] : reliance on faith rather than reason esp. in metaphysics — **fi·de·ist** \-ˌā-əst\ *n* — **fi·de·is·tic** \ˌfēd-(ˌ)ā-ˈis-tik\ *adj*
fi·del·i·ty \fə-ˈdel-ət-ē, fī-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *fidelite*, fr. MF *fidelité*, fr. L *fidelitat-*, *fidelitas*, fr. *fidelis* faithful, fr. *fides* faith — more at BIDE] **1 a** : the quality or state of being faithful **b** : accuracy in details : EXACTNESS **2** : the degree to which an electronic device (as a record player, radio, or television) accurately reproduces its effect (as sound or picture)
syn FIDELITY, ALLEGIANCE, FEALTY, LOYALTY, DEVOTION, PIETY *shared meaning element* : faithfulness to something to which one is bound by a pledge, by duty, or by a sense of what is right or appropriate ***ant*** faithlessness, perfidy
fidge \ˈfij\ *vi* **fidged; fidg·ing** [prob. alter. of E dial. *fitch*, fr. ME *fichen*] *chiefly Scot* : FIDGET
¹fid·get \ˈfij-ət\ *n* [irreg. fr. *fidge*] **1** : uneasiness or restlessness as shown by nervous movements — usu. used in pl. **2** [²*fidget*] : one that fidgets
²fidget *vi* : to move or act restlessly or nervously ~ *vt* : to cause to move or act nervously
fid·gety \ˈfij-ət-ē\ *adj* **1** : inclined to fidget **2** : making unnecessary fuss : FUSSY — **fid·get·i·ness** *n*
fi·do \ˈfīd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **fidos** [*f*reaks + *i*rregulars + *d*efects + *o*ddities] : a coin having a minting error
fi·du·cial \fə-ˈd(y)ü-shəl, fī-\ *adj* **1** : taken as standard of reference ⟨a ~ mark⟩ **2** : founded on faith or trust **3** : having the nature of a trust : FIDUCIARY — **fi·du·cial·ly** \-ˌd(y)üsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹fi·du·cia·ry \-ˈd(y)ü-shē-ˌer-ē, -shə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : one that holds a fiduciary relation or acts in a fiduciary capacity
²fiduciary *adj* [L *fiduciarius*, fr. *fiducia* confidence, trust, fr. *fidere*] : of, relating to, or involving a confidence or trust: as **a** : held or founded in trust or confidence **b** : holding in trust **c** : depending on public confidence for value or currency ⟨~ fiat money⟩
fie \ˈfī\ *interj* [ME *fi*, fr. OF] — used to express disgust or shock
fief \ˈfēf\ *n* [F — more at FEE] **1** : a feudal estate : FEE **2** : something over which one has rights or exercises control ⟨a politician's ~⟩
fief·dom \ˈfēf-dəm, -təm\ *n* : FIEF
¹field \ˈfē(ə)ld\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *feld*; akin to OHG *feld* field, OE *flōr* floor] **1 a** : an open land area free of woods and buildings **b** (1) : an area of cleared enclosed land used for cultivation or pasture ⟨a ~ of wheat⟩ (2) : land containing a natural resource ⟨coal ~⟩ **c** : the place where a battle is fought; *also* : BATTLE **d** : a large unbroken expanse (as of ice) **2 a** : an area or division of an activity ⟨a lawyer eminent in his ~⟩ **b** : the sphere of practical operation outside a laboratory, office, or factory ⟨geologists working in the ~⟩ **c** : an area for military exercises or maneuvers **d** (1) : an area constructed, equipped, or marked for sports (2) : the portion of an indoor or outdoor sports area enclosed by the running track and on which are conducted field events (3) : either of the three sections of a baseball outfield ⟨hits to all ~s⟩ **3** : a space on which something is drawn or projected: as **a** : the space on the surface of a coin, medal, or seal that does not contain the design **b** : the ground of each division in a flag **c** : the whole surface of an escutcheon **4** : the individuals that make up all or part of the participants in a sports activity; *esp* : all participants with the exception of the favorite or the winner in a contest where more than two are entered **5** : a complex of forces that serve as causative agents in human behavior **6 a** : a set of mathematical elements that is subject to two binary operations the second of which is distributive relative to the first and both of which yield an element and that constitutes a commutative group under the first operation and also under the second if the zero or unit element under the first is omitted **b** : a region or space in which a given effect (as magnetism) exists **7** : the area visible through the lens of an optical instrument **8** : a series of drain tiles and an absorption area **9** : a particular area (as a column or set of columns on a punch card) in which the same type of information is regularly recorded
²field *vt* **1 a** : to catch or pick up (a batted ball) and usu. throw to a teammate **b** : to give an impromptu answer or solution to ⟨the senator ~*ed* the reporters' questions⟩ **2** : to put into the field ⟨~ an army⟩ ⟨~ a team⟩; *also* : to enter in competition ~ *vi* : to play as a fielder
³field *adj* : of or relating to a field: as **a** : growing in or inhabiting the fields or open country **b** : made, conducted, or used in the field ⟨~ operations⟩ **c** : operating or active in the field ⟨a ~ agent⟩
field artillery *n* : artillery other than antiaircraft artillery used with armies in the field
field corn *n* : an Indian corn (as dent corn or flint corn) with starchy kernels grown for feeding stock or for market grain
field crop *n* : an agricultural crop (as hay, grain, or cotton) grown on large areas

field day *n* **1 a** : a day for military exercises or maneuvers **b** : an outdoor meeting or social gathering **c** : a day of sports and athletic competition **2** : a time of unusual pleasure or unexpected success ⟨the newspaper had a *field day* with the scandal⟩
field·er \'fēl-dər\ *n* : one that fields; *esp* : a defensive player stationed in the field (as in baseball)
fielder's choice *n* : a situation in baseball in which a batter reaches base safely because the fielder attempts to put out another base runner on the play
field event *n* : an event (as weight-throwing or jumping) in a track-and-field meet other than a race
field·fare \'fē(ə)l(d)-ˌfa(ə)r, -ˌfe(ə)r\ *n* [ME *feldefare*, fr. OE *feldeware*, fr. *feld* + *-ware* dweller] : a medium-sized Eurasian thrush (*Turdus pilaris*) with ash-colored head and chestnut wings
field glass *n* : a hand-held optical instrument for use outdoors usu. consisting of two telescopes on a single frame with a focusing device — usu. used in pl.
field goal *n* **1** : a score in football made by drop-kicking or place-kicking the ball over the crossbar from ordinary play **2** : a goal in basketball made while the ball is in play
field grade *n* : the rank of a field officer
field hand *n* : an outdoor farm laborer
field hockey *n* : a game played on a turfed field between two teams of 11 players each whose object is to direct a ball into the opponent's goal with a hockey stick
field house *n* **1** : a building at an athletic field for housing equipment or providing dressing facilities **2** : a building enclosing a large area suitable for various forms of athletics and usu. providing seats for spectators
fielding average *n* : the average (as of a baseball fielder) determined by dividing the number of putouts and assists by the number of chances — compare BATTING AVERAGE
field judge *n* : a football official whose duties include covering action on kicks and forward passes and timing intermission periods and time outs
field lens *n* : the lens in a compound eyepiece that is nearer the objective
field magnet *n* : a magnet for producing and maintaining a magnetic field esp. in a generator or electric motor
field marshal *n* : the highest ranking military officer (as in the British army)
field mouse *n* : any of various mice that inhabit fields; *esp* : VOLE
field officer *n* : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps of the rank of colonel, lieutenant colonel, or major — called also *field grade officer*; compare COMPANY OFFICER, GENERAL OFFICER
field of force : FIELD 6b
field of honor **1** : a place where a duel is fought **2** : BATTLEFIELD
field of view : FIELD 7
field of vision : VISUAL FIELD
field pea *n* : a small-seeded pea (*Pisum sativum* var. *arvense*) widely grown for forage and food
field·piece \'fē(ə)l(d)-ˌpēs\ *n* : a gun or howitzer for use in the field
field spaniel *n* : any of a breed of large usu. black hunting and retrieving spaniels that have a dense flat or slightly waved coat
field·stone \'fē(ə)l(d)-ˌstōn\ *n* : stone used as taken from the field (as in building)
field·strip \-ˌstrip\ *vt* : to take apart (a weapon) to the extent authorized for routine cleaning, lubrication, and minor repairs
field–test \-ˌtest\ *vt* : to test (as a procedure or product) in a natural environment for various things (as utility and acceptability by intended users) — **field test** *n*
field theory *n* : a detailed mathematical description of the assumed physical properties of a region under some influence (as gravitation)
field trial *n* : a trial of sporting dogs in actual performance
field trip *n* : a visit made by students and usu. a teacher for purposes of firsthand observation (as to a factory, farm, or museum)
field winding *n* : the winding of the field magnet of a dynamo or motor
field·work \'fē(ə)l-ˌdwərk\ *n* **1** : a temporary fortification thrown up by an army in the field **2** : work done in the field (as by students) to gain practical experience through firsthand observation **3** : the gathering of anthropological or sociological data through the interviewing of subjects in the field — **field–work·er** *n*
fiend \'fēnd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fiend*; akin to OHG *fiant* enemy, Skt *pīyati* he scorns] **1 a** : DEVIL 1 **b** : DEMON **c** : a person of great wickedness or maliciousness **2** : a person excessively devoted to a pursuit or study : FANATIC ⟨a golf ~⟩ **3** : a person who uses immoderate quantities of something : ADDICT ⟨a dope ~⟩ **4** : a person remarkably clever at something : WIZARD 3 ⟨a ~ at mathematics⟩
fiend·ish \'fēn-dish\ *adj* **1** : perversely diabolical ⟨took a ~ pleasure in hurting people⟩ **2** : extremely cruel or wicked ⟨a ~ old man⟩ **3** : excessively bad, unpleasant, or difficult ⟨~ weather⟩ — **fiend·ish·ly** *adv* — **fiend·ish·ness** *n*
fierce \'fi(ə)rs\ *adj* **fierc·er; fierc·est** [ME *fiers*, fr. OF, fr. L *ferus* wild, savage; akin to Gk *thēr* wild animal] **1 a** : violently hostile or aggressive in temperament **b** : given to fighting or killing : PUGNACIOUS **2 a** : marked by unrestrained zeal or vehemence ⟨a ~ argument⟩ **b** : extremely vexatious, disappointing, or intense ⟨~ pain⟩ **3** : furiously active or determined ⟨make a ~ effort⟩ **4** : wild or menacing in appearance — **fierce·ly** *adv* — **fierce·ness** *n*
syn FIERCE, FEROCIOUS, BARBAROUS, SAVAGE, CRUEL *shared meaning element* : showing fury or malignity in looks or actions ***ant*** tame, mild
fi·eri fa·cias \ˌfī-(ə-)rē-'fā-sh(ē-)əs\ *n* [L, cause (it) to be done] : a writ authorizing the sheriff to obtain satisfaction of a judgment in debt or damages from the goods and chattels of the defendant
fi·ery \'fī(-ə)-rē\ *adj* **fi·er·i·er; -est** [ME, fr. *fire*, *fier* fire] **1 a** : consisting of fire **b** : BURNING, BLAZING ⟨the ~ interior of a furnace⟩ **c** : using or carried out with fire ⟨~ experiments of the alchemists⟩ **d** : liable to catch fire or explode : FLAMMABLE ⟨a ~ vapor⟩ **2 a** : hot like a fire **b** (1) : being in an inflamed state or condition ⟨a ~ boil⟩ (2) : feverish and flushed ⟨a ~ forehead⟩ **3 a** : of the color of fire : RED ⟨a ~ sunset⟩ **b** : intensely or unnaturally red ⟨~ lips and fingernails⟩ **4 a** : full of or exuding emotion or spirit ⟨a ~ sermon⟩ **b** : easily provoked : IRRITABLE — **fi·eri·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv* — **fi·eri·ness** \-rē-nəs\ *n* — **fiery** *adv*
fi·es·ta \fē-'es-tə\ *n* [Sp, fr. L *festa* — more at FEAST] : FESTIVAL; *specif* : a saint's day celebrated in Spain and Latin America with processions and dances
fi fa \'fī-'fā\ *abbr* fieri facias
fife \'fīf\ *n* [G *pfeife* pipe, fife, fr. OHG *pfīfa* — more at PIPE] : a small flute with six to eight finger holes and no keys that is used chiefly to accompany the drum
fife rail *n* : a rail about the mast near the deck to which running rigging is belayed
FIFO *abbr* first in, first out
fif·teen \fif-'tēn\ *n* [ME *fiftene*, adj., fr. OE *fīftēne*; akin to OE *tīen* ten] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the first point scored by a side in a game of tennis — called also *five* — **fifteen** *adj or pron* — **fif·teenth** \-'tēn(t)th\ *adj or n*
fifth \'fif(t)th\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2 a** : the musical interval embracing five diatonic degrees **b** : a tone at this interval; *specif* : DOMINANT 2 **c** : the harmonic combination of two tones at this interval **3** : a unit of measure for liquor equal to one fifth of a U.S. gallon **4** *cap* : the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution — **fifth** *adj or adv* — **fifth·ly** *adv*
fifth column *n* [name applied to rebel sympathizers in Madrid in 1936 when four rebel columns were advancing on the city] : a group of secret sympathizers or supporters of an enemy that engage in espionage or sabotage within defense lines or national borders — **fifth col·um·nism** \-'käl-əm-ˌ(n)iz-əm\ *n* — **fifth col·um·nist** \-(n)əst\ *n*
fifth wheel *n* **1 a** : a horizontal wheel or segment of a wheel that consists of two parts rotating on each other above the fore axle of a carriage and that forms support to prevent tipping **b** : a similar coupling between tractor and trailer of a semitrailer **2** : a spare wheel **3** : one that is superfluous, unnecessary, or burdensome
fif·ty \'fif-tē\ *n, pl* **fifties** [ME, fr. *fifty*, adj., fr. OE *fīftig*, fr. *fīftig*, n., group of 50, fr. *fīf* five + *-tig* group of ten — more at EIGHTY] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** *pl* : the numbers 50 to 59; *specif* : the years 50 to 59 in a lifetime or century **3** : a 50-dollar bill — **fif·ti·eth** \-tē-əth\ *adj or n* — **fifty** *adj or pron*
fif·ty–fif·ty \ˌfif-tē-'fif-tē\ *adj* **1** : shared, assumed, or borne equally ⟨a ~ proposition⟩ **2** : half favorable and half unfavorable ⟨a ~ chance⟩ — **fifty–fifty** *adv*
[1]fig \'fig\ *n* [ME *fige*, fr. OF, fr. OProv *figa*, fr. (assumed) VL *fica*, fr. L *ficus* fig tree, fig] **1 a** : an oblong or pear-shaped fruit that is a syconium **b** : any of a genus (*Ficus*) of trees of the mulberry family bearing fruits that are syconia; *esp* : a widely cultivated tree (F. *carica*) that produces edible figs **2** : a contemptibly worthless trifle ⟨not worth a ~⟩


fig: leaves and fruit

[2]fig *n* [*fig* (to adorn)] : DRESS, ARRAY ⟨a young woman in dazzling royal full ~ —Mollie Panter-Downes⟩
[3]fig *abbr* **1** figurative; figuratively **2** figure
[1]fight \'fīt\ *vb* **fought** \'fȯt\; **fight·ing** [ME *fighten*, fr. OE *feohtan*; akin to OHG *fehtan* to fight, L *pectere* to comb — more at FEE] *vi* **1 a** : to contend in battle or physical combat; *esp* : to strive to overcome a person by blows or weapons **b** : to engage in boxing **2** : to put forth a determined effort ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to contend against in or as if in battle or physical combat (2) : to box against in the ring **b** (1) : to attempt to prevent the success or effectiveness of ⟨the company *fought* the strike for months⟩ (2) : to oppose the passage or development of ⟨~ a bad habit⟩ **2 a** : to carry on : WAGE **b** : to take part in (as a boxing match) **3** : to struggle to endure or surmount ⟨~ out a storm at sea⟩ **4 a** : to gain by struggle ⟨~*s* his way through⟩ **b** : to resolve by struggle ⟨*fought* out their differences in court⟩ **5 a** : to manage (a ship) in a battle or storm **b** : to cause to struggle or contend **c** : to manage in an unnecessarily rough or awkward manner — **fight shy of** : to avoid facing or meeting
[2]fight *n* **1 a** : a hostile encounter : BATTLE, COMBAT **b** : a boxing match **c** : a verbal disagreement : ARGUMENT **2** : a struggle for a goal or an objective ⟨a ~ for justice⟩ **3** : strength or disposition for fighting : PUGNACITY ⟨still full of ~⟩
fight·er *n* : one that fights: as **a** (1) : WARRIOR, SOLDIER **a** (2) : a pugnacious or game individual **a** (3) : BOXER **b** : an airplane of high speed and maneuverability with armament designed to destroy enemy aircraft
fighting chair *n* : a chair from which a salt-water angler plays a hooked fish
fighting chance *n* : a chance that may be realized by a struggle ⟨the patient had a *fighting chance* to live⟩
fig leaf *n* **1** : the leaf of a fig tree **2** [fr. the use by Adam and Eve of fig leaves to cover their nakedness after eating the forbidden fruit (Gen. 3:7)] : something that conceals or camouflages usu. inadequately or dishonestly
fig marigold *n* : any of several carpetweeds (genus *Mesembryanthemum*) with showy white or pink flowers

fig·ment \'fig-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *figmentum*, fr. *fingere* to shape — more at DOUGH] : something made up, fabricated, or contrived ⟨a ~ of the author's imagination⟩
fig·ur·al \'fig-(y)ə-rəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or consisting of human or animal figures ⟨a ~ composition⟩
fig·u·ra·tion \ˌfig-(y)ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of creating or providing a figure ⟨Dante's unique ~ of the underworld⟩ **2** : FORM, OUTLINE **3** : an act or instance of representation in figures and shapes ⟨cubism was explained as a synthesis of colored ~*s* of objects —Janet Flanner⟩ **4** : ornamentation of a musical passage by using decorative and usu. repetitive figures
fig·u·ra·tive \'fig-(y)ə-rət-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : representing by a figure or resemblance : EMBLEMATIC **b** : of or relating to representation of form or figure in art ⟨~ sculpture⟩ **2 a** : expressing one thing in terms normally denoting another with which it may be regarded as analogous : METAPHORICAL ⟨~ language⟩ **b** : characterized by figures of speech ⟨a ~ description⟩ — **fig·u·ra·tive·ly** *adv* — **fig·u·ra·tive·ness** *n*
[1]fig·ure \'fig-yər, *esp Brit* 'fig-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *figura*, fr. *fingere*] **1 a** : a number symbol : NUMERAL, DIGIT ⟨a salary running into six ~*s*⟩ **b** *pl* : arithmetical calculations ⟨good at ~*s*⟩ **c** : a written or printed character **d** : value esp. as expressed in numbers : PRICE ⟨the house sold at a low ~⟩ **2 a** : bodily shape or form esp. of a person ⟨a slender ~⟩ **b** : an object noticeable only as a shape or form ⟨~*s* moving in the dusk⟩ **3 a** : the graphic representation of a form esp. of a person **b** : a diagram or pictorial illustration of textual matter **c** : a geometric diagram **4** : a person, thing, or action representative of another **5** : an intentional deviation from the ordinary form or syntactical relation of words **6** : the form of a syllogism with respect to the relative position of the middle term **7** : an often repetitive pattern or design in a manufactured article (as cloth) or natural product (as wood) ⟨a polka-dot ~⟩ **8** : appearance made : impression produced ⟨the couple cut quite a ~⟩ **9 a** : a series of movements in a dance **b** : an outline representation of a form traced by a series of evolutions (as with skates on an ice surface or by an airplane in the air) **10** : a prominent personality : PERSONAGE ⟨great ~*s* of history⟩ **11** : a short coherent group of tones or chords that may grow into a phrase, theme, or composition ***syn*** see FORM
[2]figure *vb* **fig·ured; fig·ur·ing** \'fig-yə-riŋ, 'fig(-ə)-\ *vt* **1** : to represent by or as if by a figure or outline : PORTRAY **2** : to decorate with a pattern; *specif* : to write figures over or under (the bass) in order to indicate the accompanying chords **3** : to indicate or represent by numerals **4 a** : CALCULATE **b** : CONCLUDE, DECIDE ⟨he *figured* there was no use in further effort⟩ **c** : REGARD, CONSIDER ⟨backed him because they *figured* him an upright man⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to be or appear important or conspicuous ⟨the vice-president really *figured* in the company⟩ **b** : to be involved or implicated ⟨persons who *figured* in a robbery⟩ **2** : to perform a figure in dancing **3** : COMPUTE, CALCULATE **4** : to seem rational, normal, or expected ⟨that ~*s*⟩ — **fig·ur·er** \-(y)ər-ər\ *n* — **figure on** **1** : to take into consideration (as in planning) ⟨*figuring on* $50 a month extra income⟩ **2** : to rely on **3** : PLAN ⟨I *figure on* going into town⟩
fig·ured \-(y)ərd\ *adj* **1** : being represented : PORTRAYED **2** : adorned with, formed into, or marked with a figure ⟨~ muslin⟩ ⟨~ wood⟩ **3** : indicated by figures
figured bass *n* : CONTINUO
figure eight *n* : something resembling the Arabic numeral eight in form or shape: as **a** : a small knot — see KNOT illustration **b** : an embroidery stitch **c** : a dance pattern **d** : a skater's figure
fig·ure·head \'fig-(y)ər-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : the figure on a ship's bow **2** : a head or chief in name only
figure in *vt* : to include esp. in a reckoning ⟨*figure in* occasional expenses⟩
figure of speech : a form of expression (as a simile or metaphor) used to convey meaning or heighten effect often by comparing or identifying one thing with another that has a meaning or connotation familiar to the reader or listener
figure out *vt* **1** : DISCOVER, DETERMINE ⟨try to *figure out* a way to solve the problem⟩ **2** : SOLVE, FATHOM ⟨*figure out* a problem⟩
figure skating *n* : skating in which the skater describes or outlines prescribed figures


figurehead 1

fig·u·rine \ˌfig-(y)ə-'rēn\ *n* : a small carved or molded figure : STATUETTE
fig wasp *n* : a minute wasp (*Blastophaga psenes* of the family Agaontidae) that breeds in the caprifig and is the agent of caprification; *broadly* : a wasp of the same family
fig·wort \'fig-ˌwərt, -wȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a genus (*Scrophularia* of the family Scrophulariaceae, the figwort family) of chiefly herbaceous plants with leaves having no stipules, an irregular bilabiate corolla, and a 2-celled ovary
Fi·ji·an \'fē-(ˌ)jē-ən, fi-'\ *n* **1** : a member of a Melanesian people of the Fiji islands **2** : the Austronesian language of the Fijians — **Fijian** *adj*
fila *pl of* FILUM
fil·a·ment \'fil-ə-mənt\ *n* [MF, fr. ML *filamentum*, fr. LL *filare* to spin — more at FILE] : a single thread or a thin flexible threadlike object, process, or appendage: as **a** : a tenuous conductor (as of carbon or metal) made incandescent by the passage of an electric current; *specif* : a cathode in the form of a metal wire in an electron tube **b** (1) : a thin and fine elongated constituent part of a gill **b** (2) : an elongated thin series of cells attached one to another or a very long thin cylindrical single cell (as of some algae, fungi, or bacteria) **c** : the anther-bearing stalk of a stamen — see FLOWER illustration — **fil·a·men·ta·ry** \ˌfil-ə-'ment-ə-rē, -'men-trē\ *adj* — **fil·a·men·tous** \-'ment-əs\ *adj*
fi·lar \'fī-lər\ *adj* [L *filum* thread] : of or relating to a thread or line; *esp* : having threads across the field of view ⟨a ~ eyepiece⟩
fi·lar·ia \fə-'lar-ē-ə, -'ler-\ *n, pl* **-i·ae** \-ē-ˌē, -ē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. L *filum*] : any of numerous slender filamentous nematodes (of *Filaria* and related genera) that as adults are parasites in the blood or tissues of mammals and as larvae usu. develop in biting insects — **fi·lar·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj* — **fi·lar·i·id** \-ē-əd\ *adj or n*
fil·a·ri·a·sis \ˌfil-ə-'rī-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ : infestation with or disease caused by filariae
fil·a·ture \'fil-ə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. LL *filatus*, pp. of *filare*] **1** : the reeling of silk from cocoons **2** : a reel for drawing off silk from cocoons **3** : a factory where silk is reeled
fil·bert \'fil-bərt\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *philber*, fr. St. *Philibert* †684 Frankish abbot whose feast day falls in the nutting season] **1** : either of two European hazels (*Corylus avellana pontica* and *C. maxima*); *also* : the sweet thick-shelled nut of the filbert **2** : HAZELNUT
filch \'filch\ *vt* [ME *filchen*] : to appropriate furtively or casually ⟨~ a doughnut from the platter⟩ ***syn*** see STEAL
[1]file \'fī(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fēol*; akin to OHG *fīla* file] **1** : a tool usu. of hardened steel with cutting ridges for forming or smoothing surfaces esp. of metal **2** : a shrewd or crafty person
[2]file *vt* **filed; fil·ing** : to rub, smooth, or cut away with or as if with a file
[3]file *vt* **filed; fil·ing** [ME *filen*, fr. OE *fȳlan*, fr. *fūl* foul] *chiefly dial* : DEFILE, CORRUPT
[4]file *vb* **filed; fil·ing** [ME *filen*, fr. MF *filer* to string documents on a string or wire, fr. *fil* thread, fr. L *filum*; akin to Arm *jil* sinew] *vt* **1** : to arrange in order for preservation and reference ⟨~ letters⟩ **2 a** : to place among official records as prescribed by law ⟨~ a mortgage⟩ **b** : to send (copy) to a newspaper ⟨*filed* a good story⟩ **c** : to return to the office of the clerk of a court without action on the merits **3** : to perform the first act of (as a lawsuit) ⟨threatened to ~ charges against him⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to register as a candidate esp. in a primary election ⟨~ for county attorney⟩ **2** : to place items (as letters) in a file
[5]file *n* **1** : a device (as a folder, case, or cabinet) by means of which papers are kept in order **2 a** *archaic* : ROLL, LIST **b** : a collection of papers or publications usu. arranged or classified **c** : a collection of related data records (as for a computer) — **on file** : in or as if in a file for ready reference
[6]file *n* [MF, fr. *filer* to spin, fr. LL *filare*, fr. L *filum*] **1** : a row of persons, animals, or things arranged one behind the other **2** : any of the rows of squares that extend across a chessboard from white's side to black's side
[7]file *vi* **filed; fil·ing** : to march or proceed in file
filé \fə-'lā, (')fi-'lā, (')fē-'lā\ *n* [AmerF (Louisiana), fr. F, pp. of *filer* to twist, spin] : powdered young leaves of sassafras used to thicken soups or stews
file clerk *n* : a clerk who works on files
file·fish \'fī(ə)l-ˌfish\ *n* : any of various plectognath fishes (esp. genera *Aluterus*, *Cantherhines*, and *Monacanthus* of the family Balistidae) with rough granular leathery skins
fi·let \fi-'lā\ *n* [F, lit., net] : a lace with a square mesh and geometric designs
fi·let mi·gnon \ˌfil-(ˌ)ā-mēn-'yōⁿ, fi-ˌlā-\ *n, pl* **filets mignons** \-(ˌ)ā-mēn-'yōⁿz, -ˌlā-\ [F, lit., dainty fillet] : a fillet of beef cut from the thick end of a beef tenderloin
fili- *or* **filo-** *comb form* [L *filum*] : thread ⟨*fili*form⟩
fil·ial \'fil-ē-əl, 'fil-yəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *filialis*, fr. L *filius* son — more at FEMININE] **1** : of, relating to, or befitting a son or daughter ⟨~ obedience⟩ **2** : having or assuming the relation of a child or offspring — **fil·ial·ly** \-ē-ə-lē, -yə-lē\ *adv*
filial generation *n* : a generation in a breeding experiment that is successive to a parental generation — symbol F_1 for the first, F_2 for the second, etc.
fil·i·a·tion \ˌfil-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : filial relationship esp. of a son to his father **b** : the adjudication of paternity : AFFILIATION **2** : an offshoot or branch of a culture or language **3 a** : descent or derivation esp. from a culture or language **b** : the act or process of determining such relationship
[1]fil·i·bus·ter \'fil-ə-ˌbəs-tər\ *n* [Sp *filibustero*, lit., freebooter] **1** : an irregular military adventurer; *specif* : an American engaged in fomenting insurrections in Latin America in the mid-19th century **2** [*[2]filibuster*] **a** : the use of extreme dilatory tactics in an attempt to delay or prevent action esp. in a legislative assembly **b** : an instance of this practice
[2]filibuster *vb* **fil·i·bus·tered; fil·i·bus·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to carry out insurrectionist or revolutionary activities in a foreign country **2** : to engage in a filibuster ~ *vt* : to subject to a filibuster — **fil·i·bus·ter·er** \-tər-ər\ *n*
fi·li·form \'fil-ə-ˌfȯrm, 'fī-lə-\ *adj* : shaped like a filament
[1]fil·i·gree \'fil-ə-ˌgrē\ *n* [F *filigrane*, fr. It *filigrana*, fr. L *filum* + *granum* grain] **1** : ornamental work esp. of fine wire of gold, silver, or copper applied chiefly to gold and silver surfaces **2 a** : ornamental openwork of delicate or intricate design **b** : a pattern or design resembling such openwork ⟨a ~ of frost⟩
[2]filigree *vt* **fil·i·greed; fil·i·gree·ing** : to adorn with or as if with filigree
fil·ing \'fī-liŋ\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of using a file **2** : a fragment rubbed off in filing ⟨iron ~*s*⟩
fil·io·pi·etis·tic \'fil-ē-ō-ˌpī-ə-'tis-tik\ *adj* [*fil*ial + *-o-* + *piety* + *-istic*] : of or relating to an often excessive veneration of ancestors or tradition
Fil·i·pi·no \ˌfil-ə-'pē-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **Filipinos** [Sp] **1** : a native of the Philippine islands; *specif* : a member of a Christianized Philippine people **2** : a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines — **Filipino** *adj*
[1]fill \'fil\ *vb* [ME *fillen*, fr. OE *fyllan*; akin to OE *full*] *vt* **1 a** : to put into as much as can be held or conveniently contained ⟨~ a cup with water⟩ **b** : to supply with a full complement ⟨the class is already ~*ed*⟩ **c** (1) : to cause to swell or billow ⟨wind ~*ed* the sails⟩ (2) : to trim (a sail) to catch the wind **d** : to raise the level of with fill ⟨~*ed* land⟩ **e** : to repair the cavities of (teeth) **f** : to stop up : OBSTRUCT, PLUG ⟨wreckage ~*ed* the channel⟩ ⟨~ the

chink〉 **g** : to stop up the interstices, crevices, or pores of (as cloth, wood, or leather) with a foreign substance **2 a** : FEED, SATIATE **b** : SATISFY, FULFILL 〈~*s* all requirements〉 **c** : to make out : COMPLETE — often used with *out* or *in* 〈~ out a form〉 〈~ in the blanks〉 **3 a** : to occupy the whole of 〈smoke ~*ed* the room〉 **b** : to spread through **c** : to make full (as the mind or spirit) 〈a mind ~*ed* with fantasies〉 **4 a** : to possess and perform the duties of : HOLD 〈~ an office〉 **b** : to place a person in 〈~ a vacancy〉 **5** : to supply as directed 〈~ a prescription〉 **6** : to cover the surface of with a layer of precious metal ~ *vi* : to become full 〈the stadium ~*ed* and overflowed〉 — **fill one's shoes** : to take over one's job, position, or responsibilities — **fill the bill** : to answer a need

²fill *n* **1** : a full supply; *esp* : a quantity that satisfies or satiates 〈eat your ~〉 **2** : material used to fill a receptacle, cavity, passage, or low place

fill away *vi* **1** : to trim a sail to catch the wind **2** : to proceed on the course esp. after being brought up in the wind

filled milk *n* : skim milk with fat content increased by the addition of vegetable oils

¹fill·er \'fil-ər\ *n* : one that fills: as **a** : a substance added to a product (as to increase bulk, weight, viscosity, opacity, or strength) **b** : a composition used to fill the pores and grain of a wood or other surface before painting or varnishing **c** : a plate or other piece used to cover or fill in a space between two parts of a structure **d** : tobacco used to form the core of a cigar **e** : material (as a brief item of fact) used to fill extra space in a column or page of a newspaper or magazine **f** : a pack of paper used esp. in a loose-leaf notebook

²fil·ler \'fil-ˌe(ə)r\ *n, pl* **fillers** *or* **filler** [Hung *fillér*] — see *forint* at MONEY table

¹fil·let \'fil-ət, *in sense 2b also* fi-'lā, 'fil-(ˌ)ā\ *also* **fi·let** \fi-'lā, 'fil-(ˌ)ā\ *n* [ME *filet*, fr. MF, dim. of *fil* thread — more at FILE] **1** : a ribbon or narrow strip of material used esp. as a headband **2** : a thin narrow strip of material: as **a** : a band of anatomical fibers; *specif* : LEMNISCUS **b** : a piece or slice of boneless meat or fish; *specif* : the tenderloin of beef **3 a** : a concave junction formed where two surfaces meet **b** : a curved strip forming such a junction **4** : a narrow flat architectural member: **a** : a flat molding separating others **b** : the space between two flutings in a shaft **5** : a design impressed on a book cover



1, fillet 1

²fil·let \'fil-ət, *in sense 2 also* fi-'lā, 'fil-(ˌ)ā\ *vt* **1** : to bind, furnish, or adorn with or as if with a fillet **2** : to cut into fillets

fill–in \'fil-ˌin\ *n* : someone or something that fills in

fill in \(')fil-'in\ *vt* **1** : to give (a person) necessary or recently acquired information 〈friends *filled* him *in* on the latest gossip〉 **2** : to enrich (as a design) with detail ~ *vi* : to fill a vacancy usu. temporarily : SUBSTITUTE 〈he often *filled in* in emergencies〉

fill·ing \'fil-iŋ\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of filling **2** : something used to fill a cavity, container, or depression 〈a ~ for a tooth〉 **3** : something that completes: as **a** : the yarn interlacing the warp in a fabric; *also* : yarn for the shuttle **b** : a food mixture used to fill pastry or sandwiches

filling station *n* : SERVICE STATION 1

¹fil·lip \'fil-əp\ *n* [prob. of imit. origin] **1 a** : a blow or gesture made by the sudden forcible straightening of a finger curled up against the thumb **b** : a short sharp blow : BUFFET **2** : something tending to arouse or excite

²fillip *vt* **1 a** : to strike or tap with a fillip 〈~*ed* him on the nose〉 **b** : to make a filliping motion with 〈~*ed* his fingers toward them〉 **2** : to project quickly by or as if by a fillip 〈~*ed* crumbs off the table〉 **3** : STIMULATE 〈with this to ~ his spirits —Robert Westerby〉

fill out *vi* : to put on flesh

fil·ly \'fil-ē\ *n, pl* **fillies** [ME *fyly*, fr. ON *fylja*; akin to OE *fola* foal] **1** : a young female horse usu. of less than four years **2** : a young woman : GIRL

¹film \'film\ *n, often attrib* [ME *filme*, fr. OE *filmen*; akin to Gk *pelma* sole of the foot, OE *fell* skin — more at FELL] **1 a** : a thin skin or membranous covering : PELLICLE **b** : an abnormal growth on or in the eye **2** : a thin covering or coating 〈a ~ of ice on the pond〉 **3 a** : an exceedingly thin layer : LAMINA **b** (1) : a thin flexible transparent sheet (as of plastic) used as a wrapping (2) : such a sheet of cellulose acetate or cellulose nitrate coated with a light-sensitive emulsion for taking photographs **4** : MOTION PICTURE

²film *vt* **1** : to cover with or as if with a film **2** : to make a motion picture of or from 〈~ a scene〉 〈~ a novel〉 ~ *vi* **1** : to become covered or obscured with or as if with a film **2 a** : to be suitable for photographing 〈a scene that would ~ well〉 **b** : to make a motion picture 〈~*ing* on location〉

film badge *n* : a small pack of sensitive photographic film worn as a badge for indicating exposure to radiation

film·card \'film-ˌkärd\ *n* : MICROFICHE

film·dom \'film-dəm\ *n* **1** : the motion-picture industry **2** : the personnel of the motion-picture industry

film·ic \'fil-mik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling motion pictures — **film·i·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

film·mak·er \'film-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : MOVIEMAKER

film·mak·ing \-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *n* : the making of movies

film·og·ra·phy \fil-'mäg-rə-fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** [*film* + *-ography* (as in *bibliography*)] : a list of motion pictures featuring the work of a prominent film figure (as an actor) or relating to a particular topic

film·set·ting \'film-ˌset-iŋ\ *n* : PHOTOCOMPOSITION — **film·set** *adj* — **filmset** *vt* — **film·set·ter** *n*

film·strip \'film-ˌstrip\ *n* : a strip of usu. 35 millimeter film bearing photographs, diagrams, or graphic matter for still projection

filmy \'fil-mē\ *adj* **film·i·er; -est** **1** : of, resembling, or composed of film : GAUZY 〈~ draperies〉 **2** : covered with a haze or film — **film·i·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **film·i·ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*

filo- — see FILI-

fils \'fils\ *n, pl* **fils** [Ar] — see *dinar* at MONEY table

¹fil·ter \'fil-tər\ *n* [ME *filtre*, fr. ML *filtrum*, piece of felt used as a filter, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *filz* felt — more at FELT] **1** : a porous article or mass (as of paper or sand) through which a gas or liquid is passed to separate out matter in suspension **2** : an apparatus containing a filter medium **3 a** : a device or material for suppressing or minimizing waves or oscillations of certain frequencies (as of electricity, light, or sound) **b** : a transparent material (as colored glass) that absorbs light of certain wavelengths or colors selectively and is used for modifying light that reaches a sensitized photographic material — called also *color filter*

²filter *vb* **fil·tered; fil·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to subject to the action of a filter **2** : to remove by means of a filter ~ *vi* **1** : to pass or move through or as if through a filter **2** : to enter or cross over in small units over a period of time 〈people began ~*ing* into the hall〉

fil·ter·able *also* **fil·tra·ble** \'fil-t(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being filtered or of passing through a filter — **fil·ter·abil·i·ty** \ˌfil-t(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

filterable virus *n* : a virus so small that a fluid containing it remains virulent after passing through a filter

filter bed *n* : a bed of sand or gravel for filtering water or sewage

filter feeder *n* : an animal that obtains its food by filtering organic matter or minute organisms from a current of water that passes through some part of its system

filter paper *n* : porous unsized paper used esp. for filtering

filter tip *n* : a cigar or cigarette tip designed to filter the smoke before it enters the smoker's mouth; *also* : a cigar or cigarette provided with such a tip — **fil·ter–tipped** \ˌfil-tər-'tipt\ *adj*

filth \'filth\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fȳlth*, fr. *fūl* foul] **1** : foul or putrid matter; *esp* : loathsome dirt or refuse **2 a** : moral corruption or defilement **b** : something that tends to corrupt or defile : OBSCENITY

filthy \'fil-thē\ *adj* **filth·i·er; -est** **1** : covered with or containing filth : offensively dirty **2 a** : UNDERHAND, VILE **b** : OBSCENE ***syn*** see DIRTY — **filth·i·ly** \-thə-lē\ *adv* — **filth·i·ness** \-thē-nəs\ *n*

¹fil·trate \'fil-ˌtrāt\ *vb* **fil·trat·ed; fil·trat·ing** [ML *filtratus*, pp. of *filtrare*, fr. *filtrum*] : FILTER

²filtrate *n* : material that has passed through a filter

fil·tra·tion \fil-'trā-shən\ *n* **1** : the process of filtering **2** : the process of passing through or as if through a filter; *also* : DIFFUSION 〈the kidney produces urine by ~〉

fi·lum \'fī-ləm\ *n, pl* **fi·la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L — more at FILE] : filamentous structure : FILAMENT

fim·bria \'fim-brē-ə\ *n, pl* **-bri·ae** \-brē-ˌē, -ˌī\ [NL, fr. L, fringe] : a bordering fringe esp. at the entrance of the fallopian tubes — **fim·bri·al** \-brē-əl\ *adj*

fim·bri·ate \-ˌāt\ *or* **fim·bri·at·ed** \-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* : having the edge or extremity bordered by slender processes : FRINGED — **fim·bri·a·tion** \ˌfim-brē-'ā-shən\ *n*

¹fin \'fin\ *n* [ME *finn*, fr. OE; akin to L *spina* thorn, spine] **1** : an external membranous process of an aquatic animal (as a fish) used in propelling or guiding the body — see FISH illustration **2** : something resembling a fin esp. in appearance or function: **a** : HAND, ARM **b** (1) : an appendage of a boat (as a submarine) (2) : an airfoil attached to an airplane for directional stability **c** : FLIPPER 1b **d** : any of the projecting ribs on a radiator or an engine cylinder — **fin·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **finned** \'find\ *adj*

²fin *vb* **finned; fin·ning** *vi* : to show the fins above the water ~ *vt* : to equip with fins

³fin *n* [Yiddish *finf* five, fr. OHG] *slang* : a 5-dollar bill

⁴fin *abbr* **1** finance; financial **2** finish

fi·na·gle \fə-'nā-gəl\ *vb* **fi·na·gled; fi·na·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. alter. of *fainaigue* (to renege)] *vt* **1** : to obtain by indirect or involved means **2** : to obtain by trickery : SWINDLE ~ *vi* : to use devious and often dishonest methods to achieve one's ends — **fi·na·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*

¹fi·nal \'fīn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *finalis*, fr. *finis* boundary, end] **1 a** : not to be altered or undone : CONCLUSIVE **b** : of or relating to a concluding court action or proceeding 〈~ decree〉 **2** : being the last : constituting the closing element in a series, process, or progress 〈the ~ chapter of a book〉 **3** : of or relating to the ultimate purpose or result of a process 〈the ~ goal of life〉 **4** : relating to or occurring at the end or conclusion ***syn*** see LAST — **fi·nal·ly** \'fīn-ᵊl-ē, 'fīn-lē\ *adv*

²final *n* : something that is final: as **a** : a deciding match, game, heat, or trial **b** : the last examination in a course

fi·na·le \fə-'nal-ē, fi-'näl-\ *n* [It, fr. *finale*, adj., final, fr. L *finalis*] : the close or termination of something: as **a** : the last section of an instrumental musical composition **b** : the closing part, scene, or number in a public performance **c** : the last and often climactic event or item in a sequence

fi·nal·ist \'fīn-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : a contestant in the finals of a competition

fi·nal·i·ty \fī-'nal-ət-ē, fə-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the character or condition of being final, settled, irrevocable, or complete **b** : the condition of being at an ultimate point esp. of development or authority **2** : something final; *esp* : a fundamental fact, action, or belief

fi·nal·ize \'fīn-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to put in final or finished form 〈soon my conclusion will be *finalized* —D. D. Eisenhower〉 **2** : to give final approval to 〈ties up the day's loose ends, *finalizing* the papers prepared and presented by his staff —*Newsweek*〉 — **fi·nal·iza·tion** \ˌfīn-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

¹fi·nance \fə-'nan(t)s, 'fī-ˌ, fī-'\ *n* [ME, payment, ransom, fr. MF, fr. *finer* to end, pay, fr. *fin* end — more at FINE] **1** *pl* : money or other liquid resources of a government, business, group, or individ-

ual **2** : the system that includes the circulation of money, the granting of credit, the making of investments, and the provision of banking facilities **3** : the science or study of the management of funds **4** : the obtaining of funds or capital : FINANCING

²finance *vt* **fi·nanced; fi·nanc·ing** **1 a** : to raise or provide funds or capital for ⟨~ a new house⟩ **b** : to furnish with necessary funds ⟨~ a son through college⟩ **2** : to sell something to on credit : provide with credit ⟨auto producers unable to ~ their dealers⟩

fi·nan·cial \fə-ˈnan-chəl, fī-\ *adj* : relating to finance or financiers — **fi·nan·cial·ly** \-ˈnanch-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn FINANCIAL, MONETARY, PECUNIARY, FISCAL *shared meaning element* : of or relating to money and its use and distribution

¹fi·nan·cier \ˌfin-ən-ˈsi(ə)r; fə-ˌnan-, ˌfī-\ *n* **1** : one who specializes in raising and expending public moneys **2** : one who deals with finance and investment on a large scale

²financier *vi* : to conduct financial operations often by sharp or reprehensible practices

fi·nanc·ing *n* : the act or process or an instance of raising or providing funds; *also* : the funds thus raised or provided

fin·back \ˈfin-ˌbak\ *n* : a common whalebone whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*) of the Atlantic coast of the U.S. that attains a length of over 60 feet; *broadly* : RORQUAL

finch \ˈfinch\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *finc;* akin to OHG *fincho* finch, Gk *spiza* chaffinch] : any of numerous songbirds (as the sparrows, grosbeaks, crossbills, goldfinches, linnets, and buntings of the family Fringillidae) having a short stout conical bill adapted for crushing seeds

¹find \ˈfīnd\ *vb* **found** \ˈfau̇nd\; **find·ing** [ME *finden,* fr. OE *findan;* akin to OHG *findan* to find, L *pont-, pons* bridge, Gk *pontos* sea, Skt *patha* way, course] *vt* **1 a** : to come upon often accidentally : ENCOUNTER **b** : to meet with (a particular reception) ⟨hoped to ~ favor⟩ **2 a** : to come upon by searching or effort ⟨the committee must ~ a suitable person for the job⟩ **b** : to discover by study or experiment ⟨~ an answer to a problem⟩ **c** : to obtain by effort or management ⟨~ the time to study⟩ **d** : ATTAIN, REACH ⟨the bullet *found* its mark⟩ **e** : to discover by sounding ⟨~ bottom in a lake⟩ **3 a** : EXPERIENCE, DETECT ⟨~ much pleasure in his company⟩ **b** : to perceive (oneself) to be in a certain place or condition ⟨*found* himself in a dilemma⟩ **c** : to gain or regain the use or power of ⟨trying to ~ his tongue⟩ **d** : to bring (oneself) to a realization of one's powers or of one's proper sphere of activity ⟨must help the student to ~ himself as an individual —N. M. Pusey⟩ **4 a** : PROVIDE, SUPPLY **b** : to furnish (room and board) esp. as a condition of employment **5** : to settle upon and make a statement about (as a conclusion) ⟨~ a verdict⟩ ~ *vi* : to determine a case judicially by a verdict ⟨~ for the defendant⟩ — **find fault** : to criticize unfavorably

²find *n* **1** : an act or instance of finding **2** : something found: as **a** : a valuable item ⟨an archaeological ~⟩ **b** : a person whose ability proves to be unexpectedly great ⟨the young actress was the theatrical ~ of the year⟩

find·er \ˈfīn-dər\ *n* **1** : one that finds **2** : a small astronomical telescope of low power and wide field attached to a larger telescope for finding an object **3** : a device on a camera for showing the area of the subject to be included in the picture

fin de siè·cle \ˌfaⁿ-də-sē-ˈeklᵊ\ *adj* [F, end of the century] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the close of the 19th century and esp. its literary and artistic climate of sophistication, world-weariness, and fashionable despair

find·ing \ˈfīn-diŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the act of one that finds **b** : FIND 2 **2** *pl* : small tools and supplies used by an artisan (as a dressmaker, jeweler, or shoemaker) **3 a** : the result of a judicial examination or inquiry **b** : the results of an investigation — usu. used in pl. ⟨basic research ~*s*⟩

find out *vt* **1** : to learn by study, observation, or search : DISCOVER **2 a** : to catch in an offense (as a crime) ⟨the culprits were soon *found out*⟩ **b** : to ascertain the true character or identity of : UNMASK ⟨if you pretend, you may be *found out*⟩ ~ *vi* : to discover, learn, or verify something ⟨I don't know, but I'll *find out* for you⟩

¹fine \ˈfīn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *fin,* fr. L *finis* boundary, end] **1** *obs* : END, CONCLUSION **2** : a compromise of a fictitious suit used as a form of conveyance of lands **3 a** : a sum imposed as punishment for an offense **b** : a forfeiture or penalty paid to an injured party in a civil action — **in fine** : in short

²fine *vt* **fined; fin·ing** : to impose a fine on : punish by a fine

³fine *adj* **fin·er; fin·est** [ME *fin,* fr. OF, fr. L *finis,* n., end, limit] **1 a** : free from impurity **b** *of a metal* : having a stated proportion of pure metal in the composition **2 a** (1) : very thin in gauge or texture ⟨~ thread⟩ (2) : not coarse ⟨~ sand⟩ (3) : very small ⟨~ print⟩ (4) : KEEN ⟨a knife with a ~ edge⟩ **b** : physically trained or hardened close to the limit of efficiency — used of an athlete or animal **3 a** (1) : having a delicate or subtle quality ⟨a wine of ~ bouquet⟩ (2) : subtle or sensitive in perception or discrimination ⟨a ~ distinction⟩ **b** : performed with extreme care and accuracy ⟨a ~ adjustment⟩ **4** : superior in quality, conception, or appearance : EXCELLENT ⟨a ~ musician⟩ ⟨a ~ view⟩ **5** : marked by or affecting elegance or refinement ⟨~ manners⟩ **6** : very well ⟨feel ~⟩ **7** : AWFUL — used as an intensive ⟨the leader, in a ~ frenzy, beheaded one of his wives —Brian Crozier⟩ — **fine·ness** \ˈfīn-nəs\ *n*

⁴fine *adv* : FINELY

⁵fine *vb* **fined; fin·ing** *vt* **1** : PURIFY, CLARIFY ⟨~ and filter wine⟩ **2** : to make finer in quality or size ~ *vi* **1** : to become pure or clear ⟨the ale will ~⟩ **2** : to become smaller in lines or proportions : DIMINISH

⁶fi·ne \ˈfē-(ˌ)nā\ *n* [It, fr. L *finis* end] : END — used as a direction in music to mark the closing point after a repeat

fine art *n* **1 a** : art (as painting, sculpture, or music) concerned primarily with the creation of beautiful objects — usu. used in pl. **b** : objects of fine art **2** : an activity requiring a fine skill ⟨the *fine art* of making friends⟩

fine·ly \ˈfīn-lē\ *adv* : in a fine manner: as **a** : extremely well : EXCELLENTLY ⟨you did ~⟩ **b** : with close discrimination : PRECISELY **c** : with delicacy or subtlety : SENSITIVELY ⟨a leader ~ attuned to the needs of his people⟩ **d** : MINUTELY ⟨~ ground meal⟩

fine print *n* : something thoroughly and often deliberately obscure; *esp* : a part of an agreement (as a contract) spelling out restrictions and limitations often in small type or obscure language

fin·ery \ˈfīn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** : ORNAMENT, DECORATION; *esp* : dressy or showy clothing and jewels

fines \ˈfīnz\ *n pl* [³*fine*] : finely crushed or powdered material (as ore or coal); *also* : very small particles in a mixture of various sizes

fines herbes \fēn-ˈzᵉ(ə)rb, fē-ˈnᵉ(ə)rb\ *n pl* [F, lit., fine herbs] : a mixture of herbs (as parsley, chives, and tarragon) used as a seasoning or garnish

fine·spun \ˈfīn-ˈspən\ *adj* : developed with extreme care or delicacy; *also* : developed in excessively fine or subtle detail

¹fi·nesse \fə-ˈnes\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *fin*] **1** : refinement or delicacy of workmanship, structure, or texture **2** : skillful handling of a situation : adroit maneuvering ⟨accomplish by ~ what could not have been accomplished by force⟩ **3** : the withholding of one's highest card or trump in the hope that a lower card will take the trick because the only opposing higher card is in the hand of an opponent who has already played

²finesse *vb* **fi·nessed; fi·ness·ing** *vi* : to make a finesse in playing cards — sometimes used with *for* or *against* ⟨~ for the jack⟩ ⟨~ against the queen⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to play (a card) in a finesse **2 a** : to bring about or manage by adroit maneuvering ⟨~ his way through tight places —Marquis James⟩ **b** : EVADE, TRICK ⟨trying to ~ an eagle-eyed editor —J. C. G. Conniff⟩

fin·est \ˈfī-nəst\ *n, pl in constr* [superl. of ³*fine*] : POLICEMEN — usu. used with the possessive form of a city or area ⟨the city's ~⟩

fine structure *n* : microscopic structure of a biological entity or one of its parts esp. as studied in preparations for the electron microscope — **fine structural** *adj*

fine–tooth comb \ˌfīn-ˌtüth-\ *n* **1** : a comb with close-set teeth used esp. for clearing parasites or foreign matter from the hair **2** : an attitude or system of thorough searching or scrutinizing ⟨went over the report with a *fine-tooth comb* without finding any discrepancies⟩

fin·fish \ˈfin-ˌfish\ *n* : a true fish — compare SHELLFISH

¹fin·ger \ˈfiŋ-gər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fingar* finger] **1** : one of the five terminating members of the hand : a digit of the forelimb; *esp* : one other than the thumb **2 a** : something that resembles a finger ⟨a narrow ~ of land extending into the sea⟩ **b** : a part of a glove into which a finger is inserted **c** : a projecting piece (as a pawl for a ratchet) brought into contact with an object to affect its motion **3** : the breadth of a finger **4** : INTEREST, SHARE — often used in the phrase *to have a finger in the pie* — **fin·ger·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²finger *vb* **fin·gered; fin·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to play (a musical instrument) with the fingers **b** : to play (as notes or chords) with a specific fingering **c** : to mark the notes of (a music score) as a guide in playing **2** : to touch or feel with the fingers : HANDLE **3** : to point out : IDENTIFY **4** : to extend into or penetrate in the shape of a finger ~ *vi* **1** : to touch or handle something ⟨~*s* through the cards⟩ **2 a** : to use the fingers in playing a musical instrument **b** : to have a certain fingering — used of a musical instrument ⟨~*s* like a clarinet⟩ **3** : to extend in the shape or manner of a finger

fin·ger·board \ˈfiŋ-gər-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : the part of a stringed instrument against which the fingers press the strings to vary the pitch — see VIOLIN illustration

finger bowl *n* : a small water bowl for rinsing the fingers at the table

fin·gered \ˈfiŋ-gərd\ *adj* **1** : having fingers esp. of a specified kind or number — used in combination ⟨stubby-*fingered*⟩ ⟨five-*fingered*⟩ **2** : having projections or processes like fingers ⟨a ~ cranberry scoop⟩

finger hole *n* **1** : any of several holes in the side of a wind instrument (as a recorder) which may be covered or left open by the fingers to change the pitch of the tone **2** : a hole (as in a telephone dial or a bowling ball) into which the finger is placed to provide a grip

fin·ger·ing \ˈfiŋ-g(ə-)riŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of handling or touching with the fingers **2 a** : the act or method of using the fingers in playing an instrument **b** : the marking (as by figures on a musical score) of the method of fingering

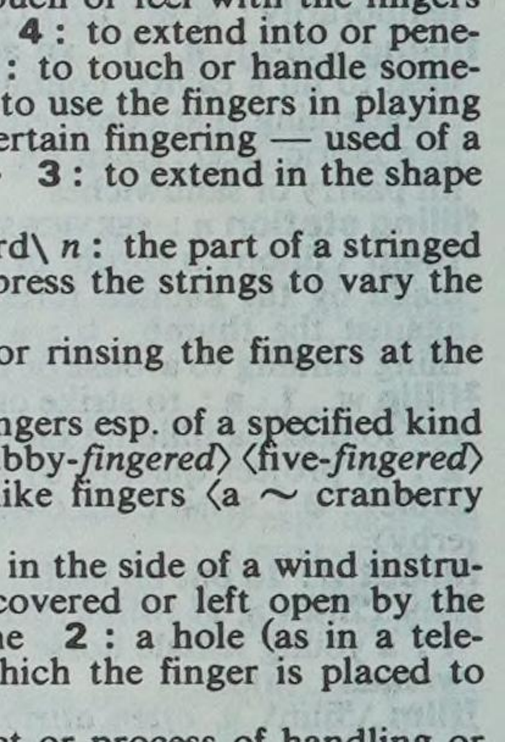
fin·ger·ling \ˈfiŋ-gər-liŋ\ *n* : a small fish esp. up to one year of age

fin·ger·nail \ˈfiŋ-gər-ˌnāl, ˌfiŋ-gər-ˈnā(ə)l\ *n* : the nail of a finger

finger painting *n* **1** : a technique of spreading pigment on wet paper chiefly with the fingers **2** : a picture produced by finger painting

fin·ger·post \ˈfiŋ-gər-ˌpōst\ *n* **1** : a post bearing one or more signs often terminating in a pointing finger **2** : something serving as a guide to understanding or knowledge

fin·ger·print \-ˌprint\ *n* **1** : the impression of a fingertip on any surface; *esp* : an ink impression of the lines upon the fingertip taken for purpose of identification **2** : the chromatogram or electrophoretogram obtained by cleaving a protein by enzymatic action and subjecting the resulting collection of peptides to two-dimensional chromatography or electrophoresis — **fingerprint** *vt* — **fin·ger·printing** *n*



fingerprints 1: *1* arch, *2* loop, *3* whorl, *4* composite

¹fin·ger·tip \-ˌtip\ *n* **1** : the tip of a finger **2** : a protective covering for the end of a finger — **at one's fingertips** : instantly or readily available

²fingertip *adj* **1** : extending from head or shoulders to mid-thigh —

used of clothing **2** : readily accessible : being in close proximity ⟨~ information⟩ ⟨~ controls⟩

finger wave *n* : a method of setting hair by dampening with water or wave solution and forming waves or curls with the fingers and a comb

fin·i·al \'fin-ē-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. *final, finial* final] **1** : a usu. foliated ornament forming an upper extremity esp. in Gothic architecture **2** : a crowning ornament or detail (as a decorative knob)



finial 2

fin·i·cal \'fin-i-kəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. ³*fine*] : FINICKY *syn* see NICE — **fin·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **fin·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

fin·ick·ing \-kiŋ, -kən\ *adj* [alter. of *finical*] : FINICKY

fin·icky \'fin-i-kē\ *adj* [alter. of *finicking*] : excessively nice, exacting, or meticulous in taste or standards *syn* see NICE — **fin·icki·ness** *n*

fi·nis \'fin-əs, 'fī-nəs\ *n* [ME, fr. L] : END, CONCLUSION

¹fin·ish \'fin-ish\ *vb* [ME *finisshen*, fr. MF *finiss-*, stem of *finir*, fr. L *finire*, fr. *finis*] *vt* **1 a** : to bring to an end : TERMINATE ⟨~*ed* his speech and sat down⟩ **b** : to use or dispose of entirely ⟨her sandwich ~*ed* the loaf⟩ **2 a** : to bring to completion or issue : PERFECT ⟨hope to ~ their new home before winter⟩ **b** : to provide with a finish; *esp* : to put a final coat or surface on ⟨~ a table with varnish⟩ **3 a** : to bring to an end the significance or effectiveness of ⟨the scandal ~*ed* his career⟩ **b** : to bring about the death of ~ *vi* **1** : to come to an end : TERMINATE **2** : to come to the end of a course, task, or undertaking **3** : to end a competition in a specified manner or position ⟨~*ed* third in the race⟩ *syn* see CLOSE — **fin·ish·er** *n*

²finish *n* **1 a** : the final stage : END **b** : the cause of one's ruin **2** : something that completes or perfects: as **a** : the fine or decorative work required for a building or one of its parts **b** : a finishing material used in painting **c** : the final treatment or coating of a surface **3** : the result or product of a finishing process **4** : the quality or state of being perfected

fin·ished *adj* : marked by the highest quality : CONSUMMATE

finishing school *n* : a private school for girls that emphasizes cultural studies and prepares students esp. for social activities

finish line *n* : a line marking the end of a racecourse

fi·nite \'fī-ˌnīt\ *adj* [ME *finit*, fr. L *finitus*, pp. of *finire*] **1 a** : having definite or definable limits ⟨~ number of possibilities⟩ ⟨a ~ community⟩ **b** : having a limited nature of existence ⟨~ beings⟩ **2** : completely determinable in theory or in fact by counting, measurement, or thought : neither infinite nor infinitesimal ⟨a ~ distance⟩ ⟨the ~ velocity of light⟩ **3 a** : less than an arbitrary positive integer and greater than the negative of that integer **b** : having a finite number of elements ⟨a ~ set⟩ **4** : showing distinction of grammatical person and number in a verb or verb form — **finite** *n* — **fi·nite·ly** *adv* — **fi·nite·ness** *n*

fi·ni·tude \'fī-nə-ˌt(y)üd, 'fin-ə-\ *n* : finite quality or state

fink \'fiŋk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : INFORMER 2 **2** : STRIKEBREAKER **3** : one who is disapproved of or is held in contempt

fink out *vi* **1** : to fail miserably **2** : to back out : cop out

¹Finn \'fin\ *n* [Sw *Finne*] **1** : a member of a people speaking Finnish or a Finnic language **2 a** : a native or inhabitant of Finland **b** : one who is of Finnish descent

²Finn *abbr* Finnish

fin·nan had·die \ˌfin-ən-'had-ē\ *n* [*finnan* alter. of *findon*, fr. *Findon*, Scotland] : smoked haddock — called also *finnan haddock*

Fin·nic \'fin-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the Finns **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the branch of the Finno-Ugric subfamily of the Uralic family of languages that includes Finnish, Estonian, and Lapp

¹Finn·ish \'fin-ish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Finland, the Finns, or Finnish

²Finnish *n* : a Finno-Ugric language spoken in Finland, Karelia, and small areas of Sweden and Norway

Fin·no–Ugric \ˌfin-ō-'(y)ü-grik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to any of various peoples of northern and eastern Europe and northwestern Siberia speaking related languages and including the Finnish, Hungarian, and Bulgarian peoples and the Lapps and Estonians **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a subfamily of the Uralic family of languages comprising various languages spoken in Hungary, Lapland, Finland, Estonia, and northwestern U.S.S.R. — **Finno–Ugric** *n*

fin·ny \'fin-ē\ *adj* **1** : provided with or characterized by fins **2** : relating to or being fish

fin sec *abbr* financial secretary

FIO *abbr* free in and out

fiord *var of* FJORD

fio·ri·tu·ra \fē-ˌȯr-ə-'tůr-ə\ *n, pl* **-tu·re** \-'tůr-ē\ [It, lit., flowering, fr. *fiorito*, pp. of *fiorire* to flower, fr. (assumed) VL *florire* — more at FLOURISH] : ORNAMENT 5

fip·ple flute \ˌfip-əl-\ *n* [origin unknown] : a tubular wind instrument (as a flageolet, pipe, or recorder) characterized mainly by a whistle mouthpiece and finger holes

¹fir \'fər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fyrh*; akin to OHG *forha* fir, L *quercus* oak] **1** : any of a genus (*Abies*) of north temperate evergreen trees of the pine family that have flattish leaves, smooth circular leaf scars, and erect cones and are valued for their wood; *also* : any of various conifers (as the Douglas fir) of other genera **2** : the wood of a fir

²fir *abbr* firkin

¹fire \'fī(ə)r\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *fȳr*; akin to OHG *fiur* fire, Gk *pyr*] **1 a** (1) : the phenomenon of combustion manifested in light, flame, and heat (2) : one of the four elements of the alchemists **b** (1) : burning passion : ARDOR (2) : liveliness of imagination : INSPIRATION **2** : fuel in a state of combustion (as on a hearth) **3 a** : a destructive burning (as of a building) **b** (1) : death or torture by fire (2) : severe trial or ordeal **4** : BRILLIANCY, LUMINOSITY ⟨the ~ of a gem⟩ **5 a** : the discharge of firearms **b** : intense verbal attack **c** : a rapidly delivered series (as of remarks) — **fire·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **on fire** : EAGER, BURNING — **under fire** **1** : exposed to the firing of an enemy's weapons **2** : under attack

²fire *vb* **fired; fir·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to set on fire : KINDLE; *also* : IGNITE ⟨~ a rocket engine⟩ **b** (1) : to give life or spirit to : INSPIRE (2) : to fill with passion : INFLAME **c** : to light up as if by fire **2 a** : to drive out or away by or as if by fire **b** : to dismiss from a position **3 a** (1) : to cause to explode : DETONATE (2) : to propel from or as if from a gun : DISCHARGE, LAUNCH ⟨~ a rocket⟩ (3) : to score (a number) in a game or contest **b** : to throw with speed : HURL **c** : to utter with force and rapidity **4** : to apply fire or fuel to: as **a** : to process by applying heat **b** : to feed or serve the fire of ~ *vi* **1 a** : to take fire : KINDLE, IGNITE **b** *of an internal-combustion engine* : to have the explosive charge ignite at the proper time **2 a** : to become irritated or angry — often used with *up* **b** : to become filled with excitement or enthusiasm **3 a** : to discharge a firearm **b** : to emit or let fly an object **4** : to tend a fire *syn* see LIGHT — **fir·er** *n*

fire ant *n* : any of a genus (*Solenopsis*) of fiercely stinging omnivorous ants; *esp* : IMPORTED FIRE ANT

fire·arm \'fī(ə)r-ˌärm\ *n* : a weapon from which a shot is discharged by gunpowder — usu. used only of small arms

fire·ball \'fī(ə)r-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** : a ball of fire; *also* : something resembling such a ball ⟨the primordial ~ associated with the beginning of the universe —*Scientific American*⟩ **2** : a brilliant meteor that may trail bright sparks **3** : the highly luminous cloud of vapor and dust created by a nuclear explosion **4** : a highly energetic person : HUSTLER

fire·bird \-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of several small birds (as the Baltimore oriole or the scarlet tanager) having brilliant orange or red plumage

fire blight *n* : a destructive highly infectious disease of apples, pears, and related fruits caused by a bacterium (*Erwinia amylovora*)

fire·boat \'fī(ə)r-ˌbōt\ *n* : a ship equipped with fire-fighting apparatus

fire·bomb \-ˌbäm\ *n* : an incendiary bomb — **firebomb** *vt*

fire·box \-ˌbäks\ *n* **1** : a chamber (as of a furnace or steam boiler) that contains a fire **2** : a box containing an apparatus for transmitting an alarm to a fire station

fire·brand \-ˌbrand\ *n* **1** : a piece of burning wood **2** : one that creates unrest or strife : AGITATOR

fire·break \-ˌbrāk\ *n* : a barrier of cleared or plowed land intended to check a forest or grass fire

fire·brick \-ˌbrik\ *n* : a refractory brick capable of sustaining high temperature that is used esp. for lining furnaces or fireplaces

fire brigade *n* : a body of fire fighters: as **a** : a private, institutional, or temporary fire-fighting organization **b** *Brit* : FIRE DEPARTMENT

fire·bug \'fī(ə)r-ˌbəg\ *n* : INCENDIARY, PYROMANIAC

fire·clay \-ˌklā\ *n* : clay capable of withstanding high temperatures that is used esp. for firebrick and crucibles

fire control *n* **1** : the planning, preparation, and delivery of gunfire on targets **2** : the control or extinction of fires

fire·crack·er \'fī(ə)r-ˌkrak-ər\ *n* : a usu. paper cylinder containing an explosive and a fuse and usu. discharged to make a noise

fire–cured \-'kyů(ə)rd\ *adj* : cured over open fires in direct contact with the smoke ⟨~ tobacco⟩ — compare FLUE-CURED

fire·damp \-ˌdamp\ *n* : a combustible mine gas that consists chiefly of methane; *also* : the explosive mixture of this gas with air

fire department *n* **1** : an organization for preventing or extinguishing fires; *esp* : a government division (as in a municipality) having these duties **2** : the members of a fire department

fire·drake \'fī(ə)r-ˌdrāk\ *n* [ME *firdrake*, fr. OE *fȳrdraca*, fr. *fȳr* + *draca* dragon — more at DRAKE] : a fire-breathing dragon esp. in Teutonic mythology

fire drill *n* : a practice drill in extinguishing fires or in the conduct and manner of exit in case of fire

fire–eat·er \'fī(ə)r-ˌēt-ər\ *n* **1** : a performer who pretends to eat fire **2 a** : a violent or pugnacious person **b** : one who displays very militant or aggressive partisanship (as on political questions)

fire–eat·ing \-ˌēt-iŋ\ *adj* : violent or highly militant in disposition, bearing, or policy ⟨a ~ radical⟩

fire engine *n* : a usu. mobile apparatus for directing an extinguishing agent upon fires

fire escape *n* : a device for escape from a burning building; *esp* : a metal stairway attached to the outside of a building

fire extinguisher *n* : a portable or wheeled apparatus for putting out small fires by ejecting fire-extinguishing chemicals

fire·fight \'fī(ə)r-ˌfīt\ *n* : an often spontaneous exchange of fire between opposing military units

fire fighter *n* : one who fights fires : FIREMAN 1 — **fire fighting** *n*

fire·fly \'fī(ə)r-ˌflī\ *n* : any of various winged nocturnal beetles (esp. family Lampyridae) that produce a bright soft intermittent light by oxidation of luciferin esp. for courtship purposes

fire·guard \-ˌgärd\ *n* **1** : FIRE SCREEN **2** : FIREBREAK **3** : one who watches for the outbreak of fire; *also* : one whose duty is to extinguish fires

fire hall *n* : FIRE STATION

fire·house \'fī(ə)r-ˌhaůs\ *n* : FIRE STATION

fire irons *n pl* : utensils (as tongs) for tending a fire esp. in a fireplace

fire·light \'fī(ə)r-ˌlīt\ *n* : the light of a fire (as in a fireplace)

fire·lock \-ˌläk\ *n* **1** : a gunlock employing a slow match to ignite the powder charge; *also* : a gun having such a lock **2 a** : FLINTLOCK **b** : WHEEL LOCK

fire·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : a member of a company organized to fight fires : FIRE FIGHTER **2** : one who tends or feeds fires : STOKER **3**

: an enlisted man in the navy who works with engineering machinery **4** : a relief pitcher in baseball

fire opal *n* : GIRASOL 2

fire·place \'fī(ə)r-ˌplās\ *n* **1** : a framed opening made in a chimney to hold an open fire : HEARTH; *also* : a metal container with a smoke pipe used for the same purpose **2** : an outdoor structure of brick, stone, or metal for an open fire

fire·plug \-ˌpləg\ *n* : HYDRANT

fire·pow·er \-ˌpaù(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : the capacity (as of a military unit) to deliver effective fire on a target **2** : the aggregate of effective missiles that can be placed upon a target **3** : the scoring action or potential of a team

1fire·proof \-'prüf\ *adj* : proof against or resistant to fire

2fireproof *vt* : to make fireproof

fire·room \'fī(ə)r-ˌrüm, -ˌrùm\ *n* : STOKEHOLD 2

fire sale *n* : a sale of merchandise damaged in a fire

fire screen *n* : a protective and often ornamental screen before a fireplace

fire ship *n* : a ship carrying combustibles or explosives sent among the enemy's ships or works to set them on fire

1fire·side \'fī(ə)r-ˌsīd\ *n* **1** : a place near the fire or hearth **2** : HOME

2fireside *adj* : having an informal or intimate quality ⟨a report written in ~ language⟩ ⟨a ~ chat⟩

fire station *n* : a building housing fire apparatus and usu. firemen

fire·stone \'fī(ə)r-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : pyrite formerly used for striking fire; *also* : FLINT **2** : a stone that will endure high heat

fire–stop \-ˌstäp\ *n* : material used to close open parts of a structure (as a building) for preventing the spread of fire — **fire–stop** *vt*

fire tower *n* : a tower (as in a forest) from which a watch for fires is maintained

fire·trap \'fī(ə)r-ˌtrap\ *n* : a place (as a building) apt to catch on fire or difficult to escape from in case of fire

fire truck *n* : an automotive vehicle equipped with fire-fighting apparatus

fire wall *n* : a wall constructed to prevent the spread of fire

fire·wa·ter \'fi(ə)r-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : strong alcoholic beverage

fire·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of several plants that grow esp. in clearings or burned districts: as **a** : a weedy composite (*Erechtites hieracifolia*) that has clusters of brush-shaped flower heads with no ray flowers **b** : a tall perennial (*Epilobium angustifolium*) of the evening-primrose family that has long spikes of pinkish purple flowers and is an important honey plant in some areas — called also *willow herb*

fire·wood \-ˌwùd\ *n* : wood cut for fuel

fire·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : a device for producing a striking display (as of light, noise, or smoke) by the combustion of explosive or flammable compositions **2** *pl* : a display of fireworks **3** *pl* **a** : a display of temper or intense conflict **b** : a spectacular display (as of artistic brilliance) ⟨~*s* of virtuosity⟩

fir·ing \'fī(ə)r-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of one that fires **2** : the process of maturing ceramic products by the application of heat **3** : FIREWOOD, FUEL **4** : the scorching of plants esp. by unfavorable soil conditions

firing line *n* **1** : a line from which fire is delivered against a target **2** : the forefront of an activity — used esp. in the phrase *on the firing line*

firing pin *n* : the pin that strikes the cartridge primer in the breech mechanism of a firearm

firing squad *n* **1** : a detachment detailed to fire volleys over the grave of one buried with military honors **2** : a detachment detailed to carry out a sentence of death by shooting

fir·kin \'fər-kən\ *n* [ME, deriv. of MD *veerdel* fourth] **1** : a small wooden vessel or cask **2** : any of various British units of capacity usu. equal to ¼ barrel

1firm \'fərm\ *adj* [ME *ferm*, fr. MF, fr. L *firmus;* akin to Gk *thronos* chair, throne] **1 a** : securely or solidly fixed in place **b** : not weak or uncertain : VIGOROUS **c** : having a solid or compact structure that resists stress or pressure **2 a** (1) : not subject to change or revision : SET, DEFINITE ⟨they gave us a ~ price⟩ (2) : not subject to price weakness : STEADY **b** : not easily moved or disturbed : STEADFAST **c** : WELL-FOUNDED **3** : indicating firmness or resolution ⟨a ~ mouth⟩ — **firm·ly** *adv* — **firm·ness** *n*

syn FIRM, HARD, SOLID *shared meaning element* : having a texture or consistency that resists deformation. FIRM implies such compactness and coherence and often elasticity of substance as provides resistance to pulling, distorting, cutting, or displacement ⟨a *firm* close-woven cloth⟩ ⟨*firm* healthy flesh⟩ ⟨the ground was *firm* enough to walk on⟩ HARD implies inpenetrability or strong resistance to pressure or tension but not elasticity ⟨diamond is one of the *hardest* of substances⟩ SOLID implies such density and coherence as enable a thing to maintain a fixed form in spite of external deforming forces ⟨ice is a *solid* form of water⟩ In extended use FIRM stresses stability, fixedness, or resolution ⟨a *firm* disciplinarian⟩ ⟨his purpose is *firm*⟩ HARD implies obduracy or lack of normal responsiveness ⟨a *hard* man to do business with⟩ SOLID typically implies substantiality or genuineness ⟨demand *solid* facts⟩ ⟨lived in *solid* comfort⟩ or it may imply complete reliability ⟨one of the most *solid* citizens of the community⟩ or sometimes unbroken continuity (as in time, feeling, or opinion) ⟨there had been a *solid* week of rain⟩ ***ant*** loose, flabby

2firm *vt* **1 a** : to make secure or fast : TIGHTEN ⟨~*ing* his grip on the racquet⟩ — often used with *up* **b** : to make solid or compact ⟨~ the soil⟩ **2** : to put into final form : SETTLE ⟨~ a contract⟩ — often used with *up* **3** : to give additional support to : STRENGTHEN — usu. used with *up* ⟨help ~ up the French franc — Herbert Harris⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become firm : HARDEN ⟨his face ~*ed* and he spoke with restrained anger⟩ — often used with *up* ⟨his opinions have not yet ~*ed* up⟩ **2** : to recover from a decline : IMPROVE ⟨the market ~*ed* slightly⟩ — often used with *up*

3firm *n* [G *firma*, fr. It, signature, deriv. of L *firmare* to make firm, confirm, fr. *firmus*] **1** : the name or title under which a company transacts business **2** : a partnership of two or more persons not recognized as a legal person distinct from the members composing it **3** : a business unit or enterprise

fir·ma·ment \'fər-mə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. LL & L; LL *firmamentum*, fr. L, support, fr. *firmare*] **1** : the vault or arch of the sky : HEAVENS **2** *obs* : BASIS — **fir·ma·men·tal** \ˌfər-mə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj*

fir·mer chisel \'fər-mər-\ *n* [F *fermoir* chisel, alter. of MF *formoir*, fr. *former* to form] : a woodworking chisel with a thin flat blade — see CHISEL illustration

firn \'fi(ə)rn\ *n* [G] : NÉVÉ

1first \'fərst\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *fyrst;* akin to OHG *furist* first, OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] : preceding all others in time, order, or importance: as **a** : EARLIEST **b** : being the lowest forward gear or speed of a motor vehicle **c** : relating to or having the highest or most prominent part among a group of similar voices or instruments in concerted or ensemble music ⟨~ tenor⟩ ⟨~ violins⟩

2first *adv* **1 a** : before another in time, space, or importance ⟨~ we had cocktails⟩ — often used with *off* ⟨~ off he thanked us for the invitation⟩ **b** : for the first time **2** : in preference to something else : SOONER

3first *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : something that is first: as **a** : the first occurrence or item of a kind **b** : the first forward gear or speed of a motor vehicle **c** : the highest or chief voice or instrument of a group **d** : an article of commerce of the finest grade **e** : the winning or highest place in a competition, examination, or contest **3** : FIRST BASE — **at first** : at the beginning : INITIALLY

first aid *n* : emergency care or treatment given to an ill or injured person before regular medical aid can be obtained

first base *n* **1** : the base that must be touched first by a base runner in baseball **2** : the player position for defending the area around first base **3** : the first step or stage in a course of action ⟨ plan never got to *first base*⟩ — **first base·man** \-'bā-smən\ *n*

first·born \'fərs(t)-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : first brought forth : ELDEST — **firstborn** *n*

first cause *n* : the self-created source of all causality

first class *n* : the first or highest group in a classification: as **a** : the highest of usu. three classes of travel accommodations **b** : a class of mail that comprises letters, postcards, or matter sealed against inspection — **first–class** *adj or adv*

first class·man \'fərs(t)-'klas-mən\ *n* : a fourth-year student in a military school (as West Point)

first consonant shift *n* : CONSONANT SHIFT a

first day cover *n* : a philatelic cover franked with a newly issued postage stamp and postmarked on the first day of issue at a city officially chosen for first day sale

first–degree burn *n* : a mild burn characterized by heat, pain, and reddening of the burned surface but not exhibiting blistering or charring of tissues

first down *n* **1** : the first of a series of four downs in which a football team must net a 10-yard gain to retain possession of the ball **2** : a gain of a total of 10 or more yards within four downs giving the team the right to start a new series of downs

first edition *n* **1 a** : the copies of a literary work first printed from the same type and issued at the same time **b** : the first press-run of a newspaper for a given date **2** : a single copy from a first edition

first estate *n, often cap F&E* : the first of the traditional political estates; *specif* : CLERGY

first floor *n* **1** : GROUND FLOOR **2** *Brit* : the floor next above the ground floor

first·fruits \'fərs(t)-'früts\ *n pl* **1** : the earliest gathered fruits offered to the Deity in acknowledgment of the gift of fruitfulness **2** : the earliest products or results of an endeavor

first·hand \'fərst-'hand\ *adj* : coming directly from the original source — **firsthand** *adv*

first lady *n, often cap F&L* **1** : the wife or hostess of the chief executive of a country or jurisdiction **2** : the leading woman of an art or profession

first lieutenant *n* **1** : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps ranking above a second lieutenant and below a captain **2** : a naval officer responsible for a ship's upkeep

first·ling \'fərst-liŋ\ *n* **1** : the first of a class or kind **2** : the first produce or result of something

first·ly \-lē\ *adv* : in the first place : FIRST

first mortgage *n* : a mortgage that has priority as a lien over all mortgages and liens except those imposed by law

first name *n* : the name that stands first in one's full name

first night *n* **1** : the night on which a theatrical production is first performed at a given place **2** : the performance given on a first night

first–night·er \'fərs(t)-'nīt-ər\ *n* : a spectator at a first-night performance

first offender *n* : one legally convicted of an offense for the first time

first papers *n pl* : papers declaring intention filed by an applicant for citizenship as the first step in the naturalization process

first person *n* **1 a** : a set of linguistic forms (as verb forms, pronouns, and inflectional affixes) referring to the speaker or writer of the utterance in which they occur **b** : a linguistic form belonging to such a set **c** : reference of a linguistic form to the speaker or writer of the utterance in which it occurs **2** : a style of discourse marked by general use of verbs and pronouns of the first person ⟨a novel narrated in the *first person*⟩

1first–rate \'fər-'strāt\ *adj* : of the first order of size, importance, or quality — **first–rate·ness** *n* — **first–rat·er** \-'strāt-ər\ *n*

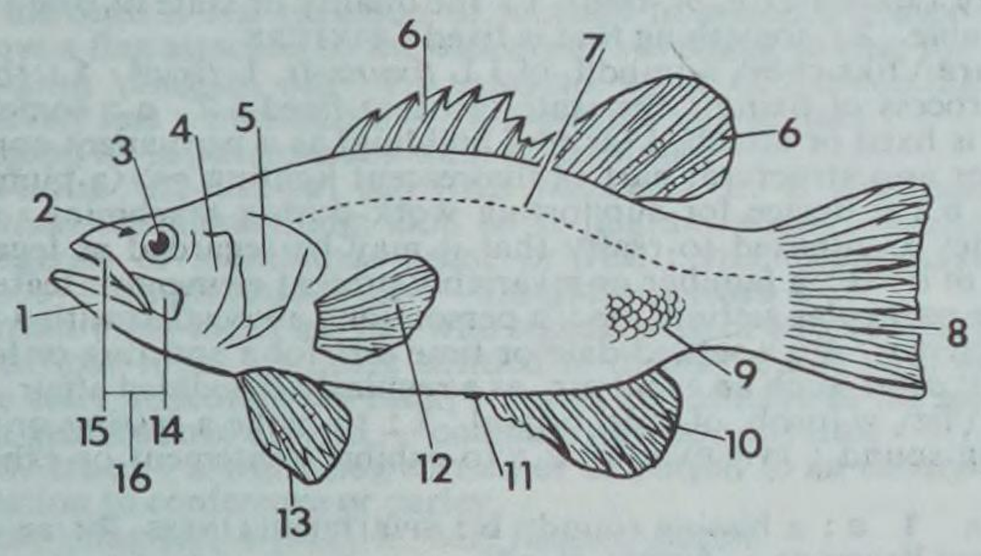
2first–rate *adv* : very well

First Reader *n* : a Christian Scientist chosen to conduct meetings for a specified time and specif. to read aloud from the writings of Mary Baker Eddy

first reading *n* : the first submitting of a bill before a quorum of a legislative assembly usu. by title or number only

first sergeant *n* **1** : a noncommissioned officer serving as the chief assistant to the commander of a military unit (as a company or squadron) **2** : the rank of a first sergeant; *specif* : a rank in the army above a platoon sergeant and below a command sergeant

major and in the marine corps above a gunnery sergeant and below a sergeant major
first-string \ˈfərs(t)-ˈstriŋ\ *adj* **1** : being a regular as distinguished from a substitute (as on a football team) **2** : FIRST-RATE
first water *n* **1** : the purest luster — used of gems **2** : the highest grade, degree, or quality ⟨this is choral music of the *first water* —P. H. Lang⟩
firth \ˈfərth\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *fjörthr* — more at FORD] : ESTUARY
fisc \ˈfisk\ *n* [L *fiscus*] : a state or royal treasury
¹fis·cal \ˈfis-kəl\ *adj* [L *fiscalis*, fr. *fiscus* basket, treasury; akin to Gk *pithos* wine jar] **1** : of or relating to taxation, public revenues, or public debt ⟨~ policy⟩ **2** : of or relating to financial matters ⟨~ agent⟩ ***syn*** see FINANCIAL — **fis·cal·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv*
²fiscal *n* : REVENUE STAMP
fiscal year *n* : an accounting period of 12 months
¹fish \ˈfish\ *n, pl* **fish** *or* **fish·es** *often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *fisc;* akin to OHG *fisc* fish, L *piscis*] **1 a** : an aquatic animal — usu. used in combination ⟨star*fish*⟩ ⟨cuttle*fish*⟩ **b** : any of numerous cold-blooded strictly aquatic craniate vertebrates that have typically an elongated somewhat spindle-shaped body terminating in a broad caudal fin, limbs in the form of fins when present at all, and a 2-chambered heart by which blood is sent through thoracic gills to be oxygenated **c** *fishes pl, cap* : PISCES **2** : the flesh of fish used as food **3** : FELLOW, CHAP ⟨a queer ~⟩ **4** : something that resembles a fish: as **a** : a purchase used to fish the anchor **b** : a piece of wood or iron fastened alongside another member to strengthen it — **fish·less** \ˈfish-ləs\ *adj* — **fish·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **fish out of water** : a person who is out of his proper sphere or element — **neither fish nor fowl** : one that does not belong to a particular class or category



fish 1b: *1* mandible, *2* external naris, *3* eye, *4* cheek, *5* operculum, *6* dorsal fins, *7* lateral line, *8* caudal fin, *9* scales, *10* anal fin, *11* anus, *12* pectoral fin, *13* pelvic fin, *14* maxilla, *15* premaxilla, *16* upper jaw

²fish *vi* **1** : to attempt to catch fish **2** : to seek something by roundabout means ⟨~*ing* for praise⟩ **3 a** : to search for something underwater (as with a dredge) ⟨~ for pearls⟩ **b** : to engage in a search by groping or feeling ⟨~*ing* around in her purse for her keys⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to try to catch fish in ⟨~ the stream⟩ **b** : to fish with : use (as a boat, net, or bait) in fishing **2 a** : to catch or try to catch **b** : to draw forth as if fishing ⟨~*ed* the ball from under the car⟩ — **fish or cut bait** : to make a choice between alternatives
fish·able \ˈfish-ə-bəl\ *adj* : suitable, promising, or legally open for fishing — **fish·abil·i·ty** \ˌfish-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*
fish–and–chips \ˌfish-ən-ˈchips\ *n pl* : fried fish and french fried potatoes
fish·bone \ˈfish-ˌbōn\ *n* : a bone of a fish
fish·bowl \-ˌbōl\ *n* **1** : a bowl for the keeping of live fish **2** : a place or condition that affords no privacy
fish cake *n* : a round fried cake made of shredded fish and mashed potato
fish duck *n* : MERGANSER
fish·er \ˈfish-ər\ *n* **1** : one that fishes **2 a** : a large dark brown No. American arboreal carnivorous mammal (*Martes pennanti*) related to the weasels **b** : the fur or pelt of this animal


fisher 2a

fish·er·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : one who engages in fishing as an occupation or for pleasure **2** : a ship used in commercial fishing
fisherman's bend *n* : a knot made by passing the end twice round a spar or through a ring and then back under both turns — see KNOT illustration
fish·ery \ˈfish-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : the act, process, occupation, or season of taking fish or other sea animals (as sponges or seals) : FISHING **2** : a place for catching fish or taking other sea animals (as sponges or seals) **3** : a fishing establishment; *also* : its fishermen **4** : the legal right to take fish at a particular place or in particular waters **5** : the technology of fishery — usu. used in pl.
fish–eye \ˈfish-ˌī\ *adj* : being, having, or produced by a wide-angle photographic lens that has a highly curved protruding front, that covers an angle of about 180 degrees, and that gives a circular image ⟨a ~ lens⟩
fish fry *n* **1** : a meal (as a picnic) featuring fried fish **2** : fried fish
fish hawk *n* : OSPREY 1
fish·hook \ˈfish-ˌhu̇k\ *n* : a usu. barbed hook for catching fish
fish·ing *n* **1** : the sport or business of catching fish **2** : a place for catching fish
fishing expedition *n* **1** : a legal interrogation or examination to discover information for a later proceeding **2** : an investigation that does not stick to a stated objective and that uses questionable methods (as the irrelevant questioning of witnesses) in hope of uncovering incriminating or newsworthy evidence
fish joint *n* : a butt joint of timbers or rails in which the two abutting members are held in alignment by one or more fishplates
fish ladder *n* : a series of pools arranged like steps by which fishes can pass over a dam in going upstream
fish meal *n* : ground dried fish and fish waste used as fertilizer and animal food
fish·mong·er \ˈfish-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n, chiefly Brit* : a fish dealer
fish·net \-ˌnet\ *n* **1** : netting fitted with floats and weights or a supporting frame for catching fish **2** : a coarse open-mesh fabric
fish out *vt* : to exhaust the supply of fish in by fishing ⟨this lake has been *fished out*⟩
fish·plate \-ˌplāt\ *n* : a steel plate used to lap a butt joint
fish protein concentrate *n* : a protein-rich food additive obtained as a nearly colorless and tasteless powder from ground whole fish — abbr. *FPC*
fish stick *n* : a small elongated breaded fillet of fish
fish story *n* [fr. the traditional exaggeration by fishermen of the size of fish almost caught] : an extravagant or incredible story
fish·tail \ˈfish-ˌtāl\ *vi* **1** : to swing the tail of an airplane from side to side to reduce speed esp. when landing **2** : to have the rear end slide from side to side out of control while moving forward ⟨the car ~*ed* on the icy curve⟩
fish·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a contrivance for enabling fish to pass around a fall or dam in a stream; *specif* : FISH LADDER
fish·wife \-ˌwīf\ *n* **1** : a woman who sells fish **2** : a vulgar abusive woman
fishy \ˈfish-ē\ *adj* **fish·i·er; -est** **1** : of or resembling fish esp. in taste or odor **2** : creating doubt or suspicion : QUESTIONABLE
fishy·back \-ˌbak\ *n* [*fish* + *-y* + *-back* (as in *piggyback*)] : the movement of truck trailers or freight containers by barge or ship — compare BIRDYBACK, PIGGYBACK
fis·sile \ˈfis-əl, ˈfis-ˌīl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being split or divided in the direction of the grain or along natural planes of cleavage ⟨~ wood⟩ ⟨~ crystals⟩ **2** : FISSIONABLE — **fis·sil·i·ty** \fis-ˈil-ət-ē\ *n*
¹fis·sion \ˈfish-ən *also* ˈfizh-\ *n* [L *fission-, fissio*, fr. *fissus*, pp. of *findere* to split — more at BITE] **1** : a splitting or breaking up into parts **2** : reproduction by spontaneous division of the body into two or more parts each of which grows into a complete organism **3 a** : the splitting of a molecule into simpler molecules **b** : the splitting of an atomic nucleus resulting in the release of large amounts of energy — **fis·sion·al** \-ᵊl\ *adj*
²fission *vb* **fis·sioned; fis·sion·ing** \ˈfish-(ə-)niŋ, ˈfizh-\ *vt* : to cause to undergo fission ~ *vi* : to undergo fission
fis·sion·able \ˈfish-(ə-)nə-bəl, ˈfizh-\ *adj* : capable of undergoing fission — **fis·sion·abil·i·ty** \ˌfish-(ə-)nə-ˈbil-ət-ē, ˌfizh-\ *n* — **fissionable** *n*
fission bomb *n* : ATOM BOMB 1
fis·sip·a·rous \fis-ˈip-ə-rəs\ *adj* [L *fissus* + E *-parous*] **1** : producing new biological units or individuals by fission **2** : tending to break up into parts : DIVISIVE ⟨he knows how to reconcile ~ elements in his party —W. H. Stevenson⟩ — **fis·sip·a·rous·ly** *adv* — **fis·sip·a·rous·ness** *n*
fis·si·ped \ˈfis-ə-ˌped\ *adj* [LL *fissiped-, fissipes*, fr. L *fissus* + *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] : of or relating to a suborder (Fissipeda) of carnivores (as cats, dogs, and bears) — **fissiped** *n*
¹fis·sure \ˈfish-ər\ *n* **1** : a narrow opening or crack of considerable length and depth usu. occurring from some breaking or parting **2** : a separation or disagreement in thought or viewpoint : SCHISM ⟨~*s* in a political party⟩ **3 a** : a natural cleft between body parts or in the substance of an organ **b** : a break or lesion in tissue usu. at the junction of skin and mucous membrane
²fissure *vb* **fis·sured; fis·sur·ing** *vt* : to break into fissures : CLEAVE ~ *vi* : CRACK, DIVIDE
¹fist \ˈfist\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fȳst;* akin to OHG *fūst* fist, OSlav *pęstĭ*] **1** : the hand clenched with the fingers doubled into the palm and the thumb doubled inward across the fingers **2** : the hand closed as in grasping : CLUTCH **3** : INDEX 5
²fist *vt* **1** : to clench into a fist **2** : to grip with the fist : HANDLE
-fist·ed \ˈfis-təd\ *comb form* : having (such or so many) fists ⟨two-*fisted*⟩ ⟨tight*fisted*⟩
fist·fight \ˈfist-ˌfīt\ *n* : a usu. spontaneous fight with bare fists
fist·ful \-ˌfu̇l\ *n* **1** : HANDFUL ⟨a ~ of coins⟩ **2** : a considerable number ⟨a whole ~ of musicians —Thomas Lask⟩
fist·ic \ˈfis-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to boxing or to fighting with the fists
fist·i·cuffs \ˈfis-ti-ˌkəfs\ *n pl* [alter. of *fisty cuff*, fr. *fisty* (fistic) + *cuff*] : a fight with the fists
fist·note \ˈfis(t)-ˌnōt\ *n* : matter in a text to which attention is directed by means of an index mark
fis·tu·la \ˈfis(h)-chə-lə\ *n, pl* **-las** *or* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -lī\ [ME, fr. L, pipe, fistula] : an abnormal passage leading from an abscess or hollow organ to the body surface or from one hollow organ to another
fis·tu·lous \-ləs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the form or nature of a fistula **2** : hollow like a pipe or reed
fistulous withers *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a deep-seated chronic inflammation of the withers of the horse in which bloody fluid is discharged
¹fit \ˈfit\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fitt;* akin to OS *fittea* division of a poem, OHG *fizza* skein] *archaic* : a division of a poem or song
²fit *n* [ME, fr. OE *fitt* strife] **1 a** : a sudden violent attack of a disease (as epilepsy) esp. when marked by convulsions or unconsciousness : PAROXYSM **b** : a sudden but transient attack of a physical disturbance **2** : a sudden burst or flurry (as of activity)

⟨in a ~ of efficiency he answered all his mail in an hour⟩ **3** : an emotional outburst ⟨a ~ of anger⟩ — **by fits** *or* **by fits and starts** : in an impulsive and irregular manner

³fit *adj* **fit·ter; fit·test** [ME; akin to ME *fitten*] **1 a** (1) : adapted to an end or design : suitable by nature or by art (2) : adapted to the environment so as to be capable of surviving **b** : acceptable from a particular viewpoint (as of competence or morality) ⟨not ~ to be a father⟩ **2 a** : put into a suitable state : made ready ⟨get the house ~ for company⟩ **b** : being in such a state as to be ready to do or suffer something ⟨fair ~ to cry I was —Bryan MacMahon⟩ **3** : COMPETENT, QUALIFIED **4** : sound physically and mentally : HEALTHY — **fit·ly** *adv* — **fit·ness** *n*

syn FIT, SUITABLE, MEET, PROPER, APPROPRIATE, FITTING, APT, HAPPY, FELICITOUS *shared meaning element* : right with respect to some end, need, use, or circumstance ***ant*** unfit

— **fit to be tied** : extremely angry or irritated

⁴fit *vb* **fit·ted** *also* **fit; fit·ting** [ME *fitten*, fr. or akin to MD *vitten* to be suitable; akin to OHG *fizza* skein] *vt* **1 a** : to be suitable for or to : harmonize with **b** *archaic* : to be seemly or proper for ⟨it ~*s* us then to be as provident as fear may teach us —Shak.⟩ **2 a** : to be correctly adjusted to or shaped for **b** : to insert or adjust until correctly in place **c** : to make a place or room for : ACCOMMODATE **3** : to be in agreement or accord with ⟨the theory ~*s* all the facts⟩ **4 a** : to put into a condition of readiness **b** : to bring to a required form and size : ADJUST **c** : to cause to conform to or suit something **5** : SUPPLY, EQUIP ⟨*fitted* the ship with new engines⟩ — often used with *out* **6** : to adjust (a smooth curve of a specified type) to a given set of points ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to be seemly, proper, or suitable **2** : to conform to a particular shape or size **3** : to be in harmony or accord : BELONG ***syn*** see PREPARE — **fit·ter** *n*

⁵fit *n* **1** : the quality, state, or manner of being fitted or adapted **2** : the manner in which clothing fits the wearer **3** : the degree of closeness with which surfaces are brought together in an assembly of parts **4** : the conformity between an experimental result and theoretical expectation or between data and an approximating curve ⟨a statistical test of goodness of ~⟩

⁶fit *dial past of* FIGHT

fitch \'fich\ *or* **fitch·ew** \'fich-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [ME *fiche*, *ficheux*, fr. MF or MD; MF *fichau*, fr. MD *vitsau*] **1** : POLECAT 1 **2** : the fur or pelt of the polecat

fitch·et \'fich-ət\ *n* : POLECAT 1

fit·ful \'fit-fəl\ *adj* **1** *obs* : characterized by fits or paroxysms **2** : having a spasmodic or intermittent character : IRREGULAR ⟨~ sleep⟩ — **fit·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **fit·ful·ness** *n*

syn FITFUL, SPASMODIC, CONVULSIVE *shared meaning element* : lacking steadiness or regularity (as in course, movement, or activity) ***ant*** constant

fit·ment \'fit-mənt\ *n* [⁴*fit*] **1** : EQUIPMENT **2** *pl* : FITTINGS

¹fit·ting \'fit-iŋ\ *adj* : of a kind appropriate to the situation ⟨made a ~ answer⟩ ***syn*** see FIT ***ant*** unfitting — **fit·ting·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **fit·ting·ness** *n*

²fitting *n* **1** : an action or act of one that fits; *specif* : a trying on of clothes which are in the process of being made or altered **2** : a small often standardized accessory part ⟨an electrical ~⟩

five \'fīv\ *n* [ME, fr. *five*, adj., fr. OE *fif*; akin to OHG *finf* five, L *quinque*, Gk *pente*] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the fifth in a set or series ⟨the ~ of clubs⟩ **3** : something having five units or members; *esp* : a basketball team **4** : a 5-dollar bill **5** : FIFTEEN 2 — **five** *adj or pron*

five–and–ten \ˌfī-vən-'ten\ *also* **five–and–dime** \-'dīm\ *n* [fr. the fact that all articles in such stores were formerly priced at either 5 or 10 cents] : a variety store that carries chiefly inexpensive items

five–fin·ger \'fīv-ˌfiŋ-gər\ *n* : CINQUEFOIL 1

five·fold \'fīv-ˌfōld, -'fōld\ *adj* **1** : having five units or members **2** : being five times as great or as many — **five·fold** \-'fōld\ *adv*

five of a kind : four cards of the same rank plus a wild card in one hand — see POKER illustration

fiv·er \'fī-vər\ *n* **1** *slang* : a 5-dollar bill **2** *slang* : a 5-pound note

five–star \ˌfīv-'stär\ *adj* : of first class or quality ⟨there are not enough ~ works of art to go around —J. T. Soby⟩

¹fix \'fiks\ *vb* [ME *fixen*, fr. L *fixus*, pp. of *figere* to fasten — more at DIKE] *vt* **1 a** : to make firm, stable, or stationary **b** : to give a permanent or final form to: as (1) : to change into a stable compound or available form ⟨bacteria that ~ nitrogen⟩ (2) : to kill, harden, and preserve for microscopic study (3) : to make the image of (a photographic film) permanent by removing unused salts **c** : AFFIX, ATTACH **2** : to hold or direct steadily ⟨~*es* his eyes on the horizon⟩ **3 a** : to set or place definitely : ESTABLISH **b** : ASSIGN ⟨~ the blame⟩ **4** : to set in order : ADJUST **5** : to get ready : PREPARE ⟨~ lunch⟩ **6 a** : REPAIR, MEND ⟨~ the clock⟩ **b** : RESTORE, CURE ⟨the doctor ~*ed* him up⟩ **c** : SPAY, CASTRATE **7 a** : to get even with **b** : to influence the actions, outcome, or effect of by improper or illegal methods ⟨the jury had been ~*ed*⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become firm, stable, or fixed **2** : to get set : be about to ⟨we're ~*ing* to leave soon⟩ ***syn*** **1** see SET ***ant*** alter, abrogate (*as a rule*) **2** see FASTEN — **fix·able** \'fik-sə-bəl\ *adj*

²fix *n* **1** : a position of difficulty or embarrassment : a trying predicament **2 a** : the position (as of a ship) determined by bearings, observations, or radio **b** : a determination of one's position **3** : an act of obtaining special privilege or immunity from the law by bribery or collusion; *also* : the money paid to obtain such privilege **4** : a shot of a narcotic **5** : FIXATION

fix·ate \'fik-ˌsāt\ *vb* **fix·at·ed; fix·at·ing** *vt* **1** : to make fixed, stationary, or unchanging **2** : to focus one's gaze on **3** : to direct (the libido) toward an infantile form of gratification ~ *vi* **1** : to focus or concentrate one's gaze or attention **2** : to undergo arrestment at a stage of development

fix·a·tion \fik-'sā-shən\ *n* : the act, process, or result of fixing or fixating: as **a** : a persistent concentration of libidinal energies upon objects characteristic of psychosexual stages of development preceding the genital stage **b** : stereotyped behavior (as in response to frustration) **c** : an obsessive or unhealthy preoccupation or attachment

fix·a·tive \'fik-sət-iv\ *n* : something that fixes or sets: as **a** : a substance added to a perfume esp. to prevent too rapid evaporation **b** : a varnish used esp. for the protection of crayon drawings **c** : a substance used to fix living tissue — **fixative** *adj*

fixed \'fikst\ *adj* **1 a** : securely placed or fastened : STATIONARY **b** (1) : NONVOLATILE (2) : formed into a chemical compound **c** (1) : not subject to change or fluctuation : SETTLED ⟨a ~ income⟩ (2) : firmly set in the mind ⟨a ~ idea⟩ (3) : having a final or crystallized form or character (4) : recurring on the same date from year to year ⟨~ holidays⟩ **d** : IMMOBILE, CONCENTRATED ⟨a ~ stare⟩ **2** : supplied with something (as money) needed or desirable ⟨comfortably ~ by the standards of his class — Frederick Lane⟩ — **fixed·ly** \'fik-səd-lē, 'fiks-tlē\ *adv* — **fixed·ness** \'fik-səd-nəs, 'fiks(t)-nəs\ *n*

fixed charge *n* **1** : a regularly recurring expense (as rent, taxes, or interest) that must be met when due **2** : FIXED COST

fixed cost *n* : an indirect cost (as maintenance) that continues with little variation irrespective of the level of production

fixed oil *n* : a nonvolatile oil; *esp* : a fatty oil — compare ESSENTIAL OIL

fixed–point *adj* : involving or being a mathematical notation (as in a decimal system) in which the point separating whole numbers and fractions is fixed — compare FLOATING-POINT

fixed star *n* : a star so distant that its motion can be measured only by very precise observations over long periods

fix·er \'fik-sər\ *n* : one that fixes: as **a** : one that intervenes to enable a person to circumvent the law or obtain a political favor **b** : one that adjusts matters or disputes by negotiation

fix·ing \-siŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of one that fixes **2** *pl* *often* -sənz\: TRIMMINGS ⟨a turkey dinner with all the ~*s*⟩

fix·i·ty \'fik-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being fixed or stable **2** : something that is fixed : FIXTURE

fix·ture \'fiks-chər\ *n* [modif. of LL *fixura*, fr. L *fixus*] **1** : the act or process of fixing : the state of being fixed **2 a** : something that is fixed or attached (as to a building) as a permanent appendage or as a structural part ⟨a fluorescent lighting ~⟩ ⟨a plumbing ~⟩ **b** : a device for supporting work during machining **c** : a chattel so annexed to realty that it may be regarded as legally a part of it **3** : a familiar or invariably present element or feature in some particular setting; *esp* : a person long associated with a place or activity **4** : a settled date or time esp. for a sporting or festive event; *also* : such an event esp. as a regularly scheduled affair

¹fizz \'fiz\ *vi* [prob. of imit. origin] **1** : to make a hissing or sputtering sound : EFFERVESCE **2** : to exhibit excitement or exhilaration

²fizz *n* **1 a** : a hissing sound **b** : SPIRIT, LIVELINESS **2** : an effervescent beverage — **fizzy** \-ē\ *adj*

¹fiz·zle \'fiz-əl\ *vi* **fiz·zled; fiz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. alter. of *fist* (to break wind)] **1** : FIZZ **2** : to fail or end feebly esp. after a promising start — often used with *out*

²fizzle *n* : an abortive effort : FAILURE

fjeld \fē-'el\ *n* [Dan] : a barren plateau of the Scandinavian upland

fjord \fē-'ȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [Norw *fjord*, fr. ON *fjörthr* — more at FORD] : a narrow inlet of the sea between cliffs or steep slopes

FJP *abbr* Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York

fl *abbr* **1** floor **2** florin **3** [L *floruit*] flourished **4** fluid

FL *abbr* **1** Florida **2** focal length **3** foreign language

Fla *abbr* Florida

flab \'flab\ *n* [back-formation fr. *flabby*] : soft flabby body tissue

flab·ber·gast \'flab-ər-ˌgast\ *vt* [origin unknown] : to overwhelm with shock, surprise, or wonder : DUMBFOUND ***syn*** see SURPRISE — **flab·ber·gast·ing·ly** \-ˌgas-tiŋ-lē\ *adv*

flab·by \'flab-ē\ *adj* **flab·bi·er; -est** [alter. of *flappy*] **1** : lacking resilience or firmness : FLACCID **2** : weak and ineffective : FEEBLE ***syn*** see LIMP ***ant*** firm — **flab·bi·ly** \'flab-ə-lē\ *adv* — **flab·bi·ness** \'flab-ē-nəs\ *n*

fla·bel·late \flə-'bel-ət, 'flab-ə-ˌlāt\ *adj* : shaped like a fan

flabelli- *comb form* [L, fr. *flabellum*] : fan ⟨*flabelli*form⟩

fla·bel·li·form \flə-'bel-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : FLABELLATE

fla·bel·lum \flə-'bel-əm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-ə\ [NL, fr. L, fan] : a body organ or part resembling a fan

flac·cid \'flak-səd, 'flas-əd\ *adj* [L *flaccidus*, fr. *flaccus* flabby] **1 a** : lacking normal or youthful firmness : FLABBY ⟨~ muscles⟩ **b** *of a plant part* : deficient in turgor **2** : lacking vigor or force ⟨~ leadership⟩ ***syn*** see LIMP ***ant*** resilient — **flac·cid·i·ty** \fla(k)-'sid-ət-ē\ *n* — **flac·cid·ly** \'flak-səd-lē, 'flas-əd-\ *adv*

¹flack \'flak\ *n* [origin unknown] : one who provides publicity; *esp* : PRESS AGENT

²flack *var of* FLAK

fla·con \'flak-ən, -ˌän; fla-'kōⁿ\ *n* [F, fr. MF, bottle — more at FLAGON] : a small usu. ornamental bottle with a tight cap

¹flag \'flag\ *n* [ME *flagge* reed, rush] : any of various monocotyledonous plants with long ensiform leaves: as **a** : IRIS; *esp* : a wild iris **b** : SWEET FLAG **c** : CATTAIL

²flag *n* [ME *flagge*, fr. ON *flaga* slab; akin to OE *flēan* to flay — more at FLAY] : a hard evenly stratified stone that splits into flat pieces suitable for paving; *also* : a piece of such stone

³flag *vt* **flagged; flag·ging** : to lay (as a pavement) with flags

⁴flag *n, often attrib* [perh. fr. ¹*flag*] **1** : a usu. rectangular piece of fabric of distinctive design that is used as a symbol (as of a nation) or as a signaling device **2 a** : something used like a flag to signal or attract attention **b** : one of the cross strokes of a musical note less than a quarter note in value **c** : MASTHEAD 2b **3 a** : FLAGSHIP **b** : an admiral functioning in his office of command **c** : NATIONALITY; *esp* : the nationality of registration of a ship or aircraft

⁵flag *vt* **flagged; flag·ging** **1** : to put a flag on (as for identification) ⟨*flagged* the important pages by clipping red tabs to the margin⟩ **2** : to signal with or as if with a flag; *esp* : to signal to stop ⟨*flagged* the train⟩

⁶flag *vi* **flagged; flag·ging** [origin unknown] **1 a** : to hang loose without stiffness **b** *of a plant* : to droop esp. from lack of water **2 a** : to become unsteady, feeble, or spiritless : DROOP ⟨his interest *flagged*⟩ **b** : to decline in interest or attraction ⟨when everyone had had a say the topic *flagged*⟩

flag day *n* **1** *cap F&D* : June 14 observed in various states in commemoration of the adoption in 1777 of the official U.S. flag **2** *Brit* : a day on which charitable contributions are solicited in exchange for small flags

fla·gel·lant \'flaj-ə-lənt, flə-'jel-ənt\ *n* : one that whips: as **a** : a person who scourges himself as a public penance **b** : a person who responds sexually to being beaten by or to beating another person — **flagellant** *adj* — **fla·gel·lant·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

fla·gel·lar \flə-'jel-ər, 'flaj-ə-lər\ *adj* : of or relating to a flagellum

[1]flag·el·late \'flaj-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *flagellatus*, pp. of *flagellare*, fr. *flagellum*, dim. of *flagrum* whip; akin to ON *blaka* to wave] **1** : WHIP, SCOURGE **2** : to drive or punish as if by whipping

[2]fla·gel·late \'flaj-ə-lət, -ˌlāt; flə-'jel-ət\ *adj* [NL *flagellatus*, fr. *flagellum*] **1** **a** *or* **flag·el·lat·ed** \'flaj-ə-ˌlāt-əd\ : having flagella **b** : shaped like a flagellum **2** [*[3]flagellate*] : of, relating to, or caused by flagellates ⟨~ diarrhea⟩

[3]flagellate *like*[2]\ *n* [NL *Flagellata*, class of unicellular organisms, fr. neut. pl. of *flagellatus*] : a flagellate protozoan or alga

[1]flag·el·la·tion \ˌflaj-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* : the act or practice of flagellating; *esp* : the practice of a flagellant

[2]flagellation *n* : the formation or arrangement of flagella

fla·gel·lum \flə-'jel-əm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-ə\ *also* **-lums** [NL, fr. L, whip, shoot of a plant] : any of various elongated filiform appendages of plants or animals: as **a** : the slender distal part of an antenna **b** : a long tapering process that projects singly or in groups from a cell and is the primary organ of motion of many microorganisms **c** : a long slender shoot

fla·geo·let \ˌflaj-ə-'let, -'lā\ *n* [F, fr. OF *flajolet*, fr. *flajol* flute, fr. (assumed) VL *flabeolum*, fr. L *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] : a small fipple flute resembling the treble recorder

flag football *n* : a variation of football in which a player must remove a flag attached to the ballcarrier's clothing to stop the play

[1]flag·ging \'flag-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : LANGUID, WEAK **2** : becoming progressively less : DWINDLING — **flag·ging·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

[2]flagging *n* : a pavement or walk of flagstones

fla·gi·tious \flə-'jish-əs\ *adj* [ME *flagicious*, fr. L *flagitiosus*, fr. *flagitium* shameful thing; akin to L *flagrum* whip] : marked by outrageous or scandalous crime or vice : VILLAINOUS ***syn*** see VICIOUS — **fla·gi·tious·ly** *adv* — **fla·gi·tious·ness** *n*

flag·man \'flag-mən\ *n* : one who signals with or as if with a flag

flag officer *n* [fr. his being entitled to display a flag with one or more stars indicating his rank] : any of the officers in the navy or coast guard above captain — compare GENERAL OFFICER

flag of truce : a white flag carried or displayed to an enemy as an invitation to conference or parley

flag·on \'flag-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *flascon, flacon* bottle, fr. LL *flascon-, flasco* — more at FLASK] **1** **a** : a large usu. metal or pottery vessel with handle and spout and often a lid **b** : a large bulging short-necked bottle **2** : the contents of a flagon



flagon 1a

flag·pole \'flag-ˌpōl\ *n* : a pole on which to raise a flag

fla·grance \'flā-grən(t)s *also* 'flag-rən(t)s\ *n* : FLAGRANCY

fla·gran·cy \'flā-grən-sē *also* 'flag-rən-\ *n* : the quality or state of being flagrant

flag rank *n* : the rank of a flag officer

fla·grant \'flā-grənt *also* 'flag-rənt\ *adj* [L *flagrant-, flagrans*, prp. of *flagrare* to burn — more at BLACK] **1** *archaic* : FLAMING, GLOWING **2** : extremely or purposefully conspicuous usu. because of uncommon objectionableness or evil — **fla·grant·ly** *adv*

syn FLAGRANT, GLARING, GROSS, RANK *shared meaning element* : conspicuously bad or objectionable. FLAGRANT applies usually to offenses or errors so bad that they can neither escape notice nor be condoned ⟨open and *flagrant* mutiny⟩ ⟨*flagrant* abuse of his office⟩ GLARING implies painful or damaging obtrusiveness of something that is conspicuously wrong, faulty, or improper ⟨this evil is so *glaring*, so inexcusable — G. B. Shaw⟩ ⟨a *glaring* inconsistency in his argument⟩ GROSS, more likely to apply to attitudes, qualities, or faults than to specific evil acts or offenses, attributes an unbounded and inexcusable badness to what it describes ⟨*gross* carelessness⟩ ⟨*gross* stupidity⟩ RANK applies to what is openly and extremely objectionable and utterly condemned ⟨O, my offense is *rank*, it smells to heaven — Shak.⟩

fla·gran·te de·lic·to \flə-ˌgrant-ē-di-'lik-(ˌ)tō\ *adv* [ML, lit., while the crime is blazing] : in the very act of committing a misdeed : RED-HANDED

flag·ship \'flag-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the ship that carries the commander of a fleet or subdivision thereof and flies his flag **2** : the finest, largest, or most important one esp. in a fleet of ships, a radio network, or a chain of newspapers ⟨the editorial tone of the fiercely conservative chain is set by the ~ paper — J. C. Goulden⟩

flag·staff \-ˌstaf\ *n* : a staff on which a flag is hoisted

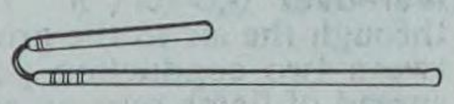
flag·stick \-ˌstik\ *n* : a stick for a flag marking the location of a golf cup

flag·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* : [2]FLAG

flag stop *n* : a point at which a vehicle in public transportation stops only on prearrangement or signal

flag–wav·ing \'flag-ˌwā-viŋ\ *n* : passionate appeal to patriotic or partisan sentiment : CHAUVINISM

[1]flail \'flā(ə)l\ *n* [ME *fleil, flail*, partly fr. (assumed) OE *flegel* (akin to OHG *flegil* flail; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. LL *flagellum* flail, fr. L, whip) & partly fr. MF *flaiel*, fr. LL *flagellum* — more at FLAGELLATE] : a hand threshing implement consisting of a wooden handle at the end of which a stouter and shorter stick is so hung as to swing freely



flail

[2]flail *vt* **1** **a** : to strike with or as if with a flail ⟨his arms ~*ing* the water⟩ **b** : to move, swing, or beat as though wielding a flail ⟨~*ing* his club to drive away the insects⟩ **2** : to thresh (grain) with a flail ~ *vi* : to engage in flailing : THRASH ⟨~*ed* away at each other⟩

flair \'fla(ə)r, 'fle(ə)r\ *n* [F, lit., sense of smell, fr. OF, odor, fr. *flairier* to give off an odor, fr. LL *flagrare*, fr. L *fragrare* — more at FRAGRANT] **1** : instinctive attraction to and keen discernment about something ⟨a woman with a ~ for style⟩ **2** : natural aptitude : BENT **3** : a uniquely attractive quality (as elegance, smartness, or sophistication) ⟨fashionable dresses with a ~ all their own⟩ ***syn*** see LEANING

flak \'flak\ *n, pl* **flak** [G, fr. *flieger*abwehr*kanonen*, fr. *flieger* flyer + *abwehr* defense + *kanonen* cannons] **1** : antiaircraft guns **2** : the bursting shells fired from flak **3** : agitated discussion, opposition, or accusation : DISSENSION ⟨this modest proposal ran into ~ — Charles MacDonald⟩

[1]flake \'flāk\ *n* [ME, hurdle, fr. ON *flaki;* akin to OHG *flah* smooth, Gk *pelagos* sea, L *placēre* to please — more at PLEASE] : a stage, platform, or tray for drying fish or produce

[2]flake *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to Norw *flak* disk] **1** : a small loose mass or bit **2** : a thin flattened piece or layer : CHIP

[3]flake *vb* **flaked; flak·ing** *vi* : to separate into flakes ~ *vt* **1** : to form into flakes : CHIP **2** : to cover with or as if with flakes — **flak·er** *n*

flak jacket *n* : a jacket of heavy fabric containing metal plates for protection against flak — called also *flak vest*

flaky \'flā-kē\ *adj* **flak·i·er; -est** **1** : consisting of flakes ⟨~ snow⟩ **2** : tending to flake ⟨a ~ piecrust⟩ **3** *slang* : slightly eccentric : SCREWY ⟨the rock writer's ~, half-literate idiom — Benjamin De Mott⟩ — **flak·i·ness** *n*

[1]flam \'flam\ *n* [prob. short for *flimflam*] **1** : FALSEHOOD, TRICK **2** : HUMBUG, NONSENSE

[2]flam *n* [prob. imit.] : a drumbeat of two strokes of which the first is a very quick grace note

[1]flam·bé \fläm-'bā, flä[n]-\ *adj* [F *flambé*, fr. pp. of *flamber* to flame, singe, fr. OF, fr. *flambe* flame] : dressed or served covered with flaming liquor — usu. used postpositively ⟨chicken ~⟩ ⟨crepe suzettes ~⟩

[2]flambé *vt* **flam·béed; flam·bé·ing** : to douse with a liqueur (as brandy, rum, or cognac) and ignite ⟨pineapple *flambéed* with kirsch⟩

flam·beau \'flam-ˌbō\ *n, pl* **flam·beaux** \-ˌbōz\ *or* **flambeaus** [F, fr. MF, fr. *flambe* flame] : a flaming torch; *broadly* : TORCH

flam·boy·ance \flam-'bȯi-ən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being flamboyant

flam·boy·an·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : FLAMBOYANCE

[1]flam·boy·ant \-ənt\ *adj* [F, fr. prp. of *flamboyer* to flame, fr. OF, fr. *flambe*] **1** *often cap* : characterized by waving curves suggesting flames ⟨windows ornamented with ~ tracery⟩ **2** : FLORID, ORNATE; *also* : RESPLENDENT **3** : given to dashing display : SHOWY — **flam·boy·ant·ly** *adv*

[2]flamboyant *n* : ROYAL POINCIANA

[1]flame \'flām\ *n* [ME *flaume, flaumbe*, fr. MF *flamme* (fr. L *flamma*) & *flambe*, fr. OF, fr. *flamble*, fr. L *flammula*, dim. of *flamma* flame; akin to L *flagrare* to burn — more at BLACK] **1** : the glowing gaseous part of a fire **2** **a** : a state of blazing combustion ⟨the car burst into ~⟩ **b** : a condition or appearance suggesting a flame **c** : BRILLIANCE, BRIGHTNESS **3** : burning zeal or passion **4** : SWEETHEART ***syn*** see BLAZE

[2]flame *vb* **flamed; flam·ing** *vi* **1** : to burn with a flame : BLAZE **2** : to burst or break out violently or passionately ⟨*flaming* with indignation⟩ **3** : to shine brightly : GLOW ⟨color *flaming* up in her cheeks⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to send or convey by means of flame ⟨~ a message by signal fires⟩ **2** : to treat or affect with flame: as **a** : to cleanse, sterilize, or destroy by fire **b** : to dress food with flaming liquor ⟨~ pork chops at the table⟩ — **flam·er** *n*

flame cell *n* : a hollow cell that has a tuft of vibratile cilia and is part of the excretory system of various lower invertebrates (as a flatworm)

flame cultivator *n* : a flamethrower to destroy small weeds

fla·men \'flā-mən\ *n, pl* **flamens** *or* **flam·i·nes** \'flam-ə-ˌnēz\ [ME *flamin*, fr. L *flamin-, flamen*] : PRIEST; *esp* : a priest of a Roman god

fla·men·co \flə-'meŋ-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **-cos** [Sp, Flemish, like a gypsy, fr. MD *Vlaminc* Fleming] **1** : a vigorous rhythmic dance style of the Andalusian gypsies; *also* : a dance in flamenco style **2** : music or song suitable to accompany a flamenco dance

flame·out \'flā-ˌmau̇t\ *n* : the unintentional cessation of operation of a jet airplane engine

flame photometer *n* : a spectrophotometer in which a spray of metallic salts in solution is vaporized in a very hot flame and subjected to quantitative analysis by measuring the intensities of the spectrum lines of the metals present — **flame photometric** *adj* — **flame photometry** *n*

flame·proof \'flām-'prüf\ *adj* **1** : resistant to the action of flame **2** : not burning on contact with flame — **flameproof** *vt* — **flame·proof·er** *n*

flame·throw·er \-ˌthrō(-ə)r\ *n* : a device that expels from a nozzle a burning stream of liquid or semiliquid fuel under pressure

flame tree *n* : any of several trees or shrubs with showy scarlet or yellow flowers: as **a** : a tree (*Brachychiton acerifolium*) of southern Australia with panicles of brilliant scarlet flowers **b** : ROYAL POINCIANA

flam·ing \'flā-miŋ\ *adj* **1** : being on fire : BLAZING **2** : resembling or suggesting a flame in color, brilliance, or wavy outline ⟨the ~ sunset sky⟩ ⟨~ red hair⟩ **3** : ARDENT, PASSIONATE ⟨~ youth⟩ — **flam·ing·ly** \-miŋ-lē\ *adv*

fla·min·go \flə-'miŋ-(,)gō\ *n, pl* **-gos** *also* **-goes** [Pg, fr. Sp *flamenco*, prob. fr. OProv *flamenc*, fr. *flama* flame (fr. L *flamma*) + *-enc* ²-ing] : any of several aquatic birds (family Phoenicopteridae) with long legs and neck, webbed feet, a broad lamellate bill resembling that of a duck but abruptly bent downward, and usu. rosy-white plumage with scarlet wing coverts and black wing quills



flamingo

flam·ma·bil·i·ty \,flam-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : ability to support combustion; *esp* : a high capacity for combustion

flam·ma·ble \'flam-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *flammare* to flame, set on fire, fr. *flamma*] : capable of being easily ignited and of burning with extreme rapidity — **flammable** *n*

flan \'flan, 'flä^{n}(n)\ *n* [F, fr. OF *flaon*, fr. LL *fladon-, flado* flat cake] **1** : a large usu. straight-sided open pie **2** : the metal disk of a coin, token, or medal as distinguished from the design and lettering stamped on it

flâ·ne·rie \,flän-(ə-)'rē\ *n* [F] : the state of being aimless : IDLENESS

fla·neur \flä-'nər\ *n* [F *flâneur* idler] : an aimless person: as **a** : MAN-ABOUT-TOWN **b** : an intellectual trifler

¹flange \'flanj\ *n* [perh. alter. of *flanch* (a curving charge on a heraldic shield)] : a rib or rim for strength, for guiding, or for attachment to another object ⟨a ~ on a pipe⟩ ⟨a ~ on a wheel⟩

²flange *vt* **flanged; flang·ing** : to furnish with a flange — **flang·er** *n*

¹flank \'flaŋk\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *flanc*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hlanca* loin, flank — more at LANK] **1 a** : the fleshy part of the side between the ribs and the hip; *broadly* : the side of a quadruped **b** : a cut of meat from this part of an animal — see BEEF illustration **2 a** : SIDE **b** : the right or left of a formation **3** : the area along either side of a heraldic shield

²flank *vt* **1** : to protect a flank of **2 a** : to attack or threaten the flank of (as a body of troops) **b** : to turn the flank of **3 a** : to be situated at the side of : BORDER ⟨a road ~*ed* with linden trees⟩ **b** : to place something on each side of

flank·er *n* : a football player stationed wide of the formation; *esp* : an offensive halfback who lines up on the flank slightly behind the line of scrimmage and serves chiefly as a pass receiver — called also *flanker back*

flank steak *n* : a pear-shaped muscle of the beef flank; *also* : a steak cut from this muscle — see BEEF illustration

flan·nel \'flan-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *flaunneol* woolen cloth or garment] **1 a** : a soft twilled wool or worsted fabric with a loose texture and a slightly napped surface **b** : a napped cotton fabric of soft yarns simulating the texture of wool flannel **c** : a stout cotton fabric usu. napped on one side **2** *pl* **a** : flannel underwear **b** : outer garments of flannel; *esp* : men's trousers — **flannel** *adj* — **flan·nel·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adj*

flan·nel·ette \,flan-ᵊl-'et\ *n* : a cotton flannel napped on one or both sides and used esp. for undergarments and night wear

¹flap \'flap\ *n* [ME *flappe*] **1** : a stroke with something broad : SLAP **2** *obs* : something broad and flat used for striking **3** : something that is broad, limber, or flat and usu. thin and that hangs loose or projects freely: as **a** : a piece on a garment that hangs free **b** : a piece of tissue partly severed from its place of origin for use in surgical grafting **c** : an extended part forming the closure (as of an envelope or carton) **d** : a movable auxiliary airfoil usu. attached to an airplane wing's trailing edge to increase lift or drag — see AIRPLANE illustration **4** : the motion of something broad and limber (as a sail or wing) **5 a** : a state of excitement or panicky confusion : UPROAR **b** : CRISIS

²flap *vb* **flapped; flap·ping** *vt* **1** : to beat with or as if with a flap **2** : to toss sharply : FLING **3** : to move or cause to move in flaps ~ *vi* **1** : to sway loosely usu. with a noise of striking and esp. when moved by wind **2 a** : to beat or pulsate wings or something suggesting wings **b** : to progress by flapping **c** : to flutter ineffectively **3** : to talk foolishly and persistently

flap·doo·dle \'flap-,düd-ᵊl\ *n* [origin unknown] : NONSENSE

flap·jack \-,jak\ *n* : PANCAKE

flap·per \'flap-ər\ *n* **1 a** : one that flaps **b** : something (as a flyswatter) used in flapping or striking **c** : FLIPPER 1 **2** : a young woman; *specif* : a young woman of the period of World War I and the decade thereafter who showed bold freedom from conventions in conduct and dress

flap·py \'flap-ē\ *adj* : flapping or tending to flap

¹flare \'fla(ə)r, 'fle(ə)r\ *vb* **flared; flar·ing** [origin unknown] *vi* **1 a** : to stream in the wind **b** : to burn with an unsteady flame **2 a** : to shine with a sudden light ⟨a match ~*s* in the darkness⟩ **b** (1) : to become suddenly excited or angry — usu. used with *up* ⟨she ~*s* up at the slightest thing⟩ (2) : to break out or intensify usu. suddenly or violently — often used with *up* ⟨ground fighting *flared* up after a two-week lull⟩ **c** : to express strong emotion (as anger) ⟨*flaring* out at such abuses⟩ **3** : to open or spread outward ⟨the pants ~ gently at the bottom⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to display conspicuously ⟨*flaring* her scarf to attract attention⟩ **2** : to cause to flare ⟨the breeze ~*s* the candle⟩ **3** : to signal with a flare or by flaring

²flare *n* **1** : an unsteady glaring light **2 a** : a fire or blaze of light used to signal, illuminate, or attract attention; *also* : a device or composition used to produce such a flare **b** : a temporary outburst of energy from a small area of the sun's surface; *also* : a sudden increase and decrease in the brightness of a star often amounting to several magnitudes **3** : a sudden outburst (as of sound, excitement, or anger) **4 a** : a spreading outward; *also* : a place or part that spreads ⟨the ~ of a fireplace⟩ **b** : an area of skin flush **5** : light resulting from reflection (as between lens surfaces) or an effect of this light (as a fogged or dense area in a photographic negative) **6** : a short pass in football thrown to a back who is running toward the sideline ***syn*** see BLAZE

flare·back \'fla(ə)r-,bak, 'fle(ə)r-\ *n* : a burst of flame back or out (as from a furnace) in a direction opposite to that of normal operation

flare–up \-,əp\ *n* **1** : a sudden bursting (as of a smoldering fire) into flame or light **2** : a sudden outburst or intensification ⟨a ~ over the issue of Executive responsibility to Congress —Arthur Blaustein⟩

flar·ing \'fla(ə)r-iŋ, 'fle(ə)r-\ *adj* **1 a** : flaming brightly or unsteadily **b** : GAUDY ⟨a ~ resort hotel⟩ **2** : opening or spreading outward ⟨~ nostrils⟩ — **flar·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹flash \'flash\ *vb* [ME *flaschen*, of imit. origin] *vi* **1** : RUSH, DASH — used of flowing water **2** : to break forth in or like a sudden flame or flare ⟨lightning ~*ing* in the sky⟩ **3 a** : to appear suddenly ⟨an idea ~*es* into her mind⟩ **b** : to move with great speed ⟨the days ~ by⟩ **4 a** : to break forth or out so as to make a sudden display ⟨the sun ~*ed* from behind a cloud⟩ **b** : to act or speak vehemently and suddenly esp. in anger **5 a** : to give off light suddenly or in transient bursts **b** : to glow or gleam esp. with animation or passion ⟨his eyes ~*ed* in a sinister fashion⟩ **6** : to change suddenly or violently into vapor ⟨hot water ~*ing* to steam under reduced pressure⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : SPLASH **b** : to fill by a sudden inflow of water **2 a** : to cause the sudden appearance of (light) **b** : to cause to burst violently into flame; *also* : to burn for determining character of residue **c** (1) : to cause (light) to reflect (2) : to cause (as a mirror) to reflect light (3) : to cause (a lamp) to flash **d** : to convey by means of flashes of light **3 a** : to make known or cause to appear with great speed ⟨~ a message on the screen⟩ **b** : to display obtrusively and ostentatiously ⟨always ~*es* his fat wallet in public⟩ **c** : to expose to view suddenly and briefly ⟨~*ing* a shy smile⟩ **4** : to cover with or form into a thin layer: as **a** : to protect against rain by covering with sheet metal or a substitute **b** : to coat (as glass) with a thin layer (as of metal or a differently colored glass) **5** : to subject (an exposed photographic negative or positive) to a supplementary uniform exposure to light before development in order to modify detail or tone

syn FLASH, GLEAM, GLANCE, GLINT, SPARKLE, GLITTER, GLISTEN, GLIMMER, CORUSCATE, SHIMMER *shared meaning element* : to send forth light

²flash *n* **1 a** : a sudden burst of light **b** : a movement of a flag in signaling **2** : a sudden and often brilliant burst ⟨a ~ of wit⟩ ⟨had a ~ of intuition⟩ **3** : a brief time ⟨I'll be back in a ~⟩ **4 a** : SHOW, DISPLAY; *esp* : a vulgar ostentatious display **b** *archaic* : a showy ostentatious person **c** : one that attracts notice; *esp* : an outstanding athlete **5** *obs* : thieves' slang **6** : a rush of water released to permit passage of a boat **7** : something flashed: as **a** : GLIMPSE, LOOK **b** : SMILE **c** : a first brief news report **d** : FLASHLIGHT 2,3 **e** : a quick-spreading flame or momentary intense outburst of radiant heat **8** : RUSH 7 **9** : the rapid conversion of a liquid into vapor

³flash *adj* **1 a** : FLASHY, SHOWY **b** : of, relating to, or characteristic of flashy people or things ⟨~ behavior⟩ **c** : of, relating to, or characteristic of persons considered social outcasts ⟨~ language⟩ **2** : of sudden origin and short duration ⟨a ~ fire⟩

flash·back \'flash-,bak\ *n* **1** : interruption of chronological sequence in a literary or theatrical work by interjection of events of earlier occurrence **2** : a recession of flame to an unwanted position (as into a blowpipe)

flash·board \-,bō(ə)rd, -,bȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : one or more boards projecting above the top of a dam to increase the depth of the water

flash·bulb \-,bəlb\ *n* : an electric flash lamp in which metal foil or wire is burned

flash card *n* : a card bearing words, numbers, or pictures that is briefly displayed (as by a teacher to a class) usu. as a learning aid

flash·cube \'flash-,kyüb\ *n* : a cubical device that incorporates four flashbulbs, is usu. attached to a camera, and can be turned for taking four pictures in rapid succession

flash·er \'flash-ər\ *n* : one that flashes: as **a** : a light (as a traffic signal or automobile light) that catches the attention by flashing **b** : a device for automatically flashing a light

flash flood *n* : a local flood of great volume and short duration generally resulting from heavy rainfall in the immediate vicinity — **flash flood** *vt*

flash–for·ward \'flash-'fȯr-wərd\ *n* : a literary or theatrical technique that involves interruption of the chronological sequence of events by interjection of events or scenes of future occurrence

flash·gun \-,gən\ *n* **1** : a device for holding and igniting flashlight powder **2** : a device for holding and operating a flashbulb or a flashtube

flash·ing \'flash-iŋ\ *n* : sheet metal used in waterproofing roof valleys or hips or the angle between a chimney and a roof

flash in the pan [fr. the firing of the priming in the pan of a flintlock musket without discharging the piece] **1** : a sudden spasmodic effort that accomplishes nothing **2** : one that appears promising but turns out to be disappointing or worthless

flash lamp *n* : a lamp for producing a brief but intense flash of light for taking photographs

flash·light \'flash-,līt\ *n* **1** : a flash of light or a light that flashes; *esp* : a scintillating light or a light of regularly varying brightness in a lighthouse **2 a** : a sudden bright artificial light used in taking photographic pictures **b** : a photograph taken by such a light **3** : a small battery-operated portable electric light

flash·over \-,ō-vər\ *n* **1** : an abnormal electrical discharge (as through the air to the ground from a high potential source or between two conducting portions of a structure) **2** : the sudden spread of flame over an area when it becomes heated to the flash point

flash point *n* **1** : the lowest temperature at which vapors above a volatile combustible substance ignite in air when exposed to flame **2** : a point at which someone or something bursts suddenly into action or being

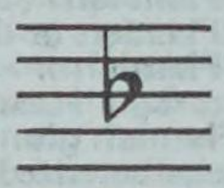
flash·tube \'flash-,t(y)üb\ *n* : a gas discharge tube that produces very brief intense flashes of light and is used esp. in photography

flashy \'flash-ē\ *adj* **flash·i·er; -est** **1** *chiefly dial* : lacking in substance or flavor : INSIPID **2** : momentarily dazzling **3** **a** : superficially attractive : BRIGHT **b** : ostentatious or showy beyond the bounds of good taste; *esp* : marked by gaudy brightness ***syn*** see GAUDY — **flash·i·ly** \'flash-ə-lē\ *adv* — **flash·i·ness** \'flash-ē-nəs\ *n*

flask \'flask\ *n* [MF *flasque* powder flask, deriv. of LL *flascon-, flasco* bottle, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *flaska* bottle] **1** : a container often somewhat narrowed toward the outlet and often fitted with a closure; *esp* : a broad flattened necked vessel used esp. to carry alcoholic beverages on the person **2** : a frame that holds molding sand used in a foundry

[1]flat \'flat\ *adj* **flat·ter; flat·test** [ME, fr. ON *flatr*; akin to OHG *flaz* flat, Gk *platys* — more at PLACE] **1** : having a continuous horizontal surface **2** **a** : lying at full length or spread out upon the ground : PROSTRATE **b** : resting with a surface against something **3** : having a relatively smooth or even surface **4** : arranged or laid out so as to be level or even **5** : having the major surfaces essentially parallel and distinctly greater than the minor surfaces ⟨a ~ piece of wood⟩ **6** **a** : clearly unmistakable : DOWNRIGHT ⟨gave a ~ denial⟩ **b** (1) : ABSOLUTE, FIXED ⟨charged a ~ rate⟩ (2) : having no fraction either lacking or in excess : EXACT ⟨ran the race in four minutes ~⟩ **7** **a** : lacking in animation, zest, or vigor : DULL ⟨how weary, stale, ~ and unprofitable, seem to me all the uses of this world — Shak.⟩ **b** : lacking flavor : TASTELESS **c** : lacking effervescence or sparkle ⟨~ ginger ale⟩ **d** : lacking air : DEFLATED — used of tires **8** **a** (1) *of a tone* : lowered a half step in pitch (2) : lower than the proper pitch **b** *of the vowel a* : pronounced as in *bad* or *bat* **9** **a** : having a low trajectory **b** *of a tennis ball* : hit squarely without being spun by the racket **10** *of a sail* : TAUT **11** **a** : uniform in hue or shade **b** *of a painting* : having little or no illusion of depth **c** *of a photograph or negative* : lacking contrast **d** *of a photographic lighting arrangement* : not emphasizing shadows or contours **e** : free from gloss ⟨likes the finish of a ~ paint⟩ ***syn*** see LEVEL, INSIPID — **flat·ly** *adv* — **flat·ness** *n*

[2]flat *n* **1** : a level surface of land with little or no relief : PLAIN — often used in pl. ⟨sagebrush ~*s*⟩ **2** : a flat part or surface ⟨the ~ of one's hand⟩ **3** **a** : a musical note or tone one half step lower than a specified note or tone **b** : a character on a line or space of the musical staff indicating a half step drop in pitch **4** : something flat: as **a** : a shallow box in which seedlings are started **b** : a flat-bottomed boat **c** : a flat piece of theatrical scenery **d** : a shoe or slipper having a flat heel or no heel **5** : a floor or story in a building **6** : an apartment on one floor **7** : a deflated tire **8** : the area to either side of an offensive football formation



flat 3b

[3]flat *adv* **1** : in a flat manner : DIRECTLY, POSITIVELY **2** **a** : on or against a flat surface ⟨lying ~ on his back⟩ **b** : at full length ⟨fell ~ on his face⟩ **3** : in a complete manner : WHOLLY ⟨~ broke⟩ **4** : below the proper musical pitch **5** : without interest charge; *esp* : without allowance or charge for accrued interest ⟨bonds sold ~⟩

[4]flat *vb* **flat·ted; flat·ting** *vt* **1** : FLATTEN **2** : to lower in pitch esp. by a half step ~ *vi* : to sing or play below the true pitch

[1]flat·bed \'flat-ˌbed\ *adj* : having a horizontal bed on which a horizontal printing surface rests ⟨a ~ printing press⟩

[2]flat·bed \'flat-ˌbed\ *n* : a motortruck or trailer with a body in the form of a platform or shallow box

flat·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat with a flat bottom and square ends used for transportation of bulky freight esp. in shallow waters

flat·cap \-ˌkap\ *n* **1** : a round low-crowned cap worn in 16th and 17th century London **2** : a wearer of a flatcap; *esp* : a Londoner

flat·car \-ˌkär\ *n* : a railroad freight car without permanent raised sides, ends, or covering

flat·fish \'flat-ˌfish\ *n* : any of an order (Heterosomata) of marine teleost fishes (as the halibuts, flounders, turbots, and soles) that as adults swim on one side of the laterally compressed body and have both eyes on the upper side

flat·foot \-ˌfu̇t (*always so in sense 3*), -'fu̇t\ *n, pl* **flat·feet** \-ˌfēt, -'fēt\ **1** : a condition in which the arch of the instep is flattened so that the entire sole rests upon the ground **2** : a foot affected with flatfoot **3** **a** *or pl* **flatfoots** *slang* : POLICEMAN: *esp* : a patrolman walking a regular beat **b** *slang* : SAILOR

[1]flat–foot·ed \-'fu̇t-əd\ *adj* **1** : affected with flatfoot; *broadly* : walking with a dragging or shambling gait **2** **a** : firm and well balanced on the feet **b** : free from reservation : FORTHRIGHT ⟨had an honest ~ way of saying a thing⟩ **3** : found unprepared : UNREADY — used chiefly in the phrase *catch one flat-footed* — **flat–foot·ed·ly** *adv* — **flat–foot·ed·ness** *n*

[2]flat–footed *adv* : in an open and determined manner : FLATLY

flat–hat \'flat-ˌhat\ *vi* [fr. an alleged incident in which a pedestrian's hat was crushed by a low-flying plane] : to fly low in an airplane in a reckless manner : HEDGEHOP — **flat–hat·ter** *n*

Flat·head \-ˌhed\ *n, pl* **Flatheads** *or* **Flathead** **1** : a member of any of several No. American Indian peoples that practiced head-flattening **2** : an Amerindian people of Montana **3** *not cap* : any of various fishes with more or less flat heads; *esp* : any of a family (Percophididae) of chiefly Indo-Pacific marine food fishes that resemble sculpins

flat·iron \'flat-ˌī(-ə)rn\ *n* : IRON 2d

flat knot *n* : REEF KNOT

flat·land \'flat-ˌland\ *n* **1** : land that lacks significant variation in elevation **2** : a region in which the land is predominantly flat — usu. used in pl. — **flat·land·er** \-ˌlan-dər\ *n*

flat·let \'flat-lət\ *n, Brit* : EFFICIENCY APARTMENT

flat·ling \'flat-liŋ\ *or* **flat·lings** \-liŋz\ *adv, dial Brit* : with a flat side or edge

flat–out \'flat-ˌau̇t\ *adj* **1** : ALL-OUT, DOWNRIGHT ⟨it was a ~ lie⟩ **2** *chiefly Brit* : being or going at maximum effort or speed

flat out \-'au̇t\ *adv* **1** : in a blunt and direct manner : OPENLY ⟨called *flat out* for revolution —*Nat'l Review*⟩ **2** : at top speed or peak performance ⟨the car does 180 m.p.h. *flat out*⟩

flat race *n* : a race (as for horses) on a level course without obstacles (as hurdles) — compare STEEPLECHASE

flat silver *n* : eating or serving utensils (as knives, forks, and spoons) made of or plated with silver

flat·ten \'flat-ᵊn\ *vb* **flat·tened; flat·ten·ing** \'flat-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make flat: as **a** : to make level or smooth **b** : to lay low : RUIN **2** : to make (as paint) lusterless ~ *vi* **1** : to become flat or flatter: as **a** : to become dull or spiritless **b** : to extend in or into a flat position or form ⟨hills ~*ing* into coastal plains⟩ **c** : to become uniform or stabilized often at a new lower level — usu. used with *out* ⟨performance tended to ~ out after an initial period of improvement⟩ **2** **a** : to manipulate an airplane so as to bring its longitudinal axis parallel with the ground — used with *out* **b** *of an airplane* : to assume such a position — **flat·ten·er** \'flat-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

[1]flat·ter \'flat-ər\ *vb* [ME *flateren*, fr. OF *flater* to lick, flatter, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *flaz* flat] *vt* **1** : to praise excessively esp. from motives of self-interest **2** **a** *archaic* : SOOTHE, BEGUILE **b** : to raise the hope of or gratify esp. by false or specious representations ⟨~ him by asking his advice⟩ **3** **a** : to portray too favorably ⟨that picture ~*s* her — she's not that pretty⟩ **b** : to display to advantage ⟨candlelight often ~*s* the face⟩ ~ *vi* : to use flattery — **flat·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n* — **flat·ter·ing·ly** \-ə-riŋ-lē\ *adv*

[2]flatter *n* : one that flattens: as **a** : a drawplate with a narrow rectangular orifice for drawing flat strips **b** : a flat-faced swage used in smithing

flat·tery \'flat-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** **1** **a** : the act or practice of flattering **b** (1) : something that flatters (2) : insincere or excessive praise **2** *obs* : a pleasing self-deception

flat·tish \'flat-ish\ *adj* : somewhat flat

flat·top \'flat-ˌtäp\ *n* : something with a flat or flattened upper surface: as **a** : AIRCRAFT CARRIER **b** : CREW CUT

flat·u·lence \'flach-ə-lən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being flatulent

flat·u·len·cy \-lən-sē\ *n* : FLATULENCE

flat·u·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *flatus* act of blowing, wind, fr. *flatus*, pp. of *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] **1** **a** : marked by or affected with gases generated in the intestine or stomach **b** : likely to cause digestive flatulence **2** : pretentious without real worth or substance : TURGID — **flat·u·lent·ly** *adv*

fla·tus \'flāt-əs\ *n* [L, act of blowing, act of breaking wind] : gas generated in the stomach or bowels

flat·ware \'flat-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : tableware more or less flat and usu. formed or cast in a single piece; *esp* : eating and serving utensils (as knives, forks, and spoons) — compare HOLLOWWARE

flat·ways \-ˌwāz\ *adv* : FLATWISE

flat·wise \-ˌwīz\ *adv* : with the flat surface presented in some expressed or implied position

flat·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : laundry that can be finished mechanically and doesn't require hand ironing

flat·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : PLATYHELMINTH: *esp* : TURBELLARIAN

flaunt \'flȯnt, 'flänt\ *vb* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *flana* to rush around — more at PLANET] *vi* **1** : to wave or flutter showily ⟨the flag ~*s* in the breeze⟩ **2** : to display or obtrude oneself to public notice ~ *vt* **1** : to display ostentatiously or impudently : PARADE ⟨~*ing* his superiority⟩ **2** : to treat contemptuously ⟨~*ed* the rules —Louis Untermeyer⟩ — **flaunt** *n* — **flaunt·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **flaunty** \-ē\ *adj*

flau·tist \'flȯt-əst, 'flau̇t-\ *n* [It *flautista*, fr. *flauto* flute, fr. OProv *flaut*] : FLUTIST

fla·va·none \'flā-və-ˌnōn\ *n* [L *flavus* + ISV *-ane* + *-one*] : a colorless crystalline ketone $C_{15}H_{12}O_2$; *also* : any of the derivatives of this ketone many of which occur in plants often in the form of glycosides

fla·vin \'flā-vən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *flavus* yellow — more at BLUE] : a yellow water-soluble nitrogenous pigment derived from isoalloxazine and occurring in the form of nucleotides as coenzymes of flavoproteins; *esp* : RIBOFLAVIN

flavin adenine dinucleotide *n* : a coenzyme $C_{27}H_{33}N_9O_{15}P_2$ of some flavoproteins

fla·vine \'flā-ˌvēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *flavus*] : a yellow acridine dye (as acriflavine) often used medicinally for its antiseptic properties

flavin mononucleotide *n* : FMN

fla·vone \'flā-ˌvōn\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *flavus*] : a colorless crystalline ketone $C_{15}H_{10}O_2$ found in the leaves, stems, and seed capsules of many primroses; *also* : any of the derivatives of this ketone many of which occur as yellow plant pigments in the form of glycosides and are used as dyestuffs

fla·vo·noid \'flā-və-ˌnȯid\ *n* [*flavone* + *-oid*] : any of a group of aromatic compounds that includes many common pigments (as the anthocyanins and flavones)

fla·vo·nol \'flā-və-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* : any of various hydroxy derivatives of flavone

fla·vo·pro·tein \ˌflā-vō-'prō-ˌtēn, -'prōt-ē-ən\ *n* [ISV *flavin* + *-o-* + *protein*] : a dehydrogenase that contains a flavin and often a metal and plays a major role in biological oxidations

[1]fla·vor \'flā-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *flaor, flavor*, fr. (assumed) VL *flator*, fr. L *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] **1** **a** *archaic* : ODOR, FRAGRANCE **b** : the quality of something that affects the sense of taste : SAVOR ⟨condiments give ~ to food⟩ **c** : the blend of taste and smell sensations evoked by a substance in the mouth ⟨the ~ of ripe fruit⟩ **2** : a substance that flavors ⟨hard candy with artificial ~⟩ **3** : characteristic or predominant quality ⟨the newspaper retains a community ~⟩ — **fla·vored** \-vərd\ *adj* — **fla·vor·less** \-vər-ləs\ *adj*

²flavor *vt* **fla·vored; fla·vor·ing** \'flāv-(ə-)riŋ\ : to give or add flavor to
fla·vor·ful \'flā-vər-fəl\ *adj* : full of flavor : SAVORY — **fla·vor·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv*
fla·vor·ing *n* : FLAVOR 2
fla·vor·some \'flā-vər-səm\ *adj* : FLAVORFUL
fla·vour *chiefly Brit var of* FLAVOR
¹flaw \'flȯ\ *n* [ME, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *flaga* flake, flaw; akin to OE *flēan* to flay] **1** *obs* : FRAGMENT **2** : an often hidden defect that may cause failure under stress: as **a** : a faulty part (as a crack or break) ⟨the axle broke at a ~⟩ **b** : a weakness in something immaterial ⟨vanity was the great ~ in his character⟩ **c** : a fault in a legal paper that may nullify it ***syn*** see BLEMISH — **flaw·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **flaw·less·ly** *adv* — **flaw·less·ness** *n*
²flaw *vt* : to make flaws in ~ *vi* : to become defective
³flaw *n* [of Scand origin; akin to Norw *flaga* gust; akin to L *plangere* to beat — more at PLAINT] **1** : a sudden brief burst of wind; *also* : a spell of stormy weather **2** *obs* : an outburst esp. of passion
flax \'flaks\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *fleax;* akin to OHG *flahs* flax, L *plectere* to braid — more at PLY] **1** : any of a genus (*Linum* of the family Linaceae, the flax family) of herbs; *esp* : a slender erect annual (*L. usitatissimum*) with blue flowers commonly cultivated for its bast fiber and seed **2** : the fiber of the flax plant esp. when prepared for spinning **3** : any of several plants resembling flax
flax·en \'flak-sən\ *adj* **1** : made of flax **2** : resembling flax esp. in pale soft strawy color ⟨~ hair⟩
flax·seed \'flak(s)-ˌsēd\ *n* : the seed of flax used as a source of oil and medicinally as a demulcent and emollient
flaxy \'flak-sē\ *adj* **flax·i·er; -est** : resembling flax esp. in texture : FLAXEN
flay \'flā\ *vt* [ME *flen,* fr. OE *flēan;* akin to ON *flā* to flay, Lith *plėšti* to tear] **1** : to strip off the skin or surface of : SKIN **2 a** : to strip of possessions : FLEECE **b** : to criticize harshly : EXCORIATE
F layer *n* **1** : the highest and most densely ionized regular layer of the ionosphere occurring at night within the F region **2** : the forest soil zone marked by abundant plant remains undergoing decay
fl dr *abbr* fluidram
flea \'flē\ *n* [ME *fle,* fr. OE *flēa;* akin to OHG *flōh* flea, OE *flēon* to flee] **1** : any of an order (Siphonaptera) of wingless bloodsucking insects that have a hard laterally compressed body and legs adapted to leaping and that feed on warm-blooded animals **2** : FLEA BEETLE — **flea in one's ear** : an irritating hint or warning : REBUKE


dog flea

flea·bag \'flē-ˌbag\ *n* : an inferior hotel or rooming house
flea·bane \-ˌbān\ *n* : any of various composite plants (as of the genus *Erigeron*) that were once supposed to drive away fleas
flea beetle *n* : any of various small chrysomelid beetles (as of the genera *Altica* and *Epitrix*) with legs adapted for leaping that feed on foliage and sometimes serve as vectors of virus diseases of plants
flea·bite \'flē-ˌbīt\ *n* **1** : the bite of a flea; *also* : the red spot caused by such a bite **2** : a trifling pain or annoyance
flea–bit·ten \-ˌbit-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : bitten by or infested with fleas **2** *of a horse* : having a white or gray coat flecked with bay or sorrel
flea·hop·per \-ˌhäp-ər\ *n* : any of various small jumping bugs that feed on cultivated plants
flea market *n* [trans. of F *Marché aux Puces,* a market in Paris] : a usu. open-air market for secondhand articles and antiques
flea weevil *n* : any of various small broad weevils with legs adapted for leaping and with larvae that are leaf miners
flea·wort \'flē-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : an Old World plantain (*Plantago psyllium*) whose seeds swell and become gelatinous when moist and are sometimes used as a mild laxative
flèche \'flāsh, 'flesh\ *n* [F, lit., arrow] : SPIRE; *esp* : a slender spire above the intersection of the nave and transepts of a church
flé·chette \flā-'shet, fle-\ *n* [F, fr. dim. of *flèche* arrow] : a small dart-shaped projectile that is clustered in an explosive warhead, dropped as a missile from an airplane, or fired from a hand-held gun
¹fleck \'flek\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *flecked* spotted, fr. ME, prob. fr. ON *flekkōttr,* fr. *flekkr* spot] : STREAK, SPOT ⟨whitecaps ~*ed* the blue sea⟩
²fleck *n* **1** : SPOT, MARK ⟨a brown tweed with ~*s* of yellow⟩ **2** : FLAKE, PARTICLE ⟨~*s* of snow drifted down⟩
flec·tion *var of* FLEXION
fledge \'flej\ *vb* **fledged; fledg·ing** [*fledge* (capable of flying), fr. ME *flegge,* fr. OE *-flycge;* akin to OHG *flucki* capable of flying, OE *flēogan* to fly — more at FLY] *vi* **1** *of a bird* : to acquire the feathers necessary for flight **2** *of an insect* : to attain the winged adult stage ~ *vt* **1** : to rear until ready for flight or independent activity **2** : to cover with or as if with feathers or down **3** : to furnish (as an arrow) with feathers
fledg·ling \'flej-liŋ\ *n* **1** : a young bird just fledged **2** : an immature or inexperienced person
flee \'flē\ *vb* **fled** \'fled\; **flee·ing** [ME *flen,* fr. OE *flēon;* akin to OHG *fliohan* to flee] *vi* **1** : to run away from danger or evil : FLY **2** : to pass away swiftly : VANISH ⟨mists ~*ing* before the rising sun⟩ ~ *vt* : to run away from : SHUN
¹fleece \'flēs\ *n* [ME *flees,* fr. OE *flēos;* akin to MHG *vlius* fleece, L *pluma* feather, down] **1 a** : the coat of wool covering a wool-bearing animal (as a sheep) **b** : the wool obtained from a sheep at one shearing **2 a** : any of various soft or woolly coverings **b** : a soft bulky deep-piled knitted or woven fabric used chiefly for clothing
²fleece *vt* **fleeced; fleec·ing** **1** : to remove the fleece from : SHEAR **2 a** : to strip of money or property by fraud or extortion **b** : to charge excessively for goods or services ⟨nightclubs where the customer knew he would be *fleeced*⟩ **3** : to dot or cover with fleecy masses
fleeced \'flēst\ *adj* **1** : covered with or as if with a fleece **2** *of a textile* : having a soft nap
fleech \'flēch\ *vb* [ME (Sc) *flechen*] *dial* : COAX, WHEEDLE
fleecy \'flē-sē\ *adj* **fleec·i·er; -est** : covered with, made of, or resembling fleece ⟨a ~ winter coat⟩
¹fleer \'fli(ə)r\ *vi* [ME *fleryen,* of Scand origin; akin to Norw *flire* to giggle — more at FLIMFLAM] : to laugh or grimace in a coarse derisive manner : SNEER ***syn*** see SCOFF — **fleer·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
²fleer *n* : a word or look of derision or mockery
¹fleet \'flēt\ *vb* [ME *fleten,* fr. OE *flēotan;* akin to OHG *fliozzan* to float, OE *flōwan* to flow] *vi* **1** *obs* : DRIFT **2 a** *archaic* : FLOW **b** : to fade away : VANISH **3** : to fly swiftly ~ *vt* **1** : to cause (time) to pass usu. quickly or imperceptibly **2** [alter. of *flit*] : to move or change in position ⟨~ a hawser⟩ ***syn*** see WHILE
²fleet *n* [ME *flete,* fr. OE *flēot* ship, fr. *flēotan*] **1** : a number of warships under a single command; *specif* : an organization of ships and aircraft under the command of a flag officer and suitable to undertake major naval operations **2** : a group (as of ships, planes, or trucks) operated under unified control
³fleet *adj* [prob. fr. ¹*fleet*] **1** : swift in motion : NIMBLE **2** : EVANESCENT, FLEETING ***syn*** see FAST — **fleet·ly** *adv* — **fleet·ness** *n*
fleet admiral *n* : an admiral of the highest rank in the navy whose insignia is five stars
fleet·ing *adj* : passing swiftly : TRANSITORY ***syn*** see TRANSIENT ***ant*** lasting — **fleet·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **fleet·ing·ness** *n*
Fleet Street \'flēt-\ *n* [*Fleet Street,* London, England, center of the London newspaper district] : the London press
flei·shig \'flā-shik\ *adj* [Yiddish, fr. MHG *vleischic* meaty, fr. *vleisch* flesh, meat, fr. OHG *fleisk* — more at FLESH] : made of, prepared with, or used for meat or meat products
Flem *abbr* Flemish
Flem·ing \'flem-iŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. MD *Vlaminc,* fr. *Vlam-* (as in *Vlamland* Flanders)] : a member of the Germanic people inhabiting northern Belgium and a small section of northern France
¹Flem·ish \'flem-ish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Flanders or the Flemings or their language
²Flemish *n* **1** : the Germanic language of the Flemings **2** *pl in constr* : FLEMINGS
Flemish giant *n* : a rabbit of a breed prob. of Belgian origin that is characterized by large size, vigor, and solid coat color in black, white, or gray
flense \'flen(t)s\ *vt* **flensed; flens·ing** [D *flensen* or Dan & Norw *flense*] : to strip (as a whale) of blubber or skin
¹flesh \'flesh\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *flæsc;* akin to OHG *fleisk* flesh] **1 a** : the soft parts of the body of an animal and esp. of a vertebrate; *esp* : the parts composed chiefly of skeletal muscle as distinguished from visceral structures, bone, and integuments **b** : sleek well-fatted condition of body **c** : SKIN **2 a** : edible parts of an animal **b** : flesh of a mammal or bird that is an article of diet ⟨abstain from ~ during religious fasts⟩ **3 a** : the physical being of man ⟨the spirit indeed is willing, but the ~ is weak —Mt 26:41 (AV)⟩ **b** : human nature **4 a** : human beings : MANKIND **b** : living beings **c** : STOCK, KINDRED **5** : a fleshy plant part used as food; *also* : the fleshy part of a fruit **6** *Christian Science* : an illusion that matter has sensation — **in the flesh** : in person and alive
²flesh *vt* **1 a** : to feed (as a hawk) with flesh from the kill to encourage interest in the chase **b** : to initiate or habituate esp. by giving a foretaste **2** *archaic* : GRATIFY **3** : to clothe or cover with or as if with flesh; *broadly* : to give substance to ⟨~*ed* out his argument with solid fact⟩ **4** : to free from flesh ~ *vi* : to become fleshy — often used with *up* or *out*
flesh and blood *n* **1** : corporeal nature as composed of flesh and of blood ⟨such neglect was more than *flesh and blood* could stand⟩ **2** : near kindred — used chiefly in the phrase *one's own flesh and blood* **3** : SUBSTANCE, REALITY ⟨attempting to give *flesh and blood* to nebulous ideas⟩
fleshed \'flesht\ *adj* : having flesh esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination ⟨pink-*fleshed*⟩ ⟨thick-*fleshed*⟩
flesh fly *n* : a two-winged fly whose maggots feed on flesh; *esp* : one of a family (Sarcophagidae) of flies some of which cause myiasis
flesh·i·ness \'flesh-ē-nəs\ *n* : the state of being fleshy : CORPULENCE
flesh·ing \'flesh-iŋ\ *n* **1** *pl* : close-fitting usu. flesh-colored tights **2** *pl* : material removed in fleshing a hide or skin **3 a** : the distribution of the lean and fat on an animal **b** : the capacity of an animal to put on fat
flesh·ly \'flesh-lē\ *adj* **1 a** : CORPOREAL, BODILY **b** : of, relating to, or characterized by indulgence of bodily appetites; *esp* : LASCIVIOUS ⟨~ desires⟩ **c** : not spiritual : WORLDLY **2** : FLESHY, PLUMP **3** : having a sensuous quality ⟨~ art⟩ ***syn*** see CARNAL
flesh·ment \'flesh-mənt\ *n* [²*flesh*] *obs* : excitement associated with a successful beginning
flesh·pot \'flesh-ˌpät\ *n* **1** *pl* : bodily comfort : LUXURY **2** : a place of luxurious entertainment — usu. used in pl. ⟨a tour of the city's ~*s*⟩
flesh wound *n* : an injury involving penetration of the body musculature without damage to skeletal or visceral structures
fleshy \'flesh-ē\ *adj* **flesh·i·er; -est** **1 a** : marked by, consisting of, or resembling flesh **b** : marked by abundant flesh; *esp* : CORPULENT **2 a** : SUCCULENT, PULPY ⟨the rich ~ texture of a perfectly ripe melon⟩ **b** : not thin, dry, or membranaceous ⟨~ fungi⟩
fleshy fruit *n* : a fruit (as a berry, drupe, or pome) consisting largely of soft succulent tissue
fletch \'flech\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *fletcher*] : FEATHER ⟨~ an arrow⟩
fletch·er \'flech-ər\ *n* [ME *flecchier,* fr. OF *flechier,* fr. *fleche* arrow] : a maker of arrows
fleur de coin \ˌflərd-ə-'kwaⁿ\ *adj* [F *à fleur de coin,* lit., with the bloom of the die] : being in the preserved mint condition
fleur–de–lis *or* **fleur–de–lys** \ˌflərd-ᵊl-'ē, ˌflůrd-\ *n, pl* **fleurs–de–lis** *or* **fleur–de–lis** *or* **fleurs–de–lys** *or* **fleur–de–lys** \ˌflərd-ᵊl-'ē(z),

flůrd-\ [ME *flourdelis*, fr. MF *flor de lis*, lit., lily flower] **1** : IRIS 3 **2** : a conventionalized iris in art and heraldry



fleur-de-lis 2

fleu·ry \'flů(ə)r-ē\ *adj* [alter. of ME *flory*, fr. OF *floré*, fr. *flor* flower — more at FLOWER] *of a heraldic cross* : having the ends of the arms broadening out into the heads of fleurs-de-lis — see CROSS illustration

flew *past of* FLY

flews \'flüz\ *n pl* [origin unknown] : the pendulous lateral parts of a dog's upper lip — see DOG illustration

¹flex \'fleks\ *vb* [L *flexus*, pp. of *flectere*] *vt* **1** : to bend esp. repeatedly ⟨sat ~*ing* the strap as he talked⟩ **2 a** : to move muscles so as to cause flexion of (a joint) ⟨stretching and ~*ing* his knees⟩ **b** : to move (a muscle or muscles) so as to flex a joint ⟨~*ed* their biceps and went to work⟩ ~ *vi* : BEND

²flex *n* **1** : an act or instance of flexing **2** [short for *flexible cord*] *chiefly Brit* : electric cord

flex·i·ble \'flek-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being flexed : PLIANT **2** : yielding to influence : TRACTABLE **3** : capable of responding or conforming to changing or new situations ⟨a highly ~ curriculum⟩ ⟨a ~ personality⟩ — **flex·i·bil·i·ty** \ˌflek-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **flex·i·bly** \'flek-sə-blē\ *adv*

flex·ile \'flek-səl, -ˌsīl\ *adj* : FLEXIBLE

flex·ion \'flek-shən\ *n* [L *flexion-*, *flexio*, fr. *flexus*, pp. of *flectere*] **1** : the act of flexing or bending **2** : a part bent : BEND **3** : INFLECTION 3 **4 a** : a bending of a joint between the bones of a limb that diminishes the angle between the bones — compare EXTENSION 3b **b** : a forward raising of the arm or leg by a movement at the shoulder or hip joint

flex·og·ra·phy \flek-'säg-rə-fē\ *n* [*flex*ible + *-o-* + *-graphy*] : a process of rotary letterpress printing utilizing flexible rubber plates and rapid-drying inks — **flexo·graph·ic** \ˌflek-sə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **flexo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

flex·or \'flek-sər, -ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a muscle that produces flexion

flex·u·ous \'fleksh-(ə-)wəs\ *adj* [L *flexuosus*, fr. *flexus* bend, fr. *flexus*, pp.] **1** : having turns or windings **2** : lacking rigidity in structure or action ⟨its ~ and elastic body⟩ — **flex·u·ous·ly** *adv*

flex·ur·al \'flek-sh(ə-)rəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resulting from flexure **2** : characterized by flexure

flex·ure \'flek-shər\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being flexed : FLEXION **2** : TURN, FOLD

fley \'flā\ *vt* [ME *flayen*, fr. OE *āflēgan*, fr. *ā-*, perfective prefix + *-flēgan* to put to flight] *Scot* : FRIGHTEN

flib·ber·ti·gib·bet \ˌflib-ərt-ē-'jib-ət\ *n* [ME *flepergebet*] : a silly flighty person — **flib·ber·ti·gib·bety** \-ət-ē\ *adj*

flic \'flēk\ *n* [F] : a Parisian policeman

¹flick \'flik\ *n* [imit.] **1** : a light sharp jerky stroke or movement **2** : a sound produced by a flick **3** : DAUB, SPLOTCH

²flick *vt* **1 a** : to strike lightly with a quick sharp motion ⟨~*ed* the old horse with a whip⟩ **b** : to remove with light blows ⟨~*ed* the dust off his boots with a handkerchief⟩ **2** : to cause to move with a flick ⟨~*ed* his cigarette against the ashtray⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : FLUTTER **2** : to direct flicks at something

³flick *n* [short for *²flicker*] : MOVIE

¹flick·er \'flik-ər\ *vb* **flick·ered; flick·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *flikeren*, fr. OE *flicorian*] *vi* **1** : to move irregularly or unsteadily : FLUTTER ⟨her eyes ~*ed* over the group⟩ **2** : to burn fitfully or with a fluctuating light **3** : to appear in a tremulous incomplete form ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to flicker **2** : to produce by flickering ⟨~ a signal with a mirror⟩ — **flick·er·ing·ly** \-(ə-)riŋ-lē\ *adv*

²flicker *n* **1 a** : an act of flickering **b** : a sudden brief movement **c** : a momentary quickening ⟨a ~ of anger⟩ **2** : a wavering light **3** : MOVIE — often used in pl. — **flick·ery** \'flik-(ə-)rē\ *adj*

³flicker *n* [prob. fr. *²flick*] : a common large brightly marked woodpecker (*Colaptes auratus*) of eastern No. America; *also* : any of several related birds of the southern and western U.S.

flick·er·tail \'flik-ər-ˌtāl\ *n* : a ground squirrel (*Citellus richardsoni*) chiefly of the north-central U.S. and adjacent Canada

flied *past of* FLY

fli·er \'flī(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that flies; *specif* : AIRMAN **2** : a reckless or speculative venture ⟨took a ~ in politics soon after getting his degree⟩ **3** : an advertising circular for mass distribution **4** : a step in a straight flight of steps

¹flight \'flīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *flyht*; akin to MD *vlucht* flight, OE *flēogan* to fly] **1 a** : an act or instance of passing through the air by the use of wings ⟨the ~ of a bee⟩ **b** : the ability to fly ⟨~ is natural to birds⟩ **2 a** : a passing through the air or through space outside the earth's atmosphere ⟨~ of an arrow⟩ ⟨~ of a rocket to the moon⟩ **b** : the distance covered in such a flight **c** : swift movement **3 a** : a trip made by or in an airplane or spacecraft ⟨a rough ~ through storm clouds⟩ **b** : a scheduled airplane flight ⟨a ~ delayed because of poor weather conditions⟩ **4** : a group of similar beings or objects flying through the air together **5** : a brilliant, imaginative, or unrestrained exercise or display ⟨a ~ of fancy⟩ **6 a** : a continuous series of stairs from one landing or floor to another **b** : a series (as of terraces or conveyors) resembling a flight of stairs **7** : a unit of the U.S. Air Force below a squadron — **flight·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²flight *vi* : to rise, settle, or fly in a flock ⟨geese ~*ing* on the marsh⟩ ~ *vt* : ¹FLUSH

³flight *n* [ME *fluht*, *fliht*; akin to OHG *fluht* flight, OE *flēon* to flee] : an act or instance of running away

flight bag *n* [*¹flight*] **1** : a lightweight traveling bag with zippered outside pockets **2** : a small canvas satchel

flight control *n* **1** : the control from a ground station of an airplane or spacecraft esp. by radio **2** : the system of control devices of an airplane

flight deck *n* **1** : the uppermost complete deck of an aircraft carrier **2** : the forward compartment in some airplanes

flight engineer *n* : a flight crewman responsible for mechanical operation

flight feather *n* : one of the quills of a bird's wing or tail that support it in flight — compare CONTOUR FEATHER

flight lieutenant *n* : a commissioned officer in the British air force who ranks with a captain in the army

flight line *n* **1** : a parking and servicing area for airplanes **2** : the line in air or space along which something (as an airplane or missile) travels or is intended to travel

flight path *n* : the path in the air or space made or followed by something (as a particle, an airplane, or a spacecraft) in flight

flight pay *n* : an additional allowance paid to military personnel on flight status

flight plan *n* : a usu. written statement (as by a pilot) of the details of an intended flight (as of an airplane or spacecraft) usu. filed with an authority

flight status *n* : the status of a person in the military participating in regular authorized aircraft flights

flight strip *n* : an emergency landing field beside a highway

flight surgeon *n* : an air force medical officer trained in aeromedicine

flight–test \'flīt-ˌtest\ *vt* : to test (as an airplane or spacecraft) in flight

flighty \'flīt-ē\ *adj* **flight·i·er; -est** **1** : SWIFT **2** : lacking stability or steadiness: **a** : easily upset : VOLATILE ⟨a ~ temper⟩ **b** : easily excited : SKITTISH ⟨a ~ horse⟩ **c** : IRRESPONSIBLE, SILLY ⟨a ~ young girl⟩ — **flight·i·ly** \'flīt-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **flight·i·ness** \'flīt-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹flim·flam \'flim-ˌflam\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *flim* mockery] **1** : DECEPTION, FRAUD **2** : HANKY-PANKY

²flimflam *vt* **flim·flammed; flim·flam·ming** : to subject to a flimflam — **flim·flam·mer** *n*

¹flim·sy \'flim-zē\ *adj* **flim·si·er; -est** [perh. alter. of *¹film* + *-sy* (as in *tricksy*)] **1 a** : lacking in physical strength or substance ⟨~ silks⟩ **b** : of inferior materials and workmanship **2** : having little worth or plausibility ⟨a ~ excuse⟩ ***syn*** see LIMP — **flim·si·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **flim·si·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*

²flimsy *n, pl* **flimsies** **1** : a lightweight paper used esp. for multiple copies **2** : a document printed on flimsy

flinch \'flinch\ *vi* [MF *flenchir* to bend] : to shrink from or as if from physical pain : WINCE; *esp* : to tense the muscles involuntarily in fear ***syn*** see RECOIL — **flinch** *n* — **flinch·er** *n*

flin·ders \'flin-dərz\ *n pl* [ME *flendris*] : SPLINTERS, FRAGMENTS

¹fling \'fliŋ\ *vb* **flung** \'fləŋ\; **fling·ing** \'fliŋ-iŋ\ [ME *flingen*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *flengja* to whip, *flā* to flay — more at FLAY] *vi* **1** : to move in a brusque or headlong manner ⟨~*ing* out of the room in a rage⟩ **2** : to kick or plunge vigorously **3** *Scot* : CAPER ~ *vt* **1 a** : to throw with force or recklessness ⟨*flung* his books on the table⟩ **b** : to cast aside : DISCARD ⟨*flung* off all restraint⟩ **2** : to place or send suddenly and unceremoniously ⟨the attack *flung* the enemy force into confusion⟩ **3** : SPREAD, DIFFUSE **4** : to give unrestrainedly ***syn*** see THROW — **fling·er** \'fliŋ-ər\ *n*

²fling *n* **1** : an act or instance of flinging **2** : a casual try ⟨willing to take a ~ at almost anything⟩ **3** : a period devoted to self-indulgence ⟨determined to have one last ~ before settling down⟩

flint \'flint\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *flins* pebble, hard stone] **1** : a massive hard quartz that produces a spark when struck by steel **2** : an implement of flint used by primitive man **3** : a material used for producing a spark; *esp* : an alloy (as of iron and cerium) used in lighters **4** : something resembling flint in hardness — **flint·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

Flint *or* **Flints** *abbr* Flintshire

flint corn *n* : an Indian corn (*Zea mays indurata*) having hard horny usu. rounded kernels with the soft endosperm enclosed by a hard outer layer

flint glass *n* : heavy brilliant glass that contains lead oxide, has a relatively high index of refraction, and is used for optical structures

flint·lock \'flint-ˌläk\ *n* **1** : a lock for a gun or pistol of the 17th and 18th centuries having a flint in the hammer for striking a spark to ignite the charge **2** : a firearm fitted with a flintlock

flinty \'flint-ē\ *adj* **flint·i·er; -est** **1** : composed of or covered with flint **2** : UNYIELDING, STERN — **flint·i·ly** \'flint-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **flint·i·ness** \'flint-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹flip \'flip\ *vb* **flipped; flip·ping** [prob. imit.] *vt* **1 a** : to toss with a sharp movement so as to cause to turn over in the air ⟨~ a coin⟩ **b** : THROW ⟨the shortstop *flipped* the ball to second base⟩ **2** : FLICK 1 **3** : to turn over ⟨*flipped* the record and played the other side⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to make a twitching or flicking movement **b** : to strike at something with such a movement **2** : to move jerkily **3** : LEAF 2 ⟨*flipped* through the pages⟩ **4** *slang* **a** : to lose one's mind, composure, or self-control — often used with *out* **b** : to become extremely enthusiastic : go wild ⟨I just *flipped* over that vest⟩

²flip *n* **1** : an act or instance of flipping **2** : the motion used in flipping **3** : a somersault esp. when performed in the air **4** : a short quick football pass **5** : a mixed drink usu. consisting of a sweetened spiced liquor (as beer, wine, or rum) to which beaten eggs have been added

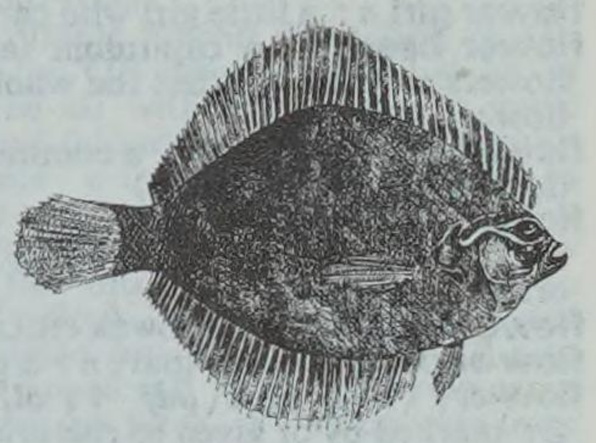
³flip *adj* : FLIPPANT, IMPERTINENT

flip–flop \'flip-ˌfläp\ *n* **1** : the sound or motion of something flapping loosely **2 a** : a backward handspring **b** : a sudden reversal of direction or point of view **3** : a usu. electronic device or a circuit (as in a computer) capable of assuming either of two stable states — **flip–flop** *vi*

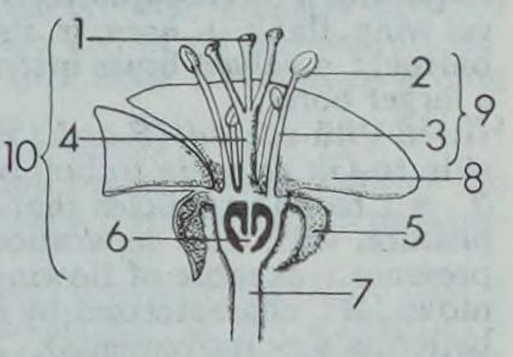
flip·pan·cy \'flip-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : unbecoming levity or pertness esp. in respect to grave or sacred matters ***syn*** see LIGHTNESS ***ant*** seriousness

flip·pant \'flip-ənt\ *adj* [prob. fr. ¹*flip*] **1** *archaic* : GLIB, TALKATIVE **2** : lacking proper respect or seriousness ⟨a ~ answer to a serious question⟩ — **flip·pant·ly** *adv*
flip·per \'flip-ər\ *n* **1 a** : a broad flat limb (as of a seal) adapted for swimming **b** : a flat rubber shoe with the front expanded into a paddle used in skin diving **2** : one that flips
flip side *n* [¹*flip*] : the reverse and usu. less popular side of a phonograph record
¹flirt \'flərt\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vt* **1** : FLICK **2** : to move in a jerky manner ~ *vi* **1** : to move erratically : FLIT **2 a** : to behave amorously without serious intent **b** : to show superficial or casual interest or liking ⟨~*ed* with the idea of getting a job⟩ ***syn*** see TRIFLE — **flir·ta·tion** \ˌflər-'tā-shən\ *n* — **flirt·er** *n* — **flirty** \'flərt-ē\ *adj*
²flirt *n* **1** : an act or instance of flirting **2** : a person who flirts
flir·ta·tious \ˌflər-'tā-shəs\ *adj* : inclined to flirt : COQUETTISH — **flir·ta·tious·ly** *adv* — **flir·ta·tious·ness** *n*
flit \'flit\ *vi* **flit·ted; flit·ting** [ME *flitten*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *flytjask* to move, OE *flēotan* to float] **1** : to pass quickly or abruptly from one place or condition to another ⟨her imagination *flitted* back to her childhood⟩ **2** *archaic* : ALTER, SHIFT **3** : to move in an erratic fluttering manner — **flit** *n*
flitch \'flich\ *n* [ME *flicche*, fr. OE *flicce*] **1** : a side of pork cured and smoked as bacon **2 a** : a longitudinal section of a log **b** : a bundle of sheets of veneer laid together in sequence **3** : one of the parts secured together to make a girder or beam
¹flit·ter \'flit-ər\ *vi* [freq. of *flit*] : FLUTTER, FLICKER
²flitter *n* : one that flits
fliv·ver \'fliv-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] : a small cheap usu. old automobile
¹float \'flōt\ *n* [ME *flote* boat, float, fr. OE *flota* ship; akin to OHG *flōz* raft, stream, OE *flēotan* to float — more at FLEET] **1** : an act or instance of floating **2** : something that floats in or on the surface of a fluid: as **a** : a device (as a cork) buoying up the baited end of a fishing line **b** : a floating platform anchored near a shoreline for use by swimmers or boats **c** : a hollow ball that floats at the end of a lever in a cistern, tank, or boiler and regulates the liquid level **d** : a sac containing air or gas and buoying up the body of a plant or animal : PNEUMATOPHORE **e** : a watertight structure giving an airplane buoyancy on water **3** : a tool or apparatus for smoothing a surface **4** : a government grant of a fixed amount of land not yet located by survey out of a larger specific tract **5 a** : a vehicle with a platform used to carry an exhibit in a parade **b** : the vehicle and exhibit together **6** : an amount of money represented by checks outstanding and in process of collection **7** : a drink consisting of ice cream floating in a beverage — **floaty** \'flōt-ē\ *adj*
²float *vi* **1** : to rest on the surface of or be suspended in a fluid **2 a** : to drift on or through or as if on or through a liquid ⟨yellow leaves ~*ed* down⟩ **b** : WANDER **3** : to lack firmness of purpose : VACILLATE **4** *of a currency* : to find a level in the international exchange market in response to the law of supply and demand and without any restrictive effect of artificial support or control ⟨proposed that the mark be allowed to ~⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to float in or on the surface of a liquid **2** : to support (a structure) on a mat or raft foundation when the ground gives poor support **3** : FLOOD ⟨~ a cranberry bog⟩ **4** : to smooth (as plaster or cement) with a float **5 a** : to gain support for **b** : to place (an issue of securities) on the market **c** : to obtain money for the establishment or development of (an enterprise) by issuing and selling securities **d** : NEGOTIATE ⟨~ a loan⟩
float·age *var of* FLOTAGE
floa·ta·tion *var of* FLOTATION
float·er \'flōt-ər\ *n* **1 a** : one that floats **b** : a person who floats something **2 a** : a person who votes illegally in various polling places **b** : a person who represents an irregular constituency **3 a** : a person without a permanent residence or regular employment : VAGRANT **b** : an employee without a specific job **4** : a slow baseball pitch with little or no spin
float·ing *adj* **1** : buoyed on or in a fluid **2** : located out of the normal position ⟨a ~ kidney⟩ **3 a** : continually drifting or changing position ⟨the ~ population⟩ **b** : not presently committed or invested ⟨~ capital⟩ **c** : short-term and usu. not funded ⟨~ debt⟩ **4** : connected or constructed so as to operate and adjust smoothly ⟨a ~ axle⟩
floating dock *n* : a dock that floats on the water and can be partly submerged to permit entry of a ship and raised to keep the ship high and dry — called also *floating drydock*
floating island *n* : a dessert consisting of custard with floating masses of whipped white of egg
floating–point *adj* : involving or being a mathematical notation in which a quantity is denoted by one number multiplied by a power of the number base ⟨the fixed-point value 99.9 could be expressed in a ~ system as $.999 \times 10^2$⟩ — compare FIXED-POINT
floating rib *n* : a rib (as one of either of the last two pairs in man) that has no attachment to the sternum — compare FALSE RIB
float·plane \'flōt-ˌplān\ *n* : a seaplane supported on the water by one or more floats
¹floc \'fläk\ *n* [short for *floccule*] **1** : a flocculent mass formed by the aggregation of a number of fine suspended particles **2** : ³FLOCK 1,2,3
²floc *vb* **flocced** \'fläkt\; **floc·cing** \'fläk-iŋ\ *vi* : to aggregate into flocs ~ *vt* : to cause to floc
¹floc·cu·late \'fläk-yə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** *vt* : to cause to aggregate into a flocculent mass ⟨~ clay⟩ ~ *vi* : to become flocculated — **floc·cu·lant** \-lənt\ *n* — **floc·cu·la·tion** \ˌfläk-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **floc·cu·la·tor** \'fläk-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
²floc·cu·late \-lət, -ˌlāt\ *n* : something that has flocculated
floc·cule \'fläk-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [LL *flocculus*] : a small loosely aggregated bit of material suspended in or precipitated from a liquid
floc·cu·lence \'fläk-yə-lən(t)s\ *n* : a flocculent quality or state
floc·cu·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [L *floccus* + E *-ulent*] **1** : resembling wool esp. in loose fluffy organization **2** : made up of flocs or floccules ⟨a ~ precipitate⟩
floc·cu·lus \-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [LL, dim. of L *floccus* flock of wool; akin to OHG *blaha* coarse linen] **1** : a small loosely aggregated mass **2** : a bright or dark patch on the sun
¹flock \'fläk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *flocc* crowd, band; akin to ON *flokkr* crowd, band] **1** : a group of birds or mammals assembled or herded together **2** : a group under the guidance of a leader; *specif* : a church congregation in relation to the pastor **3** : a large number ⟨a whole ~ of tourists⟩
²flock *vi* : to gather or move in a crowd ⟨they ~*ed* to the beach⟩
³flock *n* [ME] **1** : a tuft of wool or cotton fiber **2** : woolen or cotton refuse used for stuffing furniture and mattresses **3** : very short or pulverized fiber used esp. to form a velvety pattern on cloth or paper or a protective covering on metal **4** : FLOC
⁴flock *vt* **1** : to fill with flock **2** : to decorate with flock
flock·ing \'fläk-iŋ\ *n* : a design in flock
floe \'flō\ *n* [prob. fr. Norw *flo* flat layer] **1** : floating ice formed in a large sheet on the surface of a body of water **2** : ICE FLOE
flog \'fläg\ *vt* **flogged; flog·ging** [perh. modif. of L *flagellare* to whip — more at FLAGELLATE] **1** : to beat with a rod or whip : LASH **2** : to criticize harshly ⟨newspapers *flogging* the government over tax inequities⟩ **3** : to force into action : DRIVE ⟨*flogging* his keen retentive memory —Nevil Shute⟩ **4** *chiefly Brit* : SELL; *esp* : to sell stolen goods — **flog·ger** *n* — **flog a dead horse** : to attempt to revive interest in a worn-out or forgotten subject
¹flood \'fləd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *flōd;* akin to OHG *fluot* flood, OE *flōwan* to flow] **1 a** : a rising and overflowing of a body of water esp. onto normally dry land **b** *cap* : a flood described in the Bible as covering the earth in the time of Noah **2** : the flowing in of the tide **3** : an overwhelming quantity or volume ⟨a ~ of mail at Christmas time⟩ **4** : FLOODLIGHT
²flood *vt* **1** : to cover with a flood : INUNDATE **2 a** : to fill abundantly or excessively ⟨strawberries ~*ed* the market and prices dropped⟩ **b** : to supply to (the carburetor of an internal-combustion engine) an excess of fuel so that engine operation is hampered **3** : to send more than one pass receiver into (the same defensive area in football) ~ *vi* **1** : to pour forth in a flood **2** : to become filled with a flood — **flood·er** *n*
flood·gate \'fləd-ˌgāt\ *n* **1** : a gate for shutting out, admitting, or releasing a body of water : SLUICE **2** : something serving to restrain an outburst
¹flood·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* **1 a** : artificial illumination in a broad beam **b** : a source of such illumination **2** : a lighting unit for projecting a beam of light
²floodlight *vt* : to illuminate by means of one or more floodlights
flood·plain \'fləd-ˌplān\ *n* **1** : level land that may be submerged by floodwaters **2** : a plain built up by stream deposition
flood tide *n* **1** : a rising tide **2 a** : an overwhelming quantity **b** : a high point : PEAK
flood·wall \'fləd-ˌwȯl\ *n* : a wall (as a levee) built to prevent inundation by high water
flood·wa·ter \-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : the water of a flood
flood·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a channel for diverting floodwaters
floo·ey \'flü-ē\ *adj* [origin unknown] : AWRY, ASKEW
¹floor \'flō(ə)r, 'flȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *flor*, fr. OE *flōr;* akin to OHG *fluor* meadow, L *planus* level, Gk *planasthai* to wander] **1** : the level base of a room **2 a** : the lower inside surface of a hollow structure (as a cave or bodily part) **b** : a ground surface ⟨the ocean ~⟩ **3 a** : a structure dividing a building into stories; *also* : STORY **b** : the occupants of such a floor ⟨the whole third ~ is furious⟩ **4** : the surface of a structure on which one travels ⟨the ~ of a bridge⟩ **5 a** : a main level space (as in a legislative chamber) distinguished from a platform or gallery **b** : the members of an assembly ⟨concluded by calling for questions from the ~⟩ **c** : the right to address an assembly ⟨the senator from Utah has the ~⟩ **6** : a lower limit : BASE ⟨a ~ under prices or wages⟩ — **floor** *adj*
²floor *vt* **1** : to cover with a floor or flooring **2 a** : to knock to the floor **b** : SHOCK, OVERWHELM **c** : to reduce to silence or defeat **3** : to press (the accelerator of a vehicle) to the floorboard — **floor·er** *n*
floor·age \'flōr-ij, 'flȯr-\ *n* : floor space
floor·board \'flō(ə)r-ˌbō(ə)rd, 'flȯ(ə)r-ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a board in a floor **2** : the floor of an automobile
floor exercise *n* : an event in gymnastics competition consisting of various ballet and tumbling movements (as jumps, somersaults, and handstands) performed without apparatus
floor furnace *n* : a small furnace located close below the floor
floor·ing \'flōr-iŋ, 'flȯr-\ *n* **1** : FLOOR, BASE **2** : material for floors ⟨the disadvantages of softwood ~⟩
floor lamp *n* : a tall lamp that stands on the floor
floor leader *n* : a member of a legislative body chosen by his party to have charge of its organization and strategy on the floor
floor–length *adj* : reaching to the floor ⟨a ~ gown⟩
floor manager *n* **1** : FLOORWALKER **2** : a person who directs something (as the activities in support of a candidate at a nominating convention) from the floor
floor sample *n* : an article offered for sale at a reduced price because it has been used for display or demonstration
floor show *n* : a series of acts presented in a nightclub
floor·walk·er \'flōr-ˌwȯ-kər, 'flȯr-\ *n* : a person employed in a retail store to oversee the salespeople and aid customers
floo·zy *or* **floo·zie** \'flü-zē\ *n, pl* **floozies** [origin unknown] : a tawdry or immoral woman; *specif* : PROSTITUTE
¹flop \'fläp\ *vb* **flopped; flop·ping** [alter. of ²*flap*] *vi* **1** : to swing or bounce loosely **2** : to throw or move oneself in a heavy, clumsy, or relaxed manner ⟨*flopped* into the chair with a sigh of relief⟩ **3** : to change suddenly **4** : to go to bed ⟨so tired I had to ~⟩ **5** : to fail completely ⟨in spite of good reviews the play *flopped*⟩ ~ *vt* : to move or drop heavily and noisily ⟨*flopped* the bundles down with a thud⟩ — **flop·per** *n*
²flop *n* **1** : an act or sound of flopping **2** : a complete failure : DUD
³flop *adv* : RIGHT, SQUARELY ⟨fell ~ on his face⟩
flop·house \'fläp-ˌhaùs\ *n* : a cheap rooming house or hotel

flop-over \-ˌō-vər\ *n* : a defect in television reception in which a succession of frames appears to traverse the screen vertically
flop-py \'fläp-ē\ *adj* **flop-pi-er; -est** : tending to flop; *esp* : being both soft and flexible ***syn*** see LIMP — **flop-pi-ly** \'fläp-ə-lē\ *adv* — **flop-pi-ness** \'fläp-ē-nəs\ *n*
flo-ra \'flōr-ə, 'flȯr-\ *n, pl* **floras** *also* **flo-rae** \'flō(ə)r-ˌē, 'flȯ(ə)r-, -ˌī\ [NL, fr. L *Flora*, Roman goddess of flowers] **1** : a treatise on or list of the plants of an area or period **2** : plant life; *esp* : the plant life characteristic of a region, period, or special environment — compare FAUNA
flo-ral \'flōr-əl, 'flȯr-\ *adj* [L *flor-, flos* flower — more at BLOW] : of or relating to flowers or a flora — **flo-ral-ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
floral envelope *n* : PERIANTH
floral leaf *n* **1** : a modified leaf (as a sepal or petal) of the perianth of a flower **2** : BRACT
Flor-ence flask \ˌflȯr-ən(t)s-, ˌflär-\ *n* [*Florence*, Italy; fr. the use of flasks of this shape for certain Italian wines] : a round usu. flat-bottomed laboratory vessel with a long neck
flo-res-cence \flȯ-'res-ᵊn(t)s, flə-\ *n* [NL *florescentia*, fr. L *florescent-, florescens*, prp. of *florescere*, incho. of *florēre* to blossom, flourish — more at FLOURISH] : a state or period of flourishing — **flo-res-cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*
flo-ret \'flōr-ət, 'flȯr-\ *n* [ME *flourette*, fr. MF *flouret*, dim. of *flour* flower] : a small flower; *esp* : one of the small flowers forming the head of a composite plant
flori- *comb form* [L, fr. *flor-, flos*] : flower or flowers ⟨*flori*culture⟩
flo-ri-at-ed \'flōr-ē-ˌāt-əd, 'flȯr-\ *adj* : having floral ornaments or a floral form ⟨a ~ border on a book cover⟩ — **flo-ri-a-tion** \ˌflōr-ē-'ā-shən, ˌflȯr-\ *n*
flo-ri-bun-da \ˌflōr-ə-'bən-də, ˌflȯr-\ *n* [NL, fem. of *floribundus* flowering freely] : any of various bush roses with large flowers in open clusters that derive from crosses of polyantha and tea roses
flo-ri-cul-ture \'flōr-ə-ˌkəl-chər, 'flȯr-\ *n* : the cultivation and management of ornamental and flowering plants — **flo-ri-cul-tur-al** \ˌflōr-ə-'kəlch(-ə)-rəl, ˌflȯr-\ *adj* — **flo-ri-cul-tur-al-ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv* — **flo-ri-cul-tur-ist** \-rəst\ *n*
flor-id \'flȯr-əd, 'flär-\ *adj* [L *floridus* blooming, flowery, fr. *florēre*] **1 a** *obs* : covered with flowers **b** : excessively flowery in style : ORNATE **2** : tinged with red : RUDDY ⟨a ~ complexion⟩ **3** *archaic* : HEALTHY **4** : fully developed : manifesting a complete and typical clinical syndrome ⟨the ~ stage of a disease⟩ — **flo-rid-i-ty** \flə-'rid-ət-ē, flȯ-\ *n* — **flor-id-ly** \'flȯr-əd-lē, 'flär-\ *adv* — **flor-id-ness** *n*
flo-rif-er-ous \flȯ-'rif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *florifer*, fr. *flori-*] : bearing flowers; *esp* : blooming freely — **flo-rif-er-ous-ly** *adv* — **flo-rif-er-ous-ness** *n*
flo-ri-gen \'flōr-ə-jən, 'flȯr-\ *n* [ISV] : a hormone or hormonal agent that promotes flowering — **flo-ri-gen-ic** \ˌflōr-ə-'jen-ik, ˌflȯr-\ *adj*
flo-ri-le-gium \ˌflōr-ə-'lē-j(ē-)əm, ˌflȯr-\ *n, pl* **-gia** \-j(ē-)ə\ [NL, fr. L *florilegus* culling flowers, fr. *flori-* + *legere* to gather — more at LEGEND] : a volume of writings : ANTHOLOGY
flo-rin \'flȯr-ən, 'flär-, 'flōr-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OIt *fiorino*, fr. *fiore* flower, fr. L *flor-, flos*; fr. the lily on the coins] **1 a** : an old gold coin first struck at Florence in 1252 **b** : any of various gold coins of European countries patterned after the Florentine florin **2 a** : a British silver coin worth two shillings **b** : any of several similar coins issued in British Commonwealth countries **3** : GULDEN **4** : FORINT
flo-rist \'flōr-əst, 'flȯr-\ *n* : one who sells or grows for sale flowers and ornamental plants — **flo-rist-ry** \-ə-strē\ *n*
flo-ris-tic \flȯ-'ris-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to flowers, a flora, or floristics — **flo-ris-ti-cal-ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
flo-ris-tics \-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of phytogeography that deals numerically with plants and plant groups
-flo-rous \'flōr-əs, 'flȯr-\ *adj comb form* [LL *-florus*, fr. L *flor-, flos*] : having or bearing (such or so many) flowers ⟨uni*florous*⟩
flo-ru-it \'flȯr-(y)ə-wət, 'flär-\ *n* [L, he flourished, fr. *florēre* to flourish] : a period of flourishing (as of a person, movement, or school)
floss \'fläs, 'flȯs\ *n* [fr. or akin to D *vlos*; akin to MHG *vlus, vlius* fleece — more at FLEECE] **1** : waste or short silk fibers that cannot be reeled **2 a** : soft thread of silk or mercerized cotton for embroidery **b** : a lightweight wool knitting yarn **3** : fluffy fibrous material; *esp* : SILK COTTON
floss-flow-er \-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : AGERATUM
flossy \'fläs-ē, 'flȯs-\ *adj* **floss-i-er; -est** **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of floss **b** : DOWNY **2** : stylish or glamorous esp. at first impression ⟨slick ~ writing⟩
flo-ta \'flōt-ə\ *n* [Sp] : a fleet of Spanish ships
flo-tage \'flōt-ij\ *n* [²*float*] **1** : FLOTATION 1 **2** : material that floats : FLOTSAM **3** *usu* **floatage** : the charge for transferring railroad cars on a barge
flo-ta-tion \flō-'tā-shən\ *n* [²*float*] **1** : the act, process, or state of floating **2** : an act or instance of financing (as an issue of stock) **3** : the separation of the particles of a mass of pulverized ore according to their relative capacity for floating on a given liquid; *also* : any of various similar processes involving the relative capacity of materials for floating **4** : the ability (as of a tire) to stay on the surface of soft ground or snow
flo-til-la \flō-'til-ə\ *n* [Sp, dim. of *flota* fleet, fr. OF *flote*, fr. ON *floti*; akin to OE *flota* ship, fleet — more at FLOAT] **1** : a fleet of ships; *specif* : a navy organizational unit consisting of two or more squadrons of small warships **2** : a large force of moving things ⟨cleared by a ~ of bulldozers —R. L. Neuberger⟩
flot-sam \'flät-səm\ *n* [AF *floteson*, fr. OF *floter* to float, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *flotian* to float, *flota* ship] **1** : floating wreckage of a ship or its cargo; *broadly* : floating debris **2 a** : vagrant impoverished people **b** : unimportant miscellaneous material
¹flounce \'flau̇n(t)s\ *vi* **flounced; flounc-ing** [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *flunsa* to hurry] **1 a** : to move with exaggerated jerky motions ⟨little girls *flouncing* about in their mothers' clothes⟩ **b** : to go with sudden determination ⟨she *flounced* out of the room in a huff⟩ **2** : FLOUNDER, STRUGGLE
²flounce *n* : an act or instance of flouncing — **flouncy** \'flau̇n(t)-sē\ *adj*
³flounce *n* [alter. of earlier *frounce*, fr. ME *frouncen* to curl] : a strip of fabric attached by one edge; *also* : a wide ruffle — **flouncy** \'flau̇n(t)-sē\ *adj*
⁴flounce *vt* **flounced; flounc-ing** : to trim with flounces
flounc-ing \'flau̇n(t)-siŋ\ *n* : material used for flounces
¹floun-der \'flau̇n-dər\ *n, pl* **flounder** *or* **flounders** [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *flythra* flounder, *flatr* flat] : FLATFISH; *esp* : one of either of two families (Pleuronectidae and Bothidae) that include important marine food fishes


flounder

²flounder *vi* **floun-dered; floun-der-ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. alter. of *founder*] **1** : to struggle to move or obtain footing **2** : to proceed or act clumsily or ineffectually ⟨a bright student ~*ing* because of poor study habits⟩
¹flour \'flau̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME — more at FLOWER] **1** : finely ground meal of wheat usu. largely freed from bran; *also* : a similar meal of another material (as a cereal grain, an edible seed, or dried processed fish) **2** : a fine soft powder — **floury** \-ē\ *adj*
²flour *vt* : to coat with or as if with flour ~ *vi* : to break up into particles
¹flour-ish \'flər-ish, 'flə-rish\ *vb* [ME *florisshen*, fr. MF *floriss-*, stem of *florir*, fr. (assumed) VL *florire*, alter. of L *florēre*, fr. *flor-, flos* flower] *vi* **1** : to grow luxuriantly : THRIVE **2 a** : to achieve success : PROSPER **b** : to be in a state of activity or production ⟨~*ed* around 1850⟩ **c** : to reach a height of development or influence **3** : to make bold and sweeping gestures ~ *vt* : to wield with dramatic gestures : BRANDISH ***syn*** **1** see SUCCEED ***ant*** languish **2** see SWING — **flour-ish-er** *n* — **flour-ish-ing-ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
²flourish *n* **1** : a period of thriving **2 a** : an extraneous florid embellishment or passage **b** : an act or instance of brandishing : WAVE **c** : a studied or ostentatious action
¹flout \'flau̇t\ *vb* [prob. fr. ME *flouten* to play the flute, fr. *floute* flute] *vt* : to treat with contemptuous disregard : SCORN ⟨~*ing* the rules⟩ ~ *vi* : to indulge in scornful behavior ***syn*** see SCOFF — **flout-er** *n*
²flout *n* **1** : INSULT **2** : MOCKERY
¹flow \'flō\ *vb* [ME *flowen*, fr. OE *flōwan*; akin to OHG *flouwen* to rinse, wash, L *pluere* to rain, Gk *plein* to sail, float] *vi* **1 a** (1) : to issue or move in a stream (2) : CIRCULATE **b** : to move with a continual change of place among the constituent particles ⟨the molasses ~*ed* slowly⟩ **2** : RISE ⟨the tide ebbs and ~*s*⟩ **3** : ABOUND **4 a** : to proceed smoothly and readily ⟨conversation ~*ed* easily⟩ **b** : to have a smooth uninterrupted continuity ⟨the ~*ing* lines of the car⟩ **5** : to hang loose and billowing **6** : to derive from a source : COME ⟨the wealth that ~*s* from our industries⟩ **7** : to deform under stress without cracking or rupturing — used esp. of minerals and rocks **8** : MENSTRUATE ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause to flow **b** : to cover with water : FLOOD **2** : to discharge in a flow ***syn*** see SPRING — **flow-ing-ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
²flow *n* **1** : an act of flowing **2** : FLOOD 1a, 2 **3 a** : a smooth uninterrupted movement **b** : STREAM **c** : the direction of movement or apparent movement (as of a play in football) **4** : the quantity that flows in a certain time **5 a** : MENSTRUATION **b** : YIELD, PRODUCTION **6 a** : the motion characteristic of fluids **b** : a continuous transfer of energy
flow-age \'flō-ij\ *n* **1 a** : an overflowing onto adjacent land **b** : a body of water formed by overflowing or damming **c** : floodwater esp. of a stream **2** : gradual deformation of a body of plastic solid (as rock) by intermolecular shear
flow-chart \-ˌchärt\ *n* : a diagram consisting of a set of symbols (as rectangles or diamonds) and connecting lines that shows step-by-step progression through a usu. complicated procedure or system
flow diagram *n* : FLOWCHART
¹flow-er \'flau̇(-ə)r\ *n* [ME *flour* flower, best of anything, flour, fr. OF *flor, flour*, fr. L *flor-, flos* — more at BLOW] **1 a** : BLOSSOM, INFLORESCENCE **b** : a shoot of the sporophyte of a higher plant that is modified for reproduction and consists of a shortened axis bearing modified leaves **c** : a plant cultivated for its blossoms **2 a** : the best part or example ⟨the ~ of a nation's youth sent off to war⟩ **b** : the finest most vigorous period **c** : a state of blooming or flourishing **3** *pl* : a finely divided powder produced esp. by condensation or sublimation ⟨~*s* of sulfur⟩ — **flowered** \'flau̇(-ə)rd\ *adj* — **flow-er-less** \'flau̇(-ə)r-ləs\ *adj* — **flower-like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*



a flower in section: *1* stigma, *2* anther, *3* filament, *4* style, *5* sepal, *6* ovary, *7* pedicel, *8* petal, *9* stamen, *10* pistil

²flower *vi* **1** : to produce flowers : BLOSSOM **2 a** : DEVELOP ⟨~*ed* into young womanhood⟩ **b** : FLOURISH ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to bear flowers **2** : to decorate with floral designs — **flow-er-er** \'flau̇(-ə)r-ər\ *n*

flow·er·age \'flau̇(-ə)r-ij\ *n* : a flowering state
flower bud *n* : a plant bud that produces only a flower
flower bug *n* : any of various small mostly black-and-white predaceous bugs (family Anthocoridae) that frequent flowers and feed on pest insects (as aphids and thrips)
flower child *n* [fr. his displaying of flowers as a symbol of his sentiments] : a hippie who advocates love, beauty, and peace
flow·er·et \'flau̇(-ə)r-ət\ *n* : FLORET
flower girl *n* : a little girl who carries flowers at a wedding
flower head *n* : a capitulum (as of a composite) having sessile flowers so arranged that the whole inflorescence looks like a single flower
flowering dogwood *n* : a common spring-flowering white-bracted dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
flowering plant *n* **1** : a plant that produces flowers, fruit, and seed : ANGIOSPERM **2** : a plant notable for or cultivated for its ornamental flowers
flower people *n pl* : FLOWER CHILDREN
flow·er·pot \'flau̇(-ə)r-ˌpät\ *n* : a pot in which to grow plants
flow·ery \'flau̇(-ə)r-ē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling flowers **2** : marked by or given to rhetorical elegance — **flow·er·i·ness** *n*
¹flown \'flōn\ *past part of* FLY
²flown *adj* [archaic pp. of *¹flow*] : filled to excess
flow sheet *n* : FLOWCHART
flow·stone \'flō-ˌstōn\ *n* : travertine found where water flowing in a very thin sheet over rocks has deposited mineral matter
fl oz *abbr* fluidounce
FLS *abbr* Fellow of the Linnean Society
FLSA *abbr* Fair Labor Standards Act
flu \'flü\ *n* **1** : INFLUENZA **2** : any of several virus diseases marked esp. by respiratory symptoms
¹flub \'fləb\ *vb* **flubbed; flub·bing** [origin unknown] *vt* : to make a mess of : BOTCH ~ *vi* : BLUNDER
²flub *n* : an act or instance of flubbing
flub·dub \'fləb-ˌdəb\ *n* [origin unknown] : CLAPTRAP, BUNKUM
fluc·tu·ant \'flək-chə-wənt\ *adj* **1** : moving in waves **2** : VARIABLE, UNSTABLE **3** : being movable and compressible ⟨a ~ abscess⟩
fluc·tu·ate \'flək-chə-ˌwāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *fluctuatus*, pp. of *fluctuare*, fr. *fluctus* flow, wave, fr. *fluctus*, pp. of *fluere*] *vi* **1** : to ebb and flow in waves **2** : to shift back and forth uncertainly ~ *vt* : to cause to fluctuate ***syn*** see SWING — **fluc·tu·a·tion** \ˌflək-chə-'wa-shən\ *n*
flue \'flü\ *n* [origin unknown] : an enclosed passageway for directing a current: as **a** : a channel in a chimney for conveying flame and smoke to the outer air **b** : a pipe for conveying flame and hot gases around or through water in a steam boiler **c** : an air channel leading to the lip of a wind instrument
flue-cured \-ˌkyu̇(ə)rd\ *adj* : cured with heat transmitted through a flue without exposure to smoke or fumes ⟨~ tobacco⟩ — compare FIRE-CURED
flu·en·cy \'flü-ən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being fluent
flu·ent \'flü-ənt\ *adj* [L *fluent-, fluens*, prp. of *fluere*] **1** : capable of flowing : FLUID **2 a** : ready or facile in speech ⟨~ in Spanish⟩ **b** : effortlessly smooth and rapid : POLISHED ⟨a ~ performance⟩ — **flu·ent·ly** *adv*
flue pipe *n* : an organ pipe whose tone is produced by an air current striking the lip and causing the air within to vibrate — compare REED PIPE
flu·er·ic \flü-'er-ik\ *adj* : FLUIDIC — **flu·er·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr*
flue stop *n* : an organ stop made up of flue pipes
¹fluff \'fləf\ *n* [prob. alter. of *flue* (fluff)] **1** : NAP, DOWN **2** : something fluffy **3** : something inconsequential **4** : BLUNDER; *esp* : an actor's lapse of memory
²fluff *vi* **1** : to become fluffy **2** : to make a mistake; *esp* : to forget or bungle one's lines in a play ~ *vt* **1** : to make fluffy **2 a** : to spoil by a mistake : BOTCH **b** : to deliver badly or forget (one's lines) in a play
fluffy \'fləf-ē\ *adj* **fluff·i·er; -est** **1 a** : covered with or resembling fluff **b** : being light and soft or airy ⟨a ~ omelet⟩ **2** : lacking in intellectual content or decisive quality ⟨vague, ~, uncertain policies —Geoffrey Crowther⟩ — **fluff·i·ness** *n*
flü·gel·horn *or* **flue·gel·horn** \'flü-gəl-ˌhȯ(ə)rn, 'flyǖ-\ *n* [G, fr. *flügel* wing, flank + *horn*; fr. its use to signal the flanking drivers in a battue] : a valved brass instrument resembling a cornet but having a larger bore
¹flu·id \'flü-əd\ *adj* [F or L; F *fluide*, fr. L *fluidus*, fr. *fluere* to flow; akin to Gk *phlyzein* to boil over, L *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] **1 a** : having particles that easily move and change their relative position without a separation of the mass and that easily yield to pressure : capable of flowing **b** : likely or tending to change or move **2** : characterized by or employing a smooth easy style ⟨the ballerina's ~ movements⟩ **3 a** : available for a different use **b** : easily converted into cash ⟨~ assets⟩ — **flu·id·ly** *adv* — **flu·id·ness** *n*
²fluid *n* : a substance (as a liquid or gas) tending to flow or conform to the outline of its container — **flu·id·al** \-əd-ᵊl\ *adj* — **flu·id·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
fluid drive *n* : an automotive power coupling that operates on a hydraulic turbine principle with the flywheel having a set of turbine blades connected directly to it and driving them in oil thereby turning another set of turbine blades attached to the transmission gears
flu·id·ex·tract \ˌflü-ə-'dek-ˌstrakt\ *n* : an alcohol preparation of a vegetable drug containing the active constituents of one gram of the dry drug in each milliliter
flu·id·ic \flü-'id-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a device (as an amplifier or control) that depends for operation on the pressures and flows of a fluid in precisely shaped channels — **fluidic** *n* — **flu·id·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr*
flu·id·i·ty \flü-'id-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being fluid **2** : the physical property of a substance that enables it to flow
flu·id·ize \'flü-ə-ˌdīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to cause to flow like a fluid **2** : to suspend (as solid particles) in a rapidly moving stream of gas or vapor to induce flowing motion of the whole; *esp* : to fluidize the particles of (a loose bed of material) in an upward flow (as of a gas) for enhancing a chemical or physical reaction — **flu·id·iza·tion** \ˌflü-əd-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **flu·id·iz·er** \'flü-ə-ˌdī-zər\ *n*
fluid mechanics *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a branch of mechanics dealing with the properties of liquids and gases
flu·id·ounce \ˌflü-ə-'daun(t)s\ *n* **1** : a U.S. unit of liquid capacity equal to $^1/_{16}$ pint — see WEIGHT table **2** : a British unit of liquid capacity equal to $^1/_{20}$ pint — see WEIGHT table
flu·idram \ˌflü-ə(d)-'dram\ *n* [blend of *¹fluid* and *dram*] : a unit of liquid capacity equal to $^1/_8$ fluidounce — see WEIGHT table
¹fluke \'flük\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *flōc*; akin to OHG *flah* smooth — more at FLAKE] **1** : FLATFISH **2** : a flattened digenetic trematode worm; *broadly* : TREMATODE
²fluke *n* [perh. fr. *¹fluke*] **1** : the part of an anchor that fastens in the ground — see ANCHOR illustration **2** : a barbed head (as of a harpoon) **3** : one of the lobes of a whale's tail
³fluke *n* [origin unknown] **1** : an accidentally successful stroke at billiards or pool **2** : a stroke of luck ⟨the discovery was a ~⟩
fluky *also* **fluk·ey** \'flü-kē\ *adj* **fluk·i·er; -est** **1** : happening by or depending on chance **2** : being unsteady or uncertain : CHANGEABLE ⟨a ~ wind⟩
flume \'flüm\ *n* [prob. fr. ME *flum* river, fr. OF, fr. L *flumen*, fr. *fluere*] **1** : a ravine or gorge with a stream running through it **2** : an inclined channel for conveying water (as for power)
flum·mery \'fləm-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-mer·ies** [W *llymru*] **1 a** : a soft jelly or porridge made with flour or meal **b** : any of several sweet desserts **2** : MUMMERY, MUMBO JUMBO
flum·mox \'fləm-əks, -iks\ *vt* [origin unknown] : CONFUSE
¹flump \'fləmp\ *n* [imit.] : a dull heavy sound (as of a fall)
²flump *vi* : to move or fall suddenly and heavily ⟨~*ed* down into his chair with a sigh⟩ ~ *vt* : to place or drop with a flump
flung *past of* FLING
¹flunk \'fləŋk\ *vb* [perh. blend of *flinch* and *funk*] *vi* : to fail esp. in an examination or course ~ *vt* **1** : to give a failing grade to **2** : to get a failing grade in — **flunk·er** *n*
²flunk *n* : an act or instance of flunking
flunk out *vi* : to be dismissed from a school or college for failure ~ *vt* : to dismiss from a school or college for failure
flun·ky *or* **flun·key** \'fləŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **flunkies** *or* **flunkeys** [Sc, of unknown origin] **1 a** : a liveried servant **b** : one performing menial duties ⟨worked as a ~ in a lumber camp⟩ **2** : YES-MAN
flu·o·cin·o·lone ac·e·to·nide \ˌflü-ə-'sin-ᵊl-ˌōn-ˌas-ə-'tō-ˌnīd\ *n* [*fluor-* + *cin-* (of unknown origin) + *-ol* + cortis*one* + *acetone* + *-ide*] : a steroid $C_{24}H_{30}F_2O_6$ used esp. as an anti-inflammatory agent in the treatment of skin diseases
flu·or \'flü-ˌȯ(ə)r, 'flü-ər\ *n* [NL, mineral belonging to a group used as fluxes and including fluorite, fr. L, flow, fr. *fluere* — more at FLUID] : FLUORITE
fluor- *or* **fluoro-** *comb form* [F, fr. *fluorine*] **1** : fluorine ⟨*fluor*ide⟩ **2** *also* **fluori-** : fluorescence ⟨*fluoro*scope⟩ ⟨*fluori*meter⟩
flu·o·resce \ˌflu̇(ə)r-'es, flōr-, flȯr-\ *vi* **-resced; -resc·ing** [back-formation fr. *fluorescence*] : to produce, undergo, or exhibit fluorescence — **flu·o·resc·er** *n*
flu·o·res·ce·in \-'es-ē-ən\ *n* : a yellow or red crystalline dye $C_{20}H_{12}O_5$ with a bright yellow-green fluorescence in alkaline solution
flu·o·res·cence \-'es-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : emission of or the property of emitting electromagnetic radiation usu. as visible light resulting from and occurring only during the absorption of radiation from some other source; *also* : the radiation emitted
flu·o·res·cent \-'es-ᵊnt\ *adj* **1** : having or relating to fluorescence **2** : bright and glowing as a result of fluorescence ⟨a ~ pink⟩
fluorescent lamp *n* : a tubular electric lamp having a coating of fluorescent material on its inner surface and containing mercury vapor whose bombardment by electrons from the cathode provides ultraviolet light which causes the material to emit visible light
flu·o·ri·date \'flu̇r-ə-ˌdāt, 'flōr-, 'flȯr-\ *vt* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** : to add a fluoride to (as drinking water) — **flu·o·ri·da·tion** \ˌflu̇r-ə-'dā-shən, ˌflōr-, ˌflȯr-\ *n*
flu·o·ride \'flu̇(-ə)r-ˌīd\ *n* : a compound of fluorine usu. with another element or a radical
flu·o·ri·nate \'flu̇r-ə-ˌnāt, 'flōr-, 'flȯr-\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** : to treat or cause to combine with fluorine or a compound of fluorine — **flu·o·ri·na·tion** \ˌflu̇r-ə-'nā-shən, ˌflōr-, ˌflȯr-\ *n*
flu·o·rine \'flu̇(-ə)r-ˌēn, -ən\ *n* [F, fr. NL *fluor*] : a nonmetallic univalent halogen element that is normally a pale yellowish flammable irritating toxic gas — see ELEMENT table
flu·o·rite \'flu̇(-ə)r-ˌīt\ *n* [It] : a transparent or translucent mineral CaF_2 of different colors that consists of calcium fluoride and is used as a flux and in the making of opalescent and opaque glasses
flu·o·ro·car·bon \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-ō-'kär-bən\ *n* : any of various chemically inert compounds containing carbon and fluorine used chiefly as lubricants and refrigerants and in making resins and plastics
flu·o·ro·chrome \'flu̇(-ə)r-ə-ˌkrōm\ *n* : any of various fluorescent substances used in biological staining to produce fluorescence in a specimen
flu·o·rog·ra·phy \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-'äg-rə-fē\ *n* : PHOTOFLUOROGRAPHY — **flu·o·ro·graph·ic** \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj*
flu·o·rom·e·ter \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-'äm-ət-ər\ *or* **flu·o·rim·e·ter** \-'im-\ *n* : an instrument for measuring fluorescence and related phenomena (as intensity of radiation) — **flu·o·ro·met·ric** *or* **flu·o·ri·met·ric** \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **flu·o·rom·e·try** \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-'äm-ə-trē\ *or* **flu·o·rim·e·try** \-'im-\ *n*
¹flu·o·ro·scope \'flu̇r-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument used for observing the internal structure of an opaque object (as the living body) by means of X rays — **flu·o·ro·scop·ic** \ˌflu̇r-ə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* — **flu·o·ro·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **flu·o·ros·co·pist** \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-'äs-kə-pəst\ *n* — **flu·o·ros·co·py** \-pē\ *n*
²fluoroscope *vt* **-scoped; -scop·ing** : to examine by fluoroscopy
flu·o·ro·sis \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-'ō-səs\ *n* : an abnormal condition (as of the teeth) caused by fluorine or its compounds — **flu·o·rot·ic** \-'ät-ik\ *adj*

flu·o·ro·ura·cil \ˌflu̇(-ə)r-ō-ˈyu̇r-ə-ˌsil, -ˌsəl\ *n* [*fluor-* + *uracil*] : a fluorine-containing pyrimidine base $C_4H_3FN_2O_2$ used to treat some kinds of cancer

flu·or·spar \ˈflu̇(-ə)r-ˌspär\ *n* : FLUORITE

flu·phen·azine \flü-ˈfen-ə-ˌzēn\ *n* [*fluor-* + *phenazine*] : a tranquilizing compound $C_{22}H_{26}F_3N_3OS$ used esp. combined as a salt

[1]flur·ry \ˈflər-ē, ˈflə-rē\ *n, pl* **flurries** [prob. fr. *flurr* (to throw scatteringly)] **1 a** : a gust of wind **b** : a brief light snowfall **2** : a state of nervous upset or scurrying bustle **3** : a brief advance or decline in prices : a short-lived outburst of trading activity ***syn*** see STIR

[2]flurry *vb* **flur·ried; flur·ry·ing** *vt* : to cause to become agitated and confused ~ *vi* : to become flurried ***syn*** see DISCOMPOSE

[1]flush \ˈfləsh\ *vb* [ME *flusshen*] *vi* : to take wing suddenly ~ *vt* **1** : to cause (a bird) to flush **2** : to expose or chase from a place of concealment ⟨~*ed* the boys from their hiding place⟩

[2]flush *n* [perh. modif. of L *fluxus* — more at FLUX] **1** : a sudden flow (as of water); *also* : a rinsing or cleansing with or as if with a flush of water **2 a** : a sudden increase or expansion; *esp* : sudden and usu. abundant new plant growth **b** : a surge of emotion ⟨felt a ~ of anger at the insult⟩ **3 a** : a tinge of red : BLUSH **b** : a fresh and vigorous state ⟨in the first ~ of womanhood⟩ **4** : a transitory sensation of extreme heat

[3]flush *vi* **1** : to flow and spread suddenly and freely **2 a** : to glow brightly **b** : BLUSH ⟨~*ed* when she saw the picture⟩ **3** : to produce new growth ⟨the plants ~*ed* twice during the year⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause to flow **b** : to pour liquid over or through; *esp* : to cleanse or wash out with or as if with a rush of liquid ⟨~ the toilet⟩ ⟨~ the lungs with air⟩ **2** : INFLAME, EXCITE — usu. used passively ⟨~*ed* with victory⟩ **3** : to cause to blush **4** : to prepare (sheep) for breeding by special feeding

[4]flush *adj* **1 a** : filled to overflowing **b** : AFFLUENT **2 a** : full of life and vigor : LUSTY **b** : of a ruddy healthy color **3** : readily available : ABUNDANT **4 a** : having or forming a continuous plane or unbroken surface ⟨~ paneling⟩ **b** : directly abutting or immediately adjacent: as (1) : set even with an edge of a type page or column : having no indention (2) : arranged edge to edge so as to fit snugly — **flush·ness** *n*

[5]flush *adv* **1** : in a flush manner **2** : SQUARELY ⟨hit him ~ on the chin⟩

[6]flush *vt* : to make flush ⟨~ the headings on a page⟩

[7]flush *n* [MF *flus, fluz*, fr. L *fluxus* flow] **1** : a hand of playing cards all of the same suit; *specif* : a poker hand containing five cards of the same suit but not in sequence — see POKER illustration **2** : a series of three or more slalom gates set vertically on a slope

[1]flus·ter \ˈfləs-tər\ *vb* **flus·tered; flus·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Icel *flaustur* hurry] *vt* **1** : to make tipsy **2** : to put into a state of agitated confusion : UPSET ~ *vi* : to move or behave in an agitated or confused manner ***syn*** see DISCOMPOSE

[2]fluster *n* : a state of agitated confusion

[1]flute \ˈflüt\ *n* [ME *floute*, fr. MF *flahute*, fr. OProv *flaut*] **1 a** : RECORDER 3 **b** : a keyed woodwind instrument consisting of a cylindrical tube which is stopped at one end and which has a side hole over which air is blown to produce the tone and having a range from middle C upward for three octaves **2 a** : a grooved pleat (as on a hat brim) **b** : a rounded groove; *specif* : one of the vertical parallel grooves on a classical architectural column — **flute·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*



flute 1b

[2]flute *vb* **flut·ed; flut·ing** *vi* **1** : to play a flute **2** : to produce a flutelike sound ~ *vt* **1** : to utter with a flutelike sound **2** : to form flutes in — **flut·er** *n*

flut·ing \ˈflüt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a series of flutes : FLUTE ⟨the ~ of a column⟩ **2** : fluted material

flut·ist \ˈflüt-əst\ *n* : one who plays a flute

[1]flut·ter \ˈflət-ər\ *vb* [ME *floteren* to float, flutter, fr. OE *floterian*, freq. of *flotian* to float; akin to OE *flēotan* to float — more at FLEET] *vi* **1** : to flap the wings rapidly **2 a** : to move with quick wavering or flapping motions ⟨flags ~*ing* in the wind⟩ **b** : to vibrate in irregular spasms **3** : to move about or behave in an agitated aimless manner ~ *vt* : to cause to flutter — **flut·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n* — **flut·tery** \-ə-rē\ *adj*

[2]flutter *n* **1** : an act of fluttering **2 a** : a state of nervous confusion or excitement **b** : FLURRY, COMMOTION **c** : abnormal spasmodic fluttering of a body part ⟨treatment of atrial ~⟩ **3 a** : a distortion in reproduced sound similar to but of a higher pitch than wow **b** : fluctuation in the brightness of a television image **4** : an unwanted oscillation (as of an aileron or a bridge) set up by natural forces **5** *chiefly Brit* : a small speculative venture or gamble ⟨took a ~ on the ponies⟩

flut·ter·board \ˈflət-ər-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a rectangular board used by swimmers in practicing leg strokes

flutter kick *n* : an alternating whipping motion of the legs used in various swimming styles (as the crawl)

flu·vi·al \ˈflü-vē-əl\ *adj* [L *fluvialis*, fr. *fluvius* river, fr. *fluere*] **1** : of, relating to, or living in a stream or river **2** : produced by stream action

flu·vi·a·tile \ˈflü-vē-ə-ˌtīl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *fluviatilis*, irreg. fr. *fluvius*] : FLUVIAL

[1]flux \ˈfləks\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & ML; MF, fr. ML *fluxus*, fr. L, flow, fr. *fluxus*, pp. of *fluere* to flow — more at FLUID] **1** : a flowing of fluid from the body; *esp* : an excessive abnormal discharge from the bowels **2** : a continuous moving on or passing by (as of a stream) **3** : a continued flow : FLOOD **4 a** : INFLUX **b** : CHANGE, FLUCTUATION ⟨the program was in a state of ~⟩ **5 a** : a substance used to promote fusion esp. of metals or minerals **b** : a substance (as rosin) applied to surfaces to be joined by soldering, brazing, or welding to clean and free them from oxide and promote their union **6** : the rate of transfer of fluid, particles, or energy across a given surface

[2]flux *vt* **1** : to cause to become fluid **2** : to treat with a flux ~ *vi* : to become fluid : FUSE

flux gate *n* : a device used to indicate the direction of the terrestrial magnetic field — called also *flux valve*

flux·ion \ˈflək-shən\ *n* **1** : constant change **2** *pl, archaic* : CALCULUS 3b — **flux·ion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

[1]fly \ˈflī\ *vb* **flew** \ˈflü\; **flown** \ˈflōn\; **fly·ing** [ME *flien*, fr. OE *flēogan;* akin to OHG *fliogan* to fly, OE *flōwan* to flow] *vi* **1 a** : to move in or pass through the air with wings **b** : to move through the air or before the wind ⟨clouds ~*ing* across the sky⟩; *also* : to move through outer space **c** : to float, wave, or soar in the air ⟨flags ~*ing* at half-mast⟩ **2 a** : to take flight : FLEE **b** : to fade and disappear : VANISH **3 a** : to move or pass swiftly **b** : to be moved with violence ⟨*flew* into a rage⟩ **c** : to seem to pass quickly ⟨our vacation simply *flew*⟩ **4** : to become expended or dissipated rapidly **5** : to pursue or attack in flight **6** : to operate or travel in an airplane or spacecraft ~ *vt* **1 a** : to cause to fly or float in the air ⟨was ~*ing* his kite⟩ **b** : to operate (as a balloon, aircraft, rocket, or spacecraft) in flight **c** : to journey over by flying **2 a** : to flee or escape from **b** : AVOID, SHUN **3** : to transport by airplane — **fly at** : to assail suddenly and violently — **fly blind** : to fly an airplane solely by instruments — **fly contact** : to fly an airplane with the aid of visible landmarks or reference points — **fly high** : to be elated — **fly in the face of** *or* **fly in the teeth of** : to act forthrightly or brazenly in defiance or disobedience of

[2]fly *n, pl* **flies** **1** : the action or process of flying : FLIGHT **2 a** : a device consisting of two or more radial vanes capable of rotating on a spindle to act as a fan or to govern the speed of clockwork or very light machinery **b** : FLYWHEEL **3 a** : a horse-drawn public coach or delivery wagon **b** *chiefly Brit* : a light covered carriage or cab **4** *pl* : the space over a theater stage where scenery and equipment can be hung **5** : something attached by one edge: as **a** : a garment closing concealed by a fold of cloth extending over the fastener **b** : the outer canvas of a tent with double top **c** (1) : the length of an extended flag from its staff or support (2) : the outer or loose end of a flag **6** : a baseball hit high into the air **7** : FLYLEAF **8** : a football pass pattern in which the receiver runs straight downfield — **on the fly** **1** : continuously active : very busy **2** : while still in the air : without the ball bouncing ⟨the ball carried 400 feet *on the fly*⟩

[3]fly *vi* **flied; fly·ing** : to hit a fly in baseball

[4]fly *n, pl* **flies** [ME *flie*, fr. OE *flēoge;* akin to OHG *flioga* fly, OE *flēogan* to fly] **1** : a winged insect **2** : TWO-WINGED FLY; *esp* : one that is large and stout-bodied **3** : a fishhook dressed (as with feathers or tinsel) to suggest an insect — **fly in the ointment** : a detracting factor or element

[5]fly *adj* [prob. fr. [1]*fly*] *chiefly Brit* : KEEN, ARTFUL

fly·able \ˈflī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : suitable for flying or for being flown

fly agaric *n* : a poisonous mushroom (*Amanita muscaria*) with a usu. bright red cap

fly ash *n* : fine solid particles of noncombustible ash carried out of a bed of solid fuel by the draft

fly·away \ˈflī-ə-ˌwā\ *adj* **1** : lacking in order and practical sense : FLIGHTY ⟨a pretty, careless, ~ sort of woman⟩ **2** : made loose and flowing esp. because of unconfined fullness at the back ⟨a ~ jacket⟩ **3 a** : ready to fly ⟨~ aircraft⟩ **b** : of or relating to an airplane that is ready to fly ⟨~ price⟩

fly ball *n* : [2]FLY 6

fly·belt \ˈflī-ˌbelt\ *n* : an area infested with tsetse fly

[1]fly·blow \-ˌblō\ *n* [[4]*fly* + *blow* (deposit of insect eggs)] **1** : an egg or young larva deposited by a flesh fly or blowfly **2** : FLY-STRIKE

[2]flyblow *vt* **-blew; -blown** **1** : to deposit flyblows in **2** : TAINT, CONTAMINATE

fly·blown \ˈflī-ˌblōn\ *adj* **1 a** : infested with flyblows **b** : covered with flyspecks **2 a** : not pure : TAINTED ⟨a world ~ with the vices of irresponsible power —V. L. Parrington⟩ **b** : not bright and new : SEEDY, MOTH-EATEN **c** : TRITE, HACKNEYED ⟨a long list of ~ metaphors —*Horizon*⟩

fly·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* [modif. of D *vlieboot*, fr. *Vlie*, channel between North sea & Wadden Zee + *boot* boat] : any of various fast boats

fly book *n* : a case usu. in the form of a book for storing fishing flies

fly–boy \ˈflī-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a member of the air force

fly bridge *n* : an open deck on a cabin cruiser located above the bridge on the cabin roof and usu. having a duplicate set of navigating equipment

fly·by \ˈflī-ˌbī\ *n, pl* **flybys** **1** : a usu. low-altitude flight past a predesignated place by one or more airplanes **2 a** : a flight of a spacecraft past a celestial body (as Mars) close enough to obtain scientific data; *also* : a suborbital flight around the moon **b** : a spacecraft that makes a flyby

[1]fly–by–night \ˈflī-bə-ˌnīt\ *n* **1** : one that seeks to evade responsibilities and esp. creditors by flight **2** : one without established reputation or standing; *esp* : a shaky business enterprise

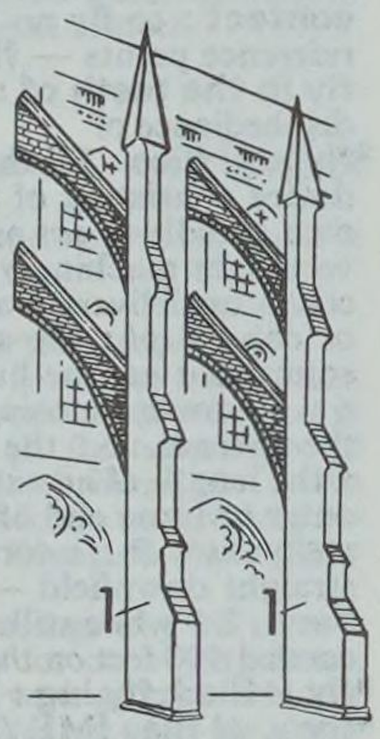
[2]fly–by–night *adj* **1** : given to making a quick profit usu. by shady or irresponsible acts ⟨~ promoters trying to cash in —Tom McSloy⟩ **2** : TRANSITORY, PASSING ⟨~ fashions⟩

fly–by–night·er \ˌflī-bə-ˈnīt-ər\ *n* : FLY-BY-NIGHT

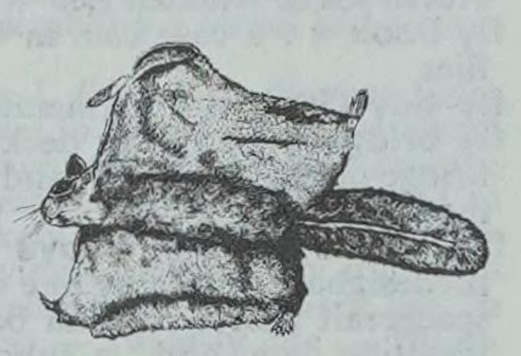
fly casting *n* : the casting of artificial flies in fly-fishing or as a competitive sport

fly·catch·er \ˈflī-ˌkach-ər, -ˌkech-\ *n* : a bird (order Passeriformes) that feeds on insects taken on the wing

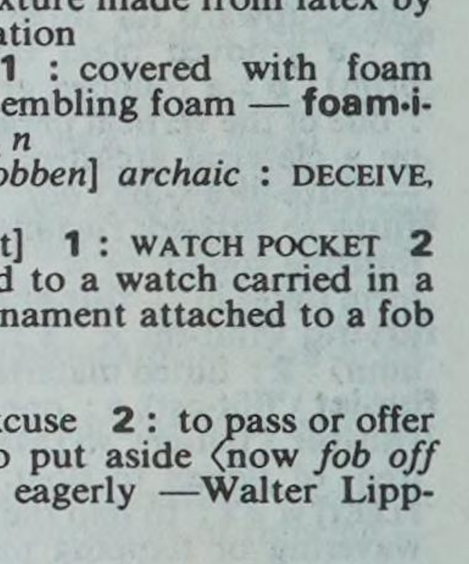
fly dope *n* **1** : a dressing that makes fishing flies water-resistant so that they will float **2** : an insect repellent
fly·er *var of* FLIER
fly–fish·ing \'flī-ˌfish-iŋ\ *n* : a method of fishing in which an artificial fly is cast by use of a long flexible rod, a reel, and a relatively heavy oiled or treated line
fly front *n* : a concealed closing on the front of coats, skirts, shirts, or dresses — compare ²FLY 5a
fly gallery *n* : a narrow raised platform at the side of a theater stage from which flying scenery lines are operated
¹fly·ing \'flī-iŋ\ *adj* **1 a** : moving or capable of moving in the air **b** : rapidly moving ⟨~ feet⟩ **c** : very brief **2** : intended for ready movement or action ⟨a ~ squad car⟩ **3** : having stylized wings — used esp. of livestock brand marks **4** : of or relating to the operation of aircraft ⟨belongs to a ~ club⟩ **5** : traversed or to be traversed (as in speed-record trials) after a running start ⟨~ kilometer⟩ ⟨~ mile⟩ — **with flying colors** : with complete or eminent success ⟨passed the exam *with flying colors*⟩
²flying *n* **1** : travel by air **2** : the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft
flying boat *n* : a seaplane with a hull adapted for floating
flying bomb *n* : ROBOT BOMB
flying bridge *n* **1** : the highest navigational bridge on a ship **2** : FLY BRIDGE
flying buttress *n* : a masonry structure that typically consists of a straight inclined bar carried on an arch and a solid pier or buttress against which it abuts and that receives the thrust of a roof or vault


1 flying buttresses

flying column *n* : a strong military detachment that operates at a distance from the main force
Flying Dutchman *n* **1** : a legendary Dutch mariner condemned to sail the seas until Judgment Day **2** : a spectral ship that according to legend haunts the seas near the Cape of Good Hope in stormy weather
flying field *n* : a field with a graded area for airplane landings and takeoffs
flying fish *n* : any of numerous fishes (family Exocoetidae) chiefly of tropical and warm seas that have long pectoral fins suggesting wings and are able to move some distance through the air
flying fox *n* : FRUIT BAT
flying gurnard *n* : any of several marine fishes (family Dactylopteridae) that resemble gurnards and have large pectoral fins allowing them to glide above the water for short distances
flying jib *n* : a sail outside the jib on an extension of the jibboom — see SAIL illustration
flying jibboom *n* : an extension of a jibboom
flying lemur *n* : an East Indian or a Philippine arboreal nocturnal mammal (genus *Cynocephalus*) that is about the size of a cat with a broad fold of skin from the neck to the tail on each side that embraces the limbs and forms a parachute used in making long sailing leaps and that is usu. isolated in a distinct order (Dermoptera)
flying machine *n* : an apparatus for navigating the air
flying mare *n* : a wrestling maneuver in which the aggressor seizes his opponent's wrist, turns about, and jerks him over his back
flying officer *n* : a commissioned officer in the British air force who ranks with a first lieutenant in the army
flying saucer *n* : any of various unidentified moving objects repeatedly reported as seen in the air and usu. described as being saucer-shaped or disk-shaped — called also *flying disk*
flying spot *n* : a spot of light that is moved over a surface (as one bearing printing or an image) so that light reflected from or transmitted by different parts of the surface is translated into electrical signals for transmission (as in television or computers)
flying squad *n* : a usu. small standby group of people ready to move or act swiftly; *esp* : a police unit formed to respond quickly in an emergency
flying squirrel *n* : a small large-eyed nocturnal No. American squirrel (*Glaucomys volans*) with folds of skin connecting the forelegs and hind legs that enable it to make long gliding leaps; *also* : any of several similar squirrels


flying squirrel

flying start *n* : a start in racing in which the participants are already moving when they cross the starting line or receive the starting signal
flying wedge *n* : a moving formation (as of guards or police) resembling a wedge
fly·leaf \'flī-ˌlēf\ *n* : one of the free endpapers of a book
fly·man \-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : a worker in the flies of a theater who manipulates curtains and scenery
fly net *n* : a net to exclude or keep off insects (as from a harness horse)
fly·over \'flī-ˌō-vər\ *n* **1** : a low-altitude flight over a public gathering or place by one or more airplanes **2** *Brit* : OVERPASS
fly·pa·per \-ˌpā-pər\ *n* : paper coated with a sticky often poisonous substance for killing flies
fly·past \-ˌpast\ *n, Brit* : FLYBY
fly rod *n* : a light springy fishing rod used in fly casting
flysch \'flish\ *n* [G dial.] : a thick and extensive deposit largely of sandstone that is formed in a geosyncline adjacent to a rising mountain belt and is esp. common in the Alpine region of Europe
fly sheet *n* **1** : a small loose advertising sheet : HANDBILL **2** : a sheet of a folder, booklet, or catalog giving directions for the use of or information about the material that follows
fly·speck \'flī-ˌspek\ *n* **1** : a speck made by fly excrement **2** : something small and insignificant — **flyspeck** *vt*
fly–strike \-ˌstrīk\ *n* : infestation with fly maggots
fly·swat·ter \-ˌswät-ər\ *n* : a device for killing insects that consists of a flat piece of perforated rubber or plastic or fine-mesh wire netting attached to a handle
fly·ti·er \'flī-ˌtī(-ə)r\ *n* [*fly* + *tier* (one that ties)] : a maker of flies for fishing
flyt·ing \'flīt-iŋ\ *n* [gerund of E dial. *flyte* to quarrel] : a dispute or exchange of personal abuse in verse form (as in an epic)
fly·way \'flī-ˌwā\ *n* : an established air route of migratory birds
fly·weight \-ˌwāt\ *n* : a boxer weighing 112 pounds or less
flywheel \-ˌhwēl, -ˌwēl\ *n* : a heavy wheel for opposing and moderating by its inertia any fluctuation of speed in the machinery with which it revolves
fly whisk *n* : a whisk for brushing away flies
fm *abbr* fathom
Fm *symbol* fermium
FM *abbr* **1** field manual **2** frequency modulation
FMB *abbr* Federal Maritime Board
FMCS *abbr* Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service
FMN \ˌef-ˌem-'en\ *n* [*f*lavin *mononucleotide*] : a yellow crystalline phosphoric ester $C_{17}H_{21}N_4O_9P$ of riboflavin that is a coenzyme of several flavoprotein enzymes — called also *flavin mononucleotide*
fn *abbr* footnote
FNMA *sometimes* ˌfan-ē-'mā\ *abbr* Federal National Mortgage Association
f–num·ber \'ef-ˌnəm-bər\ *n* [*f*ocal length] **1** : the ratio of the focal length to the aperture in an optical system **2** : a number following the symbol f/ that expresses the effectiveness of the aperture of a camera lens in relation to brightness of image so that the smaller the number the brighter the image and therefore the shorter the exposure required
fo *or* **fol** *abbr* folio
FO *abbr* **1** field officer **2** field order **3** finance officer **4** flight officer **5** foreign office **6** forward observer
¹foal \'fōl\ *n* [ME *fole*, fr. OE *fola;* akin to L *pullus* young of an animal, Gk *pais* child — more at FEW] : the young of an animal of the horse family; *esp* : one under one year
²foal *vi* : to give birth to a foal
¹foam \'fōm\ *n* [ME *fome*, fr. OE *fām;* akin to OHG *feim* foam, L *spuma* foam, *pumex* pumice] **1** : a light frothy mass of fine bubbles formed in or on the surface of a liquid: as **a** : a frothy mass formed in salivating or sweating **b** : a stabilized froth produced chemically or mechanically and used esp. in fighting oil fires **c** : a material in a lightweight cellular form resulting from introduction of gas bubbles during manufacture **2** : SEA **3** : something resembling foam — **foam·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²foam *vi* **1 a** : to produce or form foam **b** : to froth at the mouth esp. in anger; *broadly* : to be angry **2** : to gush out in foam **3** : to become covered with or as if with foam ⟨streets . . . ~*ing* with life —Thomas Wolfe⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to foam; *specif* : to cause air bubbles to form in **2** : to convert (as a plastic) into a foam — **foam·er** *n*
foamed plastic *n* : EXPANDED PLASTIC
foam·flow·er \'fōm-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : an American woodland spring-flowering herb (*Tiarella cordifolia*) that has white flowers with very long stamens and no stem leaves — called also *false miterwort*
foam rubber *n* : spongy rubber of fine texture made from latex by foaming (as by whipping) before vulcanization
foamy \'fō-mē\ *adj* **foam·i·er; -est** **1** : covered with foam : FROTHY **2** : full of, consisting of, or resembling foam — **foam·i·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **foam·i·ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*
¹fob \'fäb\ *vt* **fobbed; fob·bing** [ME *fobben*] *archaic* : DECEIVE, CHEAT
²fob *n* [perh. akin to G dial. *fuppe* pocket] **1** : WATCH POCKET **2** : a short strap, ribbon, or chain attached to a watch carried in a watch pocket or a vest pocket **3** : an ornament attached to a fob chain
FOB *abbr* free on board
fob off *vt* **1** : to put off with a trick or excuse **2** : to pass or offer (something spurious) as genuine **3** : to put aside ⟨now *fob off* what once they would have welcomed eagerly —Walter Lippmann⟩
FOC *abbr* free of charge
fo·cal \'fō-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having a focus — **fo·cal·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv*
focal infection *n* : a persistent bacterial infection of some organ or region; *esp* : one causing symptoms elsewhere in the body
fo·cal·ize \'fō-kə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to bring to a focus **2** : to adjust the focus of **3** : LOCALIZE ~ *vi* : to become focalized — **fo·cal·iza·tion** \ˌfō-kə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
focal length *n* : the distance of a focus from the surface of a lens or concave mirror
focal plane *n* : a plane that is perpendicular to the axis of a lens or mirror and passes through the focus
focal point *n* : FOCUS 5 ⟨the fireplace was the *focal point* of the room⟩
focal ratio *n* : F-NUMBER 1
fo'·c'sle *var of* FORECASTLE
¹fo·cus \'fō-kəs\ *n, pl* **fo·cus·es** *or* **fo·ci** \-ˌsī\ [NL, fr. L, hearth] **1** : a point at which rays (as of light, heat, or sound) converge or from which they diverge or appear to diverge; *specif* : the point where the geometrical lines or their prolongations conforming to the rays diverging from or converging toward another point intersect and give rise to an image after reflection by a mirror or refraction by a lens or optical system **2 a** : FOCAL LENGTH **b** : adjustment for



focus 1: *A* convex lens: light rays *a* converge to form principal focus *b; B* concave lens: light rays *c* refracted as at *d* form virtual focus *e*

distinct vision; *also* : the area that may be seen distinctly or resolved into a clear image **c** : a position in which something must be placed for clarity of perception ⟨tried to bring the issues into ~⟩ **3** : one of the fixed points that with the corresponding directrix defines a conic section **4** : a localized area of disease or the chief site of a generalized disease or infection **5** : a center of activity, attraction, or attention ⟨the ~ of the meeting was on drug abuse⟩ **6** : the place of origin of an earthquake — **fo·cus·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **in focus** : having or giving the proper sharpness of outline due to good focusing — **out of focus** : not in focus

²focus *vb* **fo·cused** *also* **fo·cussed; fo·cus·ing** *also* **fo·cus·sing** *vt* **1** : to bring to a focus : CONCENTRATE **2** : to cause to be concentrated ⟨~*ed* their attention on the most urgent problems⟩ **3 a** : to adjust the focus of **b** : to bring into focus ~ *vi* **1** : to come to a focus : CONVERGE **2** : to adjust one's eye or a camera to a particular range — **fo·cus·able** \-kəs-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **fo·cus·er** *n*

fod·der \'fäd-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fōdor;* akin to OHG *fuotar* food — more at FOOD] **1** : something fed to domestic animals; *esp* : coarse food for cattle, horses, or sheep **2** : something that is used to supply a constant demand ⟨collected data which became computer ~⟩ — **fodder** *vt*

fod·gel \'fäj-əl\ *adj* [origin unknown] *Scot* : BUXOM

foe \'fō\ *n* [ME *fo,* fr. OE *fāh,* fr. *fāh* hostile; akin to OHG *gifēh* hostile] **1** : one who has personal enmity for another **2** : an enemy in war : ADVERSARY **3** : one who opposes on principle ⟨a ~ of needless expenditures⟩ **4** : something prejudicial or injurious ***syn*** see ENEMY ***ant*** friend

FOE *abbr* Fraternal Order of Eagles

foehn *or* **föhn** \'fə(r)n, 'fœn, 'fān\ *n* [G *föhn*] : a warm dry wind blowing down the side of a mountain

foe·man \'fō-mən\ *n* : an enemy in war : FOE

foe·tal, foe·tus *var of* FETAL, FETUS

foe·tid *var of* FETID

foeto- *or* **foeti-** — see FETO-

¹fog \'fȯg, 'fäg\ *n* [ME, rank grass] **1** *dial* **a** : dead or decaying grass in the winter **b** : a second growth of grass **2** *dial* : MOSS

²fog *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Dan *fog* spray, shower; akin to L *pustula* blister, pimple, Gk *physan* to blow] **1 a** : vapor condensed to fine particles of water suspended in the lower atmosphere that differs from cloud only in being near the ground **b** : a fine spray or a foam for fire fighting **2** : a murky condition of the atmosphere or a substance causing it **3 a** : a state of confusion or bewilderment **b** : something that confuses or obscures ⟨hid behind a ~ of rhetoric⟩ **4** : cloudiness or partial opacity in a developed photographic image caused by chemical action or stray radiation ***syn*** see HAZE — **fog·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

³fog *vb* **fogged; fog·ging** *vt* **1** : to cover, envelop, or suffuse with or as if with fog ⟨~ the barns with pesticide⟩ **2** : to make obscure or confusing ⟨accusations which *fogged* the real issues⟩ **3** : to make confused **4** : to produce fog on (as a photographic film) during development ~ *vi* **1** : to become covered or thick with fog **2 a** : to become blurred by a covering of fog or mist **b** : to become indistinct through exposure to light or radiation

fog·bound \'fȯg-ˌbau̇nd, 'fäg-\ *adj* **1** : covered with or surrounded by fog ⟨~ coast⟩ **2** : unable to move because of fog ⟨~ ship⟩

fog·bow \-ˌbō\ *n* : a nebulous arc or circle of white or yellowish light sometimes seen in fog

fog·dog \-ˌdȯg\ *n* : FOGBOW

fog·gage \'fȯg-ij, 'fäg-\ *n, chiefly Scot* : ¹FOG, MOSS

fog·ger \-ər\ *n* : one that fogs; *esp* : an apparatus for spreading a fog of pesticide

fog·gy \'fȯg-ē, 'fäg-\ *adj* **fog·gi·er; -est** **1 a** : filled or abounding with fog **b** : covered or made opaque by moisture or grime **2** : blurred or obscured as if by fog ⟨hadn't the *foggiest* notion what they were voting for⟩ — **fog·gi·ly** \'fȯg-ə-lē, 'fäg-\ *adv* — **fog·gi·ness** \'fȯg-ē-nəs, 'fäg-\ *n*

Foggy Bottom *n* [*Foggy Bottom,* district in Washington, D.C., on the Potomac river where the State Department building is located] : the U.S. Department of State

fog·horn \'fȯg-ˌhȯ(ə)rn, 'fäg-\ *n* **1** : a horn (as on a ship) sounded in a fog to give warning **2** : a loud hoarse voice

fo·gy *also* **fo·gey** \'fō-gē\ *n, pl* **fogies** *also* **fogeys** [origin unknown] : a person with old-fashioned ideas — usu. used with *old* — **fo·gy·ish** \-gē-ish\ *adj* — **fo·gy·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

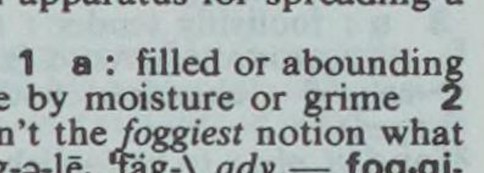
foi·ble \'fȯi-bəl\ *n* [obs. F (now *faible*), fr. obs. *foible* weak, fr. OF *feble* feeble] **1** : the part of a sword or foil blade between the middle and point **2** : a minor flaw or shortcoming in personal character or behavior : WEAKNESS ***syn*** see FAULT

foie gras \'fwä-'grä\ *n* [F] : liver esp. of a goose usu. in the form of a pâté

¹foil \'fȯi(ə)l\ *vt* [ME *foilen* to trample, full cloth, fr. MF *fouler* — more at FULL] **1** *obs* : TRAMPLE **2 a** : to prevent from attaining an end : DEFEAT **b** : to bring to naught ***syn*** see FRUSTRATE

²foil *n* **1** *archaic* : DEFEAT **2** *archaic* : the track or trail of an animal **3 a** : a light fencing sword having a usu. circular guard and a flexible blade of rectangular section tapering to a blunted point — compare ÉPÉE, SABER **b** : the art or sport of fencing with the foil — often used in pl.

³foil *n* [ME, leaf, fr. MF *foille* (fr. L *folia,* pl. of *folium*) & *foil,* fr. L *folium* — more at BLADE] **1 a** : an indentation between cusps in Gothic tracery **b** : one of several arcs that enclose a complex figure **2 a** : very thin sheet metal **b** : a thin coat of tin or silver laid on the back of a mirror **3** : a thin piece of material (as metal) put under an inferior or paste stone to add color or brilliance **4** : one that serves as a contrast to another ⟨acted as a ~ for a comedian⟩ **5** : HYDROFOIL 1



foils 1a

⁴foil *vt* **1** : to back or cover with foil **2** : to enhance by contrast

foiled \'fȯi(ə)ld\ *adj* : ornamented with foils ⟨a ~ arch⟩

foils·man \'fȯi(ə)lz-mən\ *n* : one who fences with a foil

¹foin \'fȯin\ *vi* [ME *foinen,* fr. *foin* fork for spearing fish, fr. MF *foisne*] *archaic* : to thrust with a pointed weapon : LUNGE

²foin *n, archaic* : a pass in fencing : LUNGE

foi·son \'fȯiz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *foisoun,* fr. MF *foison*] **1** *archaic* : rich harvest **2** *chiefly Scot* : physical energy or strength **3** *pl, obs* : RESOURCES

foist \'fȯist\ *vt* [prob. fr. obs. D *vuisten* to take into one's hand, fr. MD *vuysten,* fr. *vuyst* fist; akin to OE *fȳst* fist] **1 a** : to introduce or insert surreptitiously or without warrant **b** : to force another to accept esp. by stealth or deceit **2** : to pass off as genuine or worthy ⟨~ costly and valueless products on the public —Jonathan Spivak⟩

fo·la·cin \'fō-lə-sən\ *n* [*folic acid* + *-in*] : FOLIC ACID

fo·late \'fō-ˌlāt\ *n* : FOLIC ACID

¹fold \'fōld\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *falod;* akin to MLG *vālt* enclosure] **1** : an enclosure for sheep **2 a** : a flock of sheep **b** : a group of people adhering to a common faith, belief, or enthusiasm

²fold *vt* : to pen up or confine (as sheep) in a fold

³fold *vb* [ME *folden,* fr. OE *fealdan;* akin to OHG *faldan* to fold, Gk *diplasios* twofold] *vt* **1** : to lay one part over another part of ⟨~ a letter⟩ **2** : to reduce the length or bulk of by doubling over ⟨~ his legs⟩ **3** : to clasp together : ENTWINE ⟨~ his hands⟩ **4** : to clasp or enwrap closely : EMBRACE **5** : to bend (as a layer of rock) into folds **6** : to incorporate (a food ingredient) into a mixture by repeated gentle overturnings without stirring or beating **7** : to bring to an end ~ *vi* **1** : to become doubled or pleated **2** : to fail completely : COLLAPSE; *esp* : to stop production or operation for lack of business ⟨the new restaurant ~*ed* in less than a year⟩ — often used with *up* — **fold·able** \'fōl-də-bəl\ *adj*

⁴fold *n* **1** : a doubling or folding over **2** : a part doubled or laid over another part : PLEAT **3** : something that is folded together or that enfolds **4 a** : a bend or flexure produced in rock by forces operative after the depositing or consolidation of the rock **b** *chiefly Brit* : an undulation in the landscape **5** : a margin apparently formed by the doubling upon itself of a membrane or other flat anatomical structure

-fold \ˌfōld, 'fōld\ *suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-feald;* akin to OHG *-falt* -fold, OE *fealdan*] **1** : multiplied by (a specified number) : times — in adjectives ⟨a twelve*fold* increase⟩ and adverbs ⟨repay you ten*fold*⟩ **2** : having (so many) parts ⟨three*fold* aspect of the problem⟩

fold·away \ˌfōl-də-ˌwā\ *adj* : designed to fold out of the way or out of sight ⟨~ doors⟩ ⟨~ bed⟩

foldboat \'fōl(d)-ˌbōt\ *n* : a small collapsible canoe made of rubberized sailcloth stretched over a framework

fold·boat·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : the sport of shooting rapids and cruising on swift water in a foldboat — **fold·boat·er** \-ər\ *n*

fold·er \'fōl-dər\ *n* **1** : one that folds **2** : a printed circular folded usu. so that the printed matter does not cross the fold **3** : a folded cover or large envelope for holding or filing loose papers

fol·de·rol \'fäl-də-ˌräl\ *n* [*fol-de-rol,* a refrain in some old songs] **1** : a useless ornament or accessory : TRIFLE **2** : NONSENSE

folding door *n* : a door with jointed sections that can be folded together like an accordion

folding money *n* : PAPER MONEY

fold·out \'fōl-ˌdau̇t\ *n* : a folded insert (as a map) in a publication (as a book) larger in some dimension than the page

fo·li·a·ceous \ˌfō-lē-'ā-shəs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling a foliage leaf **2** : consisting of thin laminae ⟨~ spar⟩

fo·liage \'fō-l(ē-)ij, -lyij\ *n* [MF *fuellage,* fr. *foille* leaf — more at FOIL] **1** : the aggregate of leaves of one or more plants produced in nature **2** : a cluster of leaves, flowers, and branches **3** : a representation of leaves, flowers, and branches for architectural ornamentation — **fo·liaged** \-l(ē-)ijd, -lyijd\ *adj*

foliage leaf *n* : an ordinary green leaf as distinguished from a floral leaf, scale, or bract

foliage plant *n* : a plant grown primarily for its decorative foliage

fo·li·ar \'fō-lē-ər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or applied to leaves ⟨~ sprays⟩

¹fo·li·ate \'fō-lē-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj* [L *foliatus* leafy fr. *folium* leaf — more at BLADE] **1** : shaped like a leaf ⟨a ~ sponge⟩ **2** : FOLIATED

²fo·li·ate \-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vt* **1** : to beat into a leaf or thin foil **2** : to spread over with a thin coat of tin amalgam **3** : to number the leaves of (as a manuscript) **4 a** : to form (as an arch) into foils **b** : to ornament (as a pedestal) with foliage ~ *vi* : to divide into laminae or leaves

-fo·li·ate \-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj comb form* : having (such or so many) leaves or leaflets ⟨tri*foliate*⟩

fo·li·at·ed \-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : composed of laminae **2** : separable into layers ⟨a ~ rock⟩

fo·li·a·tion \ˌfō-lē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the process of forming into a leaf **b** : the state of being in leaf **c** : VERNATION **2** : the act of numbering the leaves of a book; *also* : the total count of leaves so numbered **3 a** : ornamentation with foliage **b** : a decoration resembling a leaf **4** : the enrichment of an opening by foils **5** : the act of beating a metal into a thin plate or foil **6** : foliated texture

fo·lic acid \ˌfō-lik-\ *n* [L *folium*] : a crystalline pteroylglutamic acid $C_{19}H_{19}N_7O_6$ that is a vitamin of the B complex and is used in the treatment of nutritional anemias and sprue

fo·lie à deux \fȯ-lē-ä-dœ, ˌfäl-ē-ˌäd-'ə(r)\ *n* [F, lit., double madness] : the presence of the same or similar delusional ideas in two persons closely associated with one another

fo·li·ic·o·lous \ˌfō-lē-'ik-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *folium* + ISV *-colous*] : growing or parasitic on leaves ⟨the ~ ascomycetes⟩

¹fo·lio \'fō-lē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **fo·li·os** [ME, fr. L, abl. of *folium*] **1 a** : a leaf esp. of a manuscript or book **b** : a leaf number **c** : a page number **d** : an identifying reference in accounting used in posting **2 a** : a sheet of paper folded once **b** : a case or folder for loose

papers **3 a** : the size of a piece of paper cut two from a sheet; *also* : paper or a page of this size **b** : a book printed on folio pages **c** : a book of the largest size **4** : a certain number of words taken as a unit or division in a document for purposes of measurement or reference

²folio *vt* : to put a serial number on each leaf or page of

-fo·li·o·late \ˈfō-lē-ə-ˌlāt\ *adj comb form* [LL *foliolum* leaflet, dim. of *folium*] : having (such or so many) leaflets ⟨tri*foliolate*⟩

fo·li·ose \ˈfō-lē-ˌōs\ *adj* [L *foliosus* leafy] : having a flat, thin, and usu. lobed thallus attached to the substratum ⟨~ lichens⟩ — compare CRUSTOSE, FRUTICOSE

fo·li·um \ˈfō-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **fo·lia** \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, leaf] : a thin layer occurring esp. in metamorphic rocks

¹folk \ˈfōk\ *n, pl* **folk** *or* **folks** [ME, fr. OE *folc;* akin to OHG *folc* people] **1** *archaic* : a group of kindred tribes forming a nation : PEOPLE **2** : the great proportion of the members of a people that determines the group character and that tends to preserve its characteristic form of civilization and its customs, arts and crafts, legends, traditions, and superstitions from generation to generation **3** *pl* : a certain kind or class of people ⟨old ~*s*⟩ ⟨just plain ~⟩ **4** *folks pl* : people generally **5** *folks pl* : the persons of one's own family : RELATIVES

²folk *adj* **1 a** : originating or traditional with the common people of a country or region and typically reflecting their life-style **b** : being a form of contemporary music written in imitation of and having qualities of traditional folk music such as stanzaic form, refrain, and simplicity of melody **2** : of or relating to the common people or to the study of the common people ⟨~ sociology⟩

folk etymology *n* : the transformation of words so as to give them an apparent relationship to other better-known or better-understood words (as in the change of Spanish *cucaracha* to English *cockroach*)

folk·ish \ˈfō-kish\ *adj* : FOLKLIKE — **folk·ish·ness** *n*

folk·like \ˈfō-ˌklīk\ *adj* : having a folk character

folk·lore \ˈfō-ˌklō(ə)r, -ˌklȯ(ə)r\ *n* **1** : traditional customs, tales, or sayings preserved orally among a people **2** : a comparative science that investigates the life and spirit of a people as revealed in their folklore **3** : a widely held unsupported specious notion or body of notions — **folk·lor·ic** \-ˌklōr-ik, -ˌklȯr-\ *adj* — **folk·lor·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **folk·lor·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **folk·lor·is·tic** \ˌfō-ˌklōr-ˈis-tik, -ˌklȯr-\ *adj*

folk mass *n* : a mass in which traditional liturgical music is replaced by folk music

folk medicine *n* : traditional medicine as practiced nonprofessionally by people isolated from modern medical services and involving esp. the use of vegetable remedies on an empirical basis

folk·moot \ˈfōk-ˌmüt\ *or* **folk·mote** \-ˌmōt\ *n* : a general assembly of the people (as of a shire) in early England

folk·sing·er \-ˌsiŋ-ər\ *n* : one who sings folk songs or sings in a style associated with folk songs — **folk·sing·ing** \-ˌsiŋ-iŋ\ *n*

folksy \ˈfōk-sē\ *adj* **folks·i·er; -est** [*folks* + *-y*] **1** : SOCIABLE, FRIENDLY **2** : informal, casual, or familiar in manner or style ⟨gave us a ~ little talk —O. J. Magee⟩ — **folks·i·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv* — **folks·i·ness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*

folk·tale \ˈfōk-ˌtāl\ *n* : a characteristically anonymous, timeless, and placeless tale circulated orally among a people

folk·way \ˈfō-ˌkwā\ *n* : a mode of thinking, feeling, or acting common to a people or to a social group; *esp* : a traditional social custom

fol·li·cle \ˈfäl-i-kəl\ *n* [NL *folliculus*, fr. L, dim. of *follis* bag — more at FOOL] **1 a** : a small anatomical cavity or deep narrow-mouthed depression **b** : a small lymph node **c** : GRAAFIAN FOLLICLE **2** : a dry dehiscent one-celled many-seeded fruit that has a single carpel and opens along only one suture — **fol·lic·u·lar** \fə-ˈlik-yə-lər, fä-\ *adj* — **fol·lic·u·late** \-lət\ *also* **fol·lic·u·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj*

follicle mite *n* : any of several minute mites (genus *Demodex*) parasitic in hair follicles

follicle–stimulating hormone *n* : a hormone from an anterior lobe of the pituitary body that stimulates the growth of Graafian follicles and activates sperm-forming cells

fol·lic·u·lin \fə-ˈlik-yə-lən, fä-\ *n* : ESTROGEN; *esp* : ESTRONE

¹fol·low \ˈfäl-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *vb* [ME *folwen*, fr. OE *folgian;* akin to OHG *folgēn* to follow] *vt* **1** : to go, proceed, or come after ⟨~*ed* the guide⟩ **2 a** : to pursue in an effort to overtake **b** : to seek to attain ⟨~ knowledge⟩ **3** : to accept as authority : OBEY ⟨~*ed* his conscience⟩ **4** : to copy after : IMITATE **5 a** : to walk or proceed along ⟨~ a path⟩ **b** : to engage in as a calling or way of life : PURSUE ⟨wheat-growing is generally ~*ed* here⟩ **6 a** : to come or take place after in time, sequence, or order **b** : to cause to be followed ⟨~*ed* dinner with a liqueur⟩ **7** : to come into existence or take place as a result or consequence of ⟨disaster ~*ed* the blunder⟩ **8 a** : to watch steadily ⟨~*ed* the ball over the fence⟩ **b** : to keep the mind on ⟨~ a speech⟩ **c** : to attend closely to : keep abreast of ⟨she ~*ed* his career with interest⟩ **d** : to understand the logic of (as a line of thought) ⟨I don't quite ~ you⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to go or come after a person or thing in place, time, or sequence **2** : to result or occur as a consequence, effect, or inference

syn **1** FOLLOW, SUCCEED, ENSUE, SUPERVENE *shared meaning element* : to come after something or someone ***ant*** precede (*in order*), forsake (*as a leader*)
2 FOLLOW, CHASE, PURSUE, TRAIL *shared meaning element* : to go after or on the track of someone or something ***ant*** precede

— **follow one's nose** **1** : to go in a straight or obvious course **2** : to proceed without plan or reflection : obey one's instincts — **follow suit** **1** : to play a card of the same suit as the card led **2** : to follow an example set

²follow *n* **1** : the act or process of following **2** : forward spin given to a ball by striking it above center — compare DRAW

fol·low·er \ˈfäl-ə-wər\ *n* **1 a** : one in the service of another : RETAINER **b** : one that follows the opinions or teachings of another **c** : one that imitates another **2** *archaic* : one that chases **3** : a sheet added to the first sheet of an indenture or other deed **4** : a machine part that receives motion from another part

syn FOLLOWER, ADHERENT, DISCIPLE, PARTISAN, SATELLITE *shared meaning element* : one who attaches himself to another ***ant*** leader

fol·low·er·ship \-ˌship\ *n* **1** : FOLLOWING **2** : the capacity or willingness to follow a leader

¹fol·low·ing \ˈfäl-ə-wiŋ\ *adj* **1** : next after : SUCCEEDING ⟨the ~ day⟩ **2** : that immediately follows ⟨trains will leave at the ~ times⟩

²following *n* : a group of followers, adherents, or partisans

³following *prep* : subsequent to ⟨~ the lecture tea was served⟩

follow out *vt* **1** : to follow to the end or to a conclusion **2** : to carry out : EXECUTE ⟨*followed out* his orders⟩

follow shot *n* **1** : a shot in billiards or pool made by striking the cue ball above its center to cause it to continue forward after striking the object ball **2** : a camera shot in which the camera follows the movement of the subject

fol·low–through \ˈfäl-ō-ˌthrü, ˌfäl-ō-ˈ, -ə-\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of following through **2** : the part of the stroke following the striking of a ball

follow through *vi* **1** : to continue a stroke or motion to the end of its arc **2** : to press on in an activity or process esp. to a conclusion

¹fol·low–up \ˌfäl-ə-ˌwəp\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being something that follows up ⟨~ action by the police —Frank Faulkner⟩ **2** : done, conducted, or administered in the course of following up persons esp. after institutionalization ⟨~ care for discharged hospital patients —*N.Y. Times Mag.*⟩

²follow–up \ˈfäl-ə-ˌwəp\ *n* **1 a** : the act or an instance of following up **b** : something that follows up **2** : maintenance of contact with or reexamination of a person (as a patient) at usu. prescribed intervals following diagnosis or treatment **3** : a news story presenting new information on a story published earlier

follow up \ˌfäl-ə-ˈwəp\ *vt* **1** : to follow with something similar, related, or supplementary ⟨*following up* his convictions with action —G. P. Merrill⟩ **2** : to maintain contact with (a person) in order to evaluate a diagnosis or to determine the effectiveness of treatment received ⟨patients who are *followed up* after their discharge⟩ ~ *vi* : to take appropriate action ⟨*follow up* on . . . complaints, and customer suggestions — *Marketing*⟩

fol·ly \ˈfäl-ē\ *n, pl* **follies** [ME *folie*, fr. OF, fr. *fol* fool] **1** : lack of good sense or normal prudence and foresight **2** : a foolish act or idea **3 a** *obs* : EVIL, WICKEDNESS; *esp* : lewd behavior **b** : criminally or tragically foolish actions or conduct **4** : an excessively costly or unprofitable undertaking

Fol·som \ˈfōl-səm\ *adj* [*Folsom*, N.M.] : of or relating to a prehistoric culture of No. America on the east side of the Rocky mountains that is characterized by flint projectile points having a concave base with side projections and a longitudinal groove on each face

fo·ment \fō-ˈment\ *vt* [ME *fomenten*, fr. LL *fomentare*, fr. L *fomentum* fomentation, fr. *fovēre* to warm, fondle, foment] **1** : to treat with moist heat (as for easing pain) **2** : to promote the growth or development of : ROUSE, INCITE ⟨~ a rebellion⟩ ***syn*** see INCITE ***ant*** quell — **fo·ment·er** *n*

fo·men·ta·tion \ˌfō-mən-ˈtā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* **1 a** : the application of hot moist substances to the body to ease pain **b** : the material so applied **2** : the act of fomenting : INSTIGATION

¹fond \ˈfänd\ *adj* [ME, fr. *fonne* fool] **1** : FOOLISH, SILLY ⟨~ pride⟩ **2 a** : prizing highly : DESIROUS ⟨~ of praise⟩ **b** : having an affection or liking — used with *of* ⟨he has always been ~ of music⟩ **3 a** : foolishly tender : INDULGENT ⟨spoiled by a ~ mother⟩ **b** : AFFECTIONATE, LOVING ⟨a ~ wife⟩ ⟨absence makes the heart grow ~*er*⟩ **4** : cherished with great affection : doted on ⟨his ~*est* hopes⟩

²fond *vi, obs* : to be foolish : DOTE

³fond \ˈfōⁿ\ *n, pl* **fonds** \ˈfōⁿ(z)\ [F — more at FUND] **1** : BACKGROUND, BASIS **2** *obs* : FUND

fon·dant \ˈfän-dənt\ *n* [F, fr. prp. of *fondre* to melt — more at FOUND] **1** : a soft creamy preparation of sugar, water, and flavorings that is used as a basis for candies or icings **2** : a candy consisting chiefly of fondant

fon·dle \ˈfän-dᵊl\ *vb* **fon·dled; fon·dling** \-(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-iŋ\ [freq. of obs. *fond*] *vt* **1** *obs* : PAMPER **2** : to handle tenderly, lovingly, or lingeringly ~ *vi* : to show affection or desire by caressing ***syn*** see CARESS — **fon·dler** \-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n*

fond·ling \ˈfän-(d)liŋ\ *n* [obs. *fond* (to fondle)] : one that is fondled or caressed

fond·ly \ˈfän-(d)lē\ *adv* **1** *archaic* : in a foolish manner : FOOLISHLY **2** : in a fond manner : AFFECTIONATELY **3** : in a willingly credulous manner ⟨~ imagine that human beings today think faster — Warwick Braithwaite⟩

fond·ness \ˈfän(d)-nəs\ *n* **1** *obs* : FOOLISHNESS, FOLLY **2** : tender affection **3** : APPETITE, RELISH ⟨had a ~ for argument⟩

fon·due *also* **fon·du** \fän-ˈd(y)ü, ˈfän-ˌ\ *n* [F *fondue*, fr. fem. of *fondu*, pp. of *fondre*] **1 a** (1) : a preparation of melted cheese (as Swiss cheese and Gruyère) usu. flavored with white wine and kirsch (2) : a dish that consists of small pieces of food (as meat or fruit) cooked in or dipped into a hot liquid ⟨beef ~⟩ ⟨chocolate ~⟩ **b** : a chafing dish in which fondue is made **2** : a soufflé made with bread crumbs

F_1 layer \ˈef-ˈwən-\ *n* : the lower of the two layers into which the F region of the ionosphere splits in the daytime occurring at varying heights from about 90 to 150 miles above the earth's surface

¹font \ˈfänt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. LL *font-*, *fons*, fr. L, fountain] **1 a** : a receptacle for baptismal water **b** : a receptacle for holy water **c** : a receptacle for various liquids **2** : FOUNTAIN, SOURCE ⟨a ~ of information⟩ — **font·al** \ˈfänt-ᵊl\ *adj*

²font *n* [MF *fonte* act of founding, fr. (assumed) VL *fundita*, fem. of *funditus*, pp. of L *fundere* to found, pour — more at FOUND] : an assortment of type all of one size and style

fon·ta·nel *also* **fon·ta·nelle** \ˌfänt-ᵊn-ˈel, ˈfänt-ᵊn-ˌ\ *n* [ME *fontinelle*, a bodily hollow or pit, fr. MF *fontenele*, dim. of *fontaine* fountain] : a membrane-covered opening in bone or between bones; *specif* : one of the intervals closed by membranous structures between

the uncompleted angles of the parietal bones and the neighboring bones of a fetal or young skull

fon·ti·na \fän-'tē-nə\ *n, often cap* [It] : a semisoft to hard ripened mild to medium sharp cheese of Italian origin

food \'füd\ *n, often attrib* [ME *fode*, fr. OE *fōda;* akin to OHG *fuotar* food, fodder, L *panis* bread, *pascere* to feed] **1 a** : material consisting essentially of protein, carbohydrate, and fat used in the body of an organism to sustain growth, repair, and vital processes and to furnish energy; *also* : such food together with supplementary substances (as minerals, vitamins, and condiments) **b** : inorganic substances absorbed by plants in gaseous form or in water solution **2** : nutriment in solid form **3** : something that nourishes, sustains, or supplies ⟨~ for thought⟩ — **food·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **food·less·ness** *n*

food chain *n* : an arrangement of the organisms of an ecological community according to the order of predation in which each uses the next usu. lower member as a food source

food cycle *n* : a group of food chains constituting all or most of the food relations that enable an ecological community to survive

food poisoning *n* : an acute gastrointestinal disorder caused by bacteria or their toxic products or by chemical residues in food

food pyramid *n* : an ecological hierarchy of food relationships esp. when expressed quantitatively (as in mass, numbers, or energy) in which a chief predator is at the top, each level preys on the next lower level, and usu. green plants are at the bottom

food stamp *n* : a government-issued stamp that is sold or given to low-income persons and is redeemable for food

food·stuff \'füd-ˌstəf\ *n* : a substance with food value; *specif* : the raw material of food before or after processing

food vacuole *n* : a vacuole (as in an amoeba) in which ingested food is digested

food web *n* : the totality of interacting food chains in an ecological community

foo·fa·raw \'fü-fə-ˌrȯ\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : frills and flashy finery **2** : a disturbance or to-do over a trifle : FUSS

¹fool \'fül\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *fol*, fr. LL *follis*, fr. L, bellows, bag; akin to L *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] **1** : a person lacking in judgment or prudence **2 a** : a retainer formerly kept in great households to provide casual entertainment and commonly dressed in motley with cap, bells, and bauble **b** : one who is victimized or made to appear foolish : DUPE **3 a** : a harmlessly deranged person or one lacking in common powers of understanding **b** : one with a marked propensity or talent for a certain activity ⟨a letter-writing ~⟩ **4 a** : mashed fruit and cream **b** : a dessert made of pulped fruit covered with a custard and cream ⟨blueberry ~⟩

syn FOOL, IDIOT, IMBECILE, MORON, SIMPLETON, NATURAL *shared meaning element* : one who is mentally defective

²fool *vi* **1 a** : to spend time idly or aimlessly ⟨just ~*ing* around all day⟩ **b** : to meddle or tamper thoughtlessly or ignorantly ⟨don't ~ with that gun⟩ **2 a** : to play or improvise a comic role **b** : to speak in jest : JOKE ⟨I was only ~*ing*⟩ **3** : to contend or fight without serious intent or with less than full strength : TOY ⟨a dangerous man to ~ with⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to make a fool of : DECEIVE **2** *obs* : INFATUATE **3** : to spend on trifles or without advantage : FRITTER — used with *away*

³fool *adj* : FOOLISH, SILLY ⟨barking his ~ head off⟩

fool·ery \'fül-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : foolish behavior **2** : a foolish act, utterance, or belief

fool·har·dy \'fül-ˌhärd-ē\ *adj* : foolishly adventurous and bold : RASH ***syn*** see ADVENTUROUS — **fool·har·di·ly** \-ˌhärd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **fool·har·di·ness** \-ˌhärd-ē-nəs\ *n*

fool·ish \'fü-lish\ *adj* **1** : marked by or proceeding from folly **2 a** : ABSURD, RIDICULOUS **b** : marked by a loss of composure : NONPLUSSED, ABASHED **3** : INSIGNIFICANT, TRIFLING, HUMBLE ***syn*** see SIMPLE — **fool·ish·ly** *adv*

fool·ish·ness *n* **1** : foolish behavior : FOLLY **2** : a foolish act or idea

fool·proof \'fül-'prüf\ *adj* : so simple, plain, or reliable as to leave no opportunity for error, misuse, or failure ⟨a ~ plan⟩

fools·cap *or* **fool's cap** \'fülz-ˌskap\ *n* **1** : a cap or hood usu. with bells worn by jesters **2** : a conical cap for slow or lazy students **3** [fr. the watermark of a fool's cap formerly applied to such paper] *usu foolscap* : a size of paper that is typically 16 x 13 inches

fool's gold *n* **1** : PYRITE **2** : CHALCOPYRITE

fool's paradise *n* : a state of delusory happiness

fool's parsley *n* : a poisonous European weed (*Aethusa cynapium*) of the carrot family resembling parsley

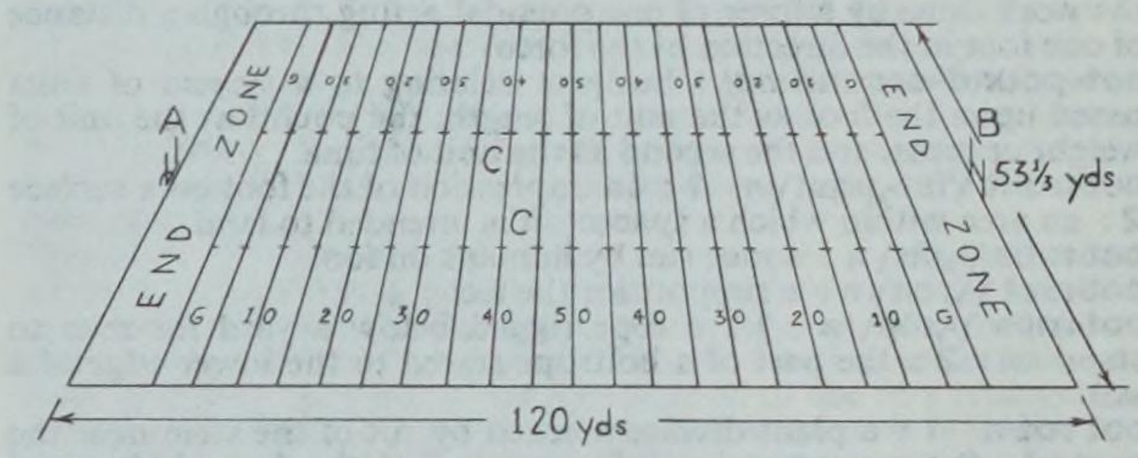
¹foot \'fůt\ *n, pl* **feet** \'fēt\ *also* **foot** [ME *fot*, fr. OE *fōt;* akin to L *ped-, pes* foot, Gk *pod-, pous*] **1** : the terminal part of the vertebrate leg upon which an individual stands **2** : an invertebrate organ of locomotion or attachment; *esp* : a ventral muscular surface or process of a mollusk **3** : any of various units of length based on the length of the human foot; *esp* : a unit equal to ⅓ yard and comprising 12 inches ⟨a 10-*foot* pole⟩ ⟨6 *feet* tall⟩ — see WEIGHT table **4** : the basic unit of verse meter consisting of any of various fixed combinations or groups of stressed and unstressed or long and short syllables **5 a** : motion or power of walking or running : STEP ⟨fleet of ~⟩ **b** : SPEED, SWIFTNESS **6** : something resembling a foot in position or use: as **a** : the lower end of the leg of a chair or table **b** : one of the areas of the base of a piece of printing type — see TYPE illustration **c** (1) : the basal portion of the sporogonium in mosses (2) : a specialized outgrowth by which the embryonic sporophyte of many ferns and related plants and some seed plants absorbs nourishment from the gametophyte **d** : a piece on a sewing machine that presses the cloth against the feed **7** *foot pl, chiefly Brit* : INFANTRY **8** : the lower edge (as of a sail) **9** : the lowest part : BOTTOM ⟨the ~ of the hill⟩ **10 a** : the end that is lower or opposite the head ⟨the ~ of the bed⟩ **b** : the part (as of a stocking) that covers the foot **11 foots** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : material deposited esp. in aging or refining : DREGS **12 foots** *pl* : FOOTLIGHTS — **foot·like** \'fůt-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **at one's feet** : under one's spell or influence — **off one's feet** : in a sitting or lying position — **on foot** : by walking or running ⟨tour the campus *on foot*⟩ — **on one's feet** **1** : in a standing position **2** : in an established position or state **3** : in a recovered condition (as from illness) **4** : in an extemporaneous manner ⟨good debaters can think *on their feet*⟩

²foot *vi* **1** : DANCE **2** : to go on foot **3** *of a sailboat* : to make speed : MOVE ~ *vt* **1 a** : to perform the movements of (a dance) **b** : to walk, run, or dance on, over, or through **2** *archaic* **a** : KICK **b** : REJECT **3** *archaic* : ESTABLISH **4 a** : to add up **b** : to pay or stand credit for ⟨agreed to ~ the bill⟩ **5** : to make or renew the foot of (as a stocking)

foot·age \'fůt-ij\ *n* : length or quantity expressed in feet: as **a** : BOARD FEET **b** : the total number of running feet of motion-picture film used (as for a scene or subject)

foot-and-mouth disease *n* : an acute contagious febrile virus disease esp. of cloven-footed animals marked by ulcerating vesicles in the mouth, about the hoofs, and on the udder and teats — called also *foot-and-mouth, hoof-and-mouth disease*

foot·ball \'fůt-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** : any of several games played between two teams on a rectangular field having two goalposts at each end and whose object is to get the ball over a goal line or between goalposts by running, passing, or kicking: as **a** *Brit* : SOCCER **b** *Brit* : RUGBY **c** : an American game played between two teams of 11 players each in which the ball is in possession of one side at a time and is advanced by running or passing **d** *Austral* : AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL **e** *Canad* : CANADIAN FOOTBALL **2 a** : an inflated oval ball used in the game of football **b** *Brit* : a soccer ball **3** : something tossed or kicked about : PLAYTHING ⟨the bill became a political ~ in Congress⟩



football field: *A* goalposts (professional), *B* goalposts (college), *C* inbounds lines

foot·ball·er \-ˌbȯ-lər\ *n* : one who plays football or soccer

foot·bath \'fůt-ˌbath, -ˌbȧth\ *n* : a bath (as at the entrance to an indoor swimming pool) for cleansing, warming, or disinfecting the feet

foot·board \'fůt-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a narrow platform on which to stand or brace the feet **2** : a board forming the foot of a bed

foot·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a serving boy : PAGE, ATTENDANT

foot·bridge \'fůt-ˌbrij\ *n* : a bridge for pedestrians

foot-can·dle \-'kan-dᵊl\ *n* : a unit of illuminance on a surface that is everywhere one foot from a uniform point source of light of one candle and equal to one lumen per square foot

foot·cloth \-ˌklȯth\ *n* **1** *archaic* : an ornamental cloth draped over the back of a horse to reach the ground on each side **2** : CARPET

foot–drag·ging \-ˌdrag-iŋ\ *n* : failure to act with the necessary promptness or vigor

foot·ed \'fůt-əd\ *adj* : having a foot or feet esp. of a specified kind or number — often used in combination ⟨a four-*footed* animal⟩

foot·er \'fůt-ər\ *n, archaic* : PEDESTRIAN

-foot·er \'fůt-ər\ *comb form* : one that is a specified number of feet in height, length, or breadth ⟨a six-*footer*⟩

foot·fall \'fůt-ˌfȯl\ *n* : the sound of a footstep

foot fault *n* : a fault that occurs (as in tennis) when a server fails to keep both feet behind the baseline until the ball is served

foot·gear \'fůt-ˌgi(ə)r\ *n* : FOOTWEAR

foot·hill \-ˌhil\ *n* : a hill at the foot of higher hills

foot·hold \-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : a hold for the feet : FOOTING **2** : a position usable as a base for further advance ⟨secured a ~ in the plastics market⟩

foot·ing \'fůt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a stable position or placing of the feet **2** : a surface or its condition with respect to one walking or running on it; *specif* : the condition of a racetrack **3** : the act of moving on foot : STEP, TREAD **4 a** : a place or space for standing : FOOTHOLD **b** : established position : STATUS; *esp* : position or rank in relation to others ⟨they all started off on an equal ~⟩ **5** : BASIS **6** : an enlargement at the lower end of a foundation wall, pier, or column to distribute the load **7** : the sum of a column of figures

foo·tle \'füt-ᵊl\ *vi* **foo·tled; foo·tling** \'füt-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [alter. of *footer* (to footle)] **1** : to waste time : TRIFLE, FOOL **2** : to talk or act foolishly — **footle** *n* — **foo·tler** \'füt-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

foot·less \'fůt-ləs\ *adj* **1 a** : having no feet **b** : lacking foundation : UNSUBSTANTIAL **2** : STUPID, INEPT ⟨dawdling and ~ conferences —Howard Lindsay⟩ — **foot·less·ly** *adv* — **foot·less·ness** *n*
foot·lights \-ˌlīts\ *n pl* **1** : a row of lights set across the front of a stage floor **2** : the stage as a profession
foo·tling \'füt-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *adj* [*footle*] **1** : lacking judgment or ability : INEPT ⟨~ amateurs who understand nothing —E. R. Bentley⟩ **2** : lacking use or value : TRIVIAL
foot·lock·er \'fůt-ˌläk-ər\ *n* : a small trunk designed to be placed at the foot of a bed (as in a barracks)
foot·loose \-ˌlüs\ *adj* : having no ties : free to move about
foot·man \-mən\ *n* **1 a** *archaic* : a traveler on foot : PEDESTRIAN **b** : INFANTRYMAN **2 a** : a servant in livery formerly attending a rider or required to run in front of his master's carriage **b** : a servant who serves at table, tends the door, and runs errands
foot·mark \-ˌmärk\ *n* : FOOTPRINT
¹foot·note \-ˌnōt\ *n* **1** : a note of reference, explanation, or comment usu. placed below the text on a printed page **2** : something that is subordinately related to a larger event or work ⟨that biography is an illuminating ~ to the history of our times⟩
²footnote *vt* : to furnish with a footnote : ANNOTATE
foot·pace \'fůt-ˌpās\ *n* **1** : a walking pace **2** : PLATFORM, DAIS
¹foot·pad \-ˌpad\ *n* [*foot* + *pad* (highwayman)] : one who robs a pedestrian
²footpad *n* [*foot* + ¹*pad*] : a flattish foot on the leg of a spacecraft for distributing weight to minimize sinking into a surface
foot·path \'fůt-ˌpath, -ˌpȧth\ *n* : a narrow path for pedestrians
foot–pound \-'paůnd\ *n, pl* **foot–pounds** : a unit of work equal to the work done by a force of one pound acting through a distance of one foot in the direction of the force
foot–pound·al \-'paůn-dᵊl\ *n* : an absolute unit of work equal to the work done by a force of one poundal acting through a distance of one foot in the direction of the force
foot–pound–second *adj* : being or relating to a system of units based upon the foot as the unit of length, the pound as the unit of weight or mass, and the second as the unit of time
foot·print \'fůt-ˌprint\ *n* **1** : an impression of the foot on a surface **2** : an area within which a spacecraft is intended to land
foot·race \-ˌrās\ *n* : a race run by humans on foot
foot·rest \-ˌrest\ *n* : a support for the feet
foot·rope \-ˌrōp\ *n* **1** : a rope rigged below a yard for men to stand on **2** : the part of a boltrope sewed to the lower edge of a sail
foot rot *n* **1** : a plant disease marked by rot of the stem near the ground **2** : a progressive inflammation of the feet of sheep or cattle
foot·slog \'fůt-ˌsläg\ *vi* : to march or tramp through mud — **foot·slog·ger** *n*
foot soldier *n* : INFANTRYMAN
foot·sore \'fůt-ˌsō(ə)r, -ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *adj* : having sore or tender feet (as from much walking) — **foot·sore·ness** *n*
foot·stall \-ˌstȯl\ *n* : the plinth, base, or pedestal of a pillar
foot·step \-ˌstep\ *n* **1 a** : TREAD **b** : distance covered by a step : PACE **2** : the mark of the foot : TRACK **3** : a step on which to ascend or descend **4** : a way of life, conduct, or action ⟨followed in his father's ~s⟩
foot·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* : a stone placed at the foot of a grave
foot·stool \-ˌstül\ *n* : a low stool used to support the feet
foot·wall \-ˌwȯl\ *n* **1** : the lower underlying wall of a vein, ore deposit, or coal seam in a mine **2** : the lower wall of an inclined fault
foot·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a narrow way or path for pedestrians
foot·wear \-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : wearing apparel (as shoes or boots) for the feet
foot·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : the management of the feet (as in boxing); *also* : the work done with them **2** : the activity of moving from place to place ⟨the investigation entailed a lot of ~⟩
foo·ty \'füt-ē\ *adj* [F *foutu*] **1** *chiefly dial* : INSIGNIFICANT, PALTRY **2** *chiefly dial* : poorly kept : SHABBY
¹foo·zle \'fü-zəl\ *vt* **foo·zled; foo·zling** \'füz-(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. fr. G dial. *fuseln* to work carelessly] : to manage or play awkwardly : BUNGLE
²foozle *n* : an act of foozling; *esp* : a bungling golf stroke
¹fop \'fäp\ *n* [ME; akin to ME *fobben* to deceive, MHG *voppen*] **1** *obs* : a foolish or silly person **2** : a man who is devoted to or vain about his appearance or dress : COXCOMB, DANDY
²fop *vt* **fopped; fop·ping** *obs* : FOOL, DUPE
fop·pery \'fäp-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-per·ies** **1** : foolish character or action : FOLLY **2** : the behavior or dress of a fop
fop·pish \'fäp-ish\ *adj* **1** *obs* : FOOLISH, SILLY **2 a** : characteristic of a fop ⟨a ~ embroidered nightshirt —A. Conan Doyle⟩ **b** : behaving or dressing in the manner of a fop — **fop·pish·ly** *adv* — **fop·pish·ness** *n*
¹for \fər, (ˈ)fȯ(ə)r, *South also* (ˈ)fär\ *prep* [ME, fr. OE; akin to L *per* through, *prae* before, *pro* before, for, ahead, Gk *pro*, OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] **1 a** — used as a function word to indicate purpose ⟨a grant ~ studying medicine⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate an intended goal ⟨left ~ home⟩ ⟨acted ~ the best⟩ **c** — used as a function word to indicate the object or recipient of a perception, desire, or activity ⟨now ~ a good rest⟩ ⟨run ~ your life⟩ ⟨an eye ~ a bargain⟩ ⟨called ~ hands to take in the sail⟩ **2 a** : as being or constituting ⟨take him ~ a fool⟩ ⟨eggs ~ breakfast⟩ **b** — used as a function word to indicate an actual or implied enumeration or selection ⟨~ one thing, the price is too high⟩ **3** : because of ⟨cried ~ joy⟩ **4** — used as a function word to indicate suitability or fitness ⟨it is not ~ the president to make that decision⟩ ⟨ready ~ action⟩ **5 a** : in place of **b** : on behalf of : REPRESENTING **6** : in spite of — usu. used with *all* ⟨~ all his large size, he moves gracefully⟩ **7** : with respect to : CONCERNING ⟨a stickler ~ detail⟩ **8** — used as a function word to indicate equivalence in exchange ⟨$10 ~ a hat⟩, equality in number or quantity ⟨point ~ point⟩, or correspondence or correlation ⟨~ one good one, you'll find five that don't work⟩ **9** — used as a function word to indicate duration of time or extent of space **10** : in honor of : AFTER
²for *conj* : for this reason : on this ground
³for *abbr* **1** foreign **2** forestry
FOR *abbr* free on rail
for- *prefix* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fur-* for-, OE *for*] **1** : so as to involve prohibition, exclusion, omission, failure, neglect, or refusal ⟨*for*say⟩ **2** : destructively or detrimentally ⟨*for*do⟩ **3** : completely : excessively : to exhaustion : to pieces ⟨*for*spent⟩
fora *pl of* FORUM
¹for·age \'fȯr-ij, 'fär-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *forre* fodder, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *fuotar* food, fodder — more at FOOD] **1** : food for animals esp. when taken by browsing or grazing **2** [²*forage*] : the act of foraging : search for provisions
²forage *vb* **for·aged; for·ag·ing** *vt* **1** : to strip of provisions : collect forage from **2** : to secure by foraging ⟨*foraged* a chicken for the feast⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to wander in search of forage or food **2** : to secure forage (as for horses) by stripping the country **3** : RAVAGE, RAID **4** : to make a search : RUMMAGE — **for·ag·er** *n*
forage acre *n* : a unit of grazing value equivalent to one acre of land entirely covered with herbage that can be completely utilized by grazing animals
fo·ram \'fōr-əm, 'fȯr-\ *n* : FORAMINIFER
fo·ra·men \fə-'rā-mən\ *n, pl* **fo·ram·i·na** \-'ram-ə-nə\ *or* **fo·ramens** \-'rā-mənz\ [L *foramin-, foramen*, fr. *forare* to bore — more at BORE] : a small opening, perforation, or orifice : FENESTRA — **fo·ram·i·nal** \fə-'ram-ən-ᵊl\ *or* **fo·ram·i·nous** \-ə-nəs\ *adj*
foramen mag·num \fə-ˌrā-mən-'mag-nəm\ *n* [NL, lit., great opening] : the opening in the skull through which the spinal cord passes to become the medulla oblongata
foramen ova·le \-ō-'val-ē, -'väl-, -'vāl-\ *n* [NL, lit., oval opening] : an opening in the septum between the two atria of the heart that is normally present only in the fetus
for·a·min·i·fer \ˌfȯr-ə-'min-ə-fər, ˌfär-\ *n* : any of an order (Foraminifera) of large chiefly marine rhizopods usu. having calcareous shells that often are perforated with minute holes for protrusion of slender pseudopodia and form the bulk of chalk and nummulitic limestone — **fo·ra·mi·nif·er·al** \fə-ˌram-ə-'nif-(ə-)rəl; ˌfȯr-ə-mə-'nif-, ˌfär-\ *or* **fo·ra·mi·nif·er·ous** \-(ə-)rəs\ *adj*
fo·ra·mi·nif·era \fə-ˌram-ə-'nif-(ə-)ra; ˌfȯr-ə-mə-'nif-, ˌfär-\ *n pl* [NL, fr. L *foramin-, foramen* + *-fera*, neut. pl. of *-fer* -fer] : organisms that are foraminifers
fo·ra·mi·nif·er·an \-(ə-)rən\ *n* : FORAMINIFER
for and *conj, obs* : and also
for·as·much as \'fȯr-əz-ˌməch-əz\ *conj* : in view of the fact that : SINCE
¹for·ay \'fȯr-ˌā, 'fōr-, 'fär- *also* fȯ-'rā *or* fə-'\ *vb* [ME *forrayen*, fr. MF *forrer*, fr. *forre* fodder — more at FORAGE] *vt, archaic* : to ravage in search of spoils : PILLAGE ~ *vi* : to make a raid or brief invasion ⟨~*ed* into enemy territory⟩ — **for·ay·er** *n*
²foray *n* **1** : a sudden or irregular invasion or attack for war or spoils : RAID **2** : a brief excursion or attempt esp. outside one's accustomed sphere ⟨the teacher's ~ into politics⟩
forb \'fȯ(ə)rb\ *n* [Gk *phorbē* fodder, food, fr. *pherbein* to graze; akin to OE *beorgan* to taste] : an herb other than grass
¹for·bear \fȯr-'ba(ə)r, fər-, -'be(ə)r\ *vb* **-bore** \-'bō(ə)r, -'bȯ(ə)r\; **-borne** \-'bō(ə)rn, -'bȯ(ə)rn\; **-bear·ing** [ME *forberen*, fr. OE *forberan* to endure, do without, fr. *for-* + *beran* to bear] *vt* **1** *obs* : to leave alone : SHUN ⟨~ his presence —Shak.⟩ **2** *obs* : to do without **3** : to hold oneself back from esp. with an effort of self-restraint ~ *vi* **1** : to hold back : ABSTAIN **2** : to control oneself when provoked : be patient ***syn*** see REFRAIN — **for·bear·er** *n*
²forbear *var of* FOREBEAR
for·bear·ance \fȯr-'bar-ən(t)s, fər-, -'ber-\ *n* **1** : a refraining from the enforcement of something (as a debt, right, or obligation) that is due **2** : the act of forbearing : PATIENCE **3** : the quality of being forbearing : LENIENCY
¹for·bid \fər-'bid, fȯr-\ *vt* **-bade** \-'bad, -'bād\ *or* **-bad** \-'bad\; **-bid·den** \-'bid-ᵊn\; **-bid·ding** [ME *forbidden*, fr. OE *forbēodan*, fr. *for-* + *bēodan* to bid — more at BID] **1** : to proscribe from or as if from the position of one in authority : command against ⟨the law ~*s* stores to sell liquor to minors⟩ ⟨her mother ~*s* her to go⟩ ⟨he ~*s* her the car⟩ **2** : to hinder or prevent as if by an effectual command ⟨space ~*s* further treatment of the subject here⟩ — **for·bid·der** *n*
syn FORBID, PROHIBIT, INTERDICT, INHIBIT, BAN *shared meaning element* : to debar one from using, doing, or entering or to order that something not be used, done, or entered ***ant*** permit, bid
²forbid *adj, archaic* : ACCURSED ⟨he shall live a man ~ —Shak.⟩
for·bid·dance \fər-'bid-ᵊn(t)s, fȯr-\ *n* : the act of forbidding
for·bid·den \-'bid-ᵊn\ *adj* : not conforming to the usual selection principles — used of quantum phenomena ⟨~ transition⟩ ⟨~ radiation⟩ ⟨~ spectral line⟩
for·bid·ding *adj* **1** : such as to make approach or passage difficult or impossible ⟨~ walls⟩ **2** : DISAGREEABLE, REPELLENT ⟨his father was a stern ~ figure⟩ — **for·bid·ding·ly** \-'bid-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **for·bid·ding·ness** *n*
forbode *var of* FOREBODE
¹for·by *or* **for·bye** \fȯr-'bī\ *prep* [ME *forby*, prep. & adv., fr. *fore-* + *by*] **1** *archaic* **a** : PAST **b** : NEAR **2** *chiefly Scot* : BESIDES
²forby *or* **forbye** *adv, chiefly Scot* : in addition : BESIDES
¹force \'fō(ə)rs, 'fȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *fortia*, fr. L *fortis* strong] **1 a** : strength or energy exerted or brought to bear : cause of motion or change : active power ⟨the ~*s* of nature⟩ ⟨the love of justice has been a powerful motivating ~ in his life⟩ **b** : moral or mental strength **c** : capacity to persuade or convince ⟨couldn't resist the ~ of his argument⟩ **2 a** : military strength **b** (1) : a body (as of troops or ships) assigned to a military purpose (2) *pl* : the whole military strength (as of a nation) **c** : a body of persons or things available for a particular end ⟨a labor ~⟩ ⟨the missile ~⟩ **d** : an individual or group having the power of effective action ⟨police and citizens must join ~*s* to prevent violence⟩ ⟨he was a ~ behind the passing of that bill⟩ **3** : violence, compulsion, or constraint exerted upon or against a person or thing **4** : an agency or influence that if applied to a free body results chiefly in an acceleration of the body and sometimes in

elastic deformation and other effects **5** : the quality of conveying impressions intensely in writing or speech — **force·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **in force** **1** : in great numbers ⟨police were summoned *in force*⟩ **2** : VALID, OPERATIVE ⟨his suspension from school must remain *in force*⟩

²force *vt* **forced; forc·ing** **1** : to do violence to; *esp* : RAPE **2** : to compel by physical, moral, or intellectual means **3** : to make or cause through natural or logical necessity ⟨*forced* to admit he was right⟩ **4 a** : to press, drive, attain to, or effect against resistance or inertia ⟨~ a bill through the legislature⟩ **b** : to impose or thrust urgently, importunately, or inexorably ⟨~ unwanted attentions on a woman⟩ **5** : to achieve or win by strength in struggle or violence: **a** : to win one's way into ⟨~ a castle⟩ ⟨*forced* the mountain passes⟩ **b** : to break open or through ⟨~ a lock⟩ **6 a** : to raise or accelerate to the utmost ⟨*forcing* the pace⟩ **b** : to produce only with unnatural or unwilling effort ⟨she *forced* a smile in spite of her distress⟩ **c** : to wrench, strain, or use (language) with marked unnaturalness and lack of ease **7 a** : to hasten the rate of progress or growth of **b** : to bring (as plants) to maturity out of the normal season ⟨*forcing* lilies for the Easter trade⟩ **8** : to induce (as a particular bid or play by another player) in a card game by some conventional act, play, bid, or response **9 a** : to cause (a runner in baseball) to be put out on a force play **b** : to cause (a run) to be scored in baseball by giving a base on balls when the bases are full — **forc·er** *n*

syn FORCE, COMPEL, COERCE, CONSTRAIN, OBLIGE *shared meaning element* : to make someone or something yield. FORCE, the general term, implies an overcoming of resistance by the exertion of strength, weight, power, stress, or duress ⟨*forced* his way through the crowd⟩ ⟨*forced* to submit to questioning⟩ ⟨used threats to *force* agreement to their terms⟩ COMPEL usually implies an exertion of authority or the working of an irresistible force ⟨*compelled* by necessity to seek help⟩ COERCE suggests the overcoming of resistance by severe methods (as violence or duress) or by threat and intimidation ⟨no one can claim that he was *coerced* by bribery. This is reserved for threats and direct pleas —W. D. Falk⟩ CONSTRAIN suggests a forcing by what does or seems to constrict, press, confine, or bind ⟨*constrained* by sickness from a normal life⟩ ⟨he was *constrained* to confess by the evidence against him⟩ OBLIGE implies the constraint of necessity, sometimes physical but often moral or intellectual ⟨ill health *obliged* him to retire⟩ ⟨he was *obliged* to admit he had been wrong⟩

— **force one's hand** : to cause one to act precipitously : force one to reveal his purpose or intention

forced \'fō(ə)rst, 'fȯ(ə)rst\ *adj* **1** : compelled by force : INVOLUNTARY ⟨a ~ landing⟩ **2** : done or produced with effort, exertion, or pressure ⟨a ~ laugh⟩ — **forced·ly** \'fōr-səd-lē, 'fȯr-\ *adv*

force–feed *vt* **1** : to feed (as an animal) by forcible administration of food **2** : to force to take in ⟨~ students a literary education⟩

force·ful \'fōrs-fəl, 'fȯrs-\ *adj* : possessing or filled with force : EFFECTIVE — **force·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **force·ful·ness** *n*

force ma·jeure \ˌfōr-smä-'zhər, ˌfȯr-, -smə-\ *n* [F, superior force] : an event or effect that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled — compare ACT OF GOD

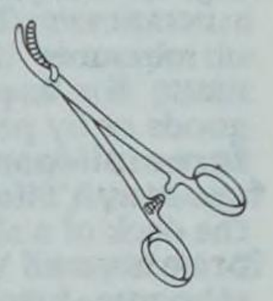
force·meat \'fōr-ˌsmēt, 'fȯr-\ *n* [*force* (alter. of *farce*) + *meat*] : finely chopped and highly seasoned meat or fish that is either served alone or used as a stuffing — called also *farce*

force of habit : behavior made involuntary or automatic by repeated practice

force–out \'fōr-ˌsau̇t, 'fȯr-\ *n* : FORCE PLAY

force play *n* : a play in baseball in which a runner is put out when he is forced to advance to the next base but fails to do so safely

for·ceps \'fȯr-səps\ *n, pl* **forceps** [L, fr. *formus* warm + *capere* to take — more at WARM, HEAVE] : an instrument for grasping, holding firmly, or exerting traction upon objects esp. for delicate operations (as by jewelers or surgeons) — **for·ceps·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*



forceps

force pump *n* : a pump with a solid piston for drawing and forcing through valves a liquid (as water) to a considerable height above the pump or under a considerable pressure

forc·ible \'fōr-sə-bəl, 'fȯr-\ *adj* **1** : effected by force used against opposition or resistance **2** : characterized by force, efficiency, or energy : POWERFUL — **forc·i·ble·ness** *n* — **forc·i·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

¹ford \'fō(ə)rd, 'fȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to ON *fjörthr* fiord, L *portus* port, OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] : a shallow part of a body of water that may be crossed by wading

²ford *vt* : to cross (a body of water) by wading — **ford·able** \'fōrd-ə-bəl, 'fȯrd-\ *adj*

for·do *or* **fore·do** \fȯr-'dü, fōr-\ *vt* **-did** \-'did\; **-done** \-'dən\; **-do·ing** \-'dü-iŋ\ [ME *fordon*, fr. OE *fordōn*, fr. *for-* + *dōn* to do] **1** *archaic* : to do away with : DESTROY **2** : to overcome with fatigue : EXHAUST — used only as past participle ⟨quite *fordone* with the heat⟩

¹fore \'fō(ə)r, 'fȯ(ə)r\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *for*] **1** *obs* : at an earlier time or period **2** : in, toward, or adjacent to the front : FORWARD

²fore *also* **'fore** *prep* **1** *chiefly dial* : BEFORE **2** : in the presence of

³fore *adj* [*fore-*] **1** : prior in order of occurrence : FORMER **2** : situated in front of something else : FORWARD

⁴fore *n* : something that occupies a front position — **to the fore** : in or into a position of prominence : FORWARD ⟨a younger generation of idealists is coming *to the fore*⟩

⁵fore *interj* [prob. short for *before*] — used by a golfer to warn anyone within range of the probable line of flight of his ball

fore- *comb form* [ME *for-*, *fore-*, fr. OE *fore-*, fr. *fore*, adv.] **1 a** : earlier : beforehand ⟨*fore*see⟩ **b** : occurring earlier : occurring beforehand ⟨*fore*payment⟩ **2 a** : situated at the front : in front ⟨*fore*leg⟩ **b** : front part of (something specified) ⟨*fore*arm⟩

fore–and–aft \ˌfōr-ə-'naft, ˌfȯr-\ *adj* **1** : lying, running, or acting in the general line of the length of a construction (as a ship or a house) : LONGITUDINAL **2** : having no square sails

fore and aft *adv* **1** : lengthwise of a ship : from stem to stern **2** : in, at, or toward both the bow and stern

fore–and–aft·er \-'naf-tər\ *n* : a ship with a fore-and-aft rig; *esp* : SCHOONER

fore–and–aft rig *n* : a sailing-ship rig in which most or all of the sails are not attached to yards but are bent to gaffs or set on the masts or on stays in a fore-and-aft line

¹fore·arm \(')fōr-'ärm, (')fȯr-\ *vt* : to arm in advance : PREPARE

²fore·arm \'fōr-ˌärm, 'fȯr-\ *n* : the part of the arm between the elbow and the wrist; *also* : the corresponding part in other vertebrates

fore·bay \'fō(ə)r-ˌbā, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a reservoir or canal from which water is taken to run equipment (as a waterwheel or turbine)

fore·bear *or* **for·bear** \-ˌba(ə)r, -ˌbe(ə)r\ *n* [ME (Sc) *forebear*, fr. *fore-* + *-bear* (fr. *been* to be)] : ANCESTOR, FOREFATHER — usu. used in pl.

fore·bode *also* **for·bode** \fōr-'bōd, fȯr-\ *vt* **1** : FORETELL, PORTEND ⟨such heavy air ~*s* storm⟩ **2** : to have an inward conviction of (as coming ill or misfortune) ~ *vi* : AUGUR, PREDICT — **fore·bod·er** *n*

¹fore·bod·ing \-'bōd-iŋ\ *n* : the act of one who forebodes; *also* : an omen, prediction, or presentiment esp. of coming evil : PORTENT

²foreboding *adj* : indicative of or marked by foreboding — **fore·bod·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **fore·bod·ing·ness** *n*

fore·brain \'fō(ə)r-ˌbrān, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : the anterior of the three primary divisions of the developing vertebrate brain **2 a** : the part of the brain of the adult that develops from the embryonic forebrain and includes the telencephalon and diencephalon **b** : TELENCEPHALON

fore·cad·die \-ˌkad-ē\ *n* : a golf caddie who is stationed in the fairway and who indicates the position of balls on the course

¹fore·cast \-ˌkast; fōr-'kast, fȯr-'\ *vb* **forecast** *or* **fore·cast·ed; fore·cast·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to calculate or predict (some future event or condition) usu. as a result of rational study and analysis of available pertinent data; *esp* : to predict (weather conditions) on the basis of correlated meteorological observations **b** : to indicate as likely to occur **2** : to serve as a forecast of : PRESAGE ⟨such events may ~ peace⟩ ~ *vi* : to calculate the future ***syn*** see FORETELL — **fore·cast·er** *n*

²fore·cast \'fō(ə)r-ˌkast, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** *archaic* : foresight of consequences and provision against them : FORETHOUGHT **2** : a prophecy, estimate, or prediction of a future happening or condition

fore·cas·tle \'fōk-səl; 'fōr-ˌkas-əl, 'fȯr-\ *n* **1** : the part of the upper deck of a ship forward of the foremast or of the fore channels **2** : the forward part of a merchantman where the crew is housed

fore–check \'fō(ə)r-ˌchek, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *vi* : to guard an opponent in ice hockey in his own defensive zone

fore·close \fōr-'klōz, fȯr-\ *vb* [ME *forclosen*, fr. OF *forclos*, pp. of *forclore*, fr. *fors* outside (fr. L *foris*) + *clore* to close — more at FORUM] *vt* **1** : to shut out : DEBAR **2** : to hold exclusively **3** : to deal with or close in advance **4** : to subject to foreclosure proceedings ~ *vi* : to foreclose a mortgage

fore·clo·sure \-'klō-zhər\ *n* : an act or instance of foreclosing; *specif* : a legal proceeding that bars or extinguishes a mortgagor's right of redeeming a mortgaged estate

fore·deck \'fō(ə)r-ˌdek, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : the forepart of a ship's main deck

foredo *var of* FORDO

fore·doom \fōr-'düm, fȯr-\ *vt* : to doom beforehand

fore·face \'fō(ə)r-ˌfās, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : the part of the head of a quadruped that is in front of the eyes

fore·fa·ther \-ˌfät͟h-ər\ *n* **1** : ANCESTOR 1a **2** : a person of an earlier period and common heritage

fore·feel \fōr-'fē(ə)l, fȯr-\ *vt* **-felt** \-'felt\; **-feel·ing** : to have a presentiment of

forefend *var of* FORFEND

fore·fin·ger \'fō(ə)r-ˌfiŋ-gər, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : the finger next to the thumb — called also *index finger*

fore·foot \-ˌfu̇t\ *n* **1** : one of the anterior feet of a quadruped or multiped **2** : the forward part of a ship where the stem and keel meet

fore·front \-ˌfrənt\ *n* : the foremost part or place : VANGUARD ⟨was in the ~ of the progressive movement⟩

fore·gath·er *var of* FORGATHER

¹fore·go \fōr-'gō, fȯr-\ *vt* **-went** \-'went\; **-gone** \-'gȯn *also* -'gän\; **-go·ing** \-'gō-iŋ, -'gȯ(-)iŋ\ : to go before : PRECEDE — **fore·go·er** \-'gō(-ə)r\ *n*

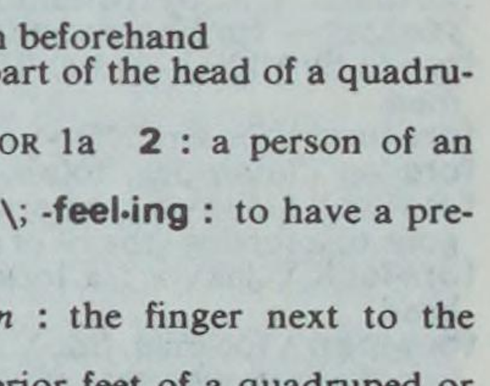
²forego *var of* FORGO

fore·go·ing \-'gō-iŋ, -'gȯ(-)iŋ\ *adj* : going before ⟨the ~ statement is open to challenge⟩ ***syn*** see PRECEDING ***ant*** following

fore·gone \ˌfōr-ˌgȯn, ˌfȯr- *also* -ˌgän\ *adj* : PREVIOUS, PAST

foregone conclusion *n* **1** : a conclusion that has preceded argument or examination **2** : an inevitable result : CERTAINTY ⟨the victory was a *foregone conclusion*⟩

fore·ground \'fō(ə)r-ˌgrau̇nd, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : the part of a scene or representation that is nearest to and in front of the spectator **2** : a position of prominence : FOREFRONT



forehand 3

fore·gut \-ˌgət\ *n* : the anterior part of the alimentary canal of a vertebrate embryo that develops into the pharynx, esophagus, stomach, and extreme anterior part of the intestine

¹fore·hand \-ˌhand\ *n* **1** *archaic* : superior position : ADVANTAGE **2** : the part of a horse that is before the

rider **3** : a forehand stroke (as in tennis or racquets); *also* : the side on which such strokes are made
²forehand *adv* : with a forehand stroke
³forehand *adj* **1** *obs* : done or given in advance : PRIOR **2** : made with the palm of the hand turned in the direction in which the hand is moving ⟨a ~ tennis stroke⟩
fore·hand·ed \(')fōr-'han-dəd, (')fȯr-\ *adj* **1 a** : mindful of the future : PRUDENT **b** : WELL-TO-DO **2** : FOREHAND 2 — **fore·hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **fore·hand·ed·ness** *n*
fore·head \'fȯr-əd, 'fär-; 'fō(ə)r-ˌhed, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : the part of the face above the eyes **2** : the front or forepart of something ⟨flames in the ~ of the morning sky —John Milton⟩
fore·hoof \'fō(ə)r-ˌhu̇f, 'fȯ(ə)r-, -ˌhüf\ *n* : the hoof of a forefoot
for·eign \'fȯr-ən, 'fär-\ *adj* [ME *forein*, fr. OF, fr. LL *foranus* on the outside, fr. L *foris* outside — more at FORUM] **1** : situated outside a place or country; *esp* : situated outside one's own country **2** : born in, belonging to, or characteristic of some place or country other than the one under consideration **3** : of, relating to, or proceeding from some other person or material thing than the one under consideration **4** : alien in character : not connected or pertinent **5** : related to or dealing with other nations **6** : occurring in an abnormal situation in the living body and commonly introduced from without **7** : not being within the jurisdiction of a political unit (as a state) ***syn*** see EXTRINSIC ***ant*** germane — **for·eign·ness** \-ən-nəs\ *n*
foreign affairs *n pl* : matters having to do with international relations and with the interests of the home country in foreign countries
foreign aid *n* : assistance (as economic aid) provided by one nation to another esp. as a tool in molding opinion in the recipient nation
foreign bill *n* : a bill of exchange that is not both drawn and payable within a particular jurisdiction
for·eign–born \ˌfȯr-ən-'bȯ(ə)rn, ˌfär-\ *adj* : foreign by birth
foreign correspondent *n* : a correspondent employed to send from a foreign country news or comment for publication (as in a newspaper)
for·eign·er \'fȯr-ə-nər, 'fär-\ *n* **1** : a person belonging to or owing allegiance to a foreign country : ALIEN **2** *chiefly dial* : STRANGER 1c
foreign exchange *n* **1** : a process of settling accounts or debts between persons residing in different countries **2** : foreign currency or current short-term credit instruments payable in such currency
for·eign·ism \'fȯr-ə-ˌniz-əm, 'fär-\ *n* : something peculiar to a foreign language or people; *specif* : a foreign idiom or custom
foreign minister *n* : a governmental minister for foreign affairs
foreign policy *n* : the policy of a sovereign state in its interaction with other sovereign states
foreign service *n* : the field force of a foreign office comprising diplomatic and consular personnel
¹fore·judge *or* **for·judge** \fər-'jəj, fōr-, fȯr-\ *vt* [ME *forjuggen*, fr. MF *forjugier*, fr. *fors* outside (fr. L *foris*) + *jugier* to judge] : to expel, oust, or put out by judgment of a court
²fore·judge \(')fōr-'jəj, (')fȯr-\ *vt* : PREJUDGE
fore·know \(')fōr-'nō, (')fȯr-\ *vt* **-knew** \-'n(y)ü\; **-known** \-'nōn\; **-know·ing** : to have previous knowledge of : know beforehand esp. by paranormal means or by revelation ***syn*** see FORESEE — **fore·know·l·edge** \-'näl-ij\ *n*
fore·la·dy \'fō(ə)r-ˌlād-ē, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a woman who acts as a foreman
fore·land \'fōr-lənd, 'fȯr-\ *n* : PROMONTORY, HEADLAND
fore·leg \'fō(ə)r-ˌleg, 'fȯ(ə)r-, -ˌlāg\ *n* : a front leg
fore·limb \-ˌlim\ *n* : an arm, fin, wing, or leg that is or is homologous to a foreleg ⟨the ~ of a bat⟩
fore·lock \-ˌläk\ *n* : a lock of hair growing from the front of the head
fore·man \'fōr-mən, 'fȯr-\ *n* : a first or chief man: as **a** : a member of a jury who acts as chairman and spokesman **b** (1) : a chief and often specially trained workman who works with and commonly leads a gang or crew **b** (2) : a person in authority over a group of workers, a particular operation, or a section of a plant — **fore·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
fore·mast \'fō(ə)r-ˌmast, 'fȯ(ə)r-, -məst\ *n* : the mast nearest the bow of a ship
fore·milk \-ˌmilk\ *n* **1** : first-drawn milk **2** : COLOSTRUM
¹fore·most \-ˌmōst\ *adj* [ME *formest*, fr. OE, superl. of *forma* first; akin to OHG *fruma* advantage, OE *fore* fore] **1** : first in a series or progression **2** : of first rank or position : PREEMINENT
²foremost *adv* **1** : in the first place **2** : most importantly ⟨first and ~⟩
fore·moth·er \'fō(ə)r-ˌməth-ər, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a female ancestor
fore·name \-ˌnām\ *n* : a name that precedes one's surname
fore·named \-ˌnāmd\ *adj* : named previously : AFORESAID
fore·noon \'fō(ə)r-ˌnün, 'fȯ(ə)r-ˌ, fōr-', fȯr-'\ *n* : the early part of the day ending with noon : MORNING
¹fo·ren·sic \fə-'ren(t)-sik, -'ren-zik\ *adj* [L *forensis* public, forensic, fr. *forum*] **1** : belonging to, used in, or suitable to courts of judicature or to public discussion and debate **2** : ARGUMENTATIVE, RHETORICAL — **fo·ren·si·cal·ly** \-si-k(ə-)lē, -zi-\ *adv*
²forensic *n* **1** : an argumentative exercise **2** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : the art or study of argumentative discourse
forensic medicine *n* : a science that deals with the relation and application of medical facts to legal problems
fore·or·dain \ˌfōr-ȯr-'dān, ˌfȯr-\ *vt* : to dispose or appoint in advance : PREDESTINE — **fore·or·di·na·tion** \-ˌȯrd-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n*
fore·part \'fō(ə)r-ˌpärt, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : the anterior part of something **2** : the earlier part of a period of time
fore·passed *or* **fore·past** \-ˌpast\ *adj* : BYGONE
fore·paw \-ˌpȯ\ *n* : the paw of a foreleg
fore·peak \-ˌpēk\ *n* : the extreme forward lower compartment or tank used for trimming or storage in a ship
fore·play \-ˌplā\ *n* : erotic stimulation preceding sexual intercourse
fore·quar·ter \-ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər\ *n* : the front half of a lateral half of the body or carcass of a quadruped ⟨a ~ of beef⟩
fore·reach \fōr-'rēch, fȯr-\ *vi, of a ship* : to gain ground in tacking ~ *vt* : to gain on or overhaul and go ahead of (a ship) when close-hauled
fore·run \-'rən\ *vt* **-ran** \-'ran\; **-run; -run·ning** **1** : to run before **2** : to come before as a token of something to follow **3** : FORESTALL, ANTICIPATE
fore·run·ner \'fō(ə)r-ˌrən-ər, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : one going or sent before to give notice of the approach of others: as **a** : a premonitory sign or symptom **b** : a skier who runs the course before the start of a race **2** : PREDECESSOR, FOREBEAR
syn FORERUNNER, PRECURSOR, HARBINGER, HERALD *shared meaning element* : one who goes before or announces the coming of another
fore·sad·dle \-ˌsad-ᵊl\ *n* : a wholesale cut of mutton, lamb, or veal that consists of the undivided forequarters of a carcass
fore·said \-ˌsed\ *adj, archaic* : AFORESAID
fore·sail \'fō(ə)r-ˌsāl, 'fȯ(ə)r-, -səl\ *n* **1** : a sail carried on the foreyard of a square-rigged ship that is the lowest sail on the foremast **2** : the lower sail set abaft a schooner's foremast — see SAIL illustration **3** : FORESTAYSAIL
fore·see \fōr-'sē, fȯr-\ *vt* **-saw** \-'sȯ\; **-seen** \-'sēn\; **-see·ing** : to see (as a development) beforehand — **fore·see·able** \-'sē-ə-bəl, fər-\ *adj* — **fore·se·er** \fōr-'sē-ər, fȯr-, -'si(-ə)r\ *n*
syn FORESEE, FOREKNOW, DIVINE, APPREHEND, ANTICIPATE *shared meaning element* : to know beforehand
fore·shad·ow \-'shad-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *vt* : to represent or typify beforehand : PREFIGURE ⟨present trends ~ future events⟩ — **fore·shad·ow·er** \-ə-wər\ *n*
fore·shank \'fō(ə)r-ˌshaŋk, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a beef shin
fore·sheet \-ˌshēt\ *n* **1** : one of the sheets of a foresail **2** *pl* : the forward part of an open boat
fore·shore \-ˌshō(ə)r, -ˌshȯ(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a strip of land margining a body of water **2** : the part of a seashore between high-water and low-water marks
fore·short·en \fōr-'shȯrt-ᵊn, fȯr-\ *vt* **1** : to shorten by proportionately contracting in the direction of depth so that an illusion of projection or extension in space is obtained **2** : to make more compact
fore·show \-'shō\ *vt* **-showed; -shown** \-'shōn\ *or* **-showed; -show·ing** **1** : FORETELL **2** : to show beforehand
fore·side \'fō(ə)r-ˌsīd, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : the front side or part : FRONT
fore·sight \'fō(ə)r-ˌsīt, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : an act or the power of foreseeing : PRESCIENCE **2** : an act of looking forward; *also* : a view forward **3** : provident care : PRUDENCE ⟨had the ~ to invest his money wisely⟩ — **fore·sight·ed** \-əd\ *adj* — **fore·sight·ed·ly** *adv* — **fore·sight·ed·ness** *n* — **fore·sight·ful** \-ˌsīt-fəl\ *adj*
fore·skin \-ˌskin\ *n* : a fold of skin that covers the glans of the penis — called also *prepuce*
fore·speak \fōr-'spēk, fȯr-\ *vt* **-spoke** \-'spōk\; **-spo·ken** \-'spō-kən\; **-speak·ing** **1** : FORETELL, PREDICT **2** : to arrange for in advance
¹for·est \'fȯr-əst, 'fär-\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *forestis*, fr. L *foris* outside — more at FORUM] **1** : a tract of wooded land in England formerly owned by the sovereign and used for game **2** : a dense growth of trees and underbrush covering a large tract **3** : something resembling a forest esp. in profusion ⟨a ~ of TV antennas⟩ — **for·est·al** \-əs-tᵊl\ *or* **fo·res·tial** \fə-'res-tē-əl, fȯ-, -'res(h)-chəl\ *adj* — **for·est·ed** \'fȯr-ə-stəd, 'fär-\ *adj*
²forest *vt* : to cover with trees or forest — **for·es·ta·tion** \ˌfȯr-ə-'stā-shən, ˌfär-\ *n*
fore·stage \'fō(ə)r-ˌstāj, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : APRON 2g
fore·stall \fōr-'stȯl, fȯr-\ *vt* [ME *forstallen*, fr. *forstall* act of waylaying, fr. OE *foresteall*, fr. *fore-* + *steall* position, stall] **1** *archaic* : INTERCEPT **2** : to exclude, hinder, or prevent by prior occupation or measures **3** : to get ahead of : ANTICIPATE **4** *obs* : OBSTRUCT, BESET **5** : to prevent the normal trading in by buying or diverting goods or by persuading persons to raise prices — **fore·stall·er** *n* — **fore·stall·ment** \-'stȯl-mənt\ *n*
fore·stay \'fō(ə)r-ˌstā, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a stay from the foremast head to the deck of a ship
fore·stay·sail \-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* : the triangular aftermost headsail of a schooner, ketch, or yawl set on hanks on the forestay — see SAIL illustration
for·est·er \'fȯr-ə-stər, 'fär-\ *n* **1** : a person trained in forestry **2** : an inhabitant of a forest **3** : any of various woodland moths (family Agaristidae) **4** *cap* : a member of a major benevolent and fraternal order
forest floor *n* : the richly organic layer of soil and debris characteristic of forested land
forest green *n* : a dark yellowish or moderate olive green
for·est·land \'fȯr-əst-ˌland, 'fär-\ *n* : land covered with forest or reserved for the growth of forests
forest ranger *n* : an officer charged with the patrolling and guarding of a forest; *esp* : one in charge of the management and protection of a portion of a public forest
for·est·ry \'fȯr-ə-strē, 'fär-\ *n* **1** : forest land **2 a** : the science of developing, caring for, or cultivating forests **b** : the management of growing timber
forest tent caterpillar *n* : a moth (*Malacosoma disstria*) whose orange-marked larva is a tent caterpillar and a serious defoliator of deciduous trees
foreswear, foresworn *var of* FORSWEAR, FORSWORN
¹fore·taste \'fō(ə)r-ˌtāst, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : an advance indication or warning **2** : a small anticipatory sample ***syn*** see PROSPECT
²fore·taste \fōr-'tāst, fȯr-', 'fō(ə)r-ˌ, 'fȯ(ə)r-ˌ\ *vt* : to taste beforehand : ANTICIPATE
fore·tell \fōr-'tel, fȯr-\ *vt* **-told** \-'tōld\; **-tell·ing** : to tell beforehand : PREDICT — **fore·tell·er** *n*
syn FORETELL, PREDICT, FORECAST, PROPHESY, PROGNOSTICATE *shared meaning element* : to tell beforehand
¹fore·thought \'fō(ə)r-ˌthȯt, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : a thinking or planning out in advance : PREMEDITATION **2** : consideration for the future
²forethought *adj* : thought of or planned beforehand : DELIBERATE

fore·thought·ful \-fəl\ *adj* : full of or having forethought — **fore·thought·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **fore·thought·ful·ness** *n*
fore·time \'fō(ə)r-ˌtīm, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : former or past time : the time before the present
¹fore·to·ken \'fō(ə)r-ˌtō-kən, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a premonitory sign
²fore·to·ken \fōr-'tō-kən, fȯr-\ *vt* **fore·to·kened; fore·to·ken·ing** \-'tōk-(ə-)niŋ\ : to indicate or warn of in advance
fore·top \'fō(ə)r-ˌtäp, 'fȯ(ə)r-, *in sense 2 often* 'fōrt-əp *or* 'fȯrt-\ *n* **1** : hair on the forepart of the head; *esp* : the forelock of a horse **2** : the platform at the head of a ship's foremast
fore–top·gal·lant \'fōr-ˌtäp-ˌgal-ənt, 'fȯr-; 'fōrt-ə-ˌgal-, 'fȯrt-\ *adj* : being the part next above the fore-topmast
fore·top·man \'fōr-ˌtäp-mən, 'fȯr-; 'fōrt-əp-, 'fȯrt-\ *n* : a sailor on duty on the foremast and above
fore–top·mast \'fōr-ˌtäp-məst, 'fȯr-; 'fōrt-əp-ˌmast, 'fȯrt-\ *n* : a mast next above the foremast
fore–top·sail \'fōr-ˌtäp-səl, 'fȯr-; 'fōrt-əp-, 'fȯrt-\ *n* : the sail above the foresail
¹for·ev·er \fə-'rev-ər, fȯ-\ *adv* **1** : for a limitless time ⟨wants to live ~⟩ **2** : at all times ⟨is ~ jingling the change in his pocket⟩
²forever *n* : an unspecified length of time ⟨it took her ~ to find the answer⟩
for·ev·er·more \-ˌrev-ə(r)-'mō(ə)r, -'mȯ(ə)r\ *adv* : FOREVER
for·ev·er·ness \-'rev-ər-nəs\ *n* : ETERNITY
fore·warn \fōr-'wȯ(ə)rn, fȯr-\ *vt* : to warn in advance ***syn*** see WARN
fore wing *n* : either of the anterior wings of a 4-winged insect
fore·wom·an \'fō(ə)r-ˌwùm-ən, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : FORELADY
fore·word \'fōr-(ˌ)wərd, 'fȯr-\ *n* : PREFACE
foreworn *var of* FORWORN
fore·yard \'fō(ə)r-ˌyärd, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : the lowest yard on a foremast
¹for·feit \'fȯr-fət\ *n* [ME *forfait*, fr. MF, fr. pp. of *forfaire* to commit a crime, forfeit, prob. fr. *fors* outside (fr. L *foris*) + *faire* to do, fr. L *facere* — more at FORUM, DO] **1** : something forfeited or subject to being forfeited (as for a crime, offense, or neglect of duty) : PENALTY **2** : forfeiture esp. of civil rights **3 a** : something deposited (as for making a mistake in a game) and then redeemed on payment of a fine **b** *pl* : a game in which forfeits are exacted
²forfeit *vt* **1** : to lose or lose the right to by some error, offense, or crime **2** : to subject to confiscation as a forfeit — **for·feit·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **for·feit·er** *n*
³forfeit *adj* : forfeited or subject to forfeiture
for·fei·ture \'fȯr-fə-ˌchù(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)ù(ə)r\ *n* **1** : the act of forfeiting : the loss of property or money because of a breach of a legal obligation **2** : something (as money or property) that is forfeited : PENALTY
for·fend *also* **fore·fend** \fȯr-'fend, fōr-\ *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : FORBID **b** : to ward off : PREVENT **2** : PROTECT, PRESERVE
for·gath·er *or* **fore·gath·er** \fȯr-'gaᵗʰ-ər, fōr-, -'geᵗʰ-\ *vi* **1** : to come together : ASSEMBLE **2** : to meet someone usu. by chance
¹forge \'fō(ə)rj, 'fȯ(ə)rj\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *fabrica*, fr. *fabr-*, *faber* smith — more at DAFT] **1** : a furnace or a shop with its furnace where metal is heated and wrought : SMITHY **2** : a workshop where wrought iron is produced or where iron is made malleable
²forge *vb* **forged; forg·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to form (as metal) by heating and hammering **b** : to form (metal) by a mechanical or hydraulic press with or without heat **2** : to form or bring into being esp. by an expenditure of effort ⟨made every effort to ~ party unity⟩ **3** : to make or imitate falsely esp. with intent to defraud : COUNTERFEIT ~ *vi* **1** : to work at a forge **2** : to commit forgery — **forge·abil·i·ty** \ˌfōr-jə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌfȯr-\ *n* — **forge·able** \'fōr-jə-bəl, 'fȯr-\ *adj*
³forge *vi* **forged; forg·ing** [origin unknown] **1** : to move forward slowly and steadily ⟨the great ship *forged* ahead through the waves⟩ **2** : to move with a sudden increase of speed and power ⟨the horse *forged* into the lead in the homestretch⟩
forg·er \'fōr-jər, 'fȯr-\ *n* **1 a** : one that falsifies; *specif* : a creator of false tales **b** : a person guilty of forgery **2** : one that forges metals
forg·ery \'fōrj-(ə-)rē, 'fȯrj-\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** *archaic* : INVENTION **2** : an act of forging; *esp* : the crime of falsely and fraudulently making or altering a document (as a check) **3** : something forged
for·get \fər-'get, fȯr-\ *vb* **-got** \-'gät\; **-got·ten** \-'gät-ᵊn\ *or* **-got; -get·ting** [ME *forgeten*, fr. OE *forgietan*, fr. *for-* + *-gietan* (akin to ON *geta* to get)] *vt* **1 a** : to lose the remembrance of ⟨I ~ his name⟩ **b** *obs* : to cease from doing **2** : to treat with inattention or disregard ⟨*forgot* his old friends⟩ **3** : to disregard intentionally : OVERLOOK — usu. used in the imperative ⟨~ it⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to cease remembering or noticing ⟨he forgives and ~*s*⟩ **2** : to fail to become mindful at the proper time ⟨~ about paying the bill⟩ ***syn*** see NEGLECT ***ant*** remember — **for·get·ter** *n* — **forget oneself** : to lose one's dignity, temper, or self-control
for·get·ful \-'get-fəl\ *adj* **1** : likely to forget **2** : characterized by negligent failure to remember : NEGLECTFUL **3** : inducing oblivion ⟨~ sleep⟩ — **for·get·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **for·get·ful·ness** *n*
syn FORGETFUL, OBLIVIOUS, UNMINDFUL *shared meaning element* : losing from one's mind something once known or learned
for·ge·tive \'fōr-jət-iv, 'fȯr-\ *adj* [prob. fr. ²*forge* + *-tive* (as in *inventive*)] *archaic* : INVENTIVE, IMAGINATIVE
for·get–me–not \fər-'get-mē-ˌnät, fȯr-\ *n* : any of a genus (*Myosotis*) of small herbs of the borage family having bright-blue or white flowers usu. arranged in a curving spike
for·get·ta·ble \fər-'get-ə-bəl, fȯr-\ *adj* : fit or likely to be forgotten
forg·ing \'fōr-jiŋ, 'fȯr-\ *n* **1** : the art or process of forging **2** : a piece of forged work **3** : FORGERY 2
for·give \fər-'giv, fȯr-\ *vb* **-gave** \-'gāv\; **-giv·en** \-'giv-ən\; **-giv·ing** [ME *forgiven*, fr. OE *forgifan*, fr. *for-* + *gifan* to give] *vt* **1** : to cease to feel resentment against (an offender) : PARDON ⟨~ one's enemies⟩ **2 a** : to give up resentment of or claim to requital for ⟨~ an insult⟩ **b** : to grant relief from payment of ⟨~ a debt⟩ ~ *vi* : to grant forgiveness ***syn*** see EXCUSE — **for·giv·able** \-'giv-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **for·giv·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **for·giv·er** *n*
for·give·ness \-'giv-nəs\ *n* : the act of forgiving : PARDON
for·giv·ing *adj* : willing or able to forgive — **for·giv·ing·ly** \-'giv-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **for·giv·ing·ness** *n*
for·go *or* **fore·go** \fȯr-'gō, fōr-\ *vt* **-went** \-'went\; **-gone** \-'gȯn *also* -'gän\; **-go·ing** \-'gō-iŋ, -'gȯ(-)iŋ\ [ME *forgon*, fr. OE *forgān* to pass by, forgo, fr. *for-* + *gān* to go] **1** *archaic* : FORSAKE **2** : to abstain from : RENOUNCE ⟨~ immediate gratification for the sake of future gains⟩ — **for·go·er** \-'gō(-ə)r\ *n*
for·got·ten man \fər-ˌgät-ᵊn-, fȯr-\ *n* : a person or category of persons that receives less attention than is merited
fo·rint \'fȯ(ə)r-ˌint\ *n* [Hung] — see MONEY table
forjudge *var of* FOREJUDGE
¹fork \'fȯ(ə)rk\ *n* [ME *forke*, fr. OE & ONF; OE *forca* & ONF *forque*, fr. L *furca*] **1** : an implement with two or more prongs used esp. for taking up (as in eating), pitching, or digging **2** : a forked part, tool, or piece of equipment **3 a** : a division into branches or the place where something divides into branches **b** : CONFLUENCE **4 a** : one of the branches into which something forks **b** : ALTERNATIVE, CHOICE **5** : an attack by one chess piece (as a knight) on two pieces simultaneously — **fork·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*
²fork *vi* **1** : to divide into two or more branches ⟨where the road ~*s*⟩ **2 a** : to use or work with a fork **b** : to make a turn into or travel a fork ~ *vt* **1** : to give the form of a fork to ⟨~*ing* her fingers⟩ **2** : to raise, pitch, dig, or work with a fork ⟨~ hay⟩ **3** : to attack (two chessmen) simultaneously **4** : PAY, CONTRIBUTE ⟨had to ~ out $5000 to keep the matter quiet⟩ — **fork·er** *n*
forked \'fȯ(ə)rkt, 'fȯr-kəd\ *adj* **1** : resembling a fork esp. in having one end divided into two or more branches or points ⟨~ lightning⟩ **2** : shaped like a fork or having a forked part ⟨a ~ road⟩
fork·lift \'fȯr-ˌklift\ *n* : a self-propelled machine for hoisting and transporting heavy objects by means of steel fingers inserted under the load
forky \'fȯr-kē\ *adj* **fork·i·er; -est** : FORKED ⟨a ~ beard⟩
for·lorn \fər-'lȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* [ME *forloren*, fr. OE, pp. of *forlēosan* to lose, fr. *for-* + *lēosan* to lose] **1 a** : BEREFT, FORSAKEN ⟨left quite ~ of hope⟩ **b** : sad and lonely because of isolation or desertion : DESOLATE **2** : being in poor condition : MISERABLE, WRETCHED ⟨~ tumbledown buildings⟩ **3** : nearly hopeless ⟨a ~ attempt⟩
syn see ALONE — **for·lorn·ly** *adv* — **for·lorn·ness** \-'lȯ(ə)rn-nəs\ *n*
forlorn hope *n* [by folk etymology fr. D *verloren hoop*, lit., lost band] **1** : a body of men selected to perform a perilous service **2** : a desperate or extremely difficult enterprise
¹form \'fȯ(ə)rm\ *n* [ME *forme*, fr. OF, fr. L *forma*] **1 a** : the shape and structure of something as distinguished from its material **b** : a body (as of a person) esp. in its external appearance or as distinguished from the face : FIGURE **c** *archaic* : BEAUTY **2** : the essential nature of a thing as distinguished from its matter: as **a** : IDEA 1a **b** : the component of a thing that determines its kind **3 a** : established method of expression or proceeding : procedure according to rule or rote **b** : a prescribed and set order of words : FORMULA ⟨the ~ of the marriage service⟩ **4** : a printed or typed document with blank spaces for insertion of required or requested information ⟨tax ~*s*⟩ **5 a** (1) : conduct regulated by extraneous controls (as of custom or etiquette) : CEREMONY (2) : show without substance **b** : manner or conduct as tested by a prescribed or accepted standard ⟨rudeness is simply bad ~⟩ **c** : manner or style of performing or accomplishing according to recognized standards of technique ⟨a strong swimmer but weak on ~⟩ **6 a** : the resting place of a hare **b** : a long seat : BENCH **7 a** : a supporting frame model of the human figure or part (as the torso) of the human figure usu. used for displaying apparel **b** : a proportioned and often adjustable model for fitting clothes **c** : a mold in which concrete is placed to set **8** : the printing type or other matter arranged and secured in a chase ready for printing **9 a** : one of the different modes of existence, action, or manifestation of a particular thing or substance : KIND ⟨one ~ of respiratory disorder⟩ ⟨a ~ of art⟩ **b** : a distinguishable group of organisms **10 a** (1) : orderly method of arrangement (as in the presentation of ideas) : manner of coordinating elements (as of an artistic production or course of reasoning) (2) : a particular kind or instance of such arrangement ⟨the sonnet is a poetical ~⟩ **b** : PATTERN, SCHEMA ⟨arguments of the same logical ~⟩ **c** : the structural element, plan, or design of a work of art — compare CONTENT 2c **d** : a visible and measurable unit defined by a contour : a bounded surface or volume **11** : a grade in a British secondary school or in some American private schools **12 a** (1) : the past performance of a race horse (2) : a table giving details (as handicaps and odds) of a horse's past performance which are used by bettors in making selections **b** : known ability to perform ⟨a singer at the top of his ~⟩ **c** : condition suitable for performing (as in athletic competition) **13 a** : LINGUISTIC FORM **b** : one of the different aspects a word may take as a result of inflection or change of spelling or pronunciation ⟨verbal ~*s*⟩ **14** : a mathematical expression of a particular type ⟨an equation in parametric ~⟩
syn FORM, FIGURE, SHAPE, CONFORMATION, CONFIGURATION *shared meaning element* : outward appearance
²form *vt* **1** : to give form or shape to : FASHION **2 a** : to give a particular shape to : shape or mold into a certain state or after a particular model : ARRANGE ⟨~*ed* the dough into various shapes⟩ ⟨a state ~*ed* along the lines of the Roman Republic⟩ **b** : to arrange themselves in ⟨the women ~*ed* a line⟩ **c** : to model by instruction and discipline ⟨a mind ~*ed* by classical education⟩ **3** : DEVELOP, ACQUIRE ⟨~ a habit⟩ **4** : to serve to make up or constitute : be a usu. essential or basic element of **5 a** : to assume an inflection so as to produce (as a tense) ⟨~*s* the past in *-ed*⟩ **b** : to combine to make (a compound word) **c** : to make up : CONSTI-

TUTE ⟨~ a clause⟩ **6** : to arrange in order : draw up ~ *vi* **1** : to become formed or shaped **2** : to take form : come into existence : ARISE **3** : to take on a definite form, shape, or arrangement ***syn*** see MAKE — **form·abil·i·ty** \ˌfȯr-mə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **form·able** \ˈfȯr-mə-bəl\ *adj* — **form on** : to take up a formation next to

form- *or* **formo-** *comb form* [*formic*] : formic acid ⟨*formate*⟩

-form \ˌfȯrm\ *adj comb form* [MF & L; MF *-forme*, fr. L *-formis*, fr. *forma*] : in the form or shape of : resembling ⟨ovi*form*⟩

¹for·mal \ˈfȯr-məl\ *adj* **1 a** : belonging to or being the essential constitution or structure ⟨~ cause⟩ **b** : relating to, concerned with, or constituting the outward form of something as distinguished from its content **2 a** : following or according with established form, custom, or rule : CONVENTIONAL ⟨lacked ~ qualifications for the job⟩ **b** : done in due or lawful form ⟨a ~ contract⟩ **3 a** : based on conventional forms and rules **b** : characterized by punctilious respect for form : METHODICAL ⟨very ~ in all his dealings⟩ **c** : rigidly ceremonious : PRIM **4** : having the appearance without the substance ⟨~ Christians who go to church only at Easter⟩ ***syn*** see CEREMONIAL ***ant*** informal — **for·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **for·mal·ness** *n*

²formal *n* : something (as a dance or a dress) formal in character

³formal *adj* [*form*ula + *-al*] : ³MOLAR 2

form·al·de·hyde \fȯr-ˈmal-də-ˌhīd, fər-\ *n* [ISV *form-* + *aldehyde*] : a colorless pungent irritating gas CH_2O used chiefly as a disinfectant and preservative and in synthesizing other compounds and resins

for·ma·lin \ˈfȯr-mə-lən, -ˌlēn\ *n* [fr. *Formalin*, a trademark] : a clear aqueous solution of formaldehyde containing a small amount of methanol

for·mal·ism \ˈfȯr-mə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : the practice or the doctrine of strict adherence to prescribed or external forms (as in religion or art); *also* : an instance of this — **for·mal·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj* — **for·mal·is·tic** \ˌfȯr-mə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj* — **for·mal·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

for·mal·i·ty \fȯr-ˈmal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being formal **2** : compliance with formal or conventional rules : CEREMONY **3** : an established form that is required or conventional

for·mal·ize \ˈfȯr-mə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to give a certain or definite form to : SHAPE **2 a** : to make formal **b** : to give formal status or approval to — **for·mal·iz·able** \-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **for·mal·iza·tion** \ˌfȯr-mə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **for·mal·iz·er** \ˈfȯr-mə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

formal logic *n* : a system of logic (as Aristotelian logic or symbolic logic) that abstracts the forms of thought from its content to establish abstract criteria of consistency

for·mant \ˈfȯr-mənt, -ˌmant\ *n* : a characteristic component of the quality of a speech sound; *specif* : any of several resonance bands held to determine the phonetic quality of a vowel

¹for·mat \ˈfȯ(ə)r-ˌmat\ *n* [F or G; F, fr. G, fr. L *formatus*, pp. of *formare* to form, fr. *forma*] **1** : the shape, size, and general makeup (as of something printed) **2** : general plan of organization or arrangement (as of a television show)

²format *vt* **for·mat·ted; for·mat·ting** : to produce in a specified form or style ⟨*formatted* output of a computer⟩

for·mate \ˈfȯ(ə)r-ˌmāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of formic acid

for·ma·tion \fȯr-ˈmā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of giving form or shape to something or of taking form : DEVELOPMENT **2** : something that is formed ⟨new word ~*s*⟩ **3** : the manner in which a thing is formed : STRUCTURE ⟨the peculiar ~ of the heart⟩ **4** : the largest unit in an ecological community comprising two or more associations and their precursors **5 a** : any igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic rock represented as a unit **b** : any sedimentary bed or consecutive series of beds sufficiently homogeneous or distinctive to be a unit **6** : an arrangement of a body or group of persons or things in some prescribed manner or for a particular purpose — **for·ma·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹for·ma·tive \ˈfȯr-mət-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : giving or capable of giving form : CONSTRUCTIVE ⟨a ~ influence⟩ **b** : used in word formation or inflection **2** : capable of alteration by growth and development; *also* : producing new cells and tissues **3** : of, relating to, or characterized by formative effects or formation ⟨~ years⟩ — **for·ma·tive·ly** *adv* — **for·ma·tive·ness** *n*

²formative *n* **1** : the element in a word that serves to give the word appropriate form and is not part of the base **2** : the minimal syntactically functioning element in a transformational grammar

form class *n* : a class of linguistic forms that can be used in the same position in a construction and that have one or more morphological or syntactical features in common

form critical *adj* : based on or applying form criticism

form criticism *n* : a method of criticism for determining the sources and historicity of esp. biblical writings through analysis of the writings in terms of traditional literary forms (as love poems, parables, and sayings) — **form critic** *n*

formed \ˈfȯrmd\ *adj* : organized in a way characteristic of living matter ⟨mitochondria are ~ bodies of the cell⟩ ⟨red blood cells are ~ elements of the blood⟩

for·mée \ˈfȯr-ˌmā, fȯr-ˈ\ *adj* [ME *forme*, fr. MF *formé*] *of a heraldic cross* : having the arms narrow at the center and expanding toward the ends — see CROSS illustration

¹for·mer \ˈfȯr-mər\ *adj* [ME, fr. *forme* first, fr. OE *forma* — more at FOREMOST] **1 a** : coming before in time **b** : of, relating to, or occurring in the past ⟨~ correspondence⟩ **2** : preceding in place or arrangement : FOREGOING ⟨~ part of the chapter⟩ **3** : first mentioned or in order of two things mentioned or understood ⟨of these two evils the ~ is the lesser⟩ ***syn*** see PRECEDING ***ant*** latter

²form·er \ˈfȯr-mər\ *n* **1** : one that forms **2** *chiefly Brit* : a member of a school form — usu. used in combination ⟨sixth ~⟩

for·mer·ly \ˈfȯr-mə(r)-lē\ *adv* **1** *obs* : just before **2** : at an earlier time : PREVIOUSLY

form-fit·ting \ˈfȯrm-ˌfit-iŋ\ *adj* : conforming to the outline of the body : fitting snugly ⟨a ~ sweater⟩

form·ful \ˈfȯrm-fəl\ *adj* : exhibiting or notable for form (as in a sport)

form genus *n* : an artificial taxonomic category established for organisms (as imperfect fungi) of obscure true relationships

for·mic \ˈfȯr-mik\ *adj* [L *formica* ant — more at PISMIRE] : derived from formic acid

For·mi·ca \fȯr-ˈmī-kə, fər-\ *trademark* — used for any of various laminated plastic products used esp. for surface finish

formic acid *n* : a colorless pungent fuming vesicant liquid acid CH_2O_2 found esp. in ants and in many plants and used chiefly in dyeing and finishing textiles

for·mi·cary \ˈfȯr-mə-ˌker-ē\ *n, pl* **-car·ies** [ML *formicarium*, fr. L *formica*] : an ant nest

for·mi·da·ble \ˈfȯr-məd-ə-bəl *also* fȯr-ˈmid- *or* fər-ˈmid-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *formidabilis*, fr. *formidare* to fear, fr. *formido* fear; akin to Gk *mormō* she-monster] **1** : causing fear, dread, or apprehension ⟨a ~ prospect⟩ **2** : having qualities that discourage approach or attack **3** : tending to inspire awe or wonder — **for·mi·da·bil·i·ty** \ˌfȯr-məd-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē; fȯr-ˌmid-, fər-ˌ\ *n* — **for·mi·da·ble·ness** \ˈfȯr-məd-ə-bəl-nəs; fȯr-ˈmid-, fər-ˈ\ *n* — **for·mi·da·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

form·less \ˈfȯrm-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no regular form or shape **2** : lacking order or arrangement **3** : having no physical existence — **form·less·ly** *adv* — **form·less·ness** *n*

form letter *n* **1** : a letter on a subject of frequent recurrence that can be sent to different people without essential change except in the address **2** : a letter that is printed in many copies, has a very general salutation (as *Dear Friend*), and is sent to a usu. large number of people

formo- — see FORM-

¹for·mu·la \ˈfȯr-myə-lə\ *n, pl* **-las** *or* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [L, dim. of *forma* form] **1 a** : a set form of words for use in a ceremony or ritual **b** : a conventionalized statement intended to express some fundamental truth or principle esp. as a basis for negotiation or action **2 a** (1) : RECIPE (2) : PRESCRIPTION **b** : a milk mixture or substitute for feeding an infant **3 a** : a general fact, rule, or principle expressed in symbols **b** : a symbolic expression of the chemical composition or constitution of a substance **c** : a group of numerical symbols associated to express briefly a single concept **d** : a combination of signs in a logical calculus **4** : a prescribed or set form or method (as of writing) : an established rule or custom — often used derogatorily ⟨television programs that were unimaginative ~ works⟩ — **for·mu·la·ic** \ˌfȯr-myə-ˈlā-ik\ *adj* — **for·mu·la·ical·ly** \-ˈlā-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²formula *adj, of a racing car* : conforming to prescribed specifications as to size, weight, and engine displacement and usu. having a long narrow body, open wheels, a single-seat open cockpit, and the engine in the rear

for·mu·la·ri·za·tion \ˌfȯr-myə-lə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : an act or a product of formularizing

for·mu·la·rize \ˈfȯr-myə-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-rized; -riz·ing** : to state in or reduce to a formula : FORMULATE — **for·mu·la·riz·er** *n*

for·mu·lary \ˈfȯr-myə-ˌler-ē\ *n, pl* **-lar·ies** **1** : a book or other collection of stated and prescribed forms (as oaths or prayers) **2** : a prescribed form or model : FORMULA **3** : a book containing a list of medicinal substances and formulas — **formulary** *adj*

for·mu·late \ˈfȯr-myə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** **1 a** : to reduce to or express in a formula **b** : to put into a systematized statement or expression **c** : DEVISE ⟨~ policy⟩ **2 a** : to develop a formula for the preparation of (as a soap or plastic) **b** : to prepare according to a formula — **for·mu·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

for·mu·la·tion \ˌfȯr-myə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* : an act or the product of formulating

formula weight *n* : MOLECULAR WEIGHT — used esp. of ionic compounds

for·mu·li·za·tion \ˌfȯr-myə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : FORMULATION

for·mu·lize \ˈfȯr-myə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** : FORMULATE 1

form word *n* : FUNCTION WORD

for·myl \ˈfȯr-ˌmil\ *n* [ISV] : the radical HCO of formic acid that is also characteristic of aldehydes

for·ni·cate \ˈfȯr-nə-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [LL *fornicatus*, pp. of *fornicare*, fr. L *fornic-*, *fornix* arch, vault, brothel] *vi* : to commit fornication ~ *vt* : to commit fornication with — **for·ni·ca·tor** \-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*

for·ni·ca·tion \ˌfȯr-nə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* **1** : human sexual intercourse other than between a man and his wife : sexual intercourse between a spouse and an unmarried person : sexual intercourse between unmarried people **2** : sexual intercourse on the part of an unmarried person accomplished with consent and not deemed adultery

for·nix \ˈfȯr-niks\ *n, pl* **for·ni·ces** \-nə-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. L] : an anatomical arch or fold

for·rad·er *also* **for·rard·er** \ˈfär-əd-ər\ *adv* [E dial., compar. of E *forward*] *chiefly Brit* : further ahead

for·sake \fər-ˈsāk, fȯr-\ *vt* **for·sook** \-ˈsu̇k\; **for·sak·en** \-ˈsā-kən\; **for·sak·ing** [ME *forsaken*, fr. OE *forsacan*, fr. *for-* + *sacan* to dispute; akin to OE *sacu* action at law — more at SAKE] **1** : to renounce (as something once cherished) without intent to recover or resume ⟨~ a bad habit⟩ **2** : to quit or leave entirely : withdraw from ⟨*forsook* the theater for politics⟩ ***syn*** see ABANDON ***ant*** return (*to*), revert (*to*)

for·sooth \fər-ˈsüth\ *adv* [ME *for soth*, fr. OE *forsōth*, fr. *for* + *sōth* sooth] : in truth : INDEED — often used to imply contempt or doubt

for·spent \fər-ˈspent, fȯr-\ *adj, archaic* : worn out : EXHAUSTED

for·swear *or* **fore·swear** \fȯr-ˈswa(ə)r, fōr-, -ˈswe(ə)r\ *vb* **-swore** \-ˈswō(ə)r, -ˈswȯ(ə)r\; **-sworn** \-ˈswō(ə)rn, -ˈswȯ(ə)rn\; **-swear·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to reject or renounce under oath **b** : to renounce earnestly **2** : to deny under oath **3** : to make a liar of (oneself) under or as if under oath ⟨~ himself⟩ ~ *vi* : to swear falsely ***syn*** see ABJURE

for·sworn *or* **fore·sworn** \-ˈswō(ə)rn, -ˈswȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : guilty of perjury : marked by perjury

for·syth·ia \fər-ˈsith-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. William *Forsyth* †1804 Brit botanist] : any of a genus (*Forsythia*) of ornamental

shrubs of the olive family with opposite leaves and yellow bell-shaped flowers appearing before the leaves in early spring

fort \'fō(ə)rt, 'fȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [ME *forte*, fr. MF *fort*, fr. *fort* strong, fr. L *fortis*] **1** : a strong or fortified place; *esp* : a fortified place occupied only by troops and surrounded with such works as a ditch, rampart, and parapet : FORTIFICATION **2** : a permanent army post — often used in place names

for·ta·lice \'fȯrt-ᵊl-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *fortalitia* — more at FORTRESS] **1** *archaic* : FORTRESS **2** *archaic* : a small fort

[1]forte \'fō(ə)rt, 'fȯ(ə)rt; 'fȯr-ˌtā *and* 'fȯrt-ē *are frequent for 1*\ *n* [MF *fort*, fr. *fort* strong] **1** : one's strong point **2** : the part of a sword or foil blade between the middle and the hilt; *also* : the strongest part of the blade

[2]for·te \'fȯr-ˌtā, 'fȯrt-ē\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. *forte* strong, fr. L *fortis*] : in a loud and often forceful manner — used as a direction in music

[3]for·te \'fȯr-ˌtā, 'fȯrt-ē\ *n* : a tone or passage played forte

for·te–pi·a·no \ˌfȯr-ˌtā-pē-'än-(ˌ)ō, ˌfȯrt-ē-\ *adv or adj* : loud then immediately soft — used as a direction in music

[1]forth \'fō(ə)rth, 'fȯ(ə)rth\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *for*] **1** : onward in time, place, or order : FORWARD ⟨from that day ~⟩ **2** : out into notice or view ⟨put ~ leaves⟩ **3** *obs* : AWAY, ABROAD

[2]forth *prep, archaic* : forth from : out of

forth·com·ing \(')fōrth-'kəm-iŋ, (')fȯrth-\ *adj* [obs. *forthcome* (to come forth)] **1** : being about to appear : APPROACHING ⟨the ~ holidays⟩ **2 a** : readily available ⟨new funds will be ~ next year⟩ **b** : SOCIABLE, AFFABLE ⟨a ~, accessible, and courteous man⟩

forth of *prep* : out of : out from

[1]forth·right \'fōr-ˌthrīt, 'fȯr-\ *adv* **1 a** : directly forth or ahead **b** : without hesitation : FRANKLY **2** *archaic* : at once

[2]forthright *adj* **1** *archaic* : proceeding straight on **2** : going straight to the point without ambiguity or hesitation ⟨a ~ critic⟩ ⟨a ~ appraisal of a problem⟩ ***syn*** see STRAIGHTFORWARD ***ant*** furtive — **forth·right·ly** *adv* — **forth·right·ness** *n*

[3]forthright *n, archaic* : a straight path

forth·with \(')fōrth-'with, (')fȯrth-, -'with\ *adv* : IMMEDIATELY

for·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌfȯrt-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or process of fortifying **2** : something that fortifies, defends, or strengthens; *esp* : works erected to defend a place or position

fortified wine *n* : a wine (as most dessert wines) to which alcohol usu. in the form of grape brandy has been added during or after fermentation

for·ti·fi·er \'fȯrt-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that fortifies

for·ti·fy \-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *fortifien*, fr. MF *fortifier*, fr. LL *fortificare*, fr. L *fortis* strong] *vt* : to make strong: as **a** : to strengthen and secure (as a town) by forts or batteries **b** : to give physical strength, courage, or endurance to : INVIGORATE ⟨*fortified* himself with a glass of wine⟩ **c** : to add mental or moral strength to : ENCOURAGE ⟨*fortified* by prayer⟩ **d** : to add material to for strengthening or enriching ~ *vi* : to erect fortifications

for·tis \'fȯrt-əs\ *adj* [NL, fr. L, strong] : produced with relatively great articulatory tenseness and strong expiration ⟨\t\ in *toe* is ~, \d\ in *doe* is lenis⟩

[1]for·tis·si·mo \fȯr-'tis-ə-ˌmō\ *adv or adj* [It, superl. of *forte*] : very loud — used as a direction in music

[2]fortissimo *n, pl* **-mos** *or* **-mi** \-ˌmē\ : a very loud passage, sound, or tone

for·ti·tude \'fȯrt-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *fortitudin-, fortitudo*, fr. *fortis*] **1** *obs* : STRENGTH **2** : strength of mind that enables a person to encounter danger or bear pain or adversity with courage ***syn*** FORTITUDE, GRIT, BACKBONE, PLUCK, GUTS, SAND *shared meaning element* : courage and staying power ***ant*** pusillanimity

fort·night \'fōrt-ˌnīt, 'fȯrt-\ *n* [ME *fourtenight*, alter. of *fourtene night*, fr. OE *fēowertȳne niht* fourteen nights] : two weeks

[1]fort·night·ly \-lē\ *adj* : occurring or appearing once in a fortnight

[2]fortnightly *adv* : once in a fortnight : every fortnight

[3]fortnightly *n, pl* **-lies** : a publication issued fortnightly

FOR·TRAN *or* **For·tran** \'fȯ(ə)r-ˌtran\ *n* [*for*mula *tran*slation] : an algebraic and logical language for programming a computer

for·tress \'fȯr-trəs\ *n* [ME *forteresse*, fr. MF *forteresce*, fr. ML *fortalitia*, fr. L *fortis* strong] : a fortified place : STRONGHOLD; *esp* : a large and permanent fortification sometimes including a town

for·tu·itous \fȯr-'t(y)ü-ət-əs, fər-\ *adj* [L *fortuitus;* akin to L *fort-, fors*] **1** : occurring by chance **2** : FORTUNATE, LUCKY ***syn*** see ACCIDENTAL — **for·tu·itous·ly** *adv* — **for·tu·itous·ness** *n*

for·tu·ity \-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ities** [irreg. fr. *fortuitous*] **1** : the quality or state of being fortuitous **2** : a chance event or occurrence

for·tu·nate \'fȯrch-(ə-)nət\ *adj* **1** : bringing some good thing not foreseen as certain : AUSPICIOUS **2** : receiving some unexpected good ***syn*** see LUCKY ***ant*** unfortunate, disastrous — **for·tu·nate·ly** *adv* — **for·tu·nate·ness** *n*

[1]for·tune \'fȯr-chən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *fortuna;* akin to L *fort-, fors* chance, luck, *ferre* to carry — more at BEAR] **1** *often cap* : a hypothetical force or personified power that unpredictably determines events and issues favorably or unfavorably **2** *obs* : ACCIDENT, INCIDENT **3 a** : prosperity attained partly through luck : SUCCESS **b** : LUCK 1 **4** : DESTINY, FATE ⟨tell his ~ with cards⟩; *also* : a prediction of fortune ⟨get your weight and ~ for a penny⟩ **5 a** : possession of material goods : WEALTH ⟨a man of ~⟩ **b** : a store of material possessions ⟨the family ~⟩ **c** : a very large sum of money ⟨won a ~ playing the races⟩

[2]fortune *vb* **for·tuned; for·tun·ing** *vt* **1** *obs* : to give good or bad fortune to **2** *archaic* : to endow with a fortune ~ *vi, archaic* : HAPPEN, CHANCE

fortune cookie *n* : a thin folded cookie containing a slip of paper on which is printed a fortune, proverb, or humorous statement

fortune hunter *n* : a person who seeks wealth esp. by marriage

for·tune–tell·er \-ˌtel-ər\ *n* : one that professes to foretell future events — **for·tune–tell·ing** \-iŋ\ *n or adj*

for·ty \'fȯrt-ē\ *n, pl* **forties** [ME *fourty*, adj., fr. OE *fēowertig*, fr. *fēowertig* group of 40, fr. *fēower* four + *-tig* group of 10 — more at EIGHTY] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** *pl* : the numbers 40 to 49; *specif* : the years 40 to 49 in a lifetime or century **3** : the third point scored by a side in a game of tennis — **for·ti·eth** \'fȯrt-ē-əth\ *adj or n* — **forty** *adj or pron*

for·ty–eight·mo \ˌfȯrt-ē-'āt-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **-mos** : the size of a piece of paper cut 48 from a sheet; *also* : a book, a page, or paper of this size

for·ty–five \ˌfȯrt-ē-'fīv\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : a .45 caliber pistol — usu. written .45 **3** : a microgroove phonograph record designed to be played at 45 revolutions per minute — usu. written 45 — **forty–five** *adj or pron*

Forty Hours *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a Roman Catholic devotion in which the churches of a diocese in two-day turns have the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar for continuous daytime veneration

for·ty–nin·er \ˌfȯrt-ē-'nī-nər\ *n* : one taking part in the rush to California for gold in 1849

forty winks *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a short sleep : NAP

fo·rum \'fōr-əm, 'fȯr-\ *n, pl* **forums** *also* **fo·ra** \-ə\ [L; akin to L *foris* outside, *fores* door — more at DOOR] **1 a** : the marketplace or public place of an ancient Roman city forming the center of judicial and public business **b** : a public meeting place for open discussion **c** : a medium (as a newspaper) of open discussion **2** : a judicial body or assembly : COURT **3 a** : a public meeting or lecture involving audience discussion **b** : a program (as on radio or television) involving discussion of a problem usu. by several authorities

[1]for·ward \'fȯr-wərd, *South also* 'fär-\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *foreweard* fr. *fore-* + *-weard* -ward] **1 a** : near, being at, or belonging to the forepart **b** : situated in advance **2 a** : strongly inclined : READY **b** : lacking modesty or reserve : BRASH **3** : notably advanced or developed : PRECOCIOUS **4** : moving, tending, or leading toward a position in front; *also* : moving toward an opponent's goal **5 a** : advocating an advanced policy in the direction of what is considered progress **b** : EXTREME, RADICAL ⟨on the ~ fringe of liberalism⟩ **6** : of, relating to, or getting ready for the future ⟨~ buying of produce⟩ — **for·ward·ly** *adv* — **for·ward·ness** *n*

[2]forward *adv* : to or toward what is ahead or in front ⟨from that time ~⟩ ⟨moved slowly ~ through the mud⟩

[3]forward *n* : a mainly offensive player in any of several games stationed at or near the front of his side or team (as in hockey or soccer) or in the corner (as in basketball)

[4]forward *vt* **1** : to help onward : PROMOTE ⟨~*ed* his friend's career⟩ **2 a** : to send forward : TRANSMIT ⟨will ~ the goods on receipt of his check⟩ **b** : to send or ship onward from an intermediate post or station in transit ⟨~ mail to the new address⟩ ***syn*** see ADVANCE ***ant*** hinder, balk

for·ward·er \-wərd-ər\ *n* : one that forwards; *esp* : an agent who performs services (as receiving, transshipping, or delivering) designed to assure and facilitate the passage of goods of his principal to their destination

for·ward·ing \-wərd-iŋ\ *n* : the act of one that forwards; *esp* : the business of a forwarder of goods

for·ward–look·ing \'fȯr-wərd-ˌlůk-iŋ\ *adj* : concerned with or planning for the future

forward pass *n* : a pass in football thrown in the direction of the opponents' goal

for·wards \'fȯr-wərdz\ *adv* : FORWARD

for·worn \fər-'wō(ə)rn, -'wȯ(ə)rn\ *adj, archaic* : worn out

forz *abbr* forzando

for·zan·do \fȯrt-'sän-(ˌ)dō\ *adj or adv* [It] : SFORZANDO

FOS *abbr* free on steamer

fos·sa \'fäs-ə\ *n, pl* **fos·sae** \-ˌē, -ˌī\ [NL, fr. L, ditch] : an anatomical pit or depression — **fos·sate** \-ˌāt\ *adj*

fosse *or* **foss** \'fäs\ *n* [ME *fosse*, fr. OF, fr. L *fossa*, fr. fem. of *fossus*] : DITCH, MOAT

fos·sick \'fäs-ik\ *vb* [E dial. *fussick, fussock* to potter, irreg. fr. E *fuss*] *vi* **1** *Austral* : to search for gold typically by picking over abandoned workings **2** *chiefly Austral* : to search about : RUMMAGE ~ *vt, chiefly Austral* : to search for, by, or as if by rummaging : ferret out — **fos·sick·er** *n, chiefly Austral*

[1]fos·sil \'fäs-əl\ *n* [L *fossilis* dug up, fr. *fossus*, pp. of *fodere* to dig — more at BED] **1** : a remnant, impression, or trace of an animal or plant of past geological ages that has been preserved in the earth's crust **2 a** : one whose views are outmoded : FOGY **b** : something (as a theory) that has become rigidly fixed **3** : an old word or word element preserved only by idiom (as *fro* in *to and fro*)

[2]fossil *adj* **1** : having the characteristics of a fossil: as **a** : ultimately derived from living things ⟨coal, oil, and natural gas are ~ fuels⟩ ⟨amber is a ~ resin⟩ **b** : preserved in a mineralized or petrified form from a geological age ⟨~ imprint of a raindrop⟩ ⟨a ~ beach⟩ ⟨a ~ nuclear track in mica⟩ **c** : being water that accumulated in an underground reservoir in a past geologic age **2** : being or resembling a fossil

fos·sil·if·er·ous \ˌfäs-ə-'lif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : containing fossils ⟨~ limestone⟩

fos·sil·ize \'fäs-ə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to convert into a fossil **2** : to make outmoded, rigid, or fixed ~ *vi* : to become changed into a fossil — **fos·sil·iza·tion** \ˌfäs-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

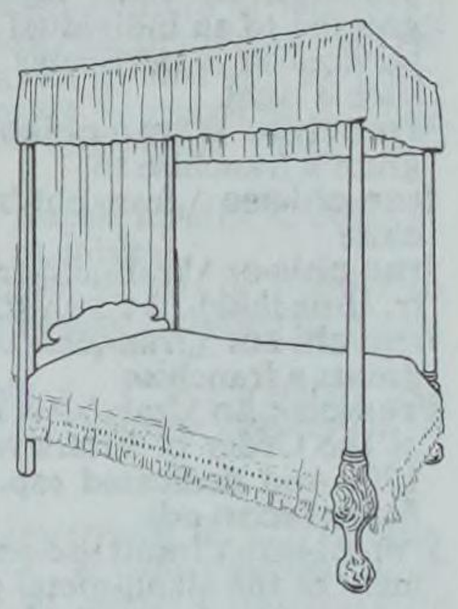
fos·so·ri·al \fä-'sōr-ē-əl, -'sȯr-\ *adj* [ML *fossorius*, fr. L *fossus*, pp.] : adapted to digging ⟨a ~ foot⟩

[1]fos·ter \'fȯs-tər, 'fäs-\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *fōstor-*, fr. *fōstor* food, feeding; akin to OE *fōda* food] : affording, receiving, or sharing nurture or parental care though not related by blood or legal ties

[2]foster *vt* **fos·tered; fos·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to give parental care to : NURTURE **2** : to promote the growth or development of : ENCOURAGE — **fos·ter·er** \-tər-ər\ *n*

fos·ter·age \-tə-rij\ *n* **1** : the act of fostering **2** : a custom once prevalent in Ireland, Wales, and Scotland of entrusting one's child to foster parents to be brought up
fos·ter·ling \-tər-liŋ\ *n* : a foster child
FOT *abbr* free on truck
fou \'fü\ *adj* [ME (Sc) *fow* full, fr. ME *full*] *Scot* : DRUNK
fou·droy·ant \fü-'drȯi-ənt, fü-drwȧ-yä^{n}\ *adj* [F] : sudden and overwhelming in effect : DAZZLING
fought *past of* FIGHT
[1]foul \'faù(ə)l\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *fūl;* akin to OHG *fūl* rotten, L *pus* pus, *putēre* to stink, Gk *pyon* pus] **1 a** : offensive to the senses : LOATHSOME **b** : filled or covered with offensive matter **2** : full of dirt or mud **3 a** : morally or spiritually odious : DETESTABLE ⟨a ~ crime⟩ **b** : notably unpleasant or distressing : WRETCHED, HORRID ⟨if my day has been ~, I can turn on my . . . radio and everything's mellow — Adrian Dove⟩ **4** : OBSCENE, ABUSIVE ⟨~ language⟩ **5 a** : being wet and stormy **b** : obstructive to navigation ⟨a ~ tide⟩ **6** *dial Brit* : HOMELY, UGLY ⟨~ of face⟩ **7 a** : TREACHEROUS, DISHONORABLE ⟨fair means or ~⟩ **b** : constituting an infringement of rules in a game or sport ⟨a ~ blow in boxing⟩ **8 a** : marked up or defaced by changes ⟨~ manuscript⟩ **b** *of a proof* : pulled before the latest alterations in type **9** : encrusted, clogged or choked with a foreign substance ⟨the chimney was ~ and smoked badly⟩ **10** : being odorous and impure : POLLUTED ⟨~ air⟩ **11** : placed in a situation that impedes physical movement : ENTANGLED **12** : being outside the foul lines in baseball ⟨~ grounder⟩ ***syn*** see DIRTY — **foul·ness** *n*
[2]foul *n* **1** *archaic* : bad luck **2** : an entanglement or collision esp. in angling or sailing **3 a** : an infringement of the rules in a game or sport **b** : FREE THROW **4** : FOUL BALL
[3]foul *adv* : FOULLY
[4]foul *vi* **1** : to become or be foul: as **a** : DECOMPOSE, ROT **b** : to become encrusted, clogged, or choked with a foreign substance **c** : to become entangled or come into collision **2** : to commit a violation of the rules in a sport or game **3** : to hit a foul ball ~ *vt* **1** : to make foul: as **a** : to make dirty : POLLUTE **b** : to become entangled or come into collision with **c** : to encrust with a foreign substance ⟨a ship's bottom ~*ed* with barnacles⟩ **d** : OBSTRUCT, BLOCK **2** : DISHONOR, DISCREDIT **3** : to commit a foul against **4** : to hit (a baseball) foul
fou·lard \fü-'lärd\ *n* [F] **1 a** : a lightweight plain-woven or twilled silk usu. decorated with a printed pattern **b** : an imitation of this fabric **2** : an article of clothing (as a scarf) made of foulard
foul ball *n* : a baseball batted into foul territory
foul·brood \'faůl-ˌbrüd\ *n* : a destructive bacterial disease of the larvae of the honeybee
foul·ing *n* : DEPOSIT, INCRUSTATION ⟨~ on a ship's bottom⟩
foul line *n* **1** : either of two straight lines extending from the rear corner of home plate through the outer corners of first and third base respectively and prolonged to the boundary of a baseball field **2** : a line across a bowling alley that a player must not step over when delivering the ball **3** : either of two lines on a basketball court parallel to and 15 feet from the backboards behind which a player must stand while shooting a free throw
foul·ly \'faù(l)-lē\ *adv* : in a foul manner
foul·mouthed \'faůl-'maüt͟hd, -'maůtht\ *adj* : given to the use of obscene, profane, or abusive language
foul out *vi* : to be put out of a basketball game for exceeding the number of fouls permitted
foul play *n* : VIOLENCE; *esp* : MURDER
foul tip *n* [*foul* + *tip* (tap)] : a pitched ball in baseball that is slightly deflected by the bat; *specif* : a tipped pitch legally caught by the catcher and counting as a full strike with the ball remaining in play
foul–up \'faů-ˌləp\ *n* **1** : a state of confusion caused by ineptitude, carelessness, or mismanagement ⟨~*s* in transportation⟩ **2** : a mechanical difficulty ⟨a ~ in the steering mechanism — *Springfield (Mass.) Union*⟩
foul up \(')faů-'ləp\ *vt* **1** : to make dirty : CONTAMINATE **2** : to spoil by making mistakes or using poor judgment : CONFUSE **3** : ENTANGLE, BLOCK ⟨*fouled up* communications⟩ ~ *vi* : to become confused : get into difficulty : BUNGLE ⟨it was his fault. He had *fouled up* — Pat Frank⟩
[1]found \'faůnd\ *past of* FIND
[2]found *adj* **1** : having all usual, standard, or reasonably expected equipment ⟨the boat comes fully ~, ready to go — *Holiday*⟩ **2** : presented as or incorporated into an artistic work essentially as found ⟨sculpture of fabric, wood, and other ~ materials — Hilton Kramer⟩
[3]found *n* : free food and lodging in addition to wages ⟨they're paid $175 a month and ~ — *New Yorker*⟩
[4]found *vt* [ME *founden*, fr. OF *fonder*, fr. L *fundare*, fr. *fundus* bottom — more at BOTTOM] **1** : to take the first steps in building **2** : to set or ground on something solid : BASE **3** : to establish (as an institution) often with provision for future maintenance
[5]found *vt* [MF *fondre* to pour, melt, fr. L *fundere;* akin to OE *gēotan* to pour, Gk *chein*] : to melt (metal) and pour into a mold
foun·da·tion \faůn-'dā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of founding **2** : the basis upon which something stands or is supported **3 a** : funds given for the permanent support of an institution : ENDOWMENT **b** : an organization or institution established by endowment with provision for future maintenance **4** : an underlying natural or prepared base or support; *esp* : the whole masonry substructure of a building **5 a** : a body or ground upon which something is built up or overlaid **b** : a woman's supporting undergarment : CORSET ***syn*** see BASE ***ant*** superstructure — **foun·da·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **foun·da·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **foun·da·tion·less** \-shən-ləs\ *adj*
foundation stone *n* **1** : a stone in the foundation of a building; *esp* : such a stone laid with public ceremony — compare CORNERSTONE **2** : BASIS, GROUNDWORK
[1]found·er \'faůn-dər\ *n* : one that founds or establishes — **found·ress** \-drəs\ *n*
[2]foun·der \'faůn-dər\ *vb* **foun·dered; foun·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *foundren* to send to the bottom, collapse, fr. MF *fondrer*, deriv. of L *fundus*] *vi* **1** : to become disabled; *esp* : to go lame **2** : to give way : COLLAPSE **3** : to sink below the surface of the water **4** : to come to grief : FAIL ~ *vt* : to disable (an animal) esp. by excessive feeding
[3]foun·der *n* [*[2]founder*] : the condition of a foundered horse
[4]found·er *n* : one that founds metal; *specif* : TYPEFOUNDER
foun·der·ous *or* **foun·drous** \'faůn-d(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : likely to cause one to founder : MIRY
founding father *n* **1** : an originator of an institution or movement : FOUNDER **2** *cap both Fs* : a member of the American Constitutional Convention of 1787
found·ling \'faůn-(d)liŋ\ *n* : an infant found after its unknown parents have abandoned it
found object *n* : OBJET TROUVÉ
found·ry \'faůn-drē\ *n, pl* **foundries** **1** : the act, process, or art of casting metals; *also* : CASTINGS **2** : an establishment where founding is carried on
foundry proof *n* : a proof taken from a form that has been locked up and made ready for plating
[1]fount \'faůnt\ *n* [MF *font*, fr. L *font-, fons*] : FOUNTAIN, SOURCE
[2]fount \'fänt, 'faůnt\ *n* [F *fonte*] *Brit* : a type font
[1]foun·tain \'faůnt-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *fontaine*, fr. LL *fontana*, fr. L, fem. of *fontanus* of a spring, fr. *font-, fons*] **1** : a spring of water issuing from the earth **2** : SOURCE **3** : an artificially produced jet of water; *also* : the structure from which it rises **4** : a reservoir containing a liquid that can be drawn off as needed
[2]fountain *vi* : to flow or spout like a fountain ~ *vt* : to cause to flow like a fountain
foun·tain·head \-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : a spring that is the source of a stream **2** : principal source : ORIGIN
fountain pen *n* : a pen containing a reservoir that automatically feeds the writing point with ink
four \'fō(ə)r, 'fȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. *four* adj., fr. OE *fēower;* akin to OHG *fior* four, L *quattuor*, Gk *tessares, tettares*] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the fourth in a set or series ⟨the ~ of hearts⟩ **3** : something having four units or members: as **a** : a 4-oared racing shell or its crew **b** : a 4-cylinder engine or automobile — **four** *adj or pron*
four–bag·ger \-'bag-ər\ *n* : HOME RUN
four–ball \-ˌbȯl\ *adj* : relating to or being a golf match in which the best individual score of one partnership is matched against the best individual score of another partnership for each hole
four·chée \fù(ə)r-'shā\ *adj* [F] *of a heraldic cross* : having the end of each arm forked — see CROSS illustration
four–dimensional *adj* : relating to or having four dimensions ⟨~ space-time continuum⟩; *esp* : consisting of or relating to elements requiring four coordinates to determine them
four·dri·nier \ˌfōr-drə-'ni(ə)r, ˌfȯr-; fůr-'drin-ē-ər, fōr-, fȯr-\ *n* [Henry *Fourdrinier* & Sealy *Fourdrinier*] : a machine for making paper in an endless web
four–flush *vi* : to bluff in poker holding a four flush; *broadly* : to make a false claim : BLUFF — **four–flush·er** *n*
four flush *n* : four cards of the same suit in a five-card poker hand
four·fold \'fō(ə)r-ˌfōld, 'fȯ(ə)r-, -'fōld\ *adj* **1** : having four units or members **2** : being four times as great or as many — **four·fold** \-'fōld\ *adv*
four–foot·ed \-'fůt-əd\ *adj* : having four feet : QUADRUPED
four·gon \fů(ə)r-'gō^{n}\ *n, pl* **fourgons** \-'gō^{n}(z)\ [F] : a wagon for carrying baggage
4–H \(')fō(ə)r-'āch, (')fȯ(ə)r-\ *adj* [fr. the fourfold aim of improving the head, heart, hands, and health] : of or relating to a program set up by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to instruct rural young people in modern farm practices and in good citizenship ⟨~ club⟩ — **4–H'·er** \-ər\ *n*
four–hand \'fō(ə)r-ˌhand, 'fȯ(ə)r-\ *adj* : FOUR-HANDED
four–hand·ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* **1** : designed for four hands ⟨a ~ musical composition⟩ **2** : engaged in by four persons ⟨a ~ card game⟩
Four Horsemen *n pl* [fr. the apocalyptic vision in Rev 6:2–8] : war, famine, pestilence, and death personified as the four major plagues of mankind
Four Hundred *or* **400** *n* : the exclusive social set of a community — used with *the*
Fou·ri·er analysis \ˌfůr-ē-ˌā-\ *n* : the fitting of terms of a Fourier series to periodic data
Fou·ri·er·ism \'fůr-ē-ə-ˌriz-əm, -ē-ˌā-ˌiz-\ *n* [F *fouriérisme*, fr. F.M.C. *Fourier*] : a system for reorganizing society into cooperative communities of small groups living in common — **Fou·ri·er·ist** \-ē-ə-rəst, -ē-ˌā-əst\ *n*
Fou·ri·er series \ˌfůr-ē-ˌā-\ *n* [Baron J.B.J. *Fourier* †1830 F geometrician & physicist] : an infinite series in which the terms are constants multiplied by sine or cosine functions of integer multiples of the variable and which is used in the analysis of periodic functions
Fourier's theorem *n* [J. B. J. *Fourier*] : a theorem in mathematics : any periodic function can be resolved under suitable conditions into sine and cosine terms involving known constants
Fourier transform *n* : a function (as $F(u)$) that under suitable conditions can be obtained from a given function (as $f(x)$) by multiplying by e^{iux} and integrating over all values of x
four–in–hand \'fōr-ən-ˌhand, 'fȯr-\ *n* **1 a** : a team of four horses driven by one person **b** : a vehicle drawn by such a team **2** : a necktie tied in a slipknot with long ends overlapping vertically in front
four–letter word *n* : any of a group of vulgar or obscene words typically made up of four letters
four–line octave *n* [fr. the four accent marks appended to the letters representing its notes] : the musical octave that begins on the third C above middle C — see PITCH illustration
four–o'clock \'fōr-ə-ˌkläk, 'fȯr-\ *n* : any of a genus (*Mirabilis*) of chiefly American annual or perennial herbs (family Nyctaginaceae, the four-o'clock family) having apetalous flowers with a showy

involucre simulating a calyx; *esp* : a garden plant (*M. jalapa*) with fragrant yellow, red, or white flowers opening late in the afternoon
four of a kind : four cards of the same rank in one hand — see POKER illustration
four-penny nail \ˌfōr-ˌpen-ē-, ˌfȯr-\ *n* : a nail 1 3/8 inches long
four-poster \(ˈ)fōr-ˈpō-stər, (ˈ)fȯr-\ *n* : a bed with tall often carved corner posts orig. designed to support curtains or a canopy


four-poster

fourragère \ˌfu̇r-ə-ˈzhe(ə)r\ *n* [F] : a braided cord worn usu. around the left shoulder; *esp* : such a cord awarded to a military unit
fourscore \ˈfōr-ˈskō(ə)r, ˈfȯr-ˈskȯ(ə)r\ *adj* : being four times twenty : EIGHTY
foursome \ˈfōr-səm, ˈfȯr-\ *n* **1 a** : a group of four persons or things : QUARTET **b** : two couples **2** : a golf match between two pairs of partners
four-square \-ˈskwa(ə)r, -ˈskwe(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : SQUARE **2** : marked by boldness and conviction : FORTHRIGHT — **four-square** *adv*
four-star \-ˈstär\ *adj* [fr. the number of asterisks used to denote relative excellence in guidebooks] : of a superior degree of excellence ⟨a ~ French restaurant⟩
fourteen \(ˈ)fōr(t)-ˈtēn, (ˈ)fȯr(t)-\ *n* [ME *fourtene*, fr. OE *fēowertīene*, fr. *fēowertīene*, adj.; akin to OE *tīen* ten] — see NUMBER table — **fourteen** *adj or pron* — **fourteenth** \-ˈtēn(t)th\ *adj or n*
fourteener \-ˈtē-nər\ *n* : a verse consisting of 14 syllables or esp. of 7 iambic feet
fourth \ˈfō(ə)rth, ˈfȯ(ə)rth\ *n* **1** — see NUMBER table **2 a** : the musical interval embracing four diatonic degrees **b** : a tone at this interval; *specif* : SUBDOMINANT a **c** : the harmonic combination of two tones a fourth apart **3** : the 4th forward gear or speed of a motor vehicle **4** *cap* : INDEPENDENCE DAY — **fourth** *adj or adv* — **fourthly** *adv*
fourth class *n* **1** : a class or group ranking fourth in a series **2** : a class of mail in the U.S. that comprises merchandise and non-second-class printed matter and is not sealed against inspection
fourth dimension *n* **1** : a dimension in addition to length, breadth, and depth; *specif* : a coordinate in addition to three rectangular coordinates esp. when interpreted as the time coordinate in a space-time continuum **2** : something outside the range of ordinary experience ⟨a *fourth dimension* of meaning that transcends . . . the issue of clarity versus obscurity — Peter Viereck⟩ — **fourth-dimensional** *adj*
fourth estate *n, often cap F&E* : the public press
Fourth of July : INDEPENDENCE DAY
four-way \ˈfōr-ˈwā, ˈfȯr-\ *adj* **1** : allowing passage in any of four directions **2** : including four participants
four-wheel \ˌfōr-ˌhwēl, ˌfȯr-, -ˌwēl\ *or* **four-wheeled** \ˈfōr-ˈhwē(ə)ld, ˈfȯr-, -ˈwē(ə)ld\ *adj* **1** : having four wheels **2** : acting on or by means of four wheels of an automotive vehicle ⟨~ drive⟩
four-wheeler \-ˈhwē-lər, -ˈwē-\ *n* : a vehicle with four wheels
fovea \ˈfō-vē-ə\ *n, pl* **foveae** \-vē-ˌē, -vē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. L, pit] : a small fossa; *esp* : a rodless area of the retina affording acute vision — see EYE illustration — **foveal** \-vē-əl\ *adj* — **foveate** \-vē-ˌāt, -ət\ *adj* — **foveiform** \-vē-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj*
fovea centralis \-sen-ˈtral-əs, -ˈträl-, -ˈtrāl-\ *n* [NL, central fovea] : FOVEA
fow *abbr* first open water
¹fowl \ˈfau̇(ə)l\ *n, pl* **fowl** *or* **fowls** [ME *foul*, fr. OE *fugel;* akin to OHG *fogal* bird] **1** : a bird of any kind **2 a** : a domestic cock or hen; *esp* : an adult hen **b** : any of several domesticated or wild gallinaceous birds **3** : the meat of fowls used as food
²fowl *vi* : to seek, catch, or kill wildfowl — **fowler** *n*
fowling piece *n* : a light gun for shooting birds or small quadrupeds
¹fox \ˈfäks\ *n, pl* **foxes** *or* **fox** *often attrib* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fuhs* fox, Skt *puccha* tail] **1 a** : any of various alert carnivorous mammals (esp. genus *Vulpes*) of the dog family related to but smaller than wolves with shorter legs, more pointed muzzle, large erect ears, and long bushy tail **b** : the fur of a fox **2** : a clever crafty person **3** *archaic* : SWORD **4** *cap* : a member of an Indian people formerly living in Wisconsin **5** : rope yarns twisted and tarred to make small cordage used for lashings or for weaving mats


gray fox

²fox *vt* **1 a** : to trick by ingenuity or cunning : OUTWIT **b** : BAFFLE **2** *obs* : INTOXICATE **3 a** : to repair (a shoe) by renewing the upper **b** : to add a strip to; *esp* : to trim (a shoe) with a strip of material (as leather)
foxed \ˈfäkst\ *adj* : discolored with yellowish brown stains ⟨~ leaves of old books⟩
fox fire *n* : an eerie phosphorescent light (as of decaying wood); *also* : a luminous fungus (as *Armillaria mellea*) that causes decaying wood to glow
fox-glove \ˈfäks-ˌgləv\ *n* : any of a genus (*Digitalis*) of the figwort family of erect herbs; *esp* : a common European biennial or perennial (*D. purpurea*) cultivated for its showy racemes of dotted white or purple tubular flowers and as a source of digitalis


foxglove

fox grape *n* : any of several native grapes (esp. *Vitis labrusca*) of eastern No. America with sour or musky fruit
fox-hole \ˈfäks-ˌhōl\ *n* : a pit dug usu. hastily for individual cover against enemy fire
fox-hound \-ˌhau̇nd\ *n* : any of various large swift powerful hounds of great endurance used in hunting foxes and developed to form several breeds and many distinctive strains — compare AMERICAN FOXHOUND, ENGLISH FOXHOUND
fox-tail \ˈfäk-ˌstāl\ *n* **1 a** : the tail of a fox **b** : something resembling the tail of a fox **2** : any of several grasses (esp. genera *Alopecurus, Hordeum,* and *Setaria*) with spikes resembling brushes
foxtail lily *n* : any of a genus (*Eremurus*) of the lily family of perennial herbs with tall racemes of showy blooms
foxtail millet *n* : a coarse drought-resistant but frost-sensitive annual grass (*Setaria italica*) grown for grain, hay, and forage
fox terrier *n* : a small lively terrier formerly used to dig out foxes and known in smooth-haired and wirehaired varieties
¹fox-trot \ˈfäk-ˌsträt\ *n* **1** : a short broken slow trotting gait in which the hind foot of the horse hits the ground a trifle before the diagonally opposite forefoot **2** : a ballroom dance in duple time that includes slow walking steps, quick running steps, and two-steps
²fox-trot *vi* : to dance the fox-trot
Foxtrot — a communications code word for the letter *f*
foxy \ˈfäk-sē\ *adj* **fox-i-er; -est** **1** : resembling or suggestive of a fox ⟨a narrow ~ face⟩ : as **a** : cunningly shrewd in conniving and contriving : warily guileful **b** : of a warm reddish brown color ⟨~ eyebrows⟩ **2** : defective in some way (as from age or decay) and esp. so as to be discolored or spotted : FOXED **3** : having a sharp brisk flavor ⟨~ grapes⟩ ⟨~ wine⟩ **4** : physically attractive ⟨now there's a ~ girl⟩ ***syn*** see SLY — **foxily** \ˈfäk-sə-lē\ *adv* — **foxiness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*
foy \ˈfȯi\ *n* [D dial. *fooi* feast at end of the harvest] *chiefly Scot* : a farewell feast or gift
foyer \ˈfȯi(-ə)r, ˈfȯi-ˌ(y)ā *also* ˈfwä-ˌyā\ *n* [F, lit., fireplace, fr. ML *focarius*, fr. L *focus* hearth] : an anteroom or lobby esp. of a theater; *also* : an entrance hallway : VESTIBULE
fp *abbr* freezing point
FPA *abbr* **1** Foreign Press Association **2** free of particular average
FPC *abbr* **1** Federal Power Commission **2** fish protein concentrate **3** Friends Peace Committee
FPM *abbr* feet per minute
FPO *abbr* fleet post office
FPS *abbr* **1** feet per second **2** foot-pound-second
fr *abbr* **1** father **2** franc **3** friar **4** from
¹Fr *abbr* French
²Fr *symbol* francium
Fra \(ˌ)frä\ *n* [It, short for *frate*, fr. L *frater* — more at BROTHER] : BROTHER — used as a title preceding the name of an Italian monk or friar
fracas \ˈfrāk-əs, ˈfrak-, *Brit* ˈfrak-ˌå\ *n, pl* **fracas** \-ə-səz\ *or Brit* **fracas** \-ˌåz\ [F, din, row, fr. It *fracasso*, fr. *fracassare* to shatter] : a noisy quarrel : BRAWL
fracted \ˈfrak-təd\ *adj* [L *fractus*] *obs* : BROKEN
fraction \ˈfrak-shən\ *n* [ME *fraccioun*, fr. LL *fraction-, fractio* act of breaking, fr. L *fractus*, pp. of *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] **1 a** : a numerical representation (as 3/4, 5/8, 3.234) of two numbers whose quotient is to be determined **b** (1) : a piece broken off : FRAGMENT (2) : a discrete unit : PORTION **2** : BIT, LITTLE ⟨a ~ closer⟩ **3** : one of several portions (as of a distillate) separable by fractionation
fractional \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a fraction **2** : relatively small : INCONSIDERABLE **3** : of, relating to, or being fractional currency **4** : of, relating to, or involving a process for separating components of a mixture through differences in physical or chemical properties ⟨~ distillation⟩ — **fractionally** \-ē\ *adv*
fractional currency *n* **1** : paper money in denominations of less than one dollar issued by the U.S. 1863–76 **2** : currency in denominations less than the basic monetary unit
fractionalize \ˈfrak-shnəˌlīz, -shən-ᵊlˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -izing** : to break up into parts or sections ⟨control of the river is *fractionalized* among four countries —Ted Shoemaker⟩ — **fractionalization** \ˌfrak-shnə-lə-ˈzā-shən, -shən-ᵊl-ə-ˈzā-\ *n*
fractionate \ˈfrak-shəˌnāt\ *vt* **-at-ed; -at-ing** **1** : to separate (as a mixture) into different portions **2** : to divide or break up — **fractionation** \ˌfrak-shə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* — **fractionator** \ˈfrak-shəˌnāt-ər\ *n*
fractious \ˈfrak-shəs\ *adj* [*fraction* (discord) + *-ous*] **1** : tending to be troublesome : UNRULY **2** : QUARRELSOME, IRRITABLE — **fractiously** *adv* — **fractiousness** *n*
¹fracture \ˈfrak-chər\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of breaking or the state of being broken; *specif* : the breaking of hard tissue (as bone) **b** : the rupture of soft tissue **2** : the result of fracturing : BREAK **3** : the general appearance of a freshly broken surface of a mineral
²fracture *vb* **fractured; fracturing** \-chə-riŋ, -shriŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to cause a fracture in : BREAK ⟨~ a rib⟩ **b** : RUPTURE, TEAR **2 a** : to damage or destroy as if by rupturing ⟨a *fractured* family torn apart by alcohol and insanity —R. A. Sokolov⟩ **b** : to cause great disorder **c** : to break up : FRACTIONATE **d** : to go beyond the limits of (as rules) : VIOLATE ⟨*fractured* the English language with malaprops —Goodman Ace⟩ ~ *vi* : to undergo fracture
frae \(ˈ)frā\ *prep* [ME (northern) *fra, frae*, fr. ON *frā;* akin to OE *from*] *Scot* : FROM
fragile \ˈfraj-əl, -ˌīl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *fragilis* — more at FRAIL] **1 a** : easily broken or destroyed : FRAIL **b** : constitutionally delicate : lacking in physical vigor **2** : TENUOUS, SLIGHT — **fragility** \frə-ˈjil-ət-ē\ *n*

syn **1** FRAGILE, FRANGIBLE, BRITTLE, CRISP, FRIABLE *shared meaning element* : easily broken ***ant*** durable **2** see WEAK ***ant*** durable

[1]frag·ment \'frag-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *fragmentum*, fr. *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] : a part broken off, detached, or incomplete ***syn*** see PART

[2]frag·ment \-ˌment\ *vb* : FRAGMENTIZE

frag·men·tal \frag-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* : FRAGMENTARY — **frag·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

frag·men·tary \'frag-mən-ˌter-ē\ *adj* : consisting of fragments : INCOMPLETE — **frag·men·tari·ly** \ˌfrag-mən-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* — **frag·men·tari·ness** \-ˌter-ē-nəs\ *n*

frag·men·tate \'frag-mən-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** : FRAGMENTIZE — **frag·men·ta·tion** \ˌfrag-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n*

fragmentation bomb *n* : a bomb or shell whose relatively thick casing is splintered upon explosion and thrown in fragments in all directions

frag·men·tize \'frag-mən-ˌtīz\ *vb* **-tized; -tiz·ing** *vt* : to break up or apart into fragments ~ *vi* : to fall to pieces — **frag·men·tiz·er** *n*

fra·grance \'frā-grən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of having a sweet odor **2 a** : a sweet or delicate odor (as of fresh flowers) **b** : the odor of perfume, cologne, or toilet water ***syn*** FRAGRANCE, PERFUME, SCENT, INCENSE, BOUQUET *shared meaning element* : a sweet or pleasing odor ***ant*** stench, stink

fra·gran·cy \-grən-sē\ *n, archaic* : FRAGRANCE

fra·grant \'frā-grənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *fragrant-, fragrans*, fr. prp. of *fragrare* to be fragrant; akin to MHG *bræhen* to smell] : marked by fragrance — **fra·grant·ly** *adv*

frail \'frā(ə)l\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *fraile*, fr. L *fragilis* fragile, fr. *frangere*] **1** : easily led into evil ⟨~ humanity⟩ **2** : easily broken or destroyed : FRAGILE **3 a** : physically weak **b** : SLIGHT, UNSUBSTANTIAL ***syn*** see WEAK ***ant*** robust — **frail·ly** \'frā(ə)l-lē\ *adv* — **frail·ness** *n*

frail·ty \'frā(-ə)l-tē\ *n, pl* **frailties** **1** : the quality or state of being frail **2** : a fault due to weakness esp. of moral character ***syn*** see FAULT

fraise \'frāz\ *n* [F] : an obstacle of pointed stakes driven into the ramparts of a fortification in a horizontal or inclined position

Frak·tur \fräk-'tu̇(ə)r\ *n* [G, fr. L *fractura* fracture] : a German style of black-letter text type

Fraktur

fram·able *or* **frame·able** \'frā-mə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being framed

fram·be·sia \fram-'bē-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. F *framboise* raspberry; fr. the appearance of the lesions] : YAWS

[1]frame \'frām\ *vb* **framed; fram·ing** [ME *framen* to benefit, construct, fr. OE *framian* to benefit, make progress; akin to ON *fram* forward, OE *from* from] *vi* **1** *archaic* : PROCEED, GO **2** *obs* : MANAGE ~ *vt* **1 a** : PLAN, CONTRIVE ⟨*framed* a new method of achieving their purpose⟩ **b** : to give expression to : FORMULATE **c** : SHAPE, CONSTRUCT **d** : to draw up (as a document) **2** : to fit or adjust esp. to something or for an end : ARRANGE **3** *obs* : PRODUCE **4** : to construct by fitting and uniting the parts of the skeleton of (a structure) **5** : to enclose in a frame; *also* : to enclose as if in a frame **6 a** : to devise falsely (as a criminal charge) **b** : to contrive the evidence against (an innocent man) so that a verdict of guilty is assured **c** : to prearrange (as a contest) so that a particular outcome is assured — **fram·er** *n*

[2]frame *n* **1 a** : something composed of parts fitted together and united **b** : the physical makeup of an animal and esp. a human body : PHYSIQUE, FIGURE **2 a** : the constructional system that gives shape or strength (as to a building); *also* : a frame dwelling **b** : such a skeleton not filled in or covered **3 a** : an open case or structure made for admitting, enclosing, or supporting something ⟨a window ~⟩ **b** : a machine built upon or within a framework ⟨a spinning ~⟩ **c** : a structural unit in an automobile chassis supported on the axles and supporting the rest of the chassis and the body **d** (1) : a part of a pair of glasses that holds one of the lenses (2) *pl* : that part of a pair of glasses other than the lenses **4** *obs* : the act or manner of framing **5** : a particular state or disposition (as of the mind) : MOOD **6 a** : an enclosing border **b** : the matter or area enclosed in such a border: as (1) : one of the squares in which scores for each round are recorded (as in bowling); *also* : a round in bowling (2) : boxed matter in a newspaper; *esp* : a box of a comic strip (3) : one picture of the series on a length of motion-picture or other film (4) : a complete image being transmitted by television **c** : an inning in baseball **d** : a limiting, typical, or esp. appropriate set of circumstances ⟨studies made within the ~ of our society and culture⟩ **e** : an event that forms the background for the action of a novel or play **7** : FRAME-UP **8** : a minimal unit of instruction or stimulus in a programmed instruction routine : a unit of programmed instruction calling for a response by the student

[3]frame *adj* : having a wood frame ⟨~ houses⟩

frame of reference **1** : an arbitrary set of axes with reference to which the position or motion of something is described or physical laws are formulated **2** : a set or system (as of facts or ideas) serving to orient or give particular meaning : VIEWPOINT, THEORY

frame·shift \'frām-ˌshift\ *n* : the addition or deletion of a pair of purine or pyrimidine bases from a gene so that the codon sequence is read incorrectly in the formation of messenger RNA — called also *frameshift mutation*

frame–up \'frā-ˌməp\ *n* **1** : an act or series of actions in which someone is framed **2** : an action that is framed

[1]frame·work \'frām-ˌwərk\ *n* **1 a** : a skeletal, openwork, or structural frame **b** : a basic structure (as of ideas) **2** : FRAME OF REFERENCE **3** : the larger branches of a tree that determine its shape

[2]framework *vt* : to graft scions of another variety on the framework of (a tree)

fram·ing \'frā-miŋ\ *n* : FRAME, FRAMEWORK

franc \'fraŋk\ *n* [F] **1** — see MONEY table **2** — see *dirham* at MONEY table

[1]fran·chise \'fran-ˌchīz\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. *franchir* to free, fr. *franc* free] **1** : freedom or immunity from some burden or restriction vested in a person or group **2 a** : a special privilege granted to an individual or group; *esp* : the right to be and exercise the powers of a corporation **b** : a constitutional or statutory right or privilege; *esp* : the right to vote **c** (1) : the right or license granted to an individual or group to market a company's goods or services in a particular territory (2) : the territory involved in such a right

[2]franchise *vt* **fran·chised; fran·chis·ing** **1** *archaic* : FREE **2** : to grant a franchise to

fran·chi·see \ˌfran-ˌchī-'zē, -chə-\ *n* : one that is granted a franchise

fran·chis·er \'fran-ˌchī-zər\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. [1]*franchise*; in sense 2, fr. [2]*franchise*] **1** : FRANCHISEE **2** : FRANCHISOR

fran·chi·sor \ˌfran-ˌchī-'zȯ(ə)r, -chə-\ *n* [[2]*franchise* + *-or*] : one that grants a franchise

Fran·cis·can \fran-'sis-kən\ *n* [ML *Franciscus* Francis] : a member of the Order of Friars Minor founded by St. Francis of Assisi in 1209 and dedicated esp. to preaching, missions, and charities — **Franciscan** *adj*

fran·ci·um \'fran(t)-sē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *France*] : a radioactive element of the alkali-metal group discovered as a disintegration product of actinium and obtained artificially by the bombardment of thorium with protons — see ELEMENT table

Franco- *comb form* [ML, fr. *Francus* Frenchman, fr. LL, Frank] : French and ⟨*Franco*-German⟩ : French ⟨*Franco*phile⟩

Fran·co–Amer·i·can \ˌfraŋ-kō-ə-'mer-ə-kən\ *n* : an American of French or esp. French-Canadian descent — **Franco–American** *adj*

fran·co·lin \'fraŋ-k(ə-)lən\ *n* [F, fr. It *francolino*] : any of numerous partridges (*Francolinus* and related genera) of southern Asia and Africa

Fran·co·phile \'fraŋ-kə-ˌfīl\ *or* **Fran·co·phil** \-ˌfil\ *adj* : markedly friendly to France or French culture — **Francophile** *n*

Fran·co·phobe \-ˌfōb\ *adj* : marked by a fear or strong dislike of France or French culture or customs — **Francophobe** *n*

fran·co·phone \-ˌfōn\ *adj, often cap* : consisting of or belonging to a French-speaking population — **Francophone** *n*

franc–ti·reur \ˌfrä⁽ⁿ⁾-(ˌ)tē-'rər\ *n* [F, fr. *franc* free + *tireur* shooter] : a civilian fighter or sniper

fran·gi·ble \'fran-jə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & ML; MF, fr. ML *frangibilis*, fr. L *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] : readily or easily broken ***syn*** see FRAGILE — **fran·gi·bil·i·ty** \ˌfran-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

fran·gi·pane \'fran-jə-ˌpān, frä⁽ⁿ⁾-zhē-ˌpän\ *n* [F, frangipani (perfume), frangipane, fr. It, fr. Marquis Muzio *Frangipane*, 16th cent. It nobleman] : a custard usu. flavored with almonds

fran·gi·pa·ni *also* **fran·gi·pan·ni** \'fran-jə-'pan-ē, -'pän-\ *n, pl* **-pani** *or* **-panis** [modif. of It *frangipane*] **1** : a perfume derived from or imitating the odor of the flower of the red jasmine **2** : a tropical American shrub or small tree (genus *Plumeria*) of the dogbane family (as red jasmine)

Fran·glais \frä⁽ⁿ⁾-'glā\ *n* [F, blend of *français* French and *anglais* English] : French marked by a considerable number of borrowings from English

[1]frank \'fraŋk\ *adj* [ME, free, fr. OF *franc*, fr. ML *francus*, fr. LL *Francus* Frank] **1** : marked by free, forthright, and sincere expression ⟨a ~ reply⟩ **2** : clinically evident : UNMISTAKABLE ⟨~ pus⟩ — **frank·ness** *n*

syn FRANK, CANDID, OPEN, PLAIN *shared meaning element* : showing willingness to say what one thinks or feels ***ant*** reticent

[2]frank *vt* **1 a** : to mark (a piece of mail) with an official signature or sign indicating the right of the sender to free mailing **b** : to mail free **c** : to affix to (mail) a stamp or a marking indicating the payment of postage **2** : to enable to pass or go freely or easily — **frank·er** *n*

[3]frank *n* **1 a** : the signature of the sender on a piece of franked mail serving in place of a postage stamp **b** : a mark or stamp on a piece of mail indicating postage paid **c** : a franked envelope **2** : the privilege of sending mail free of charge

[4]frank *n* : FRANKFURTER

Frank \'fraŋk\ *n* [ME, partly fr. OE *Franca*; partly fr. OF *Franc*, fr. LL *Francus*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *Franko* Frank, OE *Franca*] : a member of a West Germanic people that entered the Roman provinces in A.D. 253, occupied the Netherlands and most of Gaul, and established themselves along the Rhine

Fran·ken·stein \'fraŋ-kən-ˌstīn, -ˌstēn\ *n* **1** : a student of physiology in Mary W. Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* whose life is ruined by a monster he creates **2** : a work or agency that ruins its originator **3** : a monster in the shape of a man

frank·furt·er *or* **frank·fort·er** \'fraŋk-fə(r)t-ər, -ˌfərt-\ *or* **frankfurt** *or* **frank·fort** \-fərt\ *n* [G *frankfurter* of Frankfurt, fr. *Frankfurt am Main*, Germany] : a cured cooked sausage (as of beef or beef and pork) that may be skinless or stuffed in a casing

frank·in·cense \'fraŋ-kən-ˌsen(t)s\ *n* : a fragrant gum resin from chiefly East African or Arabian trees (genus *Boswellia* of the family Burseraceae) that is an important incense resin

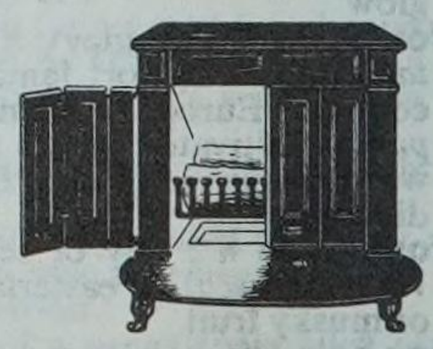
[1]Frank·ish \'fraŋ-kish\ *adj* : of or relating to the Franks

[2]Frankish *n* : the Germanic language of the Franks

frank·lin \'fraŋ-klən\ *n* [ME *frankeleyn*, fr. AF *fraunclein*, fr. OF *franc*] : a medieval English landowner of free but not noble birth

frank·lin·ite \-klə-ˌnīt\ *n* [*Franklin*, N.J.] : a black slightly magnetic mineral $ZnFe_2O_4$ consisting of an oxide of iron and zinc

Frank·lin stove \ˌfraŋ-klən-\ *n* [Benjamin *Franklin*, its inventor] : a metal heating stove resembling an open fireplace but designed to be set out in a room



Franklin stove

frank·ly \'fraŋ-klē\ *adv* **1** : in a frank manner **2** : in truth : INDEED

frank·pledge \'fraŋk-ˌplej\ *n* : an Anglo-Saxon system under which each

adult male member of a tithing was responsible for the good conduct of the others; *also* : the member himself or the tithing

fran·se·ria \fran-ˈsir-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Antonio *Franseri*, 18th cent. Sp botanist] : any of a genus (*Franseria*) of annual or perennial composite herbs or shrubs

fran·tic \ˈfrant-ik\ *adj* [ME *frenetik, frantik* — more at FRENETIC] **1 a** *archaic* : mentally deranged **b** : emotionally out of control ⟨~ with anger and frustration⟩ **2** : marked by fast and nervous, disordered, or anxiety-driven activity ⟨made a ~ search for the lost child⟩ — **fran·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **fran·tic·ly** \-i-klē\ *adv* — **fran·tic·ness** \-ik-nəs\ *n*

frap \ˈfrap\ *vt* **frapped; frap·ping** [ME *frapen* to strike, beat, fr. MF *fraper*] : to draw tight (as with ropes or cables)

¹frap·pé *or* **frap·pe** \fra-ˈpā\ *adj* [F *frappé*, fr. pp. of *frapper* to strike, chill, fr. MF *fraper* to strike] *of a beverage* : chilled or partly frozen

²frap·pé \fra-ˈpā\ *or* **frappe** \ˈfrap, fra-ˈpā\ *n* **1 a** : a partly frozen drink (as of fruit juice) **b** : a liqueur served over shaved ice **2** : a thick milk shake

frat \ˈfrat\ *n* : FRATERNITY

fra·ter·nal \frə-ˈtərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *fraternalis*, fr. L *fraternus*, fr. *frater* brother — more at BROTHER] **1 a** : of, relating to, or involving brothers **b** : of, relating to, or being a fraternity or society **2** : derived from two ova : DIZYGOTIC ⟨~ twins⟩ **3** : FRIENDLY, BROTHERLY — **fra·ter·nal·ism** \-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **fra·ter·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

fra·ter·ni·ty \frə-ˈtər-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : a group of people associated or formally organized for a common purpose, interest, or pleasure: as **a** : a fraternal order **b** : GUILD **c** : a men's student organization formed chiefly for social purposes having secret rites and a name consisting of Greek letters **d** : a student organization for scholastic, professional, or extracurricular activities ⟨a debating ~⟩ **2** : the quality or state of being brothers : BROTHERLINESS **3** : men of the same class, profession, character, or tastes ⟨the racetrack ~⟩ **4 a** : the entire progeny of a single mating **b** : a group of siblings

frat·er·nize \ˈfrat-ər-ˌnīz\ *vi* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1** : to associate or mingle as brothers or on fraternal terms **2 a** : to associate on close terms with members of a hostile group esp. when contrary to military orders ⟨*fraternizing* with the enemy⟩ **b** : to be friendly or amiable — **frat·er·ni·za·tion** \ˌfrat-ər-nə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **frat·er·niz·er** \ˈfrat-ər-ˌnī-zər\ *n*

frat·ri·cide \ˈfra-trə-ˌsīd\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *fratricida*, fr. *fratr-, frater* brother + *-cida* -cide; in sense 2, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *fratricidium*, fr. *fratr-, frater* + *-cidium* -cide] **1** : one that murders or kills his own brother or sister **2** : the act of a fratricide — **frat·ri·cid·al** \ˌfra-trə-ˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj*

Frau \ˈfraů\ *n, pl* **Frau·en** \ˈfraů(-ə)n [G, woman, wife, fr. OHG *frouwa* mistress, lady; akin to OE *frēa* lord] : a German married woman : WIFE — used as a title equivalent to *Mrs.*

fraud \ˈfrȯd\ *n* [ME *fraude*, fr. MF, fr. L *fraud-, fraus*; akin to Skt *dhvarati* he bends, injures] **1 a** : DECEIT, TRICKERY; *specif* : intentional perversion of truth in order to induce another to part with something of value or to surrender a legal right **b** : an act of deceiving or misrepresenting : TRICK **2 a** : one who is not what he pretends to be : IMPOSTOR; *also* : one who defrauds : CHEAT **b** : one that is not what it seems or is represented to be ***syn*** see IMPOSTURE

fraud·u·lence \ˈfrȯ-jə-lən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being fraudulent

fraud·u·lent \-lənt\ *adj* : characterized by, based on, or done by fraud : DECEITFUL — **fraud·u·lent·ly** *adv* — **fraud·u·lent·ness** *n*

¹fraught \ˈfrȯt\ *n* [ME, freight, load, fr. MD or MLG *vracht, vrecht*] *chiefly Scot* : LOAD, CARGO

²fraught *vt* **fraught·ed** *or* **fraught; fraught·ing** [ME *fraughten*, fr. ¹*fraught*] *chiefly Scot* : LOAD, FREIGHT

³fraught \ˈfrȯt\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *fraughten*] **1** *archaic* **a** : LADEN **b** : well supplied or provided **2** : full of or accompanied by something specified : CHARGED — used with *with* ⟨the situation . . . is ~ with a very high violence potential —Harvey Wheeler⟩

fräu·lein \ˈfrȯi-ˌlīn\ *n* [G] **1** *cap* : an unmarried German woman — used as a title equivalent to *Miss* **2** : a German governess

frax·i·nel·la \ˌfrak-sə-ˈnel-ə\ *n* [NL, dim. of L *fraxinus* ash tree — more at BIRCH] : a Eurasian perennial herb (*Dictamnus albus*) of the rue family with flowers that exhale a flammable vapor in hot weather — called also *gas plant*

¹fray \ˈfrā\ *vt* [ME *fraien*, short for *affraien* to affray] *archaic* : SCARE; *also* : to frighten away

²fray *n* : BRAWL, FIGHT; *also* : DISPUTE, DEBATE

³fray *vb* [MF *froyer, frayer* to rub, fr. L *fricare* — more at FRICTION] *vt* **1 a** : to wear (as an edge of cloth) by rubbing : FRET **b** : to separate the threads at the edge of **2** : STRAIN, IRRITATE ⟨his temper became a bit ~*ed*⟩ ~ *vi* : to wear out or into shreds

⁴fray *n* : a raveled place or worn spot (as on fabric)

fray·ing *n* : something rubbed or worn off by fraying

¹fraz·zle \ˈfraz-əl\ *vb* **fraz·zled; fraz·zling** \ˈfraz-(ə-)liŋ\ [alter. of E dial. *fazle* (to tangle, fray)] *vt* **1** : ³FRAY **2 a** : to put in a state of extreme physical or nervous fatigue **b** : UPSET ~ *vi* : to become frazzled

²frazzle *n* **1** : the state of being frazzled **2** : a condition of fatigue or nervous exhaustion ⟨worn to a ~⟩

FRCM *abbr* Fellow of the Royal College of Music

FRCO *abbr* Fellow of the Royal College of Organists

FRCP *abbr* Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians

FRCS *abbr* Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons

¹freak \ˈfrēk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a sudden and odd or seemingly pointless idea or turn of the mind **b** : a seemingly capricious action or event **2** *archaic* : a whimsical quality or disposition **3** : one that is markedly unusual or abnormal ⟨by some ~ of the storm one car in the line was completely buried⟩: as **a** : a person or animal with a physical oddity who appears in a circus sideshow **b** *slang* (1) : a sexual deviate (2) : a person who uses an illicit drug **c** *slang* : a highly individualistic critic or rebel **d** : an ardent enthusiast ⟨something from which the casual moviegoer as well as the dedicated film ~ can learn —Richard Schickel⟩ **e** : an atypical postage stamp usu. caused by a unique defect in paper (as a crease) or a unique event in the manufacturing process (as a speck of dirt on the plate) that does not produce a constant or systematic effect ***syn*** see CAPRICE

²freak *adj* : having the character of a freak ⟨a ~ accident⟩

³freak *vt* : to streak esp. with color ⟨silver and mother-of-pearl ~*ing* the intense azure —Robert Bridges †1930⟩

freak·ish \ˈfrē-kish\ *adj* **1** : WHIMSICAL, CAPRICIOUS **2** : being or befitting a freak — **freak·ish·ly** *adv* — **freak·ish·ness** *n*

freak of nature : FREAK 3a

freak–out \ˈfrē-ˌkaůt\ *n* **1** : a withdrawal from reality esp. by means of drugs **2 a** : a drug-induced state of mind characterized by nightmarish hallucinations : a bad trip **b** : an irrational act **3** : a gathering of hippies **4** : one who freaks out

freak out \ˈfrē-ˈkaůt\ *vi* **1** : to withdraw from reality esp. by taking drugs **2** : to experience nightmarish hallucinations as a result of taking drugs : have a bad trip **3** : to behave irrationally or unconventionally under or as if under the influence of drugs ~ *vt* **1** : to put under the influence of a psychedelic drug **2** : to put into a state of intense excitement

freak show *n* : an exhibition (as a sideshow) featuring freaks of nature

freaky \ˈfrē-kē\ *adj* **freak·i·er; -est** : FREAKISH

¹freck·le \ˈfrek-əl\ *n* [ME *freken, frekel*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *freknōttr* freckled; akin to OE *spearca* spark] : one of the small brownish spots in the skin that are usu. due to precipitation of pigment and that increase in number and intensity on exposure to sunlight — **freck·ly** \ˈfrek-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²freckle *vb* **freck·led; freck·ling** \ˈfrek-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to sprinkle or mark with freckles or small spots ~ *vi* : to become marked with freckles

¹free \ˈfrē\ *adj* **fre·er; fre·est** [ME, fr. OE *frēo;* akin to OHG *frī* free, Gk *prays* gentle] **1 a** : having the legal and political rights of a citizen **b** : enjoying civil and political liberty ⟨~ citizens⟩ **c** : enjoying political independence or freedom from outside domination **d** : enjoying personal freedom : not subject to the control or domination of another **2 a** : not determined by anything beyond its own nature or being : choosing or capable of choosing for itself **b** : determined by the choice of the actor or by his wishes ⟨~ actions⟩ **c** : made, done, or given voluntarily or spontaneously : SPONTANEOUS **3 a** : exempt, relieved, or released esp. from a burdensome, noxious, or deplorable condition or obligation ⟨~ from pain⟩ **b** : not bound, confined, or detained by force ⟨prisoner was now ~⟩ **4 a** : having no trade restrictions **b** : not subject to government regulation **c** *of foreign exchange* : not subject to restriction or official control **5 a** : having no obligations (as to work) or commitments (as to duty or custom) ⟨I'll be ~ this evening⟩ **b** : not taken up with commitments or obligations ⟨a ~ evening⟩ **6** : having a scope not restricted by qualification ⟨a ~ variable⟩ **7 a** (1) : not obstructed or impeded : CLEAR ⟨a ~ and open highway⟩ (2) : not being used or occupied ⟨waved with his ~ hand⟩ **b** : not hampered or restricted in its normal operation : LOOSE **8 a** : not fastened ⟨the ~ end of the rope⟩ **b** : not confined to a particular position or place; *also* : not having a specific opponent to cover in football ⟨a ~ safety⟩ **c** : capable of moving or turning in any direction ⟨a ~ particle⟩ **d** : performed without apparatus ⟨~ tumbling⟩ **9 a** : not parsimonious ⟨~ spending⟩ **b** : OUTSPOKEN **c** : availing oneself of something without stint **d** : FRANK, OPEN **e** : overly familiar or forward in action or attitude **f** : LICENTIOUS **10** : not costing or charging anything **11 a** (1) : not united with, attached to, or combined with something else : SEPARATE ⟨~ ores⟩ ⟨a ~ surface of a bodily part⟩ (2) : FREESTANDING ⟨a ~ column⟩ **b** : chemically uncombined ⟨~ oxygen⟩ ⟨~ acids⟩ **c** : not permanently attached but able to move about ⟨a ~ electron in a metal⟩ **d** : capable of being used alone as a meaningful linguistic form ⟨the word *hats* is a ~ form⟩ — compare ⁴BOUND 7 **12 a** : not literal or exact ⟨~ translation⟩ **b** : not restricted by or conforming to conventional forms ⟨~ skating⟩ **13** : FAVORABLE — used of a wind blowing from a direction more than six points from straight ahead **14** : not allowing slavery **15** : open to all comers — **free·ly** *adv*

syn FREE, INDEPENDENT, AUTONOMOUS, SOVEREIGN *shared meaning element* : not subject to the rule or control of another

²free *adv* **1** : in a free manner **2** : without charge ⟨admitted ~⟩ **3** : with the wind more than six points from dead ahead ⟨sailing ~⟩

³free *vt* **freed; free·ing** **1 a** : to cause to be free **b** : to relieve or rid of what restrains, confines, restricts, or embarrasses ⟨~ a man from debt⟩ **c** : DISENTANGLE, CLEAR **2** *obs* : BANISH — **fre·er** *n*

syn FREE, RELEASE, LIBERATE, EMANCIPATE, MANUMIT, DISCHARGE *shared meaning element* : to loose from constraint or restraint

free agent *n* : a professional athlete (as a football player) who is not under contract to any team

free alongside ship *adv or adj* : with delivery at the side of the ship free of charges and the buyer's liability then beginning

free alongside vessel *adv or adj* : free alongside ship

free and easy *adj* **1** : marked by informality and lack of constraint ⟨the *free and easy*, open-air life of the plains —Allan Murray⟩ **2** : not observant of strict demands ⟨his *free and easy* literary judgments⟩ — **free and easy** *adv*

free association *n* **1 a** : the verbal or written expression of all the content of consciousness without censorship or control as an aid in gaining access to unconscious processes esp. in psychoanalysis **b** : the reporting of the first thought that comes to mind in

response to a given stimulus (as a word) **2** : an idea or image elicited by free association **3** : a method using free association

free·bie *or* **free·bee** \'frē-bē\ *n* [by alter. fr. obs. slang *freeby* gratis, fr. *free* + *-by*, of unknown origin] : something (as a theater ticket) given or received without charge

free·board \'frē-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : the distance between the waterline and the freeboard deck of a ship or between the level of the water and the upper edge of the side of a small boat **2** : the height above the recorded high-water mark of a structure (as a dam) associated with the water **3** : the space between the surface of the ground and the undercarriage of an automobile

freeboard deck *n* : the deck below which all bulkheads are made watertight

free·boot \'frē-ˌbüt\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *freebooter*] : to act as a freebooter : PLUNDER

free·boo·ter \-ər\ *n* [D *vrijbuiter*, fr. *vrijbuit* plunder, fr. *vrij* free + *buit* booty] : PIRATE, PLUNDERER

free·born \'frē-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : not born in vassalage or slavery **2** : of, relating to, or befitting one that is freeborn

free diver *n* : one who engages in skin diving — **free diving** *n*

freed·man \'frēd-mən, -ˌman\ *n* : a man freed from slavery

free·dom \'frēd-əm\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being free: as **a** : the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action **b** : liberation from slavery or restraint or from the power of another : INDEPENDENCE **c** : the quality or state of being exempt or released usu. from something onerous ⟨~ from care⟩ **d** : EASE, FACILITY ⟨spoke the language with ~⟩ **e** : the quality of being frank, open, or outspoken ⟨answered the questions with ~⟩ **f** : improper familiarity **g** : boldness of conception or execution **h** : unrestricted use ⟨gave him the ~ of their home⟩ **2 a** : a political right **b** : FRANCHISE, PRIVILEGE

syn FREEDOM, LIBERTY, LICENSE *shared meaning element* : the power or condition of acting without compulsion. FREEDOM may imply total or moderate absence of restraint or merely an unawareness of being unduly hampered or frustrated ⟨*Freedom* . . . in the medieval sense, when there was no abstract *freedom* but only countable *Freedoms*, each bestowed . . . all subject to forfeiture —Martin Joos⟩ ⟨enjoyed the *freedom* of her isolated life⟩ LIBERTY may carry more clearly an implication of the power to choose or one of deliverance from constraint or compulsion ⟨in totalitarian states there is no *liberty* of expression for writers — Aldous Huxley⟩ ⟨restore a prisoner's *liberty*⟩ LICENSE can imply unusual freedom (as from rules or restraints) tolerated because of special circumstances ⟨poetic *license*⟩ but more often it implies an abuse of liberty (as by disregard of propriety or the rights of others) ⟨enjoying their victory in the *license* which is miscalled liberty —J. A. Froude⟩

freedom of the seas : the right of a merchant ship to travel any waters except territorial waters either in peace or war

freedom ride *n, often cap F&R* : a ride made by civil rights workers through states of the southern U.S. to ascertain whether public facilities (as bus terminals) are desegregated — **freedom rider** *n*

freed·wom·an \'frēd-ˌwu̇m-ən\ *n* : a woman freed from slavery

free enterprise *n* : freedom of private business to organize and operate for profit in a competitive system without interference by government beyond regulation necessary to protect public interest and keep the national economy in balance

free–fall \'frē-'fȯl\ *n* **1** : the condition of unrestrained motion in a gravitational field; *also* : such motion **2** : the part of a parachute jump before the parachute opens

free–float·ing \-'flōt-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : relatively uncommitted (as to a particular purpose) ⟨was not sure how the ~ intellectuals would vote⟩ **2** : felt as an emotion without apparent cause ⟨~ anxiety⟩

free–for–all \'frē-fə-ˌrȯl\ *n* : a competition, dispute, or fight open to all comers and usu. with no rules : BRAWL — **free–for–all** *adj*

free·hand \'frē-ˌhand\ *adj* : done without mechanical aids or devices : FREE ⟨~ drawing⟩ — **freehand** *adv*

free hand \-'hand\ *n* : freedom of action or decision

free·hand·ed \'frē-'han-dəd\ *adj* : OPENHANDED, GENEROUS — **free·hand·ed·ly** *adv*

free·heart·ed \-'härt-əd\ *adj* **1** : FRANK, UNRESERVED **2** : GENEROUS — **free·heart·ed·ly** *adv*

free·hold \'frē-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : a tenure of real property by which an estate of inheritance in fee simple or fee tail or for life is held; *also* : an estate held by such tenure — compare FEE 1 **2** : a tenure of an office or dignity similar to a freehold — **free·hold·er** \-ˌhōl-dər\ *n*

free kick *n* : a kick (as in football, soccer, or rugby) with which an opponent may not interfere; *specif* : an unhindered kick (as in soccer) in any direction awarded because of an infraction of the rules by an opponent

¹free–lance *adj* : of, relating to, or befitting a free lance : INDEPENDENT

²free–lance *vi* : to act as a free lance ~ *vt* : to offer or contract for the purchase of in the manner of a free lance — **free–lanc·er** *n*

free lance *n* **1 a** : a knight or roving soldier available for hire by a state or commander **b** : one who acts independently without regard to party lines or deference to authority **2** : one who pursues a profession without long-term contractual commitments to any one employer

free–liv·ing \'frē-'liv-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : marked by more than usual freedom in the gratification of appetites **2** : neither parasitic nor symbiotic

free·load \-'lōd\ *vi* : to impose upon another's generosity or hospitality without sharing in the cost or responsibility involved : SPONGE — **free·load·er** *n*

free love *n* : the practice of living openly with one of the opposite sex without marriage

free·man \'frē-mən, -ˌman\ *n* **1** : one enjoying civil or political liberty **2** : one having the full rights of a citizen

free market *n* : an economic market operating by free competition

free·mar·tin \'frē-ˌmärt-ᵊn\ *n* [origin unknown] : a sexually imperfect usu. sterile female calf twinborn with a male

Free·ma·son \-'mās-ᵊn\ *n* : a member of a major secret fraternal society called Free and Accepted Masons

free·ma·son·ry \-rē\ *n* **1** *cap* : the principles, institutions, or practices of Freemasons — called also *Masonry* **2** : natural or instinctive fellowship or sympathy

free·ness *n* : FREEDOM

free on board *adv or adj* : without charge for delivery to and placing on board a carrier at a specified point

free port *n* : an enclosed port or section of a port where goods are received and shipped free of customs duty

free radical *n* : an atom or a group of atoms having at least one unpaired electron and participating in various reactions

free reed *n* : a reed in a musical instrument (as a harmonium) that vibrates in an air opening just large enough to allow the reed to move freely — compare BEATING REED

free rein *n* : unrestricted liberty of action or decision

free ride *n* : something (as entertainment, acclaim, or a profit) obtained without the usual cost or effort — **free ride** *vi* — **free rider** *n*

free·sia \'frē-zh(ē-)ə, -zē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. F. H. T. *Freese* †1876 G physician] : any of a genus (*Freesia*) of the iris family of sweet-scented African herbs with red, white, or yellow flowers

free–soil *adj* **1** : characterized by free soil ⟨~ states⟩ **2** *cap F&S* : opposing the extension of slavery into U.S. territories and the admission of slave states into the Union prior to the Civil War; *specif* : of, relating to, or constituting a minor U.S. political party having these aims — **Free–Soil·er** \-'sȯi-lər\ *n*

free soil *n* : U.S. territory where prior to the Civil War slavery was prohibited

free–spo·ken \'frē-'spō-kən\ *adj* : speaking freely : OUTSPOKEN

freest *superlative of* FREE

free·stand·ing \'frē-'stan-diŋ\ *adj* : standing alone or on its own foundation free of architectural or supporting frame or attachment ⟨a ~ wall⟩

free·stone \'frē-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : a stone that may be cut freely without splitting **2 a** : a fruit stone to which the flesh does not cling **b** : a fruit having such a stone

free·style \'frē-ˌstīl\ *n, often attrib* : a competition in which a contestant uses a style (as of swimming) of his choice instead of a specified style

free–swim·ming \-'swim-iŋ\ *adj* : able to swim about : not attached ⟨the ~ larva of the barnacle⟩

free–swing·ing \-'swiŋ-iŋ\ *adj* : bold, forthright, and heedless of personal consequences ⟨a ~ soldier of fortune —Will Herberg⟩

free·think·er \-'thiŋ-kər\ *n* : one that forms opinions on the basis of reason independently of authority; *esp* : one who doubts or denies religious dogma ***syn*** see ATHEIST — **free·think·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n or adj*

free thought *n* : free thinking or unorthodox thought; *specif* : 18th century deism

free throw *n* : an unhindered shot in basketball made from behind a set line and awarded because of a foul by an opponent

free throw lane *n* : a 12 or 16 foot wide lane on a basketball court that extends from underneath the goal to a line 15 feet in front of the backboard and from which players are excluded during a free throw

free trade *n* : trade based upon the unrestricted international exchange of goods with tariffs used only as a source of revenue

free trader *n* : one that practices, supports, or advocates free trade

free university *n* : an unaccredited autonomous free institution established within a university by students to present and discuss subjects not usu. dealt with in the academic curriculum

free verse *n* : verse whose meter is irregular in some respect or whose rhythm is not metrical

free·way \'frē-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : an expressway with fully controlled access **2** : a toll-free highway

¹free·wheel \-'(h)wē(ə)l\ *n* **1** : a power-transmission system in a motor vehicle with a device that permits the propeller shaft to run freely when its speed is greater than that of the engine shaft **2** : a clutch fitted in the rear hub of a bicycle that permits the rear wheel to run on free from the rear sprocket when the pedals are stopped

²freewheel *vi* : to move, live, or drift along freely or irresponsibly — **free·wheel·er** *n*

free·wheel·ing *adj* : relatively heedless of formalities, rules, responsibilities, or consequences — **free·wheel·ing·ness** *n*

free·will \ˌfrē-ˌwil\ *adj* : VOLUNTARY, SPONTANEOUS

free will *n* **1** : the power asserted of moral beings of choosing within limitations or with respect to some matters without restraint of physical or divine necessity or causal law **2** : the ability to choose between alternatives so that the choice and action are to an extent creatively determined by the conscious subject

Freewill Baptist *n* : a member of a Baptist group holding to Arminian doctrine and practicing open communion

free world *n* : the part of the world where democracy and capitalism or moderate socialism rather than totalitarian or Communist political and economic systems prevail

¹freeze \'frēz\ *vb* **froze** \'frōz\; **fro·zen** \'frōz-ᵊn\; **freez·ing** [ME *fresen*, fr. OE *frēosan;* akin to OHG *friosan* to freeze, L *pruina* hoarfrost] *vi* **1 a** : to become congealed into ice by cold **b** : to solidify as a result of abstraction of heat **2 a** : to become chilled with cold ⟨almost *froze* to death⟩ **b** : to become coldly formal in manner **3** : to adhere solidly by or as if by freezing ⟨pressure caused the metals to ~⟩ **4** : to become clogged with ice ⟨the water pipes *froze*⟩ **5** : to become fixed or motionless; *esp* : to become incapable of acting or speaking ~ *vt* **1 a** : to harden into ice **b** : to convert from a liquid to a solid by cold **2 a** : to make extremely cold : CHILL **b** : to act toward in a stiff and formal way **3 a** : to act on usu. destructively by frost **b** : to anesthetize by cold **4** : to cause to grip tightly or remain in immovable contact **5 a** : to cause to become fixed, immovable, or unalterable **b** : to forbid further manufacture, use, or sale of (a raw material) **c** : to immobilize by governmental regulation the expenditure, withdrawal, or exchange of (foreign-owned bank balances) **6** : to

attempt to retain continuous possession of (a ball or puck) without an attempt to score usu. in order to protect a small lead

²freeze *n* **1** : a state of weather marked by low temperature esp. when below the freezing point **2 a** : an act or instance of freezing **b** : the state of being frozen

freeze–dry \'frēz-'drī\ *vt* : to dry (as food) in a frozen state under high vacuum esp. for preservation — **freeze–dried** *adj*

freeze–etch·ing \'frē-'zech-iŋ\ *n* : preparation of a replica for electron microscopic examination of the exposed surface of quick-frozen material (as a tissue) after fracture along natural structural lines

freez·er \'frē-zər\ *n* : one that freezes or keeps cool; *esp* : an insulated cabinet, compartment, or room for keeping food at a subfreezing temperature or for freezing perishable food rapidly

freezing point *n* : the temperature at which a liquid solidifies ⟨the *freezing point* of water is 0° C or 32° F⟩

free zone *n* : an area within which goods may be received and stored without payment of duty

F region *n* : the highest region of the ionosphere occurring from 90 to more than 250 miles above the earth

¹freight \'frāt\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. MD or MLG *vracht, vrecht*] **1** : the compensation paid for the transportation of goods **2 a** : something that is loaded for transportation : CARGO **b** : LOAD, BURDEN **3 a** : the ordinary transportation of goods afforded by a common carrier and distinguished from express **b** : a train designed or used for such transportation

²freight *vt* **1 a** : to load with goods for transportation **b** : BURDEN, CHARGE **2** : to transport or ship by freight

freight·age \'frāt-ij\ *n* : FREIGHT

freight·er \-ər\ *n* **1** : one that loads or charters and loads a ship **2** : SHIPPER **3** : a ship or airplane used chiefly to carry freight

freight ton *n* : TON 2c

frem·i·tus \'frem-ət-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. L, murmur, fr. *fremitus*, pp. of *fremere* to murmur; akin to OE *bremman* to roar] : a sensation felt by a hand placed on a part of the body (as the chest) that vibrates during speech

french \'french\ *vt, often cap* [*French bean*] : to cut (snap beans) in thin lengthwise strips before cooking

¹French \'french\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *frencisc*, fr. *Franca* Frank] : of, relating to, or characteristic of France, its people, or their language — **French·ness** *n*

²French *n* **1** : a Romance language that developed out of the Vulgar Latin of Transalpine Gaul and became the literary and official language of France **2** *pl in constr* : the French people

French bean *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : a bean (as a green bean) of which the whole young pod is eaten : SNAP BEAN **2** *chiefly Brit* : KIDNEY BEAN 2

French bulldog *n* : any of a breed of small compact heavy-boned bat-eared dogs developed in France supposedly by crossing small bulldogs with native dogs

French Canadian *n* : one of the descendants of French settlers in Lower Canada

French chalk *n* : a soft white granular variety of steatite used esp. for drawing lines on cloth and for removing grease in dry cleaning

French chop *n* : a rib chop with the meat trimmed from the end of the rib

French cuff *n* : a soft double cuff that is made by turning back part of a wide cuff band and that fastens by cuff links

French door *n* : a light door with rectangular glass panels extending the full length; *also* : one of a pair of such doors in a single frame

French dressing *n* **1** : a salad dressing made with oil and vinegar or lemon juice, salt and pepper, and often condiments (as mustard and herbs) **2** : a commercial salad dressing that is creamy and typically orange-red in color

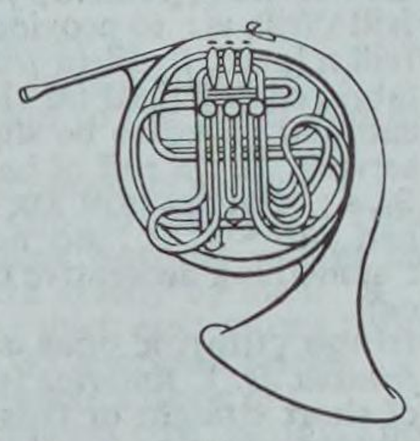
French endive *n* : ENDIVE 2

¹french fry *vt, often cap 1st F* [back-formation fr. *French fried (potatoes)*] : to fry (as strips of potato) in deep fat until brown

²french fry *n, often cap 1st F* : a strip of potato fried in deep fat — usu. used in pl.

French heel *n* : a woman's shoe heel that is usu. high, pitched well forward, and markedly curved

French horn *n* : a circular valved brass instrument having a conical bore, a funnel-shaped mouthpiece, and a usual range from B below the bass staff upward for more than three octaves



French horn

french·ify \'fren-chə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-ified; -ifying** *often cap* : to make French in qualities, traits, or typical practices — **french·ifi·ca·tion** \ˌfren-chə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n, often cap*

French kiss *n* : an open-mouth kiss usu. involving tongue-to-tongue contact — **French–kiss** *vb*

French leave *n* [fr. an 18th cent. French custom of leaving a reception without taking leave of the host or hostess] : an informal, hasty, or secret departure

French·man \'french-mən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of France **2** : one who is of French descent

French pastry *n* : fancy pastry made usu. of puff paste baked in individual portions and filled esp. with custard or fruit

French provincial *n, often cap P* : a style of furniture, architecture, or fabric originating in or characteristic of the 17th and 18th century French provinces

French telephone *n* : HANDSET

French toast *n* : bread dipped in a mixture of egg and milk and sautéed

French window *n* **1** : a French door placed in an exterior wall **2** : a casement window

French·wom·an \'french-ˌwům-ən\ *n* **1** : a female native or inhabitant of France **2** : a woman of French descent

fre·net·ic \fri-'net-ik\ *adj* [ME *frenetik* insane, fr. MF *frenetique*, fr. L *phreneticus*, modif. of Gk *phrenitikos*, fr. *phrenitis* inflammation of the brain, fr. *phren-, phrēn* diaphragm, mind] : FRENZIED, FRANTIC — **fre·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

fren·u·lum \'fren-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, dim. of L *frenum*] **1** : a connecting fold of membrane serving to support or restrain a part (as the tongue) **2** : a bristle or group of bristles on the front edge of the posterior wings of some lepidoptera that unites the wings by interlocking with a process on the front wings

fre·num \'frē-nəm\ *n, pl* **frenums** *or* **fre·na** \-nə\ [L, lit., bridle; akin to L *firmus* firm] : FRENULUM 1

fren·zied \'fren-zēd\ *adj* : marked by frenzy — **fren·zied·ly** *adv*

¹fren·zy \'fren-zē\ *n, pl* **frenzies** [ME *frenesie*, fr. MF, fr. ML *phrenesia*, alter. of L *phrenesis*, fr. *phreneticus*] **1 a** : a temporary madness **b** : a violent mental or emotional agitation **2** : intense usu. wild and often disorderly compulsive or agitated activity

²frenzy *vt* **fren·zied; fren·zy·ing** : to affect with frenzy

Fre·on \'frē-ˌän\ *trademark* — used for any of various nonflammable gaseous and liquid fluorinated hydrocarbons used as refrigerants and as propellants for aerosols

freq *abbr* frequency; frequent; frequentative; frequently

fre·quence \'frē-kwən(t)s\ *n* : FREQUENCY

fre·quen·cy \'frē-kwən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the fact or condition of occurring frequently **2 a** : the number of times that a periodic function repeats the same sequence of values during a unit variation of the independent variable **b** : the number of individuals in a single class when objects are classified according to variations in a set of one or more specified attributes **3** : the number of repetitions of a periodic process in a unit of time: as **a** : the number of complete alternations per second of an alternating current **b** : the number of sound waves per second produced by a sounding body **c** : the number of complete oscillations per second of an electromagnetic wave

frequency distribution *n* : an arrangement of statistical data that exhibits the frequency of the occurrence of the values of a variable

frequency modulation *n* : modulation of the frequency of the carrier wave in accordance with speech or a signal; *also* : a broadcasting system using such modulation

frequency response *n* : the ability of a device (as an audio amplifier) to handle the frequencies applied to it; *also* : a graph representing this ability

¹fre·quent \'frē-kwənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *frequent-, frequens*] **1** *obs* : FULL, THRONGED **2 a** : COMMON, USUAL **b** : happening at short intervals **3** : HABITUAL, PERSISTENT **4** *archaic* : INTIMATE, FAMILIAR — **fre·quent·ness** *n*

²fre·quent \frē-'kwent, 'frē-kwənt\ *vt* **1** : to associate with, be in, or resort to often or habitually **2** *archaic* : to read systematically or habitually — **fre·quen·ta·tion** \ˌfrē-ˌkwen-'tā-shən, -kwən-\ *n* — **fre·quent·er** *n*

¹fre·quen·ta·tive \frē-'kwent-ət-iv\ *adj* : denoting repeated or recurrent action or state — used of a verb aspect, verb form, or meaning

²frequentative *n* : a frequentative verb or verb form

fre·quent·ly \'frē-kwənt-lē\ *adv* : at frequent or short intervals

fres·co \'fres-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **frescoes** *or* **frescos** [It, fr. *fresco* fresh, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *frisc* fresh] **1** : the art of painting on freshly spread moist lime plaster with pigments suspended in a water vehicle **2** : a painting executed in fresco — **fresco** *vt*

¹fresh \'fresh\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *freis*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *frisc* fresh; akin to OE *fersc* fresh] **1 a** : not salt ⟨~ water⟩ **b** (1) : free from taint : PURE ⟨~ air⟩ (2) *of wind* : STRONG **2 a** : not altered by processing ⟨~ vegetables⟩ **b** : having its original qualities unimpaired: as (1) : full of or renewed in vigor or readiness for action : REFRESHED ⟨rose ~ from a good night's sleep⟩ (2) : not stale, sour, or decayed ⟨~ bread⟩ (3) : not faded (4) : not worn or rumpled : SPRUCE ⟨a ~ white shirt⟩ **3 a** (1) : experienced, made, or received newly or anew ⟨form ~ friendships⟩ (2) : ADDITIONAL, ANOTHER ⟨make a ~ start⟩ **b** : ORIGINAL, VIVID **c** : lacking experience : RAW **d** : newly or just come or arrived ⟨~ from school⟩ **e** : having the milk flow recently established ⟨a ~ cow⟩ **4** [prob. by folk etymology fr. G *frech*] : disposed to take liberties : IMPUDENT ***syn*** see NEW ***ant*** stale — **fresh·ly** *adv* — **fresh·ness** *n*

²fresh *adv* : just recently : NEWLY ⟨a ~ laid egg⟩

³fresh *n* **1** : an increased flow or rush (as of water) : FRESHET **2** : a stream of fresh water running into salt water

fresh breeze *n* : wind having a speed of 19 to 24 miles per hour

fresh·en \'fresh-ən\ *vb* **fresh·ened; fresh·en·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ *vi* **1** : to grow or become fresh: as **a** *of wind* : to increase in strength **b** : to become fresh in appearance or vitality — usu. used with *up* ⟨~ up with a shower⟩ **c** *of water* : to lose saltiness **2** *of a milch animal* : to come into milk ~ *vt* : to make fresh; *also* : REFRESH, REVIVE

fresh·et \'fresh-ət\ *n* **1** *archaic* : STREAM 1 **2 a** : a great rise or overflowing of a stream caused by heavy rains or melted snow **b** : something resembling or suggesting a freshet esp. in being in sudden large supply ⟨~s of applause —Douglas Watt⟩

fresh gale *n* : wind having a speed of 39 to 46 miles per hour

fresh·man \'fresh-mən\ *n, often attrib* **1** : NOVICE, NEWCOMER **2** : a student in his first year or having chiefly first-year standing

fresh·wa·ter \ˌfresh-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or living in fresh water **2** : accustomed to navigating only in fresh waters ⟨a ~ sailor⟩; *also* : UNSKILLED **3** : inland and usu. provincial ⟨a ~ college⟩

Fres·nel lens \ˌfrez-nəl-, frā-ˌnel-\ *n* [Augustin J. *Fresnel*] : a lens that has a surface consisting of a concentric series of simple lens

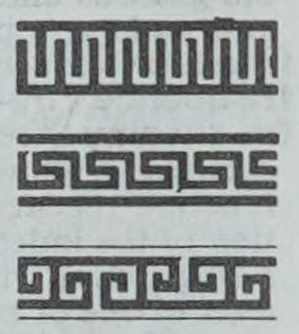
sections so that a thin lens with a short focal length and large diameter is possible and that is used esp. for spotlights

[1]fret \'fret\ *vb* **fret·ted; fret·ting** [ME *freten* to devour, fret, fr. OE *fretan* to devour; akin to OHG *frezzan* to devour, *ezzan* to eat — more at EAT] *vt* **1** : to cause to suffer emotional strain : VEX **2 a** : to eat or gnaw into : CORRODE; *also* : FRAY **b** : RUB, CHAFE **c** : to make by wearing away a substance ⟨the stream *fretted* a channel⟩ **3** : to pass (as time) in fretting **4** : AGITATE, RIPPLE ~ *vi* **1 a** : to eat into something **b** : to affect something as if by gnawing or biting : GRATE **2 a** : WEAR, CORRODE **b** : CHAFE **c** : FRAY **3 a** : to become vexed or worried **b** *of running water* : to become agitated

[2]fret *n* **1 a** : the action of wearing away : EROSION **b** : a worn or eroded spot **2** : an agitation of mind : IRRITATION

[3]fret *vt* **fret·ted; fret·ting** [ME *fretten*, fr. MF *freter* to bind with a ferrule, fret, fr. OF, fr. *frete* ferrule] **1 a** : to decorate with interlaced designs **b** : to form a pattern upon **2** : to enrich with embossed or pierced carved patterns

[4]fret *n* **1** : an ornamental network; *esp* : a medieval metallic or jeweled net for a woman's headdress **2** : an ornament or ornamental work often in relief consisting of small straight bars intersecting one another in right or oblique angles



frets 2

[5]fret *n* [prob. fr. MF *frete* ferrule] : one of a series of ridges fixed across the fingerboard of a stringed musical instrument (as a guitar)

[6]fret *vt* **fret·ted; fret·ting** : to furnish (a stringed instrument) with frets

fret·ful \'fret-fəl\ *adj* **1** : disposed to fret : IRRITABLE **2 a** *of water* : showing agitation **b** *of wind* : GUSTY — **fret·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **fret·ful·ness** *n*

fret·saw \'fret-ˌsȯ\ *n* : a narrow-bladed fine-toothed saw held under tension in a frame and used for cutting curved outlines

fret·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : decoration consisting of work adorned with frets **2** : ornamental openwork or work in relief

Freud·ian \'frȯid-ē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or according with the psychoanalytic theories or practices of Freud — **Freudian** *n* — **Freud·ian·ism** \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

Freudian slip *n* : a slip of the tongue that is motivated by and reveals some unconscious aspect of the mind

Freund's adjuvant \'frȯin(d)z-, 'frȯin(t)s-\ *n* [Jules T. *Freund* †1960 Am immunologist] : any of various substances (as killed tubercle bacilli) added to an antigen to increase its antigenicity

Frey \'frā\ *n* [ON *Freyr*] : the Norse god of fertility, crops, peace, and prosperity

Freya \'frā-ə\ *n* [ON *Freyja*] : the Norse goddess of love and beauty

FRGS *abbr* Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society

Fri *abbr* Friday

fri·a·ble \'frī-ə-bəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *friabilis*, fr. *friare* to crumble] : easily crumbled or pulverized ⟨~ soil⟩ ***syn*** see FRAGILE — **fri·a·bil·i·ty** \ˌfrī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **fri·a·ble·ness** *n*

fri·ar \'frī(-ə)r\ *n* [ME *frere*, *fryer*, fr. OF *frere*, lit., brother, fr. L *fratr-*, *frater* — more at BROTHER] : a member of a mendicant order

fri·ar·ly \-lē\ *adj* : resembling a friar : relating to friars

friar's lantern *n* : IGNIS FATUUS

fri·ary \'frī(-ə)r-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : a monastery of friars

[1]frib·ble \'frib-əl\ *vb* **frib·bled; frib·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vi* : TRIFLE, DODDER ~ *vt* : to trifle or fool away

[2]fribble *n* : a frivolous person, thing, or idea : TRIFLER — **fribble** *adj*

fric·an·deau \'frik-ən-ˌdō\ *n* [F] : larded veal roasted and glazed in its own juices

[1]fric·as·see \'frik-ə-ˌsē, ˌfrik-ə-'\ *n* [MF, fr. fem. of *fricassé*, pp. of *fricasser* to fricassee] : a dish made of cut-up pieces of meat (as chicken or veal) stewed in a gravy

[2]fricassee *vt* **-seed; -see·ing** : to cook as a fricassee

fric·a·tive \'frik-ət-iv\ *n* [L *fricatus*, pp. of *fricare*] : a consonant characterized by frictional passage of the expired breath through a narrowing at some point in the vocal tract ⟨\f v th th s z sh zh h\ are ~*s*⟩ — **fricative** *adj*

fric·tion \'frik-shən\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *friction-*, *frictio*, fr. *fric-tus*, pp. of *fricare* to rub; akin to L *friare* to crumble, Skt *bhrīṇanti* they injure] **1 a** : the rubbing of one body against another **b** : resistance to relative motion between two bodies in contact **2** : the clashing between two persons or parties of opposed views : DISAGREEMENT — **fric·tion·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **fric·tion·less·ly** *adv*

fric·tion·al \'frik-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to friction **2** : moved or produced by friction — **fric·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

friction clutch *n* : a clutch in which connection is made through sliding friction

friction drive *n* : an automobile power-transmission system that transmits motion by surface friction instead of teeth and provides a full range of variation in desired speed ratios

friction match *n* : [3]MATCH 2

friction tape *n* : a usu. cloth tape impregnated with water-resistant insulating material and an adhesive and used esp. to protect, insulate, and support electrical conductors

Fri·day \'frīd-ē\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *frīgedæg*; akin to OHG *frīatag*; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose components are akin to OHG *Frīa*, goddess of love and to OE *dæg* day] : the sixth day of the week — **Fri·days** \-ēz\ *adv*

fridge *also* **frig** \'frij\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] *chiefly Brit* : REFRIGERATOR

fried·cake \'frīd-ˌkāk\ *n* : DOUGHNUT, CRULLER

[1]friend \'frend\ *n* [ME *frend*, fr. OE *frēond*; akin to OHG *friunt* friend; both fr. the prp. of a prehistoric Gmc verb represented by OE *frēon* to love; akin to OE *frēo* free] **1 a** : one attached to another by affection or esteem **b** : ACQUAINTANCE **2 a** : one that is not hostile **b** : one that is of the same nation, party, or group **3** : one that favors or promotes something (as a charity) **4** *obs* : PARAMOUR **5** *cap* : a member of a Christian sect that stresses Inner Light, rejects sacraments and an ordained ministry, and opposes war — called also *Quaker* — **friend·less** \'fren-(d)ləs\ *adj* — **friend·less·ness** *n*

[2]friend *vt* : to act as the friend of : BEFRIEND

friend·li·ly \'fren-(d)lə-lē\ *adv* : in a friendly manner

[1]friend·ly \'fren-(d)lē\ *adj* **friend·li·er; -est** : of, relating to, or befitting a friend: as **a** : showing kindly interest and goodwill **b** : not hostile **c** : inclined to favor **d** : CHEERFUL, COMFORTING ***syn*** see AMICABLE ***ant*** unfriendly, belligerent — **friend·li·ness** *n*

[2]friendly *adv* : in a friendly manner : AMICABLY

[3]friendly *n, pl* **friendlies** : one that is friendly; *esp* : a native who is friendly to settlers or invaders

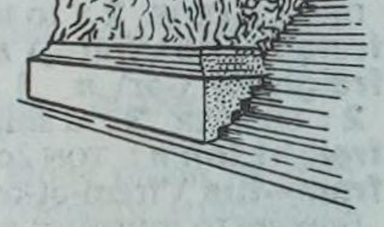
friendship \'fren(d)-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the state of being friends **2** : the quality or state of being friendly : FRIENDLINESS **3** *obs* : AID

fri·er *var of* FRYER

Frie·sian \'frē-zhən\ *n, chiefly Brit* : HOLSTEIN

[1]frieze \'frēz *or* (*compare* FRISÉ) frē-'zā\ *n* [ME *frise*, fr. MF, fr. MD *vriese*] **1** : a heavy durable coarse wool and shoddy fabric with a rough surface **2** : a pile surface of uncut loops or of patterned cut and uncut loops

[2]frieze \'frēz\ *n* [MF, perh. fr. ML *phrygium*, *frisium* embroidered cloth, fr. L *phrygium*, fr. neut. of *Phrygius* Phrygian, fr. *Phrygia*] **1** : the part of an entablature between the architrave and the cornice — see ENTABLATURE illustration **2** : a sculptured or richly ornamented band (as on a building) **3** : a band, line, or series suggesting a frieze ⟨a constant ~ of visitors wound its way around the . . . ruins —Mollie Panter-Downes⟩



frieze 2

frig \'frig\ *vi* **frigged; frig·ging** [prob. fr. E dial. *frig* to rub] : COPULATE — usu. considered vulgar

frig·ate \'frig-ət\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *fregata*] **1** : a light boat propelled orig. by oars but later by sails **2** : a square-rigged war vessel intermediate between a corvette and a ship of the line **3** : a British or Canadian escort ship between a corvette and a destroyer in size **4** : a U.S. warship of 5000 to 7000 tons that is smaller than a cruiser and larger than a destroyer

frigate bird *n* : any of several strong-winged seabirds (family Fregatidae) noted for their rapacious habits

Frig·ga \'frig-ə\ *n* [ON *Frigg*] : the Norse goddess of married love and of the hearth who shares dominion of the heavens with her husband Odin

[1]fright \'frīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *fyrhto*, *fryhto*; akin to OHG *forhta* fear] **1** : fear excited by sudden danger : ALARM **2** : something strange, ugly, or shocking ⟨his beard was a ~⟩ ***syn*** see FEAR

[2]fright *vt* : to alarm suddenly : FRIGHTEN

fright·en \'frīt-ᵊn\ *vb* **fright·ened; fright·en·ing** \'frīt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make afraid : TERRIFY **2** : to drive or force by frightening ⟨~*ed* the boy into confessing⟩ ~ *vi* : to become frightened — **fright·en·ing·ly** \-niŋ-lē, -ᵊn-iŋ-\ *adv*

fright·ful \'frīt-fəl\ *adj* **1** : causing intense fear or alarm : TERRIFYING **2** : causing shock or horror : STARTLING **3** : EXTREME ⟨~ thirst⟩ ***syn*** see FEARFUL — **fright·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **fright·ful·ness** *n*

fright wig *n* : a wig with hair that stands out from the head

frig·id \'frij-əd\ *adj* [L *frigidus*, fr. *frigēre* to be cold; akin to L *frigus* frost, cold, Gk *rhigos*] **1 a** : intensely cold **b** : lacking warmth or ardor : INDIFFERENT **2** : lacking imaginative qualities : INSIPID **3** : abnormally averse to sexual intercourse — used esp. of women — **frig·id·ly** *adv* — **frig·id·ness** *n*

Frig·i·daire \ˌfrij-ə-'da(ə)r, -'de(ə)r\ *trademark* — used for a mechanical refrigerator

fri·gid·i·ty \frij-'id-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being frigid; *specif* : marked or abnormal sexual indifference esp. in a woman

frigid zone *n* : the area or region between the arctic circle and the north pole or between the antarctic circle and the south pole

frig·o·rif·ic \ˌfrig-ə-'rif-ik\ *adj* [L *frigorificus*, fr. *frigor-*, *frigus* frost] : causing cold : CHILLING

fri·jol \frē-'hōl, 'frē-ˌ\ *also* **fri·jo·le** \frē-'hō-lē\ *n, pl* **fri·jo·les** \frē-'hō-lēz, 'frē-ˌ\ [AmerSp *frijol*] *chiefly Southwest* : BEAN 1b

[1]frill \'fril\ *vt* : to provide or decorate with a frill

[2]frill *n* [perh. fr. Flem *frul*] **1 a** : a gathered, pleated, or bias-cut fabric edging used on clothing **b** : a strip of paper curled at one end and rolled to be slipped over the bone end (as of a chop) in serving **2** : a ruff of hair or feathers about the neck of an animal **3 a** : AFFECTATION, AIR — usu. used in pl. ⟨an honest . . . man who had no ~*s*, . . . no nonsense about him —W. A. White⟩ **b** : something decorative but not essential : LUXURY — **frilly** \'fril-ē\ *adj*

[1]fringe \'frinj\ *n, often attrib* [ME *frenge*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *frimbia*, fr. L *fimbriae* (pl.)] **1** : an ornamental border consisting of short straight or twisted threads or strips hanging from cut or raveled edges or from a separate band **2 a** : something resembling a fringe : BORDER **b** : one of various light or dark bands produced by the interference or diffraction of light **3 a** : something that is marginal, additional, or secondary to some activity, process, or subject matter **b** : a group with marginal or extremist views **c** : FRINGE BENEFIT

[2]fringe *vt* **fringed; fring·ing** \'frin-jiŋ\ **1** : to furnish or adorn with a fringe **2** : to serve as a fringe for : BORDER

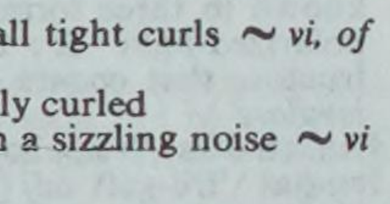
fringe area *n* : a region in which reception from a given broadcasting station is weak or subject to serious distortion

fringe benefit *n* : an employment benefit (as a pension, a paid holiday, or health insurance) granted by an employer that involves a money cost without affecting basic wage rates

fringe tree *n* : a small tree (*Chionanthus virginica*) of the olive family that has clusters of white flowers and occurs in the southern U.S. but is widely planted elsewhere

fringy \'frin-jē\ *adj* **fring·i·er; -est** : adorned with or resembling fringes

[1]frip·pery \'frip-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-per·ies** [MF *friperie,* deriv. of ML *faluppa* piece of straw] **1** *obs* **a** : cast-off clothes **b** : a place where old clothes are sold **2 a** : FINERY; *esp* : something showy, tawdry, or nonessential **b** : affected elegance : OSTENTATION
[2]frippery *adj* : TRIFLING, TAWDRY
Fris·bee \'friz-bē\ *trademark* — used for a plastic disk several inches in diameter sailed between players by a flip of the wrist
fri·sé \frē-'zā\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *friser* to curl] : FRIEZE
Frise aileron \'frēz-\ *n* [Leslie George *Frise b*1897 E engineer] : an aileron having a nose portion projecting ahead of the hinge axis and a lower surface in line with the lower surface of the wing
fri·sette \frē-'zet\ *n* [F] *archaic* : a fringe of hair or curls worn on the forehead by women
fri·seur \frē-'zər\ *n* [F] : HAIRDRESSER
[1]Fri·sian \'frizh-ən, 'frē-zhən\ *adj* [L *Frisii* Frisians] : of, relating to, or characteristic of Friesland, the Frisians, or Frisian
[2]Frisian *n* **1** : a member of a people that inhabit principally the Netherlands province of Friesland and the Frisian islands in the North sea **2** : the Germanic language of the Frisian people
[1]frisk \'frisk\ *vb* [obs. *frisk* (lively)] *vi* : to leap, skip, or dance in a lively or playful way : GAMBOL ~ *vt* : to search (a person) for something (as a concealed weapon) by running the hand rapidly over the clothing and through the pockets — **frisk·er** *n*
[2]frisk *n* **1 a** *archaic* : CARACOLE, CAPER **b** : GAMBOL, ROMP **c** : DIVERSION **2** : an act of frisking
frisk·i·ly \'fris-kə-lē\ *adv* : in a frisky manner
frisky \'fris-kē\ *adj* **frisk·i·er; -est** : inclined to frisk : FROLICSOME — **frisk·i·ness** *n*
fris·son \frē-'sōⁿ\ *n, pl* **frissons** \-'sōⁿ(z)\ [F] : SHUDDER, THRILL
[1]frit \'frit\ *n* [It *fritta*] **1** : the calcined or partly fused materials of which glass is made **2** : any of various chemically complex glasses used ground esp. to introduce soluble or unstable ingredients into glazes or enamels
[2]frit *vt* **frit·ted; frit·ting** **1** : to prepare (materials for glass) by heat : FUSE **2** : to convert into a frit
frith \'frith\ *n* : FIRTH
frit·il·lar·ia \ˌfrit-ᵊl-'er-ē-ə, -'ar-\ *n* [NL, fr. L *fritillus* dice cup; fr. the markings of the petals] : any of a genus (*Fritillaria*) of bulbous herbs of the lily family with mottled or checkered flowers
frit·il·lary \'frit-ᵊl-ˌer-ē\ *n, pl* **-lar·ies** [NL *fritillaria*] **1** : FRITILLARIA **2** : any of numerous nymphalid butterflies (esp. genera *Argynnis* and *Speyeria*) that usu. are orange with black spots on the upper side of both wings and silver spotted on the underside of the hind wing
[1]frit·ter \'frit-ər\ *n* [ME *fritour,* fr. MF *friture,* fr. (assumed) VL *frictura,* fr. *frictus,* pp. of *frigere* to fry — more at FRY] : a small quantity of fried or sautéed batter often containing fruit or meat
[2]fritter *vb* [*fritter,* n. (fragment, shred)] *vt* **1** : to spend or waste bit by bit, on trifles, or without commensurate return ⟨~*ing* away our natural resources⟩ **2** : to break into small fragments ~ *vi* : DISSIPATE, DWINDLE ***syn*** see WASTE — **frit·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
friv·ol \'friv-əl\ *vi* **-oled** *or* **-olled; -ol·ing** *or* **-ol·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [back-formation fr. *frivolous*] : to act frivolously : TRIFLE — **friv·ol·er** *or* **friv·ol·ler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
fri·vol·i·ty \friv-'äl-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being frivolous **2** : a frivolous act or thing ***syn*** see LIGHTNESS ***ant*** staidness
friv·o·lous \'friv-(ə-)ləs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *frivolus*] **1** : of little weight or importance **2 a** : lacking in seriousness : irresponsibly self-indulgent **b** : marked by unbecoming levity — **friv·o·lous·ly** *adv* — **friv·o·lous·ness** *n*
[1]frizz \'friz\ *vb* [F *friser*] *vt* : to form into small tight curls ~ *vi, of hair* : to form a mass of tight curls
[2]frizz *n* **1** : a tight curl **2** : hair that is tightly curled
[3]frizz *vb* [alter. of [1]FRY] *vt* : to fry or sear with a sizzling noise ~ *vi* : SIZZLE
frizz·i·ly \'friz-ə-lē\ *adv* : in a frizzy manner
[1]friz·zle \'friz-əl\ *vb* **friz·zled; friz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. akin to OE *frīs* curly, OFris *frīsle* curl] : FRIZZ, CURL
[2]frizzle *n* : a crisp curl
[3]frizzle *vb* **friz·zled; friz·zling** [*[1]fry* + *sizzle*] *vt* **1** : to fry until crisp and curled **2** : BURN, SCORCH ~ *vi* : to cook with a sizzling noise
friz·zly \'friz-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **friz·zli·er; -est** : FRIZZY
frizzy *adj* **frizz·i·er; -est** : tightly curled — **frizz·i·ness** *n*
[1]fro \frə, (ᵊ)frō\ *prep* [ME, fr. ON *frā;* akin to OE *from*] *dial Brit* : FROM
[2]fro \'frō\ *adv* : BACK, AWAY — used in the phrase *to and fro*
[1]frock \'fräk\ *n* [ME *frok,* fr. MF *froc,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hroch* mantle, coat] **1** : an outer garment worn by monks and friars : HABIT **2** : an outer garment worn chiefly by men: **a** : a long loose mantle **b** : a workman's outer shirt; *esp* : SMOCK FROCK **c** : a woolen jersey worn esp. by sailors **3** : a woman's dress
[2]frock *vt* **1** : to clothe in a frock **2** : to make a cleric of
frock coat *n* : a man's usu. double-breasted coat having knee-length skirts front and back
froe \'frō\ *n* [perh. alter. of obs. *froward* turned away, fr. ME; fr. the position of the handle] : a cleaving tool for splitting cask staves and shingles from the block
frog \'frȯg, 'fräg\ *n* [ME *frogge,* fr. OE *frogga;* akin to OHG *frosk* frog, Skt *pravate* he jumps up] **1** : any of various smooth-skinned web-footed largely aquatic tailless agile leaping amphibians (as of the suborder Diplasiocoela) — compare TOAD **2** : a condition in the throat that produces hoarseness ⟨had a ~ in his throat⟩ **3** : the triangular elastic horny pad in the middle of the sole of the foot of a horse — see HOOF illustration **4 a** : a loop attached to a belt to hold a weapon or tool **b** : an ornamental braiding for fastening the front of a garment that consists of a button and a loop through which it passes **5** : a device permitting the wheels on one rail of a track to cross an intersecting rail **6** : the nut of a violin bow — see BOW illustration **7** : a small holder (as of metal, glass, or plastic) with perforations or spikes for holding flowers in place in a bowl or vase

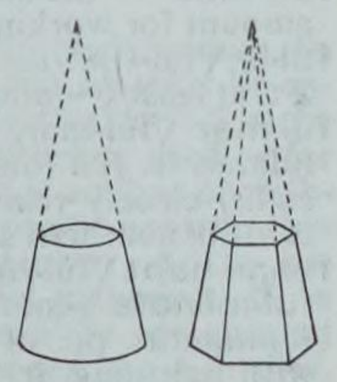


frog 4b

frog-eye \-ˌī\ *n* : any of numerous leaf diseases characterized by concentric rings about the diseased spots
frog·hop·per \-ˌhäp-ər\ *n* : SPITTLEBUG
frog kick *n* : a breaststroke kick that is executed with the knees pointed outward
frog·man \'frȯg-ˌman, 'fräg-, -mən\ *n* : a person equipped (as with face mask, flippers, and air supply) for extended periods of underwater swimming; *esp* : a person so equipped for military reconnaissance and demolition
frog spit *n* **1** : CUCKOO SPIT 1 **2** : an alga that forms slimy masses on quiet water
[1]frol·ic \'fräl-ik\ *adj* [D *vroolijk,* fr. MD *vrolijc,* fr. *vro* happy; akin to OHG *frō* happy, OE *frogga* frog] : full of fun : MERRY
[2]frolic *vi* **frol·icked; frol·ick·ing** **1** : to make merry **2** : to play and run about happily : ROMP
[3]frolic *n* **1** : a playful mischievous action **2 a** : FUN, MERRIMENT **b** : PARTY
frol·ic·some \'fräl-ik-səm\ *adj* : full of gaiety : SPORTIVE
from \(ᵊ)frəm, 'främ *also* fəm\ *prep* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fram,* adv., forth, away, OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] **1** — used as a function word to indicate a starting point: as (1) a place where a physical movement begins ⟨came here ~ the city⟩ (2) a starting point in measuring or reckoning or in a statement of limits ⟨a week ~ today⟩ ⟨cost ~ $5 to $10⟩ **2** — used as a function word to indicate separation: as (1) physical separation (2) an act or condition of removal, abstention, exclusion, release, or differentiation ⟨protection ~ the sun⟩ ⟨relief ~ anxiety⟩ **3** — used as a function word to indicate the source, cause, agent, or basis ⟨a call ~ my lawyer⟩ ⟨inherited a love of music ~ his father⟩ ⟨read ~ his new book of poems⟩ ⟨worked hard ~ necessity⟩
frond \'fränd\ *n* [L *frond-, frons* foliage] **1** : LEAF; *esp* : the leaf of a palm **2 a** : a thallus or thalloid shoot resembling a leaf **b** : the leaf of a fern — **frond·ed** \'frän-dəd\ *adj*
fron·deur \frōⁿ-'dər\ *n* [F, slinger, participant in a 17th cent. revolt in which the rebels were compared to schoolboys using slings only when the teacher was not looking] : REBEL, MALCONTENT
fron·dose \'frän-ˌdōs\ *adj* : bearing or resembling fronds — **frondose·ly** *adv*
[1]front \'frənt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *front-, frons* — more at BRINK] **1 a** : FOREHEAD; *also* : the whole face **b** (1) : demeanor or bearing esp. in the face of danger or other trial (2) : external and often feigned appearance (3) : an artificial or self-important manner **2 a** (1) : VANGUARD (2) : a line of battle (3) *often cap* : a zone of conflict between armies (4) : lateral space occupied by a military unit **b** (1) : a stand in reference to some issue : POLICY — usu. used with *change* (2) : a sphere of activity ⟨progress on the educational ~⟩ (3) : a movement linking divergent elements to achieve certain common objectives; *esp* : a political coalition ⟨and to create a popular democratic ~ —*Collier's Yr. Bk.*⟩ **3** : a side of a building; *esp* : the side that contains the principal entrance **4 a** : the forward part or surface **b** (1) : FRONTAGE (2) : a beach promenade at a seaside resort **c** : DICKEY 1a **d** : the boundary between two dissimilar air masses **5** *archaic* : BEGINNING **6 a** (1) : a position ahead of a person or of the foremost part of a thing (2) — used as a call by a hotel desk clerk in summoning a bellboy **b** : a position of leadership or superiority **7 a** : a person, group, or thing used to mask the identity or true character or activity of the actual controlling agent **b** : a person who serves as the nominal head or spokesman of an enterprise or group to lend it prestige — **in front of** : directly before or ahead of ⟨watching the road *in front of* him⟩ — **out front** : in the audience — **up front** : in the frontcourt; *specif* : in the position of forward or center
[2]front *vi* **1** : FACE ⟨the house ~*s* toward the east⟩ — often used with *on* ⟨a ten-acre plot ~*ing* on a lake —*Current Biog.*⟩ **2** : to serve as a front ⟨~*ing* for special interests⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : CONFRONT ⟨went to the woods because I wished . . . to ~ only the essential facts of life —H. D. Thoreau⟩ **b** : to appear before ⟨daily ~*ed* him in some fresh splendor —Alfred Tennyson⟩ **2** : to be in front of ⟨lawn ~*ing* the house⟩ **3** : to supply a front to ⟨~*ed* the building with bricks⟩ **4** : to face toward ⟨the house ~*s* the street⟩ **5** : to articulate (a sound) with the tongue farther forward
[3]front *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or situated at the front **2** : articulated at or toward the front of the oral passage ⟨~ vowels⟩ **3** : constituting the first nine holes of an 18-hole golf course — **front** *adv*
[4]front *abbr* frontispiece
front·age \'frənt-ij\ *n* **1 a** : a piece of land that fronts **b** : the land between the front of a building and the street **2** : the front side of a building **3** : the act or fact of facing a given way
frontage road *n* : a local street or road that generally parallels an expressway or through street and that provides access to property isolated from the expressway through access controls — called also *service road*
[1]fron·tal \'frənt-ᵊl\ *n* **1** [ME *frontel,* fr. ML *frontellum,* dim. of L *front-, frons*] : a cloth hanging over the front of an altar **2** : FACADE
[2]frontal *adj* [NL *frontalis,* fr. L *front-, frons*] **1** : of, relating to, or adjacent to the forehead or the frontal bone **2 a** : of, relating to, or situated at the front **b** : directed against the front or at the main point or issue : DIRECT ⟨~ assault⟩ **3** : parallel to the main axis of the body and at right angles to the sagittal plane **4** : of or relating to a meteorological front — **fron·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
frontal bone *n* : either of a pair of membrane bones forming the forehead

fron·tal·i·ty \ˌfrən-ˈtal-ət-ē\ *n* **1** *sculpture* : a schematic composition of the front view that is complete without lateral movement **2** *painting* : the depiction of an object, figure, or scene in a plane parallel to the plane of the picture surface
frontal lobe *n* : the anterior division of each cerebral hemisphere
front·court \ˈfrənt-ˈkō(ə)rt, -ˈkȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : a basketball team's offensive half of the court; *also* : the positions of forward and center on a basketball team
front dive *n* : a dive from a position facing the water
front–end load *n* : the part of the total load taken out of early payments under a contract plan for the periodic purchase of investment-company shares
fron·te·nis \ˌfrən-ˈten-əs, frän-\ *n* [AmerSp, blend of *frontón* pelota court and *tenis* tennis] : a game of Mexican origin played with rackets and a rubber ball on a 3-walled court
fron·tier \ˌfrən-ˈti(ə)r, ˈfrən-ˌ, frän-ˈ, ˈfrän-ˌ\ *n* [ME *fronter*, fr. MF *frontiere*, fr. *front*] **1 a** : a border between two countries **b** *obs* : a stronghold on a frontier **2 a** : a region that forms the margin of settled or developed territory **b** : the farthermost limits of knowledge or achievement with respect to a particular subject **c** : a new field that offers scope for exploitative or developmental activity — **frontier** *adj*
fron·tiers·man \ˌfrən-ˈti(ə)rz-mən, frän-\ *n* : a man living on the frontier
fron·tis·piece \ˈfrənt-ə-ˌspēs\ *n* [MF *frontispice*, fr. LL *frontispicium*, lit., view of the front, fr. L *front-*, *frons* + *-i-* + *specere* to look at — more at SPY] **1 a** : the principal front of a building **b** : a decorated pediment over a portico or window **2** : an illustration preceding and usu. facing the title page of a book or magazine
front·less \ˈfrənt-ləs\ *adj*, *archaic* : SHAMELESS
front·let \-lət\ *n* [Me *frontlette*, fr. MF *frontelet*, dim. of *frontel*, fr. L *frontale*, fr. *front-*, *frons*] **1** : a band or phylactery worn on the forehead **2** : FOREHEAD; *esp* : the forehead of a bird when distinctively marked
front–line *adj* **1** : situated or suitable for use at a military front ⟨~ ambulances⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to the most advanced or significant activity or procedure in a field or enterprise **b** : relating to or being proficient or competent in a field ⟨~ teachers⟩; *also* : FIRST-STRING ⟨~ catchers⟩
front line *n* **1** : a military line formed by the most advanced tactical combat units; *also* : FRONT **2** : the most advanced, responsible, or significant position in a field or activity
front man *n* : a person serving as a front or figurehead
front matter *n* : matter preceding the main text of a book
fronto- *comb form* [ISV, fr. L *front-*, *frons*] **1** : frontal and ⟨*fronto*parietal⟩ **2** [¹*front*] : boundary of an air mass ⟨*fronto*genesis⟩
front office *n* : the policy-making officials of an organization
front·o·gen·e·sis \ˌfrənt-ō-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the coming together into a distinct front of two dissimilar air masses that commonly react upon each other to induce cloud and precipitation
front·ol·y·sis \ˌfrənt-ˈäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : a process tending to destroy a meteorological front
fron·ton \ˈfrän-ˌtän\ *n* [Sp *frontón* gable, wall of a pelota court, fronton, fr. dim. of *frenta* forehead, fr. L *front-*, *frons*] : a jai alai arena
¹**front–page** \ˈfrənt-ˈpāj\ *adj* : very newsworthy
²**front–page** *vt* : to print or report on the front page of a newspaper
front room *n* : LIVING ROOM, PARLOR
front–run·ner \ˈfrənt-ˈrən-ər\ *n* **1** : a contestant who runs best when in the lead **2** : a leading contestant in a rivalry or competition
frore \ˈfrō(ə)r, ˈfrȯ(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *froren*, fr. OE, pp. of *frēosan* to freeze] : FROSTY, FROZEN
frosh \ˈfräsh\ *n, pl* **frosh** [by shortening & alter.] : FRESHMAN
¹**frost** \ˈfrȯst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *frost*, OE *frēosan* to freeze] **1 a** : the process of freezing **b** : the temperature that causes freezing **c** : a covering of minute ice crystals on a cold surface **2 a** : coldness of deportment or temperament : an indifferent, reserved, or unfriendly manner **b** : FAILURE ⟨he may be a ~ as a man, but he has his ear to the ground as a newspaper pro — James Purdy⟩
²**frost** *vt* **1 a** : to cover with or as if with frost; *esp* : to put icing on (cake) **b** : to produce a fine-grained slightly roughened surface on (as metal or glass) **2** : to injure or kill (as plants) by frost ~ *vi* : to become frosted : FREEZE
¹**frost·bite** \ˈfrȯs(t)-ˌbīt\ *vt* **-bit** \-ˌbit\; **-bit·ten** \-ˌbit-ᵊn\; **-bit·ing** \-ˌbīt-iŋ\ : to blight or nip with frost
²**frostbite** *n* : the freezing or the local effect of a partial freezing of some part of the body
³**frostbite** *adj* : done in cold weather ⟨~ sailing⟩; *also* : of or relating to cold-weather sailing ⟨~ sailors⟩
frost·bit·ing \-ˌbīt-iŋ\ *n* : the sport of sailing in cold weather
frost·ed \ˈfrȯ-stəd\ *adj* : QUICK-FROZEN ⟨~ vegetables⟩
frost heave *n* : an upthrust of ground or pavement caused by freezing of moist soil — called also *frost heaving*
frost·ing \ˈfrȯ-stiŋ\ *n* **1 a** : ICING **b** : TRIMMING, ORNAMENTATION **2** : lusterless finish of metal or glass : MAT; *also* : a white finish produced on glass (as by etching) **3** : the lightening (as by chemicals) of small strands of hair throughout the entire head to produce a two-tone effect — compare STREAKING
frost·work \ˈfrȯs-ˌtwərk\ *n* **1** : the figures that moisture sometimes forms in freezing (as on a windowpane) **2** : ornamentation (as on silver, glass, or paper) imitative of the figures of frostwork
frosty \ˈfrȯ-stē\ *adj* **frost·i·er; -est** **1** : attended with or producing frost : FREEZING **2** : covered or appearing as if covered with frost : HOARY **3** : marked by coolness or extreme reserve in manner ⟨his smile was distinctly ~ —Erle Stanley Gardner⟩ — **frost·i·ly** \-stə-lē\ *adv* — **frost·i·ness** \-stē-nəs\ *n*
¹**froth** \ˈfrȯth\ *n, pl* **froths** \ˈfrȯths, ˈfrȯthz\ [ME, fr. ON *frotha*; akin to OE *āfrēothan* to froth, Gk *prēthein* to blow up] **1 a** : bubbles formed in or on a liquid : FOAM **b** : a foamy slaver sometimes accompanying disease or exhaustion **2** : something unsubstantial or of little value ⟨swayed by popular fads and ~ — Gay Talese⟩
²**froth** \ˈfrȯth, ˈfrȯth\ *vt* **1** : to cause to foam **2** : VENT, VOICE **3** : to cover with froth ~ *vi* **1** : to foam at the mouth **2** : to throw froth out or up
frothy \ˈfrȯ-thē, -th̲ē\ *adj* **froth·i·er; -est** **1** : full of or consisting of froth ⟨~ surf⟩ **2 a** : gaily frivolous or light in content or treatment ⟨~ poetry⟩ **b** : made of light thin material ⟨~ garments⟩ — **froth·i·ly** \-thə-lē, -th̲ē-\ *adv* — **froth·i·ness** \-thē-nəs, -th̲ē-\ *n*
frot·tage \frȯ-ˈtäzh\ *n* [F, fr. *frotter* to rub] : the technique of creating a design by rubbing (as with a pencil) over an object placed underneath the paper; *also* : a composition so made
frou·frou \ˈfrü-ˌfrü\ *n* [F, of imit. origin] **1** : a rustling esp. of a woman's skirts **2** : frilly ornamentation esp. in women's clothing
frow \ˈfrō\ *var of* FROE
fro·ward \ˈfrō-(w)ərd\ *adj* [ME, turned away, froward, fr. *fro* + *-ward*] **1** : habitually disposed to disobedience and opposition **2** *archaic* : ADVERSE ***syn*** see CONTRARY ***ant*** compliant — **fro·ward·ly** *adv* — **fro·ward·ness** *n*
¹**frown** \ˈfraůn\ *vb* [ME *frounen*, fr. MF *froigner* to snort, frown, of Celt origin; akin to W *ffroen* nostril] *vi* **1** : to contract the brow in displeasure or concentration **2** : to give evidence of displeasure or disapproval by or as if by facial expression ~ *vt* : to show displeasure with or disapproval of esp. by facial expression — **frown·er** *n* — **frown·ing·ly** \ˈfraů-niŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn FROWN, SCOWL, GLOWER, LOWER *shared meaning element* : to put on a dark or malignant countenance or aspect ***ant*** smile
²**frown** *n* **1** : a wrinkling of the brow in displeasure or concentration **2** : an expression of displeasure
frows·ty \ˈfraů-stē\ *adj* **frowst·i·er; -est** [alter. of *frowsy*] *chiefly Brit* : MUSTY
frow·sy *also* **frow·zy** \ˈfraů-zē\ *adj* **frow·si·er** *also* **frow·zi·er; -est** [origin unknown] **1** : having a slovenly or uncared-for appearance **2** : MUSTY, STALE
froze *past of* FREEZE
fro·zen \ˈfrōz-ᵊn\ *adj* **1 a** : treated, affected, or crusted over by freezing **b** : subject to long and severe cold ⟨~ north⟩ **2 a** (1) : drained or incapable of emotion (2) : expressing or characterized by cold unfriendliness **b** : incapable of being changed, moved, or undone; *specif* : debarred by official action from movement or from change in status ⟨wages were ~⟩ **c** : not available for present use ⟨~ capital⟩ — **fro·zen·ly** *adv* — **fro·zen·ness** \-ᵊn-(n)əs\ *n*
frozen daiquiri *n* : a daiquiri beaten with shaved ice to a slushy consistency
frozen food *n* : food that has been subjected to rapid freezing and is kept frozen until used
FRS *abbr* **1** Federal Reserve System **2** Fellow of the Royal Society
frt *abbr* freight
fruc·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌfrək-tə-fə-ˈkā-shən, ˌfrůk-\ *n* **1** : the forming or producing of fruit **2 a** : FRUIT 1d **b** : SPOROPHORE
fruc·ti·fy \ˈfrək-tə-ˌfī, ˈfrůk-\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *fructifien*, fr. MF *fructifier*, fr. L *fructificare*, fr. *fructus* fruit] *vi* : to bear fruit ⟨its seeds shall ~ —Amy Lowell⟩ ⟨no partnership can ~ without candor on both sides —D. M. Ogilvy⟩ ~ *vt* : to make fruitful or productive ⟨social philosophy *fructified* the polticial thinking of liberals at the end of the century —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩
fruc·tose \ˈfrək-ˌtōs, ˈfrük-, ˈfrůk-, -ˌtōz\ *n* **1** : a sugar $C_6H_{12}O_6$ known in three forms that are optically different with respect to polarized light **2** : the very sweet soluble levorotatory D-form of fructose that occurs esp. in fruit juices and honey — called also *levulose*
fruc·tu·ous \ˈfrək-chə-wəs, ˈfrůk-\ *adj* : FRUITFUL ⟨a ~ land⟩
fru·gal \ˈfrü-gəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *frugalis* virtuous, frugal, alter. of *frugi*, fr. dat. of *frug-*, *frux* fruit, value; akin to L *frui* to enjoy] : characterized by or reflecting economy in the expenditure of resources ***syn*** see SPARING ***ant*** wasteful — **fru·gal·i·ty** \früˈgal-ət-ē\ *n* — **fru·gal·ly** \ˈfrü-gə-lē\ *adv*
fru·giv·o·rous \früˈjiv-ə-rəs\ *adj* [L *frug-*, *frux* + E *-vorous*] : feeding on fruit
¹**fruit** \ˈfrüt\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *fructus* fruit, use, fr. *fructus*, pp. of *frui* to enjoy, have the use of — more at BROOK] **1 a** : a product of plant growth (as grain, vegetables, or cotton) ⟨the ~s of the field⟩ **b** (1) : the usu. edible reproductive body of a seed plant; *esp* : one having a sweet pulp associated with the seed ⟨the ~ of the tree⟩ (2) : a succulent plant part used chiefly in a dessert or sweet course **c** : a dish, quantity, or diet of fruits ⟨please pass the ~⟩ **d** : a product of fertilization in a plant with its modified envelopes or appendages; *specif* : the ripened ovary of a seed plant and its contents **2** : OFFSPRING, PROGENY **3 a** : the state of bearing fruit ⟨a tree in ~⟩ **b** : the effect or consequence of an action or operation : PRODUCT, RESULT ⟨the ~s of his labor⟩ **4** *slang* : a male homosexual — **fruit·ed** \-əd\ *adj*
²**fruit** *vi* : to bear fruit ~ *vt* : to cause to bear fruit
fruit·age \ˈfrüt-ij\ *n* **1 a** : the condition or process of bearing fruit **b** : FRUIT **2** : the product or result of an action
fruit bat *n* : any of a suborder (Megachiroptera) of large Old World fruit-eating bats of warm regions — called also *flying fox*
fruit·cake \ˈfrüt-ˌkāk\ *n* : a rich cake containing nuts, dried or candied fruits, and spices
fruit·er·er \ˈfrüt-ər-ər\ *n* [ME, modif. of MF *fruitier*, fr. *fruit*] : one that deals in fruit
fruit fly *n* : any of various small two-winged flies whose larvae feed on fruit or decaying vegetable matter
fruit·ful \ˈfrüt-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : yielding or producing fruit **b** : conducive to an abundant yield **2** : abundantly productive ***syn*** see FERTILE ***ant*** unfruitful, fruitless — **fruit·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **fruit·ful·ness** *n*
fruiting body *n* : a plant organ specialized for producing spores
fru·ition \früˈish-ən\ *n* [ME *fruicioun*, fr. MF or LL; MF *fruition*, fr. LL *fruition-*, *fruitio*, fr. L *fruitus*, alter. of *fructus*, pp.] **1** : plea-

surable use or possession : ENJOYMENT **2 a** : the state of bearing fruit **b** : REALIZATION, ACCOMPLISHMENT
fruit·less \'früt-ləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking or not bearing fruit **2** : productive of no good effect : UNSUCCESSFUL ***syn*** see FUTILE ***ant*** fruitful — **fruit·less·ly** *adv* — **fruit·less·ness** *n*
fruit·let \-lət\ *n* **1** : a small fruit **2** : a unit of a collective fruit
fruit sugar *n* : FRUCTOSE 2
fruity \'früt-ē\ *adj* **fruit·i·er; -est** **1 a** : relating to or resembling a fruit **b** : having the flavor of the unfermented fruit ⟨~ wine⟩ **2 a** : extremely effective, interesting, or enjoyable **b** : sweet or sentimental esp. to excess **3** *slang* **a** : CRAZY, SILLY **b** : HOMOSEXUAL
fru·men·ty \'frü-mən-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME, fr. MF *frumentee*, fr. *froment* grain, fr. L *frumentum*, fr. *fruī*] : a dish of wheat boiled in milk and usu. flavored with sugar, spice, and raisins
frump \'frəmp\ *n* [prob. fr. *frumple* (to wrinkle)] **1** : a dowdy unattractive girl or woman **2** : a staid, drab, old-fashioned person — **frump·ish** \'frəm-pish\ *adj*
frumpy \'frəm-pē\ *adj* **frump·i·er; -est** : generally uninteresting and unattractive : DRAB, DOWDY
¹frus·trate \'frəs-ˌtrāt\ *vt* **frus·trat·ed; frus·trat·ing** [ME *frustraten*, fr. L *frustratus*, pp. of *frustrare* to deceive, frustrate, fr. *frustra* in error, in vain; akin to L *fraus* fraud — more at FRAUD] **1 a** : to balk or defeat in an endeavor **b** : to induce feelings of discouragement in **2 a** : to make ineffectual : bring to nothing ⟨nagging daily cares that ~ a man's aspirations⟩ **b** : to make invalid or of no effect : NULLIFY
syn FRUSTRATE, THWART, FOIL, BAFFLE, BALK, CIRCUMVENT, OUTWIT *shared meaning element* : to come between a person and his aim or desire or to defeat another's plan ***ant*** fulfill
²frustrate *adj* : FRUSTRATED
frus·trat·ed *adj* **1** : balked or discouraged in some endeavor or purpose : DISAPPOINTED ⟨looked upon the critics as merely ~ writers⟩ **2** : filled with a sense of frustration : feeling deep insecurity, discouragement, or dissatisfaction ⟨learned not to resort to aggressiveness when ~ —Ashley Montagu⟩
frus·trat·ing \-ˌtrāt-iŋ\ *adj* : tending to produce or characterized by frustration ⟨the bungling attempt for fourteen ~ years . . . to make democracy work —W. L. Shirer⟩ — **frus·trat·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
frus·tra·tion \(ˌ)frəs-'trā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of frustrating **2 a** : the state or an instance of being frustrated : DISAPPOINTMENT **b** : a deep chronic sense or state of insecurity and dissatisfaction arising from unresolved problems or unfulfilled needs **3** : something that frustrates
frus·tule \'frəs-(ˌ)chü(ə)l, -(ˌ)t(y)ü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *frustulum*, dim. of *frustum*] : the 2-valved siliceous shell of a diatom
frus·tum \'frəs-təm\ *n, pl* **frustums** *or* **frus·ta** \-tə\ [NL, fr. L, piece, bit — more at BRUISE] : the part of a cone-shaped solid next to the base that is formed by cutting off the top by a plane parallel to the base; *also* : the part of a solid intersected between two usu. parallel planes


frustums

fru·tes·cent \frü-'tes-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *frutex* shrub + E *-escent*] : having or approaching the habit or appearance of a shrub : SHRUBBY
fru·ti·cose \'früt-i-ˌkōs\ *adj* [L *fruticosus*, fr. *frutic-*, *frutex* shrub; akin to OHG *broz* bud, OIr *broth* whisker] : having a shrubby bushy thallus with flattened or cylindrical branches ⟨~ lichens⟩ — compare CRUSTOSE, FOLIOSE
frwy *abbr* freeway
¹fry \'frī\ *vb* **fried; fry·ing** [ME *frien*, fr. OF *frire*, fr. L *frigere*; akin to Gk *phrygein* to roast, fry, Skt *bhṛjjati* he roasts] *vt* : to cook in a pan or on a griddle over a fire esp. with the use of fat ~ *vi* : to undergo frying
²fry *n, pl* **fries** **1** : a dish of something fried **2** : a social gathering or picnic where food is fried and eaten ⟨a fish ~⟩
³fry *n, pl* **fry** [ME, prob. fr. ONF *fri*, fr. OF *frier, froyer* to rub, spawn — more at FRAY] **1 a** : recently hatched fishes **b** : the young of other animals **2** : very small adult fishes **3** : members of a group or class : INDIVIDUALS ⟨small ~⟩ ⟨a great part of the earth is peopled with these ~ —Katherine Mansfield⟩
fry·er \'frī(-ə)r\ *n* : something intended for or used in frying: as **a** : a young chicken **b** : a deep utensil for frying foods
frying pan *n* : a metal pan with a handle that is used for frying foods — called also *fry pan* — **out of the frying pan into the fire** : clear of one difficulty only to fall into a greater one
FS *abbr* **1** filmstrip **2** Foreign Service
FSA *abbr* **1** Fellow of the Society of Actuaries **2** Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries
FSH *abbr* follicle-stimulating hormone
FSLIC *abbr* Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation
FSP *abbr* Food Stamp Program
f–stop \'ef-ˌstäp\ *n* : a camera lens aperture setting indicated by an f-number
ft *abbr* **1** feet; foot **2** fort
FT *abbr* free throw
FTC *abbr* Federal Trade Commission
fth *abbr* fathom
ft lb *abbr* foot-pound
F_2 layer \'ef-'tü-\ *n* : the upper of the two layers into which the F region of the ionosphere splits in the daytime at varying heights from about 150 to 250 miles above the earth
fubsy \'fəb-zē\ *adj* [obs. E *fubs* (chubby person)] : being chubby and somewhat squat
fuch·sia \'fyü-shə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Leonhard *Fuchs* †1566 G botanist] **1** : any of a genus (*Fuchsia*) of decorative shrubs of the evening-primrose family having showy nodding flowers usu. in deep pinks, reds, and purples **2** : a vivid reddish purple
fuch·sine *or* **fuch·sin** \'fyük-sən, -ˌsēn\ *n* [F *fuchsine*, prob. fr. NL *Fuchsia*; fr. its color] : a dye that is produced by oxidation of a mixture of aniline and toluidines and yields a brilliant bluish red

¹fuck \'fək\ *vb* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Norw dial. *fukka* to copulate, Sw dial. *focka* to copulate, strike, push, *fock* penis; perh. akin to L *pugnus* fist, *pungere* to prick, sting, Gk *pygmē* fist] *vi* : COPULATE — usu. considered obscene; sometimes used in the present participle as a meaningless intensive ~ *vt* : to engage in coitus with — usu. considered obscene
²fuck *n* : an act of copulation — usu. considered obscene
¹fu·coid \'fyü-ˌkȯid\ *adj* : relating to or resembling the rockweeds
²fucoid *n* : a fucoid seaweed or fossil
fu·cose \'fyü-ˌkōs, -ˌkōz\ *n* [ISV *fuc-* (fr. L *fucus*) + *-ose*] : an aldose sugar that occurs in bound form in the dextrorotatory D-form in various glycosides and in the levorotatory L-form in some brown algae and in mammalian polysaccharides typical of some blood groups
fu·co·xan·thin \ˌfyü-kō-'zan-thən\ *n* : a brown carotenoid pigment $C_{40}H_{60}O_6$ occurring esp. in the ova of brown algae
fu·cus \'fyü-kəs\ *n* [L, archil, rouge, fr. Gk *phykos* seaweed, archil, rouge, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *pūkh* antimony used as a cosmetic] **1** *obs* : a face paint **2** [NL, genus name, fr. L] : any of a genus (*Fucus*) of cartilaginous brown algae used in the kelp industry; *broadly* : any of various brown algae
fud \'fəd\ *n* : FUDDY-DUDDY
fud·dle \'fəd-ᵊl\ *vb* **fud·dled; fud·dling** \'fəd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [origin unknown] *vi* : to take part in a drinking bout : TIPPLE ~ *vt* **1** : to make drunk : INTOXICATE **2** : to make confused : MUDDLE
fud·dy–dud·dy \'fəd-ē-ˌdəd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [perh. redupl. of Sc *fuddy* short-tailed animal, tail, fr. *fud* tail] : one who is old-fashioned, pompous, unimaginative, or concerned about trifles — **fuddy-duddy** *adj*
¹fudge \'fəj\ *vb* **fudged; fudg·ing** [origin unknown] *vi* **1** : to exceed the proper bounds or limits of something ⟨feel that the author has *fudged* a little on the . . . rules for crime fiction —*Newsweek*⟩; *also* : CHEAT ⟨*fudging* on an exam⟩ **2** : to fail to live up to something : fail to perform as expected **3** : to avoid commitment : HEDGE ⟨the government's tendency to ~ on delicate matters of policy —Claire Sterling⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to devise as a substitute or without adequate basis : FAKE ⟨any chap . . . who could ~ up a yarn like that —Thomas Wood †1950⟩ **b** : EXAGGERATE, FALSIFY ⟨*fudged* the figures⟩ **2** : to fail to come to grips with ⟨has too often blessed war, condoned injustice, *fudged* the racial issue —M. A. Kapp⟩
²fudge *n* **1** : foolish nonsense — often used interjectionally to express annoyance, disappointment, or disbelief **2** : a soft creamy candy made typically of sugar, milk, butter, and flavoring
Fue·gian \f(y)ü-'ā-gē-ən, -'ā-j(ē-)ən\ *n* : a member of an American Indian people of Tierra del Fuego
¹fu·el \'fyü(-ə)l\ *n, often attrib* [ME *fewel*, fr. OF *fouaille*, fr. *feu* fire, fr. LL *focus*, fr. L, hearth — more at FOCUS] **1 a** : a material used to produce heat or power by burning **b** : nutritive material **c** : a material from which atomic energy can be liberated esp. in a reactor **2** : a source of sustenance or incentive
²fuel *vb* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** *vt* **1** : to provide with fuel **2** : SUPPORT, STIMULATE ⟨this movement is ~*ed* by massive grants-in-aid —Allen Schick⟩ ~ *vi* : to take in fuel — often used with *up*
fuel cell *n* : a cell that continuously changes the chemical energy of a fuel and oxidant to electrical energy
fu·el·er \'fyü-(ə-)lər\ *n* : a dragster that uses specially blended fuel rather than gasoline
fuel oil *n* : an oil that is used for fuel and that usu. has a higher flash point than kerosene
¹fug \'fəg\ *n* [prob. alter. of ²*fog*] : an odorous emanation; *esp* : the stuffy atmosphere of a poorly ventilated space — **fug·gy** \'fəg-ē\ *adj*
²fug *vb* **fugged; fug·ging** *vi* : to loll indoors in a stuffy atmosphere ~ *vt* : to make stuffy and odorous
fu·ga·cious \fyü-'gā-shəs\ *adj* [L *fugac-*, *fugax*, fr. *fugere*] **1** : lasting a short time : EVANESCENT **2** : disappearing before the usual time — used chiefly of plant parts (as stipules) other than floral organs — **fu·gac·i·ty** \-'gas-ət-ē\ *n*
fu·gal \'fyü-gəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being in the style of a musical fugue — **fu·gal·ly** \-gə-lē\ *adv*
-fuge \ˌfyüj\ *n comb form* [F, fr. LL *-fuga*, fr. L *fugare* to put to flight, fr. *fuga*] : one that drives away ⟨insecti*fuge*⟩
¹fu·gi·tive \'fyü-jət-iv\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *fugitif*, fr. L *fugitivus*, fr. *fugitus*, pp. of *fugere* to flee; akin to Gk *pheugein* to flee and prob. to OHG *biogan* to bend — more at BOW] **1** : running away or intending flight ⟨~ slave⟩ ⟨~ debtor⟩ **2** : moving from place to place : WANDERING **3 a** : being of short duration **b** : difficult to grasp or retain : ELUSIVE **c** : likely to evaporate, deteriorate, change, fade, or disappear **4** : being of transient interest ***syn*** see TRANSIENT — **fu·gi·tive·ly** *adv* — **fu·gi·tive·ness** *n*
²fugitive *n* **1** : one who flees or tries to escape; *specif* : REFUGEE **2** : something elusive or hard to find
fu·gle \'fyü-gəl\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *fugleman*] *archaic* : to act as fugleman
fu·gle·man \'fyü-gəl-mən\ *n* [modif. of G *flügelmann*, fr. *flügel* wing + *mann* man] **1** : a trained soldier formerly posted in front of a line of men at drill to serve as a model in their exercises **2** : one who heads a group; *specif* : a political manager
fugue \'fyüg\ *n* [prob. fr. It *fuga* flight, fugue, fr. L, flight, fr. *fugere*] **1** : a polyphonic musical composition in which one or two themes are repeated or imitated by successively entering voices and contrapuntally developed in a continuous interweaving of the voice parts **2** : a disturbed state of consciousness in which the one affected performs acts of which he appears to be conscious but of

which on recovery he has no recollection — **fugue** *vb* — **fugu·ist** \'fyü-gəst\ *n*

füh·rer *or* **fueh·rer** \'fyůr-ər, 'fir-\ *n* [G *führer* leader, guide, fr. MHG *vüerer* bearer, fr. *vüeren* to lead, bear, fr. OHG *fuoren* to lead; akin to OE *faran* to go — more at FARE] **1 a** : LEADER 2c(5) — used chiefly of the leader of the German Nazis **b** : a lesser Nazi party official **2** : a leader exercising tyrannical authority

fu·ji \'f(y)ü-(,)jē\ *n* [*Fuji* mountain, Japan] : a spun silk clothing fabric in plain weave orig. made in Japan

1-ful \fəl\ *adj suffix, sometimes* **-ful·ler;** *sometimes* **-ful·lest** [ME, fr. OE, fr. *full*, adj] **1** : full of ⟨event*ful*⟩ **2** : characterized by ⟨peace*ful*⟩ **3** : having the qualities of ⟨master*ful*⟩ **4** : tending, given, or liable to ⟨mourn*ful*⟩

2-ful \ˌfůl\ *n suffix* : number or quantity that fills or would fill ⟨room*ful*⟩

Fu·la *or* **Fu·lah** \'fü-lə\ *n, pl* **Fula** *or* **Fulas** *or* **Fulah** *or* **Fulahs** **1** : a Sudanese people of African Negroid stock and Mediterranean Caucasoid admixture **2** : a member of the Fula people

Fu·la·ni \'fü-ˌlän-ē, fü-'\ *n, pl* **Fulani** *or* **Fulanis** **1 a** : FULA 1; *esp* : the Fula of northern Nigeria and adjacent areas **b** : a member of the Fulani people **2** : the language of the Fula people

ful·crum \'fůl-krəm, 'fəl-\ *n, pl* **fulcrums** *or* **ful·cra** \-krə\ [LL, fr. L, bedpost, fr. *fulcire* to prop — more at BALK] **1 a** : PROP: *specif* : the support about which a lever turns **b** : one that supplies capability for action **2** : a part of an animal that serves as a hinge or support

ful·fill *or* **ful·fil** \fůl-'fil\ *vt* **ful·filled; ful·fill·ing** [ME *fulfillen*, fr. OE *fullfyllan*, fr. *full* + *fyllan* to fill] **1** *archaic* : to make full : FILL ⟨her subtle, warm, and golden breath . . . ~*s* him with beatitude —Alfred Tennyson⟩ **2 a** : to put into effect **b** : to bring to an end **c** : to measure up to : SATISFY **3 a** : to convert into reality **b** : to develop the full potentialities of ***syn*** see PERFORM, SATISFY — **ful·fill·er** *n* — **ful·fill·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

ful·gent \'fül-jənt, 'fəl-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *fulgent-*, *fulgens*, prp. of *fulgēre* to shine; akin to L *flagrare* to burn — more at BLACK] : dazzlingly bright — **ful·gent·ly** *adv*

ful·gu·rant \'fůl-g(y)ə-rənt, 'fůl-jə-, 'fəl-\ *adj* : flashing like lightning : DAZZLING

ful·gu·rate \-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *fulguratus*, pp. of *fulgurare* to flash with lightning, fr. *fulgur* lightning, fr. *fulgēre*] : to emit flashes of ⟨blue eyes that *fulgurated* . . . terror, love, or hate —*New Yorker*⟩ — **ful·gu·ra·tion** \ˌfůl-g(y)ə-'rā-shən, ˌfůl-jə-, ˌfəl-\ *n*

ful·gu·rite \'fůl-g(y)ə-ˌrīt, 'fůl-jə-, 'fəl-\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *fulgur*] : an often tubular vitrified crust produced by the fusion of sand or rock by lightning

ful·gu·rous \-rəs\ *adj* [L *fulgur*] : emitting flashes of or like lightning

ful·ham \'fůl-əm\ *n* [alter. of earlier *fullan*, perh. fr. *full* + *one*] *archaic* : a loaded die

fu·lig·i·nous \fyů-'lij-ə-nəs\ *adj* [LL *fuliginosus*, fr. L *fuligin-*, *fuligo* soot; akin to L *fumus* smoke — more at FUME] **1 a** : SOOTY **b** : OBSCURE, MURKY **2** : having a dark or dusky color — **fu·lig·i·nous·ly** *adv*

1full \'fůl\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *fol* full, L *plenus* full, *plēre* to fill, Gk *plērēs* full, *plēthein* to be full] **1** : containing as much or as many as is possible or normal ⟨a bin ~ of corn⟩ **2 a** : complete esp. in detail, number, or duration ⟨a ~ report⟩ ⟨his ~ share⟩ ⟨gone a ~ hour⟩ **b** : lacking restraint, check, or qualification ⟨~ retreat⟩ ⟨~ support⟩ **c** : having all distinguishing characteristics : enjoying all authorized rights and privileges ⟨~ member⟩ ⟨~ professor⟩ **d** : not lacking in any essential : PERFECT ⟨in ~ control of his senses⟩ **3 a** : being at the highest or greatest degree : MAXIMUM ⟨~ strength⟩ ⟨~ speed⟩ **b** : being at the height of development ⟨~ bloom⟩ **4** : rounded in outline ⟨a ~ figure⟩ **5 a** : possessing or containing a great number or amount — used with *of* ⟨a room ~ of pictures⟩ **b** : having an abundance of material esp. in the form of gathered, pleated, or flared parts ⟨a ~ skirt⟩ **c** : rich in experience ⟨a ~ life⟩ **6 a** : satisfied esp. with food or drink **b** : large enough to satisfy ⟨a ~ meal⟩ **7** *archaic* : completely weary ⟨I am ~ of the burnt offerings of rams . . . and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs —Isa 1:11 (AV)⟩ **8** : having both parents in common ⟨~ sisters⟩ **9** : having volume or depth of sound ⟨~ tones⟩ **10** : completely occupied esp. with a thought or plan ⟨~ of his own concerns⟩ **11** : possessing a rich or pronounced quality ⟨a food of ~ flavor⟩ **12** — used as an intensive ⟨wound up winning by a ~ four strokes —William Johnson⟩ — **full·ness** *also* **ful·ness** \'fůl-nəs\ *n*

syn FULL, COMPLETE, PLENARY, REPLETE *shared meaning element* : containing all that is wanted or needed or possible ***ant*** empty

2full *adv* **1 a** : VERY, EXTREMELY ⟨knew ~ well he had lied to me⟩ **1 b** : ENTIRELY ⟨swung ~ around —Morley Callaghan⟩ **2 a** : EXACTLY ⟨~ in the center of the sacred wood —Joseph Addison⟩ **b** : STRAIGHT, SQUARELY ⟨hit him ~ in the face⟩

3full *n* **1 a** : the utmost extent ⟨enjoy to the ~⟩ **b** : the highest or fullest state or degree ⟨the ~ of the moon⟩ **2** : the requisite or complete amount ⟨paid in ~⟩

4full *vi, of the moon* : to become full ~ *vt* : to make full in sewing

5full *vt* [ME *fullen*, fr. MF *fouler*, fr. (assumed) VL *fullare*, fr. L *fullo* fuller] : to shrink and thicken (woolen cloth) by moistening, heating, and pressing

full·back \'fůl-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : an offensive football back used primarily for line plunges and blocking **2** : a primarily defensive player usu. stationed nearest the defended goal (as in soccer, field hockey, or rugby)

full blood *n* **1** \'fůl-'bləd\ : descent from parents both of one pure breed **2** \-ˌbləd\ : an individual of full blood

full–blood·ed \'fůl-'bləd-əd\ *adj* **1** : of unmixed ancestry : PUREBRED **2** : FLORID, RUDDY ⟨of ~ face⟩ **3** : FORCEFUL ⟨~ prose style⟩ **4 a** : lacking no particulars : GENUINE **b** : containing fullness of substance : RICH — **full–blood·ed·ness** *n*

full–blown \-'blōn\ *adj* **1 a** : being at the height of bloom **b** : fully mature **2** : possessing all the usual or necessary features ⟨now at least a general philosophy, if not a ~ ideology, is emerging —W. H. Jones⟩

full–bod·ied \-'bäd-ēd\ *adj* **1** : having a large body **2** : marked by richness and fullness esp. of flavor ⟨a ~ wine⟩ **3** : having importance, significance, or meaningfulness ⟨~ study of literature⟩

full circle *adv* : through a series of developments that lead back to the original source, position, or situation or to a complete reversal of the original position — usu. used in the phrase *come full circle*

full–dress *adj* **1** : complete down to the last formal detail ⟨a ~ rehearsal⟩ **2** : carried out by all possible means

full dress *n* : the style of dress prescribed for ceremonial or formal social occasions

1full·er \'fůl-ər\ *n* : one that fulls cloth

2ful·ler \'fůl-ər\ *n* [*fuller* (to form a groove in)] : a blacksmithing hammer for grooving and spreading iron

fuller's earth *n* : an earthy substance that consists chiefly of clay mineral but lacks plasticity and that is used as an adsorbent, a filter medium, and a carrier for catalysts

ful·ler's teasel *n* : TEASEL 1a

full–fash·ioned \'fůl-'fash-ənd\ *adj* : employing or produced by a knitting process for shaping to conform to body lines ⟨~ hosiery⟩

full–fledged \-'flejd\ *adj* **1** : fully developed : TOTAL, COMPLETE ⟨a ~ debate⟩ **2** : having full plumage **3** : having attained complete status ⟨~ lawyer⟩

full house *n* : a poker hand containing three of a kind and a pair — see POKER illustration

full–length \'fůl-'leŋ(k)th\ *adj* **1** : showing or adapted to the entire length esp. of the human figure ⟨a ~ mirror⟩ ⟨a ~ dress⟩ **2** : having a length as great as that which is normal or standard for an object of its kind ⟨a ~ play⟩

full marks *n pl, Brit* : due credit or commendation

full moon *n* : the moon with its whole apparent disk illuminated

full·mouthed \'fůl-'maůthd, -'maůtht\ *adj* **1** : having a full mouth; *esp* : having a full complement of teeth **2** : uttered with full power or sound : LOUD

full nelson *n* : a wrestling hold in which both arms are thrust under the corresponding arms of an opponent and the hands clasped behind the opponent's head — compare HALF NELSON

full–scale \-'skā(ə)l\ *adj* **1** : identical to an original in proportion and size ⟨~ drawing⟩ **2 a** : involving full use of available resources ⟨a ~ biography⟩ **b** : TOTAL, COMPLETE ⟨a ~ musical renaissance —*Current Biog.*⟩

full–size \-'sīz\ *adj* **1** : having the usual or normal size of its kind **2** : having the dimensions 54 inches by 75 inches — used of a bed; compare KING-SIZE, QUEEN-SIZE, TWIN-SIZE

full stop *n* : PERIOD 4a

full tilt *adv* [*2tilt*] : at high speed

full–time *adj* : employed for or involving full time ⟨~ employees⟩ — **full–time** *adv*

full time *n* : the amount of time considered the normal or standard amount for working during a given period

ful·ly \'fůl-(l)ē\ *adv* **1** : in a full manner or degree : COMPLETELY **2** : at least ⟨~ nine tenths of us⟩

ful·mar \'fůl-mər, -ˌmär\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *fūlmār* fulmar, fr. *fūll* foul + *mār* gull] : an arctic seabird (*Fulmarus glacialis*) closely related to the petrels; *also* : any of several related birds of southern seas

ful·mi·nant \'fůl-mə-nənt, 'fəl-\ *adj* : FULMINATING 3

1ful·mi·nate \-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [ME *fulminaten*, fr. ML *fulminatus*, pp. of *fulminare*, fr. L, to flash with lightning, strike with lightning, fr. *fulmin-*, *fulmen* lightning; akin to L *flagrare* to burn — more at BLACK] *vt* **1** : to utter or send out with denunciation **2** : to cause to explode ~ *vi* **1** : to send forth censures or invectives **2** : to make a sudden loud noise : EXPLODE — **ful·mi·na·tion** \ˌfůl-mə-'nā-shən, ˌfəl-\ *n* — **ful·mi·na·tor** \'fůl-mə-ˌnāt-ər, 'fəl-\ *n*

2fulminate *n* [*fulminic acid*] : an often explosive salt (as mercury fulminate) containing the radical CNO

ful·mi·nat·ing *adj* **1** : exploding with a vivid flash **2** : hurling denunciations or menaces **3** : coming on suddenly with great severity ⟨~ infection⟩

ful·mine \'fůl-mən, 'fəl-\ *vb, archaic* : FULMINATE

ful·some \'fůl-səm\ *adj* [ME *fulsom* copious, cloying, fr. *full* + *-som* -some] **1** : characterized by abundance : COPIOUS ⟨describes in ~ detail —G. N. Shuster⟩ **2** : offensive to the senses or to moral or aesthetic sensibility : DISGUSTING **3 a** : excessively complimentary or flattering : LAVISH ⟨an admiration whose extent I did not express, lest I be thought ~ —A. J. Liebling⟩ **b** : OBSEQUIOUS **4** : exceeding the bounds of good taste : OVERDONE ⟨the ~ chromium glitter of the escalators dominating the central hall — Lewis Mumford⟩ — **ful·some·ly** *adv* — **ful·some·ness** *n*

ful·vous \'fůl-vəs, 'fəl-\ *adj* [L *fulvus*; perh. akin to L *flavus* yellow — more at BLUE] : of a dull brownish yellow : TAWNY

Fu Man·chu mustache \ˌfü-(ˌ)man-'chü-\ *n* [*Fu Manchu*, Chinese villain in stories by "Sax Rohmer" (A. S. Ward †1955)] : a long mustache with ends that turn down to the chin

fu·ma·rase \'fyü-mə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes the interconversion (as in the Krebs cycle) of fumaric acid and malic acid or their salts

fu·ma·rate \-ˌrāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of fumaric acid

fu·mar·ic acid \fyů-ˌmar-ik-\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Fumaria*, genus of herbs, fr. LL, fumitory, fr. L *fumus*] : a crystalline acid $C_4H_4O_4$ found in various plants or made synthetically and used esp. in making resins

fu·ma·role \'fyü-mə-ˌrōl\ *n* [It *fumarola*, modif. of LL *fumariolum*, fr. L *fumarium* smoke chamber for aging wine, fr. *fumus* fume] : a hole in a volcanic region from which hot gases and vapors issue — **fu·ma·rol·ic** \ˌfyü-mə-'rō-lik\ *adj*

1fum·ble \'fəm-bəl\ *vb* **fum·bled; fum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *fumla* to fumble] *vi* **1 a** : to grope for or handle something clumsily or aimlessly **b** : to make awkward attempts to do or find something ⟨*fumbled* in his pocket for a coin⟩ **c** : to search by trial and error **d** : BLUNDER **2** : to feel one's way or move awkwardly **3 a** : to drop or juggle or fail to play cleanly a grounder **b** : to lose hold of a football while handling or running with it ~ *vt* **1** : to bring about by clumsy manipulation

2 a : to feel or handle clumsily **b** : to deal with in a blundering way : BUNGLE **3** : to make (one's way) in a clumsy manner **4 a** : MISPLAY ⟨~ a grounder⟩ **b** : to lose hold of (a football) while handling or running — **fum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n* — **fum·bling·ly** \-b(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv*

²fumble *n* **1** : an act or instance of fumbling **2** : a fumbled ball

¹fume \'fyüm\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *fum*, fr. L *fumus*; akin to OHG *toumen* to be fragrant, Gk *thymos* mind, spirit] **1 a** : a smoke, vapor, or gas esp. when irritating or offensive ⟨engine exhaust ~*s*⟩ **b** : an often noxious suspension of particles in a gas (as air) **2** : something (as an emotion) that impairs one's reasoning ⟨sometimes his head gets a little hot with the ~*s* of patriotism —Matthew Arnold⟩ **3** : a state of excited irritation or anger — usu. used in the phrase *in a fume* — **fumy** \'fyü-mē\ *adj*

²fume *vb* **fumed; fum·ing** *vt* **1** : to expose to or treat with fumes **2** : to give off in fumes ⟨*fuming* thick black smoke⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to emit fumes **b** : to be in a state of excited irritation or anger ⟨he fretted and *fumed* over the delay⟩ **2** : to rise in or as if in fumes

fu·mi·gant \'fyü-mi-gənt\ *n* : a substance used in fumigating

fu·mi·gate \'fyü-mə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *fumigatus*, pp. of *fumigare*, fr. *fumus* + *-igare* (akin to L *agere* to drive) — more at AGENT] : to apply smoke, vapor, or gas to esp. for the purpose of disinfecting or of destroying pests — **fu·mi·ga·tion** \ˌfyü-mə-'gā-shən\ *n* — **fu·mi·ga·tor** \'fyü-mə-ˌgāt-ər\ *n*

fu·mi·to·ry \'fyü-mə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n* [ME *fumeterre*, fr. MF, fr. ML *fumus terrae*, lit., smoke of the earth, fr. L *fumus* + *terrae*, gen. of *terra* earth — more at TERRACE] : any of a genus (*Fumaria* of the family Fumariaceae, the fumitory family) of erect or climbing herbs; *esp* : a common European herb (*F. officinalis*)

¹fun \'fən\ *n* [E dial. *fun* to hoax, perh. alter. of ME *fonnen*, fr. *fonne* dupe] **1** : what provides amusement or enjoyment; *specif* : playful often boisterous action or speech ⟨a lively person full of ~⟩ **2** : a mood for finding or making amusement ⟨the teasing was all in ~⟩ **3 a** : AMUSEMENT, ENJOYMENT ⟨sickness takes all the ~ out of life⟩ **b** : derisive jest : SPORT, RIDICULE ⟨made him a figure of ~⟩ **4** : violent or excited activity or argument ⟨let a snake loose in the classroom; then the ~ began⟩

syn FUN, JEST, SPORT, GAME, PLAY *shared meaning element* : action or speech that provides amusement or arouses laughter

²fun *vi* **funned; fun·ning** : to indulge in banter or play : JOKE

³fun *adj* : providing entertainment, amusement, or enjoyment ⟨a ~ party⟩ ⟨a ~ person to be with⟩

fu·nam·bu·lism \fyü-'nam-byə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [L *funambulus* rope-walker, fr. *funis* rope + *ambulare* to walk] **1** : tightrope walking **2** : a show esp. of mental agility — **fu·nam·bu·list** \-ləst\ *n*

fun and games *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : light amusement : DIVERSION

¹func·tion \'fəŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [L *function-*, *functio* performance, fr. *functus*, pp. of *fungi* to perform; prob. akin to Skt *bhuñkte* he enjoys] **1** : professional or official position : OCCUPATION **2** : the action for which a person or thing is specially fitted or used or for which a thing exists **3** : one of a group of related actions contributing to a larger action; *esp* : the normal and specific contribution of a bodily part to the economy of a living organism **4** : an impressive, elaborate, or formal ceremony or social gathering **5 a** : a mathematical correspondence that assigns exactly one element of one set to each element of the same or another set **b** : a quality, trait, or fact dependent on and varying with another **c** : SENTENTIAL FUNCTION — **func·tion·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

syn **1** FUNCTION, OFFICE, DUTY, PROVINCE *shared meaning element* : the acts or operations expected of a person or thing. FUNCTION, referable to anything living, material, or constructed, implies a definite end or purpose that the one in question serves or a particular kind of work it is intended to perform ⟨the *function* of language is two-fold: to communicate emotion and to give information —Aldous Huxley⟩ ⟨the *function* of a plumbing system basically is to provide and carry away water⟩ OFFICE is typically applied to the function or service expected of a person by reason of his trade or profession or his special relationship to others ⟨it is the proper *office* of a parent to guide and correct his children⟩ DUTY applies to a task or responsibility imposed by one's occupation, rank, status, or calling ⟨the new cook performed her *duties* well⟩ ⟨it is the judicial *duty* of the court, to examine the whole case —R. B. Taney⟩ PROVINCE applies to a function, office, or duty that naturally or logically falls to one ⟨nursing does not belong to a man; it is not his *province* —Jane Austen⟩

2 see POWER

²function *vi* **func·tioned; func·tion·ing** \-sh(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to have a function : SERVE ⟨an attributive noun ~*s* as an adjective⟩ **2** : to be in action : OPERATE ⟨a government ~*s* through numerous divisions⟩

func·tion·al \'fəŋ(k)-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, connected with, or being a function **b** : affecting physiological or psychological functions but not organic structure ⟨~ heart disease⟩ **2** : used to contribute to the development or maintenance of a larger whole ⟨~ and practical school courses⟩; *also* : designed or developed chiefly from the point of view of use ⟨~ clothing⟩ **3** : performing or able to perform a regular function **4** : placing related functions (as in an industry) under the direction of a specialist — **func·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

functional calculus *n* : PREDICATE CALCULUS

functional group *n* : a characteristic reactive unit of a chemical compound

functional illiterate *n* : a person having had some schooling but not meeting a minimum standard of literacy

func·tion·al·ism \'fəŋ(k)-shnə-ˌliz-əm, -shən-ᵊl-ˌiz-\ *n* **1** : a philosophy of design (as in architecture) holding that form should be adapted to use, material, and structure **2** : a theory that stresses the interdependence of the patterns and institutions of a society and their interaction in maintaining cultural and social unity **3** : a doctrine or practice that emphasizes practical utility or functional relations — **func·tion·al·ist** \-shnə-ləst, -shən-ᵊl-əst\ *n* — **functionalist** *or* **func·tion·al·is·tic** \ˌfən(k)-shnə-'lis-tik, -shən-ᵊl-'is-\ *adj*

functional shift *n* : the process by which a word or form comes to be used in a second or third grammatical function ⟨the *functional shift* of "go" from verb to adjective as in "all systems are go"⟩

func·tion·ary \'fəŋ(k)-shə-ˌner-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** **1** : one who serves in a certain function **2** : one holding office in a government or political party

function word *n* : a word (as a preposition, auxiliary verb, or conjunction) expressing primarily grammatical relationship

func·tor \'fəŋ(k)-tər\ *n* **1** : something that performs a function or an operation **2** : a sign for a nonpropositional function

¹fund \'fənd\ *n* [L *fundus* bottom, piece of landed property — more at BOTTOM] **1** : an available quantity of material or intangible resources : SUPPLY **2 a** : a sum of money or other resources whose principal or interest is set apart for a specific objective **b** : money on deposit on which checks or drafts can be drawn — usu. used in pl. **c** : CAPITAL **d** *pl* : the stock of the British national debt — usu. used with *the* **3** *pl* : available pecuniary resources **4** : an organization administering a special fund

²fund *vt* **1 a** : to make provision of resources for discharging the interest or principal of **b** : to provide funds for ⟨a science program federally ~*ed*⟩ **2** : to place in a fund : ACCUMULATE **3** : to convert into a debt that is payable either at a distant date or at no definite date and that bears a fixed interest ⟨~ a floating debt⟩

³fund *abbr* fundamental

fun·da·ment \'fən-də-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *fondement*, fr. L *fundamentum*, fr. *fundare* to found, fr. *fundus*] **1 a** : the base on which a structure is erected **b** : an underlying ground, theory, or principle **2 a** : BUTTOCKS **b** : ANUS **3** : the part of a land surface that has not been altered by human activities

¹fun·da·men·tal \ˌfən-də-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : serving as an original or generating source : PRIMARY ⟨a discovery ~ to scientific progress⟩ **b** : serving as a basis supporting existence or determining essential structure or function : BASIC **2 a** : of or relating to essential structure, function, or facts : RADICAL ⟨~ change⟩; *specif* : of or dealing with general principles rather than practical application ⟨~ science⟩ **b** : adhering to fundamentalism **3 a** *of a musical chord or its position* : having the root in the bass **b** : of, relating to, or produced by the lowest component of a complex vibration **4** : of central importance : PRINCIPAL ⟨~ purpose⟩ **5** : belonging to one's innate or ingrained characteristics : DEEP-ROOTED ⟨hard to spoil his ~ good humor⟩ ***syn*** see ESSENTIAL — **fun·da·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

²fundamental *n* **1** : something fundamental; *esp* : one of the minimum constituents without which a thing or a system would not be what it is **2 a** : the prime tone of a harmonic series **b** : the root of a chord **3** : the harmonic component of a complex wave that has the lowest frequency and commonly the greatest amplitude

fun·da·men·tal·ism \-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** *often cap* : a movement in 20th century Protestantism emphasizing the literally interpreted Bible as fundamental to Christian life and teaching **b** : the beliefs of this movement **c** : adherence to such beliefs **2** : a movement or attitude stressing strict and literal adherence to a set of basic principles

fun·da·men·tal·ist \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : an adherent of fundamentalism — **fundamentalist** *adj* — **fun·da·men·tal·is·tic** \-ˌment-ᵊl-'is-tik\ *adj*

fundamental law *n* : the organic or basic law of a political unit as distinguished from legislative acts; *specif* : CONSTITUTION

fundamental particle *n* : ELEMENTARY PARTICLE

fundamental tissue *n* : plant tissue other than dermal and vascular tissues that consists typically of relatively undifferentiated parenchymatous and supportive cells

fun·dic \'fən-dik\ *adj* : of or relating to a fundus

fun·dus \'fən-dəs\ *n, pl* **fun·di** \-ˌdī, -ˌdē\ [NL, fr. L, bottom] : the bottom of or part opposite the aperture of the internal surface of a hollow organ: as **a** : the greater curvature of the stomach **b** : the lower back part of the bladder **c** : the large upper end of the uterus **d** : the part of the eye opposite the pupil

¹fu·ner·al \'fyün-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *funeralis*, fr. L *funer-*, *funus* funeral (n.); perh. akin to ON *deyja* to die — more at DIE] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a funeral **2** : FUNEREAL 2

²funeral *n* **1** : the observances held for a dead person usu. before burial or cremation **2** *chiefly dial* : a funeral sermon **3** : a funeral party in transit **4** : an end of something's existence **5** : a matter of concern to one : RESPONSIBILITY ⟨if you get lost in the desert, that's your ~⟩

funeral director *n* : one whose profession is the management of funerals and who is usu. an embalmer

funeral home *n* : an establishment with facilities for the preparation of the dead for burial or cremation, for the viewing of the body, and for funerals — called also *funeral parlor*

fu·ner·ary \'fyü-nə-ˌrer-ē\ *adj* : of, used for, or associated with burial ⟨a pharaoh's ~ chamber⟩

fu·ne·re·al \fyù-'nir-ē-əl\ *adj* [L *funereus*, fr. *funer-*, *funus*] **1** : of or relating to a funeral **2** : befitting or suggesting a funeral (as in solemnity) — **fu·ne·re·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

fun·fair \'fən-ˌfa(ə)r, -ˌfe(ə)r\ *n, chiefly Brit* : AMUSEMENT PARK

fun·gal \'fəŋ-gəl\ *adj* : FUNGOUS

fungi- *comb form* [L *fungus*] : fungus ⟨*fungi*form⟩

¹fun·gi·ble \'fən-jə-bəl\ *n* : something that is fungible — usu. used in pl.

²fungible *adj* [NL *fungibilis*, fr. L *fungi* to perform — more at FUNCTION] **1** : of such a kind or nature that one specimen or part

may be used in place of another specimen or equal part in the satisfaction of an obligation **2** : INTERCHANGEABLE — **fun·gi·bil·i·ty** \ˌfən-jə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

fun·gi·cid·al \ˌfən-jə-ˈsīd-ᵊl, ˌfən-gə-\ *adj* : destroying fungi; *broadly* : inhibiting the growth of fungi — **fun·gi·cid·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

fun·gi·cide \ˈfən-jə-ˌsīd, ˈfəŋ-gə-\ *n* [ISV] : an agent that destroys fungi or inhibits their growth

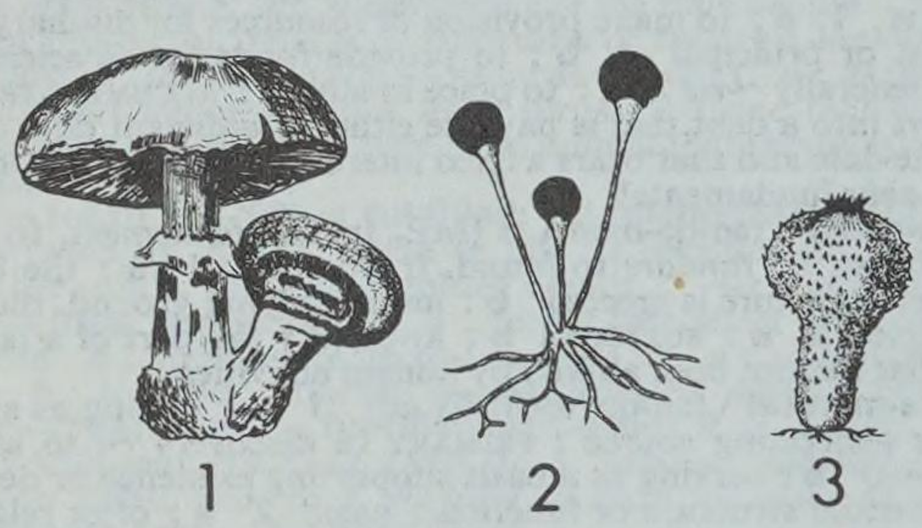
fun·gi·form \ˈfən-jə-ˌfȯrm, ˈfəŋ-gə-\ *adj* : shaped like a mushroom

fun·go \ˈfəŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **fungoes** [origin unknown] : a fly ball hit esp. for practice fielding by a player who tosses a ball in the air and hits it as it comes down

fun·goid \ˈfəŋ-ˌgȯid\ *adj* : resembling, characteristic of, or being a fungus — **fungoid** *n*

fun·gous \ˈfəŋ-gəs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of fungi **2** : caused by a fungus

fun·gus \ˈfəŋ-gəs\ *n, pl* **fun·gi** \ˈfən-ˌjī, ˈfəŋ-ˌgī\ *also* **fun·gus·es** \ˈfəŋ-gə-səz\ *often attrib* [L] **1** : any of a major group (Fungi) of saprophytic and parasitic lower plants that lack chlorophyll and include molds, rusts, mildews, smuts, mushrooms, and usu. bacteria **2** : infection with a fungus



fungi 1: *1* meadow mushroom, *2* rhizopus, *3* puffball

fun house *n* : a building in an amusement park that contains various devices designed to startle or amuse

[1]fu·nic·u·lar \fyü-ˈnik-yə-lər, fə-\ *adj* [L *funiculus* small rope] **1** : dependent on the tension of a cord or cable **2** : having the form of or associated with a cord **3** [NL *funiculus*] : of, relating to, or being a funiculus

[2]funicular *n* : a cable railway ascending a mountain; *esp* : one in which an ascending car counterbalances a descending car

fu·nic·u·lus \-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *funis* rope] **1** : a bodily structure suggesting a cord: as **a** : UMBILICAL CORD **b** : a bundle of nerve fibers **c** : SPERMATIC CORD **2** : the stalk of a plant ovule

[1]funk \ˈfəŋk\ *n* [prob. fr. obs. Flem *fonck*] **1 a** : a state of paralyzing fear **b** : a depressed state of mind **2** [*[3]funk*] : one that funks : COWARD ⟨must be a bit of a ~ . . . to be afraid of a poor old lady —L. P. Hartley⟩

[2]funk *n* [back-formation fr. *[2]funky*] : funky music

[3]funk *vi* : to become frightened and shrink back ~ *vt* **1** : to be afraid of : DREAD **2** : to shrink from undertaking or facing

funk hole *n* **1** : DUGOUT 2 **2** : a place of safe retreat

fun·kia \ˈfəŋ-kē-ə, ˈfüŋ-\ *n* [NL, genus name fr. C. H. *Funck* †1839 G botanist] : PLANTAIN LILY

[1]funky \ˈfəŋ-kē\ *adj* : being in a state of funk : PANICKY

[2]funky *adj* **funk·i·er; -est** [*funk* (offensive odor)] **1** : having an offensive odor : FOUL **2** : having an earthy, unsophisticated style and feeling; *esp* : having the style and feeling of blues ⟨~ piano playing⟩ **3** : having an earthily sexual quality — **funk·i·ness** *n*

[1]fun·nel \ˈfən-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *fonel*, fr. OProv *fonilh*, fr. ML *fundibulum*, short for L *infundibulum*, fr. *infundere* to pour in, fr. *in-* + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] **1 a** : a utensil that is usu. a hollow cone with a tube extending from the smaller end and that is designed to catch and direct a downward flow **b** : something shaped like a funnel **2** : a stack or flue for the escape of smoke or for ventilation

[2]funnel *vb* **-neled** *also* **-nelled; -nel·ing** *also* **-nel·ling** *vi* **1** : to have or take the shape of a funnel **2** : to pass through or as if through a funnel ~ *vt* **1** : to form in the shape of a funnel ⟨~*ed* his hands and shouted through them⟩ **2** : to move to a focal point or into a central channel ⟨contributions were ~*ed* into one account⟩

fun·nel·form \ˈfən-ᵊl-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : INFUNDIBULIFORM ⟨~ flowers⟩

[1]fun·ny \ˈfən-ē\ *adj* **fun·ni·er; -est** **1 a** : affording light mirth and laughter : AMUSING **b** : seeking or intended to amuse : FACETIOUS **2** : differing from the ordinary in a suspicious way : QUEER **3** : involving trickery or deception ⟨told his prisoner not to try anything ~⟩ ***syn*** see LAUGHABLE — **fun·ni·ly** \ˈfən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **fun·ni·ness** \ˈfən-ē-nəs\ *n* — **funny** *adv*

[2]funny *n, pl* **funnies** : a comic strip or comic section of a periodical — usu. used in pl.

funny bone *n* [fr. the tingling felt when it is struck] **1** : the place at the back of the elbow where the ulnar nerve rests against a prominence of the humerus **2** : a sense of humor ⟨tickled his *funny bone*⟩

funny book *n* : COMIC BOOK

funny car *n* : a specialized dragster that has a one-piece molded body resembling the body of a mass-produced car

fun·ny·man \ˈfən-ē-ˌman\ *n* : one noted for humor : COMEDIAN 2

funny paper *n* : a comic section of a newspaper

[1]fur \ˈfər\ *vb* **furred; fur·ring** [ME *furren*, fr. MF *fourrer*, fr. OF *forrer*, fr. *fuerre* sheath, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *fuotar* sheath; akin to Gk *pōy* herd, Skt *pāti* he protects] *vt* **1** : to cover, line, trim, or clothe with fur **2** : to coat or clog as if with fur **3** : to apply furring to ~ *vi* : to become coated or clogged as if with fur

[2]fur *n, often attrib* **1** : a piece of the dressed pelt of an animal used to make, trim, or line wearing apparel **2** : an article of clothing made of or with fur **3** : the hairy coat of a mammal esp. when fine, soft, and thick; *also* : such a coat with the skin **4** : a coating resembling fur: as **a** : a coat of epithelial debris on the tongue **b** : the thick pile of a fabric (as chenille) — **fur·less** \ˈfər-ləs\ *adj*

[3]fur *abbr* furlong

fu·ran \ˈfyù(ə)r-ˌan, fyù-ˈran\ *also* **fu·rane** \ˈfyù(ə)r-ˌān, fyù-ˈrān\ *n* [ISV, fr. *furfural*] : a flammable liquid C_4H_4O that is obtained from wood oils of pines or made synthetically and is used esp. in the manufacture of nylon

fu·ra·nose \ˈfyùr-ə-ˌnōs, -ˌnōz\ *n* [*furan* + *-ose*] : a sugar having an oxygen-containing ring of five atoms

fu·ran·o·side \fyù-ˈran-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : a glycoside containing the ring characteristic of furanose

fu·ra·zol·i·done \ˌfyùr-ə-ˈzäl-ə-ˌdōn\ *n* [*fur*fural + *azole* + *-ide* + *-one*] : a compound $C_8H_7N_3O_5$ used esp. against parasitic infections

fur·bear·er \ˈfər-ˌbar-ər, -ˌber-\ *n* : an animal that bears fur esp. of a commercially desired quality

fur·be·low \ˈfər-bə-ˌlō\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. F dial. *farbella*] **1** : a pleated or gathered piece of material; *specif* : a flounce on women's clothing **2** : something that suggests a furbelow esp. in being showy or superfluous — **furbelow** *vt*

fur·bish \ˈfər-bish\ *vt* [ME *furbisshen*, fr. MF *fourbiss-*, stem of *fourbir*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *furben* to polish] **1** : to make lustrous : POLISH **2** : to give a new look to : RENOVATE — often used with *up* — **fur·bish·er** *n*

fur·cate \ˈfər-ˌkāt\ *adj* [LL *furcatus*, fr. L *furca* fork] : branching like a fork : FORKED — **fur·cate·ly** *adv*

fur·ca·tion \ˌfər-ˈkā-shən\ *n* [ML *furcation-*, *furcatio*, fr. *furcatus*, pp. of *furcare* to branch, fr. L *furca*] **1** : something that is branched : FORK **2** : the act or process of branching

fur·cu·la \ˈfər-kyə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L, forked prop, dim. of *furca*] : a forked process or part: as **a** : WISHBONE **b** : the forked leaping appendage arising from the fourth abdominal segment of a collembolan — **fur·cu·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

fur·fu·ra·ceous \ˌfər-f(y)ə-ˈrā-shəs\ *adj* [LL *furfuraceus*, fr. L *furfur* bran] : consisting of or covered with flaky particles ⟨~ eczema⟩

fur·fu·ral \ˈfər-f(y)ə-ˌral\ *n* [L *furfur* + ISV *-al*] : a liquid aldehyde $C_5H_4O_2$ of penetrating odor that is usu. made from plant materials and used esp. in making furan or phenolic resins and as a solvent

fur·fur·al·de·hyde \ˌfər-f(y)ə-ˈral-də-ˌhīd\ *n* [L *furfur* + ISV *aldehyde* — more at GRIT] : FURFURAL

fur·fu·ran \ˈfər-f(y)ə-ˌran\ *n* : FURAN

fu·ri·o·so \ˌfyùr-ē-ˈō-(ˌ)sō, -(ˌ)zō\ *adj or adv* [It, lit., furious] : with great force or vigor — used as a direction in music

fu·ri·ous \ˈfyùr-ē-əs\ *adj* **1 a** : exhibiting or goaded by anger **b** : giving a stormy or turbulent appearance ⟨~ bursts of flame from the windswept fire⟩ **c** : marked by noise, excitement, or activity **2** : INTENSE 1a ⟨the ~ growth of tropical vegetation⟩ — **fu·ri·ous·ly** *adv*

[1]furl \ˈfər(-ə)l\ *vb* [MF *ferler*, fr. ONF *ferlier* to tie tightly, fr. OF *fer, ferm* tight (fr. L *firmus* firm) + *lier* to tie, fr. L *ligare* — more at LIGATURE] *vt* : to wrap or roll (as a sail or a flag) close to or around something ~ *vi* : to curl or fold as in being furled

[2]furl *n* **1** : the act of furling **2** : a furled coil

fur·long \ˈfər-ˌlȯŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *furlang*, fr. *furh* furrow + *lang* long] : a unit of distance equal to 220 yards

[1]fur·lough \ˈfər-(ˌ)lō\ *n* [D *verlof*, lit., permission, fr. MD, fr. *ver-* for- + *lof* permission; akin to OE *for-* and to MHG *loube* permission — more at FOR-, LEAVE] : a leave of absence from duty granted esp. to a soldier; *also* : a document authorizing such a leave of absence

[2]furlough *vt* **1** : to grant a furlough to **2** : to lay off from work

fur·mi·ty \ˈfər-mət-ē\ *var of* FRUMENTY

fur·nace \ˈfər-nəs\ *n* [ME *furnas*, fr. OF *fornaise*, fr. L *fornac-*, *fornax*; akin to L *formus* warm — more at WARM] : an enclosed structure in which heat is produced (as for heating a house or for reducing ore)

fur·nish \ˈfər-nish\ *vt* [ME *furnisshen*, fr. MF *fourniss-*, stem of *fournir* to complete, equip, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *frummen* to further, *fruma* advantage — more at FOREMOST] **1** : to provide with what is needed; *esp* : to equip with furniture **2** : SUPPLY, GIVE ⟨~*ed* food and shelter for the refugees⟩ — **fur·nish·er** *n*

syn FURNISH, EQUIP, OUTFIT, APPOINT, ACCOUTER, ARM *shared meaning element* : to supply one with what is needed (as for daily living or a particular activity)

fur·nish·ing *n* **1** : an article or accessory of dress — usu. used in pl. **2** : an object that tends to increase comfort or utility; *specif* : an article of furniture for the interior of a building — usu. used in pl.

fur·ni·ture \ˈfər-ni-chər\ *n* [MF *fourniture*, fr. *fournir*] **1** : equipment that is necessary, useful, or desirable: as **a** *archaic* : the trappings of a horse **b** : movable articles used in readying an area (as a room or patio) for occupancy or use **2** : pieces of wood or metal less than type high placed in printing forms to fill in blank spaces

fu·ror \ˈfyù(ə)r-ˌȯ(ə)r, -ˌō(ə)r\ *n* [MF & L; MF, fr. L, fr. *furere* to rage — more at DUST] **1** : an angry or maniacal fit : RAGE **2** : FURY 4 **3** : a fashionable craze : VOGUE **4 a** : furious or hectic activity **b** : an outburst of public excitement or indignation : UPROAR

fu·rore \ˈfyù(ə)r-ˌō(ə)r, -ˌȯ(ə)r, *esp Brit* fyù-ˈrȯ-ri\ *n* [It, fr. L *furor*] **1** : FUROR 3 **2** : FUROR 4b

fu·ro·se·mide \fyù-ˈrō-sə-ˌmīd\ *n* [*fur*fural + *-osemide*, of unknown origin] : a powerful diuretic $C_{12}H_{11}ClN_2O_5S$ used esp. to treat edema — called also *fursemide*

furred \ˈfərd\ *adj* **1** : lined, trimmed, or faced with fur **2** : coated as if with fur; *specif* : having a coating consisting chiefly of mucus and dead epithelial cells ⟨a ~ tongue⟩ **3** : bearing or wearing fur **4** : provided with furring ⟨~ wall⟩

fur·ri·er \ˈfər-ē-ər, ˈfə-rē-\ *n* **1** : a fur dealer **2 a** : one that dresses furs **b** : one that makes, repairs, alters, or cleans fur garments

fur·ri·ery \-ə-rē\ *n* **1** : the fur business **2** : fur craftsmanship

fur·rin·er \'fər-ə-nər\ *n* [alter. of *foreigner*] *chiefly dial* : one not native to a community ⟨that was a ~ come from outside —Muriel E. Sheppard⟩

fur·ring \'fər-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a fur trimming or lining **2 a** : the application of thin wood, brick, or metal to joists, studs, or walls to form a level surface (as for attaching wallboard) or an air space **b** : the material used in this process

[1]fur·row \'fər-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w); 'fə-(ˌ)rō, -rə(-w)\ *n* [ME *furgh, forow,* fr. OE *furh;* akin to OHG *furuh* furrow, L *porca*] **1 a** : a trench in the earth made by a plow **b** : rural land : FIELD **2** : something that resembles the track of a plow: as **a** : a marked narrow depression : GROOVE **b** : a deep wrinkle ⟨~*s* in his brow⟩

[2]furrow *vt* : to make furrows, grooves, wrinkles, or lines in ~ *vi* : to make or form furrows, grooves, wrinkles, or lines

fur·ry \'fər-ē\ *adj* **fur·ri·er; -est** **1** : consisting of or resembling fur ⟨animals with ~ coats⟩ **2** : covered with fur **3** : thick in quality ⟨spoke with a ~ voice⟩

fur seal *n* : any of various eared seals that have a double coat with a dense soft underfur used esp. for clothing and trimmings

fur·se·mide \'fər-sə-ˌmīd\ *n* : FUROSEMIDE

[1]fur·ther \'fər-thər\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *furthor;* akin to OHG *furthar* further; both compars. fr. the root of OE *forth*] **1** : [1]FARTHER 1 ⟨my ponies are tired, and I have ~ to go —Thomas Hardy⟩ **2** : in addition : MOREOVER **3** : to a greater degree or extent ⟨~ annoyed by a second intrusion⟩

[2]further *adj* **1** : [2]FARTHER 1 ⟨rode . . . across the valley and up the ~ slopes —T. E. Lawrence⟩ **2** : going or extending beyond : ADDITIONAL ⟨~ volumes⟩ ⟨~ education⟩

[3]further *vt* **fur·thered; fur·ther·ing** \'fərth-(ə-)riŋ\ : to help forward : PROMOTE ⟨~*ed* his education in graduate school⟩ ***syn*** see ADVANCE — **fur·ther·er** \'fər-thər-ər\ *n*

fur·ther·ance \'fərth-(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* : the act of furthering : ADVANCEMENT

further education *n, Brit* : ADULT EDUCATION

fur·ther·more \'fər-thə(r)-ˌmō(ə)r, -ˌmȯ(ə)r\ *adv* : in addition to what precedes : BESIDES

fur·ther·most \-ər-ˌmōst\ *adj* : most distant : FARTHEST

fur·thest \'fər-thəst\ *adv or adj* : FARTHEST

fur·tive \'fərt-iv\ *adj* [F or L; F *furtif,* fr. L *furtivus,* fr. *furtum* theft, fr. *fur* thief; akin to Gk *phōr* thief, L *ferre* to carry — more at BEAR] **1 a** : done by stealth : SURREPTITIOUS **b** : expressive of stealth : SLY ⟨had the ~ look of one with something to hide⟩ **2** : obtained underhandedly : STOLEN ***syn*** see SECRET ***ant*** forthright, brazen — **fur·tive·ly** *adv* — **fur·tive·ness** *n*

fu·run·cle \'fyu̇(ə)r-ˌəŋ-kəl\ *n* [L *furunculus* petty thief, sucker, furuncle, dim. of *furon-, furo* ferret, thief, fr. *fur*] : a localized inflammatory swelling of the skin and underlying tissues that is caused by infection by a bacterium in a hair follicle or skin gland and that discharges pus and a central core of dead tissue : BOIL — **fu·run·cu·lar** \fyu̇-'rəŋ-kyə-lər\ *adj* — **fu·run·cu·lous** \-ləs\ *adj*

fu·run·cu·lo·sis \fyu̇-ˌrəŋ-kyə-'lō-səs\ *n, pl* **-lo·ses** \-ˌsēz\ **1** : the condition of having or tending to develop multiple furuncles **2** : a highly infectious disease of various salmonoid fishes (as trout) that is caused by a bacterium (*Bacterium salmonicida*) and is esp. virulent in dense fish populations (as in hatcheries)

fu·ry \'fyu̇(ə)r-ē\ *n, pl* **furies** [ME *furie,* fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *furia,* fr. *furere* to rage — more at DUST] **1** : intense, disordered, and often destructive rage **2 a** *cap* : one of the avenging deities who according to Greek mythology tormented criminals and inflicted plagues **b** : an avenging spirit **c** : one who resembles an avenging spirit; *esp* : a spiteful woman **3** : extreme fierceness or violence **4** : a state of inspired exaltation : FRENZY ***syn*** see ANGER

furze \'fərz\ *n* [ME *firse,* fr. OE *fyrs*] : a spiny yellow-flowered evergreen leguminous European shrub (*Ulex europaeus*); *broadly* : any of several related plants (genera *Ulex* and *Genista*) — **furzy** \'fər-zē\ *adj*

fus·cous \'fəs-kəs\ *adj* [L *fuscus* —more at DUSK] : of any of several colors averaging a brownish gray

[1]fuse \'fyüz\ *n* [It *fuso* spindle, fr. L *fusus,* of unknown origin] **1** : a continuous train of a combustible substance enclosed in a cord or cable for setting off an explosive charge by transmitting fire to it **2** *usu* **fuze** : a mechanical or electrical detonating device for setting off the bursting charge of a projectile, bomb, or torpedo

[2]fuse *or* **fuze** \'fyüz\ *vt* **fused** *or* **fuzed; fus·ing** *or* **fuz·ing** : to equip with a fuse

[3]fuse *vb* **fused; fus·ing** [L *fusus,* pp. of *fundere* to pour, melt — more at FOUND] *vt* **1** : to reduce to a liquid or plastic state by heat **2** : to blend thoroughly by or as if by melting together : make indissolubly one **3** : to stitch by applying heat and pressure with or without the use of an adhesive ~ *vi* **1** : to become fluid with heat; *also* : to fail because of the blowing of a fuse **2** : to become blended by or as if by melting together ***syn*** see MIX

[4]fuse *n* : an electrical safety device consisting of or including a wire or strip of fusible metal that melts and interrupts the circuit when the current exceeds a particular amperage

fused quartz *n* : QUARTZ GLASS — called also *fused silica*

fu·see \fyu̇-'zē\ *n* [F *fusée,* lit., spindleful of yarn, fr. OF, fr. *fus* spindle, fr. L *fusus*] **1** : a conical spirally grooved pulley in a timepiece from which a cord or chain unwinds onto a barrel containing the spring and which by its increasing diameter compensates for the lessening power of the spring **2** : [1] FUSE 1 **3** : a friction match with a bulbous head not easily blown out **4** : a red signal flare used esp. for protecting stalled trains and trucks

fu·se·lage \'fyü-sə-ˌläzh, -zə-\ *n* [F, fr. *fuselé* spindle-shaped, fr. MF, fr. *fusel,* dim. of *fus*] : the central body portion of an airplane designed to accommodate the crew and the passengers or cargo

fu·sel oil \'fyü-zəl-\ *n* [G *fusel* bad liquor] : an acrid oily liquid occurring in insufficiently distilled alcoholic liquors, consisting chiefly of amyl alcohol, and used esp. as a source of alcohols and as a solvent

fusi- *comb form* [L *fusus*] : spindle ⟨*fusi*form⟩

fus·ible \'fyü-zə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being fused and esp. liquefied by heat — **fus·ibil·i·ty** \ˌfyü-zə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

fu·si·form \'fyü-zə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : tapering toward each end ⟨~ bacteria⟩

[1]fu·sil \'fyü-zəl\ *or* **fu·sile** \'fyü-zəl, -ˌzīl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *fusilis,* fr. *fusus,* pp.] **1** *archaic* **a** : made by melting and pouring into forms : CAST **b** : liquefied by heat **2** *archaic* : FUSIBLE

[2]fusil *n* [F, lit., steel for striking fire, fr. OF *foisil,* fr. (assumed) VL *focilis,* fr. LL *focus* fire — more at FUEL] : a light flintlock musket

fu·sil·ier *or* **fu·sil·eer** \ˌfyü-zə-'li(ə)r\ *n* [F *fusilier,* fr. *fusil*] **1** : a soldier armed with a fusil **2** : a member of a British regiment formerly armed with fusils

[1]fu·sil·lade \'fyü-sə-ˌläd, -ˌlād, ˌfyü-sə-', -zə-\ *n* [F, fr. *fusiller* to shoot, fr. *fusil*] **1** : a number of shots fired simultaneously or in rapid succession **2** : a spirited outburst esp. of criticism

[2]fusillade *vt* **-lad·ed; -lad·ing** : to attack or shoot down by a fusillade

fu·sion \'fyü-zhən\ *n, often attrib* [L *fusion-, fusio,* fr. *fusus,* pp.] **1 a** : the act or process of liquefying or rendering plastic by heat **b** : the liquid or plastic state induced by heat **2** : a union by or as if by melting: as **a** : a merging of diverse elements into a unified whole **b** : a political partnership : COALITION ⟨a ~ of the major parties⟩ **c** : the union of atomic nuclei to form heavier nuclei resulting in the release of enormous quantities of energy when certain light elements unite

fusion bomb *n* : a bomb in which nuclei of a light chemical element unite to form nuclei of heavier elements with a release of energy; *esp* : HYDROGEN BOMB

fu·sion·ist \'fyüzh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* : one who promotes or takes part in a coalition esp. of political parties

[1]fuss \'fəs\ *n* [perh. of imit. origin] **1 a** : needless bustle or excitement : COMMOTION **b** : a show of flattering attention ⟨made a big ~ over his favorite niece⟩ **2 a** : a state of agitation esp. over a trivial matter **b** : OBJECTION, PROTEST **c** : an often petty controversy or quarrel ⟨ended up having a pretty good ~ with my wife — Mac Hyman⟩ ***syn*** see STIR

[2]fuss *vi* **1 a** : to create or be in a state of restless activity; *specif* : to shower flattering attentions ⟨doting grandparents ~*ing* over the grandchildren⟩ **b** : to pay close or undue attention to small details ⟨~*ed* with her hair⟩ **2 a** : to become upset : WORRY **b** : to express annoyance or pique : COMPLAIN ⟨a mother who has to cope with ~*ing* children⟩ ~ *vt* : AGITATE, UPSET — **fuss·er** *n*

fuss·bud·get \'fəs-ˌbəj-ət\ *n* : one who fusses about trifles — **fuss·bud·gety** \-ət-ē\ *adj*

fuss·pot \'fəs-ˌpät\ *n* : FUSSBUDGET

fussy \'fəs-ē\ *adj* **fuss·i·er; -est** **1** : easily upset : IRRITABLE **2 a** : requiring or giving close attention to details ⟨~ bookkeeping procedures⟩ **b** : revealing a concern for niceties : FASTIDIOUS ⟨not ~ about food⟩ ***syn*** see NICE — **fuss·i·ly** \'fəs-ə-lē\ *adv* — **fuss·i·ness** \'fəs-ē-nəs\ *n*

fus·tian \'fəs-chən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *fustaine,* fr. ML *fustaneum,* prob. fr. *fustis* tree trunk, fr. L, club] **1 a** : a strong cotton and linen fabric **b** : a class of cotton fabrics usu. having a pile face and twill weave **2** : pretentious and banal writing or speech ***syn*** see BOMBAST — **fus·tian** *adj*

fus·tic \'fəs-tik\ *n* [ME *fustik,* fr. MF *fustoc,* fr. Ar *fustuq,* fr. Gk *pistakē* pistachio tree — more at PISTACHIO] **1** : the wood of a tropical American tree (*Chlorophora tinctoria*) of the mulberry family that yields a yellow dye; *also* : any of several similar dyewoods **2** : a tree yielding fustic

fus·ti·gate \'fəs-tə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [LL *fustigatus,* pp. of *fustigare,* fr. L *fustis* + *-igare* (akin to *agere* to drive) — more at AGENT] **1** : CUDGEL **2** : to criticize severely — **fus·ti·ga·tion** \ˌfəs-tə-'gā-shən\ *n*

fus·ty \'fəs-tē\ *adj* **fus·ti·er; -est** [ME, fr. *fust* wine cask, fr. MF, club, cask, fr. L *fustis*] **1** *Brit* : impaired by age or dampness : MOLDY **2** : saturated with dust and stale odors : MUSTY **3** : rigidly old-fashioned or reactionary ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **fus·ti·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **fus·ti·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

fut *abbr* future

fu·thark \'fü-ˌthärk\ *also* **fu·thorc** *or* **fu·thork** \-ˌthȯ(ə)rk\ *n* [fr. the first six letters, *f, u,* þ (*th*), *o* (or *a*), *r, c* (=k)] : the runic alphabet

fu·tile \'fyüt-ᵊl, 'fyü-ˌtīl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *futilis* that pours out easily, useless, fr. *fut-* (akin to *fundere* to pour) — more at FOUND] **1** : serving no useful purpose : completely ineffective ⟨efforts to convince him were ~⟩ **2** : occupied with trifles : FRIVOLOUS — **fu·tile·ly** \-ᵊl-(l)ē, -ˌtīl-lē\ *adv* — **fu·tile·ness** \-ᵊl-nəs, -ˌtīl-nəs\ *n*

syn FUTILE, VAIN, FRUITLESS *shared meaning element* : barren of results

fu·til·i·tar·i·an \fyu̇-ˌtil-ə-'ter-ē-ən, ˌfyü-\ *n* [blend of *futile* and *utilitarian*] : one who believes that human striving is futile — **futilitarian** *adj* — **fu·til·i·tar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

fu·til·i·ty \fyu̇-'til-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being futile : USELESSNESS **2** : a useless act or gesture ⟨the *futilities* of debate for its own sake —W. A. White⟩

fut·tock \'fət-ək\ *n* [prob. alter. of *foothook* (futtock)] : one of the curved timbers scarfed together to form the lower part of the compound rib of a ship

futtock shroud *n* : a short iron rod connecting the topmast rigging with the lower mast

[1]fu·ture \'fyü-chər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF *futur,* fr. L *futurus* about to be — more at BE] **1** : that is to be; *specif* : existing after death **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense expressive of time yet to come

[2]future *n* **1 a** : time that is to come **b** : what is going to happen **2** : an expectation of advancement or progressive development **3**

: something (as a bulk commodity) bought for future acceptance or sold for future delivery — usu. used in pl. ⟨the use of grain ~s as a hedge against price changes⟩ **4 a** : the future tense of a language **b** : a verb form in the future tense

fu·ture·less \'fyü-chər-ləs\ *adj* : having no prospect of future success

future perfect *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense that is traditionally formed in English with *will have* and *shall have* and that expresses completion of an action by a specified time that is yet to come — **future perfect** *n*

fu·tur·ism \'fyü-chə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* **1** : a movement in art, music, and literature begun in Italy about 1910 and marked esp. by an effort to give formal expression to the dynamic energy and movement of mechanical processes **2** : a point of view that finds meaning or fulfillment in the future rather than in the past or present — **fu·tur·ist** \'fyüch-(ə-)rəst\ *n*

fu·tur·is·tic \ˌfyü-chə-'ris-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the future **2** : of or relating to futurism — **fu·tur·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

fu·tu·ri·ty \fyü-'t(y)ůr-ət-ē, -'chůr-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : time to come : FUTURE **2** : the quality or state of being future **3** *pl* : future events or prospects **4 a** : a horse race usu. for two-year-olds in which the competitors are nominated at birth or before **b** : a race or competition for which entries are made well in advance of the event

fuze, fu·zee *var of* FUSE, FUSEE

[1]fuzz \'fəz\ *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *fuzzy*] : fine light particles or fibers (as of down or fluff)

[2]fuzz *vi* : to fly off in or become covered with fluffy particles ~ *vt* **1** : to make fuzzy **2** : to envelop in a haze : BLUR

[3]fuzz *n* [origin unknown] : POLICE; *also* : a police officer

fuzzy \'fəz-ē\ *adj* **fuzz·i·er; -est** [perh. fr. LG *fussig* loose, spongy; akin to OHG *fūl* rotten — more at FOUL] **1** : marked by or giving a suggestion of fuzz ⟨a ~ covering of felt⟩ **2** : not clear : INDISTINCT ⟨moving the camera causes ~ photos⟩ — **fuzz·i·ly** \'fəz-ə-lē\ *adv* — **fuzz·i·ness** \'fəz-ē-nəs\ *n*

FV *abbr* [L *folio verso* the page being turned] on the back of the page

fwd *abbr* **1** foreword **2** forward

FWD *abbr* front-wheel drive

FWPCA *abbr* Federal Water Pollution Control Administration

FX *abbr* foreign exchange

FY *abbr* fiscal year

-fy \ˌfī\ *vb suffix* [ME *-fien*, fr. OF *-fier*, fr. L *-ficare*, fr. *-ficus* -fic] **1** : make : form into ⟨dandi*fy*⟩ **2** : invest with the attributes of : make similar to ⟨citi*fy*⟩

fyce \'fis\ *var of* FEIST

FYI *abbr* for your information

fyke \'fīk\ *n* [D *fuik*] : a long bag net kept open by hoops

fyl·fot \'fil-ˌfät\ *n* [ME, device used to fill the lower part of a painted glass window, fr. *fillen* to fill + *fot* foot] : SWASTIKA

fz *abbr* [It *forzando, forzato*] accented

FZS *abbr* Fellow of the Zoological Society



[1]g \'jē\ *n, pl* **g's** *or* **gs** \'jēz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 7th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *g* **2** : the 5th tone of a C-major scale **3** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *g* **4** : one designated *g* esp. as the 7th in order or class **5** [gravity] : a unit of force equal to the force exerted by gravity on a body at rest and used to indicate the force to which a body is subjected when accelerated **6** [grand] *slang* : a sum of $1000 **7** : something shaped like the letter G

[2]g *abbr, often cap* **1** game **2** gauge **3** gender **4** German **5** giga- **6** good **7** gram **8** grand **9** gravity **10** gulf

[1]G *adj* [general] *of a motion picture* : of such a nature that all ages may be allowed admission — compare PG, R, X

[2]G *symbol* **1** conductance **2** weight

Ga *abbr* gauge

[1]Ga *abbr* Georgia

[2]Ga *symbol* gallium

GA *abbr* **1** general agent **2** general assembly **3** general average **4** general of the army **5** Georgia

[1]gab \'gab\ *vi* **gabbed; gab·bing** [prob. short for *gabble*] : to talk in a rapid or thoughtless manner : CHATTER

[2]gab *n* : TALK; *esp* : idle talk

gab·ar·dine \'gab-ər-ˌdēn\ *n* [MF *gaverdine*] **1** : GABERDINE **2 a** : a firm hard-finish durable fabric (as of wool or rayon) twilled with diagonal ribs on the right side **b** : a garment of gabardine

gab·ber \'gab-ər\ *n* : one that talks much, habitually, and usu. idly

gab·ble \'gab-əl\ *vb* **gab·bled; gab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. of imit. origin] *vi* **1** : to talk fast or foolishly : JABBER **2** : to utter inarticulate or animal sounds ⟨a skein of duck . . . *gabbling* softly to themselves —Naomi Mitchison⟩ ~ *vt* : to say with incoherent rapidity : BABBLE — **gabble** *n* — **gab·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

gab·bro \'gab-(ˌ)rō\ *n, pl* **gabbros** [It] : a granular igneous rock composed essentially of calcic plagioclase, a ferromagnesian mineral, and accessory minerals — **gab·bro·ic** \ga-'brō-ik\ *adj*

gab·broid \'gab-ˌrȯid\ *adj* : resembling gabbro

gab·by \'gab-ē\ *adj* **gab·bi·er; -est** : TALKATIVE, GARRULOUS

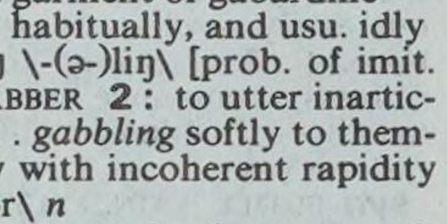
ga·belle \gə-'bel\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OIt *gabella* tax, fr. Ar *qabālah*] : a tax on salt levied in France prior to 1790

gab·er·dine \'gab-ər-ˌdēn\ *n* [MF *gaverdine*] **1 a** : a coarse long coat or smock worn chiefly by Jews in medieval times **b** : an English laborer's smock **c** : GARMENT **2** : GABARDINE

gab·fest \'gab-ˌfest\ *n* **1** : an informal gathering for general talk ⟨political ~s⟩ **2** : an extended conversation

ga·bi·on \'gā-bē-ən, 'gab-ē-\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *gabbione*, lit., large cage, aug. of *gabbia* cage, fr. L *cavea* — more at CAGE] : a hollow wickerwork or iron cylinder filled with earth and used esp. in building fieldworks or in mining

ga·ble \'gā-bəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, of Gmc origin; akin to ON *gafl* gable — more at CEPHALIC] **1 a** : the vertical triangular end of a building from cornice or eaves to ridge **b** : the similar end of a gambrel roof **c** : the end wall of a building **2** : a triangular furniture or building part



1, gables 1a

ga·bled \-bəld\ *adj* : built with a gable

gable roof *n* : a double-sloping roof that forms a gable at each end

gab·oon \gä-'bün, gə-\ *n* [alter. of [1]*gob* + *-oon* (as in *spittoon*)] *dial* : CUSPIDOR, SPITTOON

Ga·bri·el \'gā-brē-əl\ *n* [Heb *Gabhrī'ēl*] : one of the four archangels named in Hebrew tradition

ga·by \'gā-bē\ *n, pl* **gabies** [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *gapa* to gape — more at GAPE] *dial chiefly Eng* : SIMPLETON

[1]gad \'gad\ *n* [ME, spike, fr. ON *gaddr*; akin to OE *geard* rod — more at YARD] **1** : a chisel or pointed iron or steel bar for loosening ore or rock **2** *chiefly dial* : ROD, STICK

[2]gad *vi* **gad·ded; gad·ding** [ME *gadden*] : to be on the go to little purpose ⟨too busy *gadding* about to get any work done⟩ — **gadder** *n*

[3]gad *interj* [euphemism for *God*] — used as a mild oath

Gad \'gad\ *n* [Heb *Gādh*] : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel — **Gad·ite** \-ˌīt\ *n*

gad·about \'gad-ə-ˌbau̇t\ *n* : a person who flits about in social activity — **gadabout** *adj*

gad·a·rene \'gad-ə-ˌrēn\ *adj, often cap* [fr. the demon-possessed *Gadarene* swine (Mt 8:28) that rushed into the sea] : HEADLONG, PRECIPITATE ⟨a ~ rush to the cities⟩

gad·fly \'gad-ˌflī\ *n* [[1]*gad*] **1** : any of various flies (as a horsefly, botfly, or warble fly) that bite or annoy livestock **2** : a usu. intentionally annoying person who stimulates or provokes others esp. by persistent irritating criticism

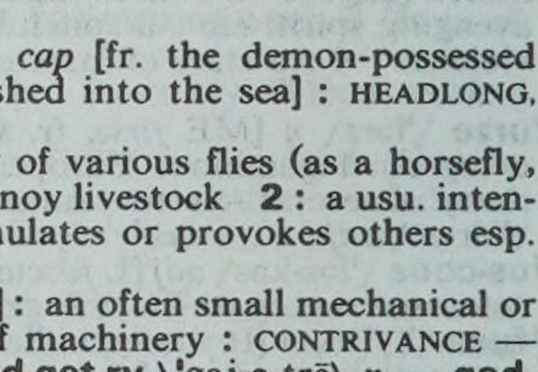
gad·get \'gaj-ət\ *n* [origin unknown] : an often small mechanical or electronic device esp. on a piece of machinery : CONTRIVANCE — **gad·ge·teer** \ˌgaj-ə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* — **gad·get·ry** \'gaj-ə-trē\ *n* — **gadgety** \-ət-ē\ *adj*

ga·doid \'gād-ˌȯid, 'gad-\ *adj* [NL *Gadus*, genus of fishes, fr. Gk *gados*, a fish] : resembling or related to the cods — **gadoid** *n*

gad·o·lin·ite \'gad-ᵊl-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [G *gadolinit*, fr. Johann *Gadolin* †1852 Finn chemist] : a black or brown mineral $Be_2FeY_4Si_2O_{13}$ that is a source of rare earths and consists of silicate of iron, beryllium, yttrium, cerium, and erbium

gad·o·lin·i·um \ˌgad-ᵊl-'in-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. J. *Gadolin*] : a magnetic metallic element of the rare-earth group occurring in combination in gadolinite and several other minerals — see ELEMENT table

ga·droon \gə-'drün\ *n* [F *godron* round plait, gadroon] **1** : the ornamental notching or carving of a rounded molding **2** : a short often oval fluting or reeding used in decoration — **ga·drooning** *n*



1, gadroon 2

gad·wall \'gad-ˌwȯl\ *n, pl* **gadwalls** *or* **gadwall** [origin unknown] : a grayish brown dabbling duck (*Anas strepera*) about the size of the mallard

gad·zooks *interj, often cap, archaic* — used as a mild oath

Gaea \'jē-ə\ *n* [Gk *Gaia*] : the Greek earth goddess and mother of the Titans

Gael \'gā(ə)l\ *n* [ScGael *Gāidheal* & IrGael *Gaedheal*] **1** : a Scottish Highlander **2** : a Celtic esp. Gaelic-speaking inhabitant of Ireland, Scotland, or the Isle of Man

Gael·ic \'gāl-ik, 'gal-, 'gäl-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the Gaels and esp. the Celtic Highlanders of Scotland **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the Goidelic speech of the Celts in Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Scottish Highlands — **Gaelic** *n*

[1]gaff \'gaf\ *n* [F *gaffe*, fr. Prov *gaf*] **1 a** : a spear or spearhead for taking fish or turtles **b** : a handled hook for holding or lifting heavy fish **c** : a metal spur for a gamecock **d** : a butcher's hook **e** : a climbing iron or its steel point used by a telephone lineman **2** : the spar upon which the head of a fore-and-aft sail is extended **3 a** : HOAX, FRAUD **b** : GIMMICK, TRICK **4 a** : something painful or difficult to bear : ORDEAL; *esp* : persistent raillery or criticism **b** : rough treatment : ABUSE **5** : GAFFE

[2]gaff *vt* **1 a** : to strike or secure with a gaff **b** : to fit (a gamecock) with a gaff **2** : DECEIVE, TRICK; *also* : FLEECE **3** : to fix for the purpose of cheating : GIMMICK ⟨~ the dice⟩

[3]gaff *n* [origin unknown] *Brit* : a cheap theater or music hall

gaffe \'gaf\ *n* [F, gaff, gaffe] : a social blunder : FAUX PAS

gaf·fer \'gaf-ər\ *n* [prob. alter. of *godfather*] **1** : an old man — compare GAMMER **2** *Brit* **a** : EMPLOYER **b** : FOREMAN, OVERSEER **3** : a head glassblower **4** : a lighting electrician on a motion-picture or television set

gaff–top·sail \'gaf-'täp-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* : a usu. triangular topsail with its foot extended upon the gaff and its luff upon the topmast — see SAIL illustration

[1]gag \'gag\ *vb* **gagged; gag·ging** [ME *gaggen* to strangle, of imit. origin] *vt* **1 a** : to stop the mouth of with something inserted **b** : to pry or hold open with a gag **c** : to prevent from free speech or expression **2** : to cause to retch **3** : OBSTRUCT, CHOKE ⟨~ a valve⟩ **4** : to provide with quips or pranks ⟨~ a show⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : HEAVE, RETCH **2** : to be unable to endure something : BALK **3** : to make quips

[2]gag *n* **1** : something thrust into the mouth to keep it open **2 a** : something thrust into the mouth to prevent speech or outcry **b** : CLOTURE **c** : a check to free speech **3** : a laugh-provoking remark or act **4** : HOAX, TRICK ***syn*** see JEST

ga·ga \'gä-(ˌ)gä\ *adj* [F, fr. *gaga* fool, of imit. origin] **1** : CRAZY, FOOLISH **2** : marked by wild enthusiasm : INFATUATED

[1]gage \'gāj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *wetti* pledge — more at WED] **1** : a token of defiance; *specif* : a glove or cap cast on the ground to be taken up by an opponent as a pledge of combat **2** : something deposited as a pledge of performance

[2]gage *vt* **1** *archaic* : PLEDGE **2** *archaic* : STAKE, RISK

[3]gage *var of* GAUGE

[4]gage *n* : GREENGAGE

gag·ger \'gag-ər\ *n* **1** : one that gags **2** : JOKER, GAGMAN

gag·gle \'gag-əl\ *n* [ME *gagyll*, fr. *gagelen* to cackle] **1** : FLOCK; *esp* : a flock of geese when not in flight — compare SKEIN **2** : AGGREGATION, CLUSTER ⟨a ~ of reporters and photographers⟩

gag·man \'gag-ˌman\ *n* **1** : a gag writer **2** : a comedian who uses gags

gag rule *n* : a rule restricting freedom of debate or expression esp. in a legislative body

gag·ster \'gag-stər\ *n* : GAGMAN; *also* : one who plays practical jokes

gahn·ite \'gän-ˌīt\ *n* [G *gahnit*, fr. J. G. *Gahn* †1818 Sw chemist] : a usu. dark green mineral $ZnAl_2O_4$ consisting of an oxide of zinc and aluminum

gai·ety \'gā-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** **1** : MERRYMAKING; *also* : festive activity — often used in pl. **2** : gay spirits or manner **3** : FINERY, SHOW ⟨a ~ of dress better suited to one half her age⟩

gail·lar·dia \gə-'lärd-(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *Gaillard* de Marentonneau, 18th cent. F botanist] : any of a genus (*Gaillardia*) of chiefly western American composite herbs with showy flower heads

gai·ly \'gā-lē\ *adv* : in a gay manner

[1]gain \'gān\ *n* [ME *gayne*, fr. MF *gaigne*, *gain*, fr. OF *gaaigne*, *gaaing*, fr. *gaaignier* to till, earn, gain, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *weidanōn* to hunt for food, L *vis* power — more at VIM] **1** : resources or advantage acquired or increased : PROFIT ⟨made substantial ~*s* last year⟩ **2** : the obtaining of profit or possessions **3 a** : an increase in amount, magnitude, or degree ⟨a ~ in efficiency⟩ **b** : the ratio of increase of output over input in an amplifier **c** : the effectiveness of a directional antenna expressed as the ratio in decibels of standard antenna input power to the directional antenna input power that will produce the same field strength in the desired direction

[2]gain *vt* **1 a** : to get possession of usu. by industry, merit, or craft ⟨~ an advantage⟩ ⟨he stood to ~ a fortune⟩ **b** : to win in competition or conflict ⟨the attackers ~*ed* the day⟩ **c** : to get by a natural development or process ⟨~ strength⟩ **d** : MAKE, ACQUIRE ⟨~ a friend⟩ **e** (1) : to arrive at ⟨~*ed* the river that night⟩ (2) : TRAVERSE, COVER ⟨~*ed* 10 yards on the play⟩ **2** : to win to one's side : PERSUADE ⟨~ adherents to a cause⟩ **3** : to cause to be obtained or given : ATTRACT ⟨~ attention⟩ **4** : to increase in ⟨~ momentum⟩ **5** *of a timepiece* : to run fast by the amount of ⟨the clock ~*s* a minute a day⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to get advantage : PROFIT ⟨hoped to ~ from his crime⟩ **2 a** : INCREASE ⟨the day was ~*ing* in warmth⟩ **b** : to increase in weight **c** : to improve in health **3** *of a timepiece* : to run fast ***syn*** **1** see GET ***ant*** forfeit, lose **2** see REACH ***ant*** forfeit, lose — **gain ground** : to make progress

[3]gain *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a beveled shoulder above a tenon **2** : a notch or mortise for insertion of a girder or joist

gain·er \'gā-nər\ *n* **1** : one that gains **2** : a fancy dive in which the diver from a forward position executes a backward somersault and enters the water feetfirst and facing away from the board

gain·ful \'gān-fəl\ *adj* : productive of gain : PROFITABLE ⟨~ employment⟩ — **gain·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **gain·ful·ness** *n*

gain·giv·ing \'gān-ˌgiv-iŋ, (')gān-'\ *n* [*gain-* (against) + *giving*] *archaic* : MISGIVING

gain·less \'gān-ləs\ *adj* : producing no gain : PROFITLESS — **gain·less·ness** *n*

gain·ly \'gān-lē\ *adj* [*gain* (handy)] : graceful and generally pleasing ⟨a ~ boy with charming manners⟩

gain·say \gān-'sā\ *vt* **-said** \-'sād, -'sed\; **-say·ing** \-'sā-iŋ\; **-says** \-'sāz, -'sez\ [ME *gainsayen*, fr. *gain-* against (fr. OE *gēan-*) + *sayen* to say — more at AGAIN] **1** : DENY, DISPUTE ⟨couldn't ~ the statistics⟩ **2** : to stand in opposition to esp. by disputing the truth of something put forward : CONTRADICT, OPPOSE ***syn*** see DENY ***ant*** admit — **gain·say·er** *n*

[1]gait \'gāt\ *n* [ME *gait*, *gate* gate, way] **1** : a manner of walking or moving on foot **2** : a sequence of foot movements (as a walk, trot, pace, or canter) by which a horse moves forward **3** : a manner or rate of movement or progress ⟨the leisurely ~ of a summer in the country⟩

[2]gait *vt* **1** : to train (a horse) to use a particular gait or set of gaits **2** : to lead (a show dog) before a judge to display carriage and movement

[3]gait *n* [prob. alter. of [1]*gate*] **1** : the distance between two adjoining carriages of a lace-making frame **2** *Brit* : a full repeat of a pattern in harness weaving of woolens

gait·ed \'gāt-əd\ *adj* : having a particular gait ⟨slow-*gaited*⟩

gai·ter \'gāt-ər\ *n* [F *guêtre*] **1** : a cloth or leather leg covering reaching from the instep to ankle, mid-calf, or knee **2 a** : an ankle-high shoe with elastic gores in the sides **b** : an overshoe with fabric upper

[1]gal \'gal\ *n* [by alter.] : GIRL

[2]gal *n* [*Galileo* †1642 It astronomer] : a unit of acceleration equivalent to one centimeter per second per second — used esp. for values of gravity

[3]gal *abbr* **1** gallery **2** gallon

Gal *abbr* Galatians

ga·la \'gā-lə, 'gal-ə, 'gäl-ə\ *n* [It, fr. MF *gale* festivity, pleasure — more at GALLANT] : a gay celebration : FESTIVITY — **gala** *adj*

galact- *or* **galacto-** *comb form* [L *galact-*, fr. Gk *galakt-*, *galakto-*, fr. *galakt-*, *gala*] **1** : milk ⟨*galacto*poiesis⟩ **2** : related to galactose ⟨*galacto*mannan⟩

ga·lac·tic \gə-'lak-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a galaxy and esp. the Milky Way galaxy **2** : HUGE ⟨a ~ sum of money⟩

galactic noise *n* : radio-frequency radiation from the Milky Way

ga·lac·to·poi·e·sis \gə-ˌlak-tə-pȯi-'ē-səs\ *n* [NL] : formation and secretion of milk — **ga·lac·to·poi·et·ic** \-'et-ik\ *adj or n*

ga·lac·tos·amine \gə-ˌlak-'tō-sə-ˌmēn, -zə-\ *n* : an amino derivative $C_6H_{13}O_5N$ of galactose that occurs in cartilage

ga·lac·tose \gə-'lak-ˌtōs, -ˌtōz\ *n* [F, fr. *galact-*] : a sugar $C_6H_{12}O_6$ less soluble and less sweet than glucose

ga·lac·tos·emia \gə-ˌlak-tə-'sē-mē-ə\ *n* : an inherited metabolic disorder in which galactose accumulates in the blood due to deficiency of an enzyme catalyzing its conversion to glucose — **ga·lac·tos·emic** \-mik\ *adj*

ga·lac·to·si·dase \gə-ˌlak-'tō-sə-ˌdās, -zə-ˌdāz\ *n* : an enzyme (as lactase) that hydrolyzes a galactoside

ga·lac·to·side \gə-'lak-tə-ˌsīd\ *n* : a glycoside that yields galactose on hydrolysis

ga·lac·to·syl \gə-'lak-tə-ˌsil\ *n* : a glycosyl radical $C_6H_{11}O_5$ that is derived from galactose

ga·lact·uron·ic acid \gə-ˌlak-t(y)u̇-ˌrän-ik-\ *n* [ISV *galact-* + *-uronic*] : a crystalline aldehyde-acid $C_6H_{10}O_7$ that occurs esp. in polymerized form in pectin

ga·la·go \gə-'lā-(ˌ)gō, -'läg-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-gos** [NL, genus name, perh. fr. Wolof *golokh* monkey] : any of two genera (*Galago* and *Euoticus*) of small active nocturnal arboreal African primates with long ears, a long tail, and elongated hind limbs that enable them to leap with great agility — called also *bush baby*

ga·lah \gə-'lä\ *n* [native name in Australia] : a showy Australian cockatoo (*Kakatoë roseicapilla*) that is a destructive pest in wheat-growing areas and is often kept as a cage bird

Gal·a·had \'gal-ə-ˌhad\ *n* : the knight of the Round Table who successfully seeks the Holy Grail

gal·an·tine \'gal-ən-ˌtēn\ *n* [F] : a cold dish consisting of boned meat or fish that has been stuffed, poached, and covered with aspic

ga·lan·ty show \gə-'lant-ē-\ *n* [perh. fr. It *galante* gallant, fr. MF *galant*] : SHADOW PLAY

Gal·a·tea \ˌgal-ə-'tē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Galateia*] **1** : a nymph killed by the jealous Cyclops Polyphemus while in the arms of her lover Acis **2** : a female figure sculpted by Pygmalion and given life by Aphrodite in fulfillment of his prayer

Ga·la·tians \gə-'lā-shənz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : an argumentative letter of St. Paul written to the Christians of Galatia and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table

gal·a·vant *var of* GALLIVANT

ga·lax \'gā-ˌlaks\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Galax*) of evergreen herbs related to the true heaths with leaves widely used for decorations

gal·axy \'gal-ək-sē\ *n, pl* **-ax·ies** [ME *galaxie*, *galaxias*, fr. LL *galaxias*, fr. Gk, fr. *galakt-*, *gala* milk; akin to L *lac* milk] **1 a** *often cap* : MILKY WAY GALAXY **b** : one of billions of systems each including stars, nebulae, star clusters, globular clusters, and interstellar matter that make up the universe **2** : an assemblage of brilliant or notable persons or things

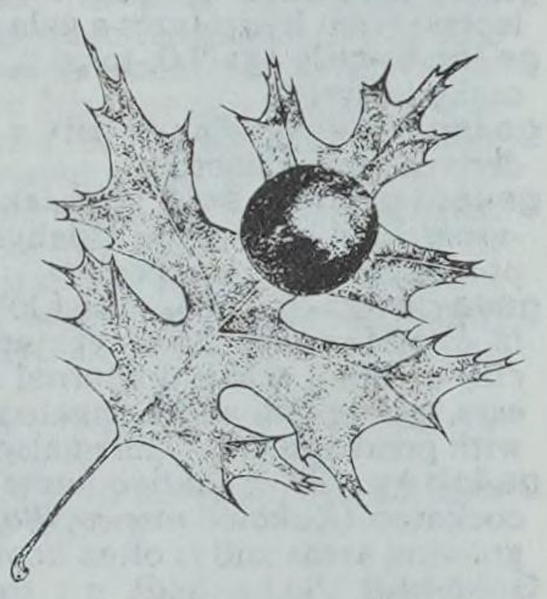
gal·ba·num \'gal-bə-nəm, 'gȯl-\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *chalbanē*, fr. Heb *ḥelbĕnāh*] : a yellowish to green or brown aromatic bitter gum resin derived from several Asiatic plants (as *Ferula galbaniflua*) and used for medicinal purposes and in incense

[1]gale \'gā(ə)l\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a strong current of air: (1) : a wind from 32 to 63 miles per hour (2) : FRESH GALE — see BEAUFORT SCALE table **b** *archaic* : BREEZE **2** : an emotional outburst : GUST

[2]gale *n* [prob. alter. of [1]*gavel*] *Brit* : a periodic payment of rent

ga·lea \'gā-lē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, helmet] : an anatomical part suggesting a helmet: as **a** : the upper lip of the corolla of a mint **b** : the outer or lateral lobe of the maxilla in mandibulate insects — **ga·le·ate** \-lē-ˌāt\ *also* **ga·le·at·ed** \-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* — **ga·le·iform** \gə-'lē-ə-ˌfȯrm, 'gā-lē-\ *adj*

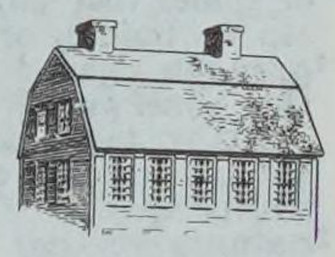
ga·le·na \gə-'lē-nə\ *n* [L, lead ore] : a bluish gray mineral PbS with metallic luster consisting of lead sulfide, showing highly perfect cubic cleavage, and constituting the principal ore of lead
Ga·len·ic \gā-'len-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to Galen or his medical principles or method — **Ga·len·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
galenical *n* : a medicine prepared by extracting one or more active constituents of a plant
Ga·len·ism \'gā-lə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the Galenic system of medical practice
ga·lère \ga-'le(ə)r\ *n* [F, lit., galley, fr. MF, fr. Catal *galera*, fr. MGk *galea*] : a group of people having a marked common quality or relationship
gal Friday *n* : GIRL FRIDAY
Ga·li·bi \gə-'lē-bē, 'gal-ə-bē\ *n, pl* **Galibi** *or* **Galibis** **1** : a member of a Carib people of French Guiana **2** : the language of the Galibi people
Gal·i·le·an \ˌgal-ə-'lē-ən, -'lā-\ *adj* : of or relating to Galileo Galilei, founder of experimental physics and astronomy
gal·i·lee \'gal-ə-ˌlē\ *n* [AF, fr. ML *galilaea*] : a chapel or porch at the entrance of an English church
gal·i·ma·ti·as \ˌgal-ə-'mā-shē-əs, -mə-'tyä\ *n* [F] : a confused and often pretentious mixture esp. of words : GOBBLEDYGOOK
gal·in·gale \'gal-ən-ˌgāl, -iŋ-\ *n* [ME, a kind of ginger, fr. MF *galingal*, fr. Ar *khalanjān*] : an Old World sedge (*Cyperus longus*) with an aromatic root; *broadly* : any of various plants related to galingale
gal·i·ot *var of* GALLIOT
gal·i·pot \'gal-ə-ˌpät, -ˌpō\ *n* [F] : the crude turpentine oleoresin exuded from a southern European pine (*Pinus pinaster*)
[1]gall \'gȯl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gealla*; akin to Gk *cholē*, *cholos* gall, wrath, OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] **1 a** : BILE; *esp* : bile obtained from an animal and used in the arts or medicine **b** : something bitter to endure **c** : bitterness of spirit : RANCOR **2** : brazen boldness coupled with impudent assurance and insolence ***syn*** see TEMERITY
[2]gall *n* [ME *galle*, fr. OE *gealla*, fr. L *galla* gallnut] **1 a** : a skin sore caused by chronic irritation **b** : a cause or state of exasperation **2** *archaic* : FLAW
[3]gall *vt* **1 a** : to fret and wear away by friction : CHAFE ⟨the loose saddle ~*ed* the horse's back⟩ ⟨the ~*ing* of a metal bearing⟩ **b** : IRRITATE, VEX ⟨sarcasm ~*s* her⟩ **2** : HARASS ⟨~*ed* by enemy fire⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become sore or worn by rubbing **2** : SEIZE 2
[4]gall *n* [ME *galle*, fr. MF, fr. L *galla*] : a swelling of plant tissue usu. due to fungi or insect parasites and sometimes forming an important source of tannin



gall on an oak leaf

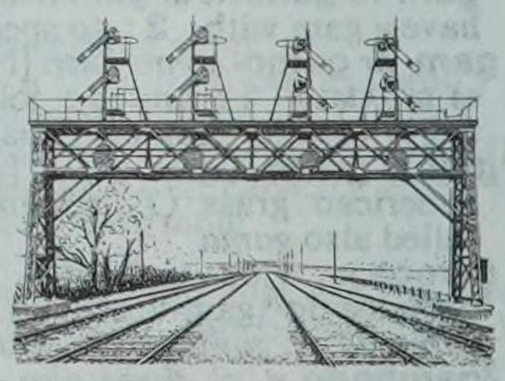
Gal·la \'gal-ə\ *n, pl* **Galla** *or* **Gallas** **1** : a member of any of several groups of Cushitic-speaking peoples of Kenya and southern Ethiopia **2** : the Cushitic language of the Galla
gal·la·mine tri·eth·io·dide \'gal-ə-ˌmēn-ˌtrī-ˌeth-'ī-ə-ˌdīd\ *n* [pyro*gallol* + *amine* + *triethyl* + *iodide*] : a substituted ammonium salt $C_{30}H_{60}I_3N_3O_3$ that is used to produce muscle relaxation esp. during anesthesia — called also *gallamine*
[1]gal·lant \gə-'lant, gə-'länt, 'gal-ənt\ *n* **1** : a young man of fashion **2 a** : LADIES' MAN **b** : SUITOR **c** : PARAMOUR
[2]gal·lant \'gal-ənt (*usu in sense 2*); gə-'lant, gə-'länt (*usu in sense 3*)\ *adj* [ME *galaunt*, fr. MF *galant*, fr. prp. of *galer* to have a good time, fr. *gale* pleasure, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *wela* weal — more at WEAL] **1** : showy in dress or bearing : SMART **2 a** : SPLENDID, STATELY ⟨a ~ ship⟩ **b** : SPIRITED, BRAVE ⟨~ efforts against the enemy⟩ **c** : nobly chivalrous and often self-sacrificing **3 a** : courteously and elaborately attentive esp. to ladies **b** : given to amorous intrigue ***syn*** see CIVIL ***ant*** ungallant — **gal·lant·ly** *adv*
[3]gal·lant \gə-'lant, -'länt\ *vt* **1** : to pay court to (a lady) : ATTEND **2** *obs* : to manipulate (a fan) in a modish manner ~ *vi* : to pay court to ladies
gal·lant·ry \'gal-ən-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** *archaic* : gallant appearance **2 a** : an act of marked courtesy **b** : courteous attention to a lady **c** : amorous attention or pursuit **3** : spirited and conspicuous bravery ***syn*** see HEROISM ***ant*** dastardliness
gal·late \'gal-ˌāt, 'gȯl-\ *n* : a salt or ester of gallic acid
gall·blad·der \'gȯl-ˌblad-ər\ *n* : a membranous muscular sac in which bile from the liver is stored
gal·le·ass \'gal-ē-əs\ *n* [MF *galeasse*] : a large fast war galley of southern Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries
gal·lein \'gal-ē-ən, 'gal-ˌēn\ *n* [*gallic* acid + phthal*ein*] : a metallic-green crystalline phthalein dye $C_{20}H_{12}O_7$ used esp. in dyeing textiles violet and as an indicator
gal·le·on \'gal-ē-ən\ *n* [OSp *galeón*, fr. MF *galion*, fr. OF *galie* galley] : a heavy square-rigged sailing ship of the 15th to early 18th centuries used for war or commerce esp. by the Spanish
gal·lery \'gal(-ə)-rē\ *n, pl* **-ler·ies** [ME *galerie*, fr. ML *galeria*] **1 a** : a roofed promenade : COLONNADE **b** : CORRIDOR **2 a** : an outdoor balcony **b** *South & Midland* : PORCH, VERANDA **c** (1) : a platform at the quarters or stern of a ship (2) : a gun platform or emplacement on a ship **d** : a railed walk around the upper part of an engine to facilitate oiling or inspection **3 a** : a long and narrow passage, apartment, or corridor **b** : a subterranean passageway in a cave or military mining system; *also* : a working drift or level in mining **c** : an underground passage made by a mole or ant or a passage made in wood by an insect **4 a** : a room or building devoted to the exhibition of works of art **b** : an institution or business exhibiting or dealing in works of art **c** : COLLECTION, AGGREGATION ⟨the rich ~ of characters in this novel —H. S. Canby⟩ **5 a** : a structure projecting from one or more interior walls of an auditorium to accommodate additional people; *esp* : the highest balcony in a theater commonly having the cheapest seats **b** : the part of a theater audience seated in the top gallery **c** : the undiscriminating general public **d** : the spectators at a tennis or golf match **6** : a photographer's studio — **gal·ler·ied** \-rēd\ *adj*
gallery forest *n* : a forest growing along a watercourse in a region otherwise devoid of trees
gal·lery-go·er \'gal(-ə)-rē-ˌgō(-ə)r\ *n* : one who frequently goes to art galleries
ga·lle·ta \gə-'yet-ə, gī-'et-ə\ *n* [Sp, hardtack] : either of two perennial forage grasses (*Hilaria rigida* and *H. jamesii*) used for hay in the southwestern U.S. and in Mexico
gal·ley \'gal-ē\ *n, pl* **galleys** [ME *galeie*, fr. OF *galie*, deriv. of MGk *galea*] **1** : a large low medieval ship propelled by sails and oars and used in the Mediterranean for war and trading **2** : a seagoing ship of classical antiquity propelled chiefly by oars **3** : a large open rowing boat formerly used in England **4** : the kitchen and cooking apparatus esp. of a ship or airplane **5 a** : an oblong tray commonly of pressed steel with upright sides to hold set type **b** : a proof from type on a galley before it is made up in pages
galley slave *n* **1** : a slave or criminal acting as a rower on a galley **2** : DRUDGE 1
gal·ley–west \ˌgal-ē-'west\ *adv* [prob. alter. of E dial. *collywest* (badly askew)] : into destruction or confusion ⟨was knocked ~⟩
gall·fly \'gȯl-ˌflī\ *n* : an insect (as a gall wasp) that deposits its eggs in plants and causes galls in which the larvae feed
[1]gal·liard \'gal-yərd\ *adj* [ME *gaillard*, fr. MF] *archaic* : GAY, LIVELY
[2]galliard *n* : a gay dance with five steps to a phrase popular in the 16th and 17th centuries
Gal·lic \'gal-ik\ *adj* [L *Gallicus*, fr. *Gallia* Gaul] : of or relating to Gaul or France
gallic acid \ˌgal-ik-, ˌgȯ-lik-\ *n* [F *gallique*, fr. *galle* gall] : a white crystalline acid $C_7H_6O_5$ found widely in plants or combined in tannins and used esp. in dyes and writing ink and as a photographic developer
Gal·li·can \'gal-i-kən\ *adj* **1** : GALLIC **2** *often not cap* : of or relating to Gallicanism — **Gallican** *n*
Gal·li·can·ism \-kə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a movement originating in France and advocating administrative independence from papal control for the Roman Catholic Church in each nation
gal·li·cism \'gal-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : a characteristic French idiom or expression appearing in another language **2** : a French trait
gal·li·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : to cause to conform to a French mode or idiom — **gal·li·ci·za·tion** \ˌgal-ə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*
gal·li·gas·kins \ˌgal-i-'gas-kənz\ *n pl* [prob. modif. of MF *garguesques*, fr. OSp *gregüescos*, fr. *griego* Greek, fr. L *Graecus*] **1 a** : loose wide hose or breeches worn in the 16th and 17th centuries **b** : very loose trousers **2** *chiefly dial* : LEGGINGS
gal·li·mau·fry \ˌgal-ə-'mȯ-frē\ *n, pl* **-fries** [MF *galimafree* hash] : MEDLEY, JUMBLE
gal·li·na·ceous \ˌgal-ə-'nā-shəs\ *adj* [L *gallinaceus* of domestic fowl, fr. *gallina* hen, fr. *gallus* cock] : of or relating to an order (Galliformes) of heavy-bodied largely terrestrial birds including the pheasants, turkeys, grouse, and the common domestic fowl
gall·ing \'gȯ-liŋ\ *adj* : markedly irritating : VEXING ⟨suffered a ~ defeat⟩ — **gall·ing·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv*
gal·li·nip·per \'gal-ə-ˌnip-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] : a very large American mosquito (*Psorophora ciliata*); *also* : an insect that bites or is thought to bite
gal·li·nule \'gal-ə-ˌn(y)ü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *Gallinula*, genus of birds, fr. L, pullet, dim. of *gallina*] : any of several aquatic birds of the rail family with unlobed feet and a frontal shield on the head
gal·li·ot \'gal-ē-ət\ *n* [ME *galiote*, fr. MF, fr. ML *galeota*, dim. of *galea* galley, fr. MGk] **1** : a small swift galley formerly used in the Mediterranean **2** [D *galjoot*, fr. MF *galiote*] : a long narrow light-draft Dutch merchant sailing ship
gal·li·pot \'gal-i-ˌpät\ *n* [ME *galy pott*] **1** : a small usu. ceramic vessel **2** *archaic* : DRUGGIST
gal·li·um \'gal-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *gallus* (intended as trans. of Paul *Lecoq* de Boisbaudran †1912 F chemist] : a rare bluish white metallic element that is hard and brittle at low temperatures but melts just above room temperature and expands on freezing — see ELEMENT table
gal·li·vant \'gal-ə-ˌvant\ *vi* [perh. alter. of [3]*gallant*] **1** : to go about usu. ostentatiously or indiscreetly with members of the opposite sex **2** : to travel or roam about for pleasure
gall midge *n* : any of numerous minute two-winged flies (family Cecidomyiidae) most of which cause gall formation in plants
gall mite *n* : any of various minute 4-legged mites (family Eriophyidae) that form galls on plants
gall·nut \'gȯl-ˌnət\ *n* [[4]*gall*] : a gall resembling a nut
Gal·lo·ma·nia \ˌgal-ō-'mā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL, fr. L *Gallus* Gaul] : a strong prejudice in favor of what is French
gal·lon \'gal-ən\ *n* [ME *galon*, a liquid measure, fr. ONF, fr. ML *galeta* pail, a liquid measure] : a unit of liquid capacity equal to 231 cubic inches or four quarts — see WEIGHT table
gal·lon·age \'gal-ə-nij\ *n* : amount in gallons
gal·loon \gə-'lün\ *n* [F *galon*] : a narrow trimming esp. of lace, embroidery, or braid with metallic threads — **gal·looned** \-'lünd\ *adj*
[1]gal·lop \'gal-əp\ *n* [MF *galop*] **1** : a springing gait of a quadruped; *specif* : a fast natural 3-beat gait of the horse — compare [3]CANTER, RUN **2** : a ride or run at a gallop **3** : a rapid or hasty progression ⟨rushed through the reports at a ~⟩
[2]gallop *vi* **1** : to progress or ride at a gallop **2** : to run fast ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to gallop **2** : to transport at a gallop — **gal·lop·er** *n*
gal·lo·pade \ˌgal-ə-'pād, -'päd\ *n* : GALOP
Gal·lo·phile \'gal-ə-ˌfīl\ *n* [L *Gallus* Gaul + E *-phile*] : FRANCOPHILE — **Gallophile** *adj*

gal·lop·ing *adj* : progressing or increasing rapidly ⟨~ inflation⟩ ⟨a ~ disease⟩ ⟨~ corruption in government — *Atlantic*⟩
Gal·lo·way \'gal-ə-ˌwā\ *n* [*Galloway*, Scotland] : any of a breed of hardy medium-sized hornless chiefly black beef cattle native to southwestern Scotland
gal·low·glass \'gal-ō-ˌglas\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. IrGael *gallōglach*, fr. *gall* foreigner + *ōglach* soldier] **1** : a mercenary or retainer of an Irish chief **2** : an armed Irish foot soldier
¹gal·lows \'gal-(ˌ)ōz, -əz, *in sense 3 also* -əs\ *n, pl* **gallows** *or* **gal·lows·es** [ME *galwes*, pl. of *galwe*, fr. OE *gealga;* akin to OHG *galgo* gallows, Arm *jatk* twig] **1 a** : a frame usu. of two upright posts and a crossbeam from which criminals are hanged — called also *gallows tree* **b** : the punishment of hanging ⟨got the ~ for murder⟩ **2** : a structure consisting of an upright frame with a crosspiece **3** *chiefly dial* : SUSPENDER 2a
²gallows *adj* : deserving the gallows
gallows bird *n* : a person who deserves hanging
gallows humor *n* [trans. of G *galgenhumor*] : humor that makes fun of a very serious or terrifying situation
gall·stone \'gȯl-ˌstōn\ *n* : a calculus formed in the gallbladder or biliary passages
Gal·lup poll \ˌgal-əp-\ *n* [George H. *Gallup b*1901 Am public opinion statistician] : a sampling of public opinion taken by questioning a representative cross section ⟨we can . . . find out who are the supporters only by organizing inquiries and *Gallup polls* — Barbara & Robert North⟩
gal·lus \'gal-əs\ *n* [alter. of ¹*gallows*] *chiefly dial* : SUSPENDER 2a — usu. used in pl.
gal·lused \'gal-əst\ *adj, chiefly dial* : wearing galluses
gall wasp *n* : a hymenopterous gallfly (family Cynipidae)
gal·ly \'gal-ē\ *vt* **gal·lied; gal·ly·ing** [origin unknown] *chiefly dial* : FRIGHTEN, TERRIFY
Ga·lois theory \'gal-ˌwä-\ *n* [Évariste *Galois* †1832 F mathematician] : a part of the theory of mathematical groups concerned esp. with the conditions under which a solution to a polynomial equation with coefficients in a given mathematical field can be obtained in the field by the repetition of operations and the extraction of nth roots
ga·loot \gə-'lüt\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : FELLOW; *esp* : one that is strange or foolish
ga·lop \'gal-əp, ga-'lō\ *n* [F] : a lively dance in duple measure; *also* : the music of a galop
ga·lore \gə-'lō(ə)r, -'lȯ(ə)r\ *adj* [IrGael *go leor* enough] : ABUNDANT, PLENTIFUL — used postpositively ⟨bargains ~⟩
ga·losh \gə-'läsh\ *n* [ME *galoche*, fr. MF] **1** *obs* : a shoe with a heavy sole **2** : a high overshoe worn esp. in snow and slush — **ga·loshed** \-'läsht\ *adj*
ga·lumph \gə-'ləm(p)f\ *vi* [prob. alter. of ¹*gallop*] : to move with a clumsy heavy tread
galv *abbr* galvanized
gal·van·ic \gal-'van-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or producing a direct current of electricity ⟨a ~ cell⟩ **2 a** : having an electric effect : STIMULATING ⟨a ~ personality⟩ **b** : produced as if by an electric shock : JERKY, NERVOUS ⟨a ~ response⟩— **gal·van·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
galvanic couple *n* : a pair of dissimilar substances (as metals) capable of acting together as an electric source when brought in contact with an electrolyte
gal·va·nism \'gal-və-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [F or It; F *galvanisme*, fr. It *galvanismo*, fr. Luigi *Galvani*] **1** : a direct current of electricity esp. when produced by chemical action **2** : the therapeutic use of direct electric current **3** : vital or forceful activity
gal·va·nize \'gal-və-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1 a** : to subject to the action of an electric current esp. for the purpose of stimulating physiologically ⟨~ a muscle⟩ **b** : to stimulate or excite as if by an electric shock ⟨the candidate *galvanized* his followers into action⟩ **2** : to coat (iron or steel) with zinc — **gal·va·ni·za·tion** \ˌgal-və-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **gal·va·niz·er** \'gal-və-ˌnī-zər\ *n*
galvano- *comb form* [*galvanic*] : galvanic current ⟨*galvano*meter⟩
gal·va·nom·e·ter \ˌgal-və-'näm-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for detecting or measuring a small electric current by movements of a magnetic needle or of a coil in a magnetic field — **gal·va·no·met·ric** \-nō-'me-trik\ *adj*
gal·va·no·scope \gal-'van-ə-ˌskōp, 'gal-və-nə-\ *n* : an instrument for detecting the presence and direction of an electric current by the deflection of a magnetic needle
gal·yak \'gal-ˌyak\ *n* [native name in Uzbekistan, U.S.S.R.] : a short-haired flat or slightly moiré fur derived from the pelt of a stillborn lamb or kid
¹gam \'gam\ *n* [prob. fr. F dial. *gambe*, fr. ONF, fr. LL *gamba*] *slang* : LEG
²gam *n* [perh. short for obs. *gammon* (talk)] **1** : a visit or friendly conversation at sea or ashore esp. between whalers **2** : a school of whales
³gam *vb* **gammed; gam·ming** *vi* : to engage in a gam ~ *vt* **1** : to have a gam with **2** : to spend or pass (as time) talking
gam- *or* **gamo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, marriage, fr. *gamos* — more at BIGAMY] **1** : united : joined ⟨*gamo*sepalous⟩ **2** : sexual : sexuality ⟨*gamic*⟩ ⟨*gamo*genesis⟩
gama grass \'gam-ə-\ *n* [prob. alter. of *grama*] : a tall coarse American grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*) valuable for forage — called also *gama*
gamba *n* : VIOLA DA GAMBA
¹gam·ba·do \gam-'bād-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-does** *also* **-dos** [perh. modif. of It *gambale*, fr. *gamba* leg] : a horseman's legging
²gambado *n, pl* **-does** *also* **-dos** [modif. of F *gambade* — more at GAMBOL] **1** : a spring of a horse **2** : CAPER, GAMBOL
gam·bier *also* **gam·bir** \'gam-ˌbi(ə)r\ *n* [Malay *gambir*] : a yellowish catechu that is obtained from a Malayan woody vine and is used for chewing with the betel nut and for tanning and dyeing
gam·bit \'gam-bət\ *n* [It *gambetto*, lit., act of tripping someone, fr. *gamba* leg, fr. LL *gamba, camba*, modif. of Gk *kampē* bend — more at CAMP] **1** : a chess opening in which a player risks one or more minor pieces to gain an advantage in position **2 a** (1) : a remark intended to start a conversation or make a telling point (2) : TOPIC **b** : a calculated move : STRATAGEM
¹gam·ble \'gam-bəl\ *vb* **gam·bled; gam·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. back-formation fr. *gambler*, prob. alter. of obs. *gamner*, fr. obs. *gamen* (to play)] *vi* **1 a** : to play a game for (as money or property) **b** : to bet on an uncertain outcome **2** : to stake something on a contingency : SPECULATE ~ *vt* **1** : to risk by gambling : WAGER **2** : VENTURE, HAZARD — **gam·bler** \-blər\ *n*
²gamble *n* **1** : the playing of a game of chance for stakes **2 a** : an act having an element of risk **b** : something chancy
gam·boge \gam-'bōj, -'büzh\ *n* [NL *gambogium*, alter. of *cambugium*, irreg. fr. *Cambodia*] **1** : an orange to brown gum resin from southeast Asian trees (genus *Garcinia*, family Guttiferae) that is used as a yellow pigment and cathartic **2** : a strong yellow
¹gam·bol \'gam-bəl\ *n* [modif. of MF *gambade* spring of a horse, gambol, prob. fr. OProv *camba* leg, fr. LL] : a skipping or leaping about in play
²gambol *vi* **-boled** *or* **-bolled; -bol·ing** *or* **-bol·ling** \-bə-liŋ *also* -bliŋ\ : to skip about in play : FRISK
gam·brel \'gam-brəl\ *n* [ONF *gamberel*, fr. *gambe* leg, fr. LL *gamba*] **1** : a stick or iron for suspending slaughtered animals **2** : the hock of an animal
gambrel roof *n* : a curb roof of the same section in all parts with a lower steeper slope and an upper flatter one


gambrel roof

gam·bu·sia \gam-'b(y)ü-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, modif. of AmerSp *gambusino* gambusia] : any of a genus (*Gambusia*) of topminnows introduced as valuable exterminators of mosquito larvae in warm fresh waters
¹game \'gām\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gamen;* akin to OHG *gaman* amusement] **1 a** (1) : activity engaged in for diversion or amusement : PLAY ⟨children happy at their ~*s*⟩ (2) : the equipment for a game **b** : often derisive or mocking jesting : FUN, SPORT ⟨make ~ of a nervous player⟩ ⟨stop your ~*s* and nonsense⟩ **2 a** : a procedure or strategy for gaining an end : TACTIC **b** (1) : an illegal or shady scheme or maneuver : RACKET (2) : a field of gainful activity : LINE ⟨the newspaper ~⟩ (3) : a specified type of activity or mode of behavior ⟨the dating ~⟩ ⟨the ~ of politics⟩ **3 a** (1) : a physical or mental competition conducted according to rules with the participants in direct opposition to each other (2) : a division of a larger contest (3) : the number of points necessary to win (4) : points scored in certain card games (as in all fours) by a player whose cards count up the highest (5) : the manner of playing in a contest (6) : the set of rules governing a game **b** *pl* : organized athletics **c** : a situation that involves contest, rivalry, or struggle ⟨got into aviation early in the ~⟩; *esp* : one in which opposing interests given specific information are allowed a choice of moves with the object of maximizing their wins and minimizing their losses **4 a** (1) : animals under pursuit or taken in hunting; *esp* : wild animals hunted for sport or food (2) : the flesh of game animals **b** *archaic* : PLUCK **c** : an object of ridicule or attack — often used in the phrase *fair game* ***syn*** see FUN
²game *vb* **gamed; gam·ing** *vi* : to play for a stake ~ *vt, archaic* : to lose or squander by gambling
³game *adj* **1** : having a resolute unyielding spirit ⟨~ to the end⟩ **2** : of or relating to game ⟨~ laws⟩
⁴game *adj* [perh. fr. ³*game*] : LAME ⟨a ~ leg⟩
game·cock \'gām-ˌkäk\ *n* : a male game fowl
game fish *n* **1** : a fish of a family (Salmonidae) including salmons, trouts, chars, and whitefishes **2** : SPORT FISH; *esp* : a fish made a legal catch by law
game fowl *n* : a domestic fowl of a strain developed for the production of fighting cocks
game·keep·er \'gām-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : one that has charge of the breeding and protection of game animals or birds on a private preserve
gam·elan \'gam-ə-ˌlan\ *n* [Jav] **1** : a Javanese instrument resembling the xylophone **2** : a flute, string, and percussion orchestra of southeast Asia
game·ly \'gām-lē\ *adv* : in a plucky manner
game·ness \'gām-nəs\ *n* : ENDURANCE, PLUCK
game of chance : a game (as a dice game) in which chance rather than skill determines the outcome
game of skill : a game (as chess) in which skill rather than chance determines the outcome
game plan *n* : a strategy for achieving an objective
game point *n* : a situation (as in tennis) in which one player will win the game by winning the next point; *also* : the point won
games·man·ship \'gāmz-mən-ˌship\ *n* : the art or practice of winning games by questionable expedients without actually violating the rules
game·some \'gām-səm\ *adj* : MERRY, FROLICSOME — **game·some·ly** *adv* — **game·some·ness** *n*
game·ster \'gām-stər\ *n* : a person who plays games; *esp* : GAMBLER
gamet- *or* **gameto-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *gameta*] : gamete ⟨*gameto*phore⟩
gam·etan·gi·um \ˌgam-ə-'tan-jē-əm\ *n, pl* **-gia** \-jē-ə\ [NL, fr. *gamet-* + Gk *angeion* vessel — more at ANGI-] : a cell or organ in which gametes are developed
ga·mete \gə-'mēt, 'gam-ˌēt\ *n* [NL *gameta*, fr. Gk *gametēs* husband, fr. *gamein* to marry, fr. *gamos* marriage — more at BIGAMY] : a mature germ cell possessing a haploid chromosome set and capable of initiating formation of a new individual by fusion with another

gamete — **ga·met·ic** \gə-'met-ik\ *adj* — **ga·met·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
game theory *n* : THEORY OF GAMES
ga·me·to·cyte \gə-'mēt-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a cell that divides to produce gametes
ga·me·to·gen·e·sis \gə-ˌmēt-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the production of gametes — **ga·me·to·gen·ic** \-'jen-ik\ *or* **gam·etog·e·nous** \ˌgam-ə-'täj-ə-nəs\ *adj* — **gam·etog·e·ny** \-nē\ *n*
ga·me·to·phore \gə-'mēt-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a modified branch bearing gametangia — **ga·me·to·phor·ic** \-ˌmēt-ə-'fȯr-ik, -'fär-\ *adj*
ga·me·to·phyte \gə-'mēt-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : the individual or generation of a plant exhibiting alternation of generations that bears sex organs — compare SPOROPHYTE — **ga·me·to·phyt·ic** \-ˌmēt-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj*
gam·ic \'gam-ik\ *adj* : requiring fertilization : SEXUAL
-gam·ic \'gam-ik\ *adj comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *-gamos* -gamous] : having (such) reproductive organs ⟨cleisto*gamic*⟩
gam·in \'gam-ən\ *n* [F] **1** : a boy who hangs out on the streets : URCHIN **2** : GAMINE 2
ga·mine \ga-'mēn\ *n* [F, fem. of *gamin*] **1** : a girl who hangs out on the streets : TOMBOY **2** : a girl of elfin appeal
gam·ing \'gā-miŋ\ *n* **1** : the practice of gambling **2** : the playing of games that simulate actual conditions (as of business or war) esp. for training or testing purposes
[1]gam·ma \'gam-ə\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *gīmel* gimel] **1** : the 3d letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : the degree of contrast of a developed photographic image or of a television image **3** : a unit of magnetic intensity equal to 0.00001 oersted **4** : GAMMA RAY **5** : MICROGRAM
[2]gamma *or* γ- *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being one of three or more closely related chemical substances **2** : third in position in the structure of an organic molecule from a particular group or atom
gamma globulin *n* : any of several globulins of plasma or serum that have less electrophoretic mobility at alkaline pH than serum albumins, alpha globulins, or beta globulins and that include most antibodies
gamma ray *n* **1** : a photon or radiation quantum emitted spontaneously by a radioactive substance; *also* : a high-energy photon **2** : a continuous stream of gamma rays — called also *gamma radiation*
gam·mer \'gam-ər\ *n* [prob. alter. of *godmother*] : an old woman — compare GAFFER
[1]gam·mon \'gam-ən\ *n* [ONF *gambon* ham, aug. of *gambe* leg — more at GAM] **1** *chiefly Brit* : HAM 2 **2** *chiefly Brit* **a** : a side of bacon **b** : the lower end of a side of bacon
[2]gammon *n* [perh. alter. of ME *gamen* game] **1** *archaic* : BACKGAMMON **2** : the winning of a backgammon game before the loser removes any men from the board
[3]gammon *vt* : to beat by scoring a gammon
[4]gammon *n* [obs. *gammon* (talk)] : talk intended to deceive : HUMBUG
[5]gammon *vi* **1** : to talk gammon **2** : PRETEND, FEIGN ~ *vt* : DECEIVE, FOOL
gamo- — see GAM-
gamo·deme \'gam-ə-ˌdēm\ *n* : a more or less isolated breeding community of organisms
gamo·gen·e·sis \ˌgam-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : sexual reproduction — **gamo·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* — **gamo·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
gamo·pet·al·ous \-'pet-ᵊl-əs\ *adj* : having the corolla composed of united petals ⟨the morning glory is ~⟩
gamo·phyl·lous \-'fil-əs\ *adj* : having united leaves or leaflike parts
gamo·sep·al·ous \-'sep-ə-ləs\ *adj* : having the sepals united
-g·a·mous \g-ə-məs\ *adj comb form* [Gk *-gamos*, fr. *gamos* marriage — more at BIGAMY] **1** : characterized by having or practicing (such) a marriage or (such or so many) marriages ⟨exo*gamous*⟩ **2** : -GAMIC ⟨hetero*gamous*⟩
gamp \'gamp\ *n* [Sarah *Gamp*, nurse with a large umbrella in *Martin Chuzzlewit* by Charles Dickens] *Brit* : a large umbrella
gam·ut \'gam-ət\ *n* [ML *gamma*, lowest note of Guido's scale (fr. LL, 3d letter of the Greek alphabet) + *ut*] **1** : the whole series of recognized musical notes **2** : an entire range or series ⟨the letters she received ran the ~ from praise to contempt⟩
gamy *or* **gam·ey** \'gā-mē\ *adj* **gam·i·er; -est** **1** : BRAVE, PLUCKY — used esp. of animals **2** **a** : having the flavor of game; *esp* : having the flavor of game near tainting **b** : SMELLY **3** **a** : SCANDALOUS, SPICY ⟨gave her all the ~ details⟩ **b** : CORRUPT, DISREPUTABLE ⟨a ~ character⟩— **gam·i·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **gam·i·ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*
-g·a·my \g-ə-mē\ *n comb form* [ME *-gamie*, fr. LL *-gamia*, fr. Gk — more at BIGAMY] **1** : marriage ⟨exo*gamy*⟩ **2** : union for propagation or reproduction ⟨allo*gamy*⟩ **3** : possession of (such) reproductive organs or (such) a mode of fertilization ⟨cleisto*gamy*⟩
gan *past of* GIN
Gan·da \'gan-də\ *n, pl* **Ganda** *or* **Gandas** **1** : a member of a Bantu-speaking people of Uganda **2** : the Bantu language of the Ganda people used as the official language of Uganda
[1]gan·der \'gan-dər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gandra*; akin to OE *gōs* goose] **1** : the adult male goose **2** : SIMPLETON
[2]gander *vi, dial* : WANDER, RAMBLE
[3]gander *n* [prob. fr. [1]*gander*; fr. the outstretched neck of a person craning to look at something] *slang* : LOOK, GLANCE ⟨talking and taking ~*s* at the girls — *Life*⟩
Gan·dhi·an \'gän-dē-ən, 'gan-\ *adj* : of or relating to the Indian political and spiritual leader Mohandas K. Gandhi or his principle of nonviolence
gan·dy dancer \'gan-dē-\ *n* [perh. fr. the *Gandy* Manufacturing Company, Chicago, Illinois, toolmakers] **1** : a laborer in a railroad section gang **2** : an itinerant or seasonal laborer
ga·nef \'gän-əf\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. Heb *gannābh* thief] *slang* : THIEF, RASCAL
Ga·ne·lon \ˌgan-ᵊl-'ōⁿ\ *n* [F] : the traitor in the Charlemagne romances who schemes for the defeat of Charlemagne's rear guard at Roncesvalles
[1]gang \'gaŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *gang* act of going, Skt *jaṅghā* shank] **1** *dial Brit* : JOURNEY, WAY **2** **a** (1) : a set of articles : OUTFIT ⟨a ~ of oars⟩ (2) : a combination of similar implements or devices arranged for convenience to act together ⟨a ~ of saws⟩ **b** : GROUP: as (1) : a group of persons working together (2) : a group of persons working to unlawful or antisocial ends; *esp* : a band of antisocial adolescents **3** : a group of persons having informal and usu. close social relations ⟨have the ~ over for a party⟩
[2]gang *vt* **1** : to attack in a gang **2** **a** : to assemble or operate simultaneously as a group **b** : to arrange in or produce as a gang (as type pages) ~ *vi* : to move or act as a gang ⟨everyone ~*ed* toward the door⟩
[3]gang *vi* [ME *gangen*, fr. OE *gangan*; akin to OE *gang*] *Scot* : GO
gang·er \'gaŋ-ər\ *n, Brit* : the foreman of a gang of workmen
gang hook *n* : two or three fishhooks with their shanks joined together
gang·land \'gaŋ-ˌland\ *n* : the world of organized crime
gangli- *or* **ganglio-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *ganglion*] : ganglion ⟨*ganglio*ectomy⟩ ⟨*ganglio*plexus⟩
gan·gling \'gaŋ-gliŋ, -glən\ *adj* [perh. irreg. fr. Sc *gangrel* vagrant, lanky person] : being loosely and awkwardly built : LANKY ⟨a ~ gawky child⟩
gan·gli·on \'gaŋ-glē-ən\ *n, pl* **-glia** \-glē-ə\ *also* **-gli·ons** [LL, fr. Gk] **1** **a** : a small cystic tumor connected either with a joint membrane or tendon sheath **b** : a mass of nerve tissue containing nerve cells external to the brain or spinal cord; *also* : NUCLEUS 2b **2** : a focus of strength or energy — **gan·gli·on·at·ed** \'gaŋ-glē-əˌnāt-əd\ *adj* — **gan·gli·on·ic** \ˌgaŋ-glē-'än-ik\ *adj*
gan·gli·o·side \'gaŋ-glē-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV *ganglion* + [2]*-ose* + *-ide*] : any of a group of lipids that yield a hexose sugar on hydrolysis and are found esp. in ganglion cells
gan·gly \'gaŋ-glē\ *adj* **gan·gli·er; -est** : GANGLING
gang·plank \'gaŋ-ˌplaŋk\ *n* : a movable bridge used in boarding or leaving a ship at a pier
gang·plow \-ˌplaü\ *n* : a plow designed to turn two or more furrows at one time
gang·rel \'gaŋ-(ə-)rəl\ *n* [ME, irreg. fr. *gangen* to go, fr. OE *gangan*; akin to OE *gang*] *Scot* : VAGRANT
[1]gan·grene \'gaŋ-ˌgrēn, gaŋ-', 'gan-ˌ, gan-'\ *n* [L *gangraena*, fr. Gk *gangraina*; akin to Gk *gran* to gnaw] **1** : local death of soft tissues due to loss of blood supply **2** : a pervasive moral evil — **gan·gre·nous** \'gaŋ-grə-nəs\ *adj*
[2]gangrene *vb* **gan·grened; gan·gren·ing** *vt* : to make gangrenous ~ *vi* : to become gangrenous
gang·ster \'gaŋ-stər\ *n* : a member of a gang of criminals : RACKETEER — **gang·ster·ism** \-stə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*
gangue \'gaŋ\ *n* [F, fr. G *gang* vein of metal, fr. OHG, act of going] : the worthless rock or vein matter in which valuable metals or minerals occur
gang up *vi* **1** : to combine for a specific purpose ⟨*ganged up* to raise prices⟩ **2** : to make a joint assault ⟨*ganged up* on him and beat him up⟩ **3** : to exert group pressure ⟨the class *ganged up* against the teacher⟩
gang·way \'gaŋ-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : PASSAGEWAY; *esp* : a temporary way of planks **2** **a** : either of the sides of the upper deck of a ship **b** : the opening by which a ship is boarded **c** : GANGPLANK **3** *Brit* : AISLE **4** : a main level or haulageway in a mine **5** **a** : a cross aisle dividing the front benches from the back benches in the British House of Commons **b** : an aisle in the British House of Commons that separates government and opposition benches **6** : a clear passage through a crowd — often used as an interjection
gan·is·ter *or* **gan·nis·ter** \'gan-ə-stər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a fine-grained quartzite used in the manufacture of refractory brick **2** : a mixture of ground quartz and fireclay used for lining metallurgical furnaces
gan·ja \'gän-jə, 'gan-\ *n* [Hindi *gāǰā*, fr. Skt *gañjā*] : a potent and selected preparation of cannabis used esp. for smoking
gan·net \'gan-ət\ *n, pl* **gannets** *also* **gannet** [ME *ganet*, fr. OE *ganot*; akin to OE *gōs* goose] : any of several large fish-eating seabirds (family Sulidae) that breed in large colonies chiefly on offshore islands
gan·oid \'gan-ˌȯid\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *ganos* brightness; akin to Gk *gēthein* to rejoice — more at JOY] : of or relating to a subclass (Ganoidei) of living and extinct teleost fishes (as the sturgeons) with usu. hard rhombic enameled scales — **ganoid** *n*
gante·lope *or* **gant·lope** \'gant-ˌlōp\ *n* [modif. of Sw *gatlopp*, fr. OSw *gatulop*, fr. *gata* road + *lop* course] *archaic* : [2]GAUNTLET
[1]gant·let \'gȯnt-lət, 'gänt-\ *var of* GAUNTLET
[2]gantlet *n* [[2]*gauntlet*] : a stretch of railroad track where two lines of track overlap so that one rail of each track is within the rails of the other in order to obviate switching
gant·line \'gant-ˌlīn, -lən\ *n* [perh. alter. of *girtline* (gantline)] : a line rove through a block aloft on a ship and used for hoisting
gan·try \'gan-trē\ *n, pl* **gantries** [perh. modif. of ONF *gantier*, fr. L *cantherius* trellis] **1** : a frame for supporting barrels **2** : a frame structure raised on side supports so as to span over or around something: as **a** : a platform made to carry a traveling crane and supported by towers or side frames running on parallel tracks; *also* : a movable structure with platforms at different levels used for erecting and servicing rockets before launching **b** : a structure spanning several railroad tracks and displaying signals for each


gantry 2b

Gan·y·mede \'gan-i-ˌmēd\ *n* [L *Ganymedes*, fr. Gk *Ganymēdēs*] **1** : a beautiful youth in classical mythology carried off to Olympus to be the cupbearer of the gods **2** : a youth who serves liquors : CUPBEARER **3** : the 4th satellite of Jupiter
GAO *abbr* General Accounting Office

gaol \'jā(ə)l\ *chiefly Brit var of* JAIL

¹gap \'gap\ *n* [ME, fr. ON, chasm, hole; akin to ON *gapa*] **1 a** : a break in a barrier (as a wall, hedge, or line of military defense) **b** : an assailable position **2 a** : a mountain pass **b** : RAVINE **3** : SPARK GAP **4** : a separation in space **5** : a break in continuity : HIATUS ⟨there were unexplained ~*s* in his story⟩ **6** : a break in the vascular cylinder of a plant where a vascular trace departs from the central cylinder **7** : lack of balance : DISPARITY ⟨the ~ between imports and exports⟩ **8** : a wide difference in character or attitude ⟨the generation ~⟩ — **gap·py** \-ē\ *adj*

²gap *vb* **gapped; gap·ping** *vt* : to make an opening in ~ *vi* : to fall or stand open

GAPA *abbr* ground-to-air pilotless aircraft

¹gape \'gāp *also* 'gap\ *vi* **gaped; gap·ing** [ME *gapen*, fr. ON *gapa;* akin to L *hiare* to gape, yawn — more at YAWN] **1 a** : to open the mouth wide **b** : to open or part widely ⟨holes *gaped* in the pavement⟩ **2** : to gaze stupidly or in openmouthed surprise or wonder **3** : YAWN ***syn*** see GAZE — **gap·ing·ly** \'gā-piŋ-lē, 'gap-iŋ-\ *adv*

²gape *n* **1** : an act of gaping: **a** : YAWN **b** : an openmouthed stare **2** : an unfilled space or extent **3 a** : the median margin-to-margin length of the open mouth **b** : the line along which the mandibles of a bird close **c** : the width of an opening **4** *pl but sing in constr* **a** : a disease of young birds in which gapeworms invade and irritate the trachea **b** : a fit of yawning

gap·er \'gā-pər, 'gap-ər\ *n* **1** : one that gapes **2** : any of several large sluggish burrowing clams (family Myacidae) including several used for food

gape·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : a nematode worm (*Syngamus trachea*) that causes gapes of birds

gapped scale *n* : a musical scale derived from a larger system of tones by omitting certain tones

¹gar \'gär\ *interj* [euphemism for *God*] — used as a mild oath

²gar *n* [short for *garfish*] : any of various fishes that have an elongate body resembling that of a pike and long and narrow jaws: as **a** : NEEDLEFISH **b** : any of several predaceous No. American freshwater ganoid fishes with rank tough flesh

³gar *abbr* garage

GAR *abbr* Grand Army of the Republic

¹ga·rage \gə-'räzh, -'räj\ *n* [F, act of docking, garage, fr. *garer* to dock, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG bi*warōn* to protect — more at WARE] : a shelter or repair shop for automotive vehicles

²garage *vt* **ga·raged; ga·rag·ing** : to keep or put in a garage

ga·rage·man \-ˌman\ *n* : a garage worker

garage sale *n* : a sale of used household or personal articles (as furniture, tools, or clothing) held on the seller's own premises

Ga·rand rifle \gə-'rand-, ˌgar-ənd-\ *n* [John C. *Garand*] : M1 RIFLE

garb \'gärb\ *n* [MF or OIt; MF *garbe* graceful contour, grace, fr. OIt *garbo* grace] **1** *obs* : FASHION, MANNER **2 a** : style of apparel **b** : outward form : APPEARANCE ⟨give . . . their madness the outward ~ of sanity —Lewis Mumford⟩ — **garb** *vt*

gar·bage \'gär-bij\ *n* [ME, animal entrails] **1 a** : food waste : REFUSE **b** : unwanted or useless material **2** : worthless writing or speech : TRASH

gar·ban·zo \gär-'ban-(ˌ)zō\ *n, pl* **-zos** [Sp] : CHICK-PEA — called also *garbanzo bean*

¹gar·ble \'gär-bəl\ *vt* **gar·bled; gar·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *garbelen*, fr. OIt *garbellare* to sift, fr. Ar *ghirbāl* sieve, fr. LL *cribellum;* akin to L *cernere* to sift — more at CERTAIN] **1** *archaic* : CULL **2** : to sift impurities from **3 a** : to so alter or distort as to create a wrong impression or change the meaning ⟨~ a story in repeating it⟩ **b** : to introduce textual error into (a message) by inaccurate encipherment, transmission, or decipherment ***syn*** see MISREPRESENT — **gar·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*

²garble *n* **1** : the impurities removed from spices in sifting **2** : an act or an instance of garbling

gar·board \'gär-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [obs. D *gaarboord*] : the strake next to a ship's keel

gar·boil \-ˌbȯil\ *n* [MF *garbouil*] *archaic* : a confused disordered state : TURMOIL

gar·çon \gär-'sō^{n}\ *n, pl* **garçons** \-'sō^{n}(z)\ [F, boy, servant] : WAITER

garde–man·ger \ˌgärd-(ə-)ˌmä^{n}-'zhā\ *n, pl* **garde–mangers** \-'zhā(z)\ [F] : the cold meat department of a large kitchen; *also* : the chef in charge of it

¹gar·den \'gärd-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *gardin*, fr. ONF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *gart* enclosure — more at YARD] **1 a** : a plot of ground where herbs, fruits, flowers, or vegetables are cultivated **b** : a rich well-cultivated region **c** : a container (as a window box) planted with usu. a variety of small plants ⟨herb ~*s*⟩ ⟨a dish ~⟩ **2 a** : a public recreation area or park ⟨a botanical ~⟩ **b** : an open-air eating or drinking place — **gar·den·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*

²garden *vb* **gar·dened; gar·den·ing** \'gärd-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vi* : to lay out or work in a garden ~ *vt* **1** : to make into a garden **2** : to ornament with gardens — **gar·den·er** \'gärd-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

³garden *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or frequenting a garden **2 a** : of a kind grown in the open as distinguished from one more delicate ⟨~ plant⟩ **b** : ORDINARY, COMMONPLACE

garden apartment *n* : a multiple-unit dwelling having considerable lawn or garden space

garden city *n* : a planned residential community with park and planted areas

garden cress *n* : an Asiatic annual herb (*Lepidium sativum*) of the mustard family sometimes cultivated for its pungent basal leaves

garden heliotrope *n* **1** : a tall rhizomatous Old World valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*) widely cultivated for its fragrant tiny flowers and for its roots which yield the drug valerian **2** : a shrubby Peruvian heliotrope (*Heliotropium arborescens*) with fragrant usu. lilac or violet flowers

gar·de·nia \gär-'dē-nyə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Alexander *Garden* †1791 Sc naturalist] : any of a large genus (*Gardenia*) of Old World tropical trees and shrubs of the madder family with showy fragrant white or yellow flowers

garden–variety *adj* : GARDEN 2b

garde·robe \'gär-ˌdrōb\ *n* [ME, fr. MF; akin to ONF *warderobe* wardrobe] **1** : a wardrobe or its contents **2** : a private room : BEDROOM **3** : PRIVY

gar·dy·loo \ˌgärd-ē-'lü\ *interj* [perh. fr. F *garde à l'eau!* look out for the water!] — used in Edinburgh as a warning cry when it was customary to throw slops from the windows into the streets

Gar·eth \'gar-əth\ *n* : a knight of the Round Table and nephew of King Arthur

gar·fish \'gär-ˌfish\ *n* [ME *garfysshe*] : GAR

Gar·gan·tua \gär-'ganch(-ə)-wə\ *n* [F] : a gigantic king in Rabelais' *Gargantua* having a great capacity for food and drink

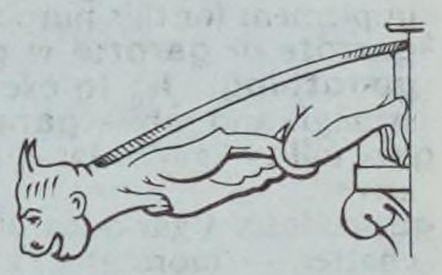
gar·gan·tuan \-wən\ *adj, often cap* [*Gargantua*] : of tremendous size or volume : GIGANTIC, COLOSSAL ⟨entire cities fleeing before ~ walls of water —William Cleary⟩

gar·get \'gär-gət\ *n* [prob. fr. ME, throat, fr. MF *gargate;* akin to MF *gargouiller*] : mastitis of domestic animals; *esp* : chronic bovine mastitis with gross changes in the form and texture of the udder — **gar·gety** \-gət-ē\ *adj*

¹gar·gle \'gär-gəl\ *vb* **gar·gled; gar·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [MF *gargouiller* to gargle, of imit. origin] *vt* **1 a** : to hold (a liquid) in the mouth or throat and agitate with air from the lungs **b** : to cleanse or disinfect (the oral cavity) in this manner **2** : to utter with a gargling sound ~ *vi* **1** : to use a gargle **2** : to speak or sing as if gargling

²gargle *n* **1** : a liquid used in gargling **2** : a gargling sound

gar·goyle \'gär-ˌgȯil\ *n* [ME *gargoyl*, fr. MF *gargouille;* akin to MF *gargouiller*] **1 a** : a spout in the form of a grotesque human or animal figure projecting from a roof gutter to throw rainwater clear of a building **b** : a grotesquely carved figure **2** : a person with an ugly face — **gar·goyled** \-ˌgȯild\ *adj*



gargoyle 1a

gar·i·bal·di \ˌgar-ə-'bȯl-dē\ *n* : a woman's blouse copied from the red shirt worn by the Italian patriot Garibaldi

gar·ish \'ga(ə)r-ish, 'ge(ə)r-\ *adj* [origin unknown] **1** : clothed in vivid colors **2 a** : excessively vivid : FLASHY **b** : offensively or distressingly bright : GLARING **3** : tastelessly showy ***syn*** see GAUDY ***ant*** somber — **gar·ish·ly** *adv* — **gar·ish·ness** *n*

¹gar·land \'gär-lənd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *garlande*] **1** : WREATH, CHAPLET **2** : a grommet or ring of rope used aboard ship in hoisting or to prevent chafing **3** : ANTHOLOGY, COLLECTION

²garland *vt* : to form into or deck with a garland

gar·lic \'gär-lik\ *n* [ME *garlek*, fr. OE *gārlēac*, fr. *gār* spear + *lēac* leek — more at GORE] : a European bulbous herb (*Allium sativum*) of the lily family widely cultivated for its pungent compound bulbs much used in cookery; *also* : one of the bulbs — **gar·licky** \-li-kē\ *adj*

garlic salt *n* : a seasoning of ground dried garlic and salt

¹gar·ment \'gär-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *garnement*, fr. OF, fr. *garnir* to equip — more at GARNISH] : an article of clothing

²garment *vt* : to clothe with or as if with a garment

¹gar·ner \'gär-nər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *grenier*, fr. L *granarium*, fr. *granum* grain] **1 a** : GRANARY **b** : a grain bin **2** : something that is collected : ACCUMULATION

²garner *vt* **gar·nered; gar·ner·ing** \'gärn-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to gather into storage **b** : to deposit as if in a granary ⟨volumes in which he has ~*ed* the fruits of his lifetime labors —Reinhold Niebuhr⟩ **2 a** : to acquire by effort : EARN **b** : ACCUMULATE, COLLECT

gar·net \'gär-nət\ *n* [ME *grenat*, fr. MF, fr. *grenat*, adj., red like a pomegranate, fr. (*pomme*) *grenate* pomegranate] **1** : a brittle and more or less transparent usu. red silicate mineral that has a vitreous luster, occurs mainly in crystals but also in massive form and in grains, is found commonly in gneiss and mica schist, and is used as a semiprecious stone and as an abrasive (hardness 6.5–7.5, sp. gr. 3.15–4.3) **2** : a variable color averaging a dark red

gar·net·if·er·ous \ˌgär-nət-'if-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : containing garnets

garnet paper *n* : an abrasive paper with crushed garnet as the abrasive

gar·ni·er·ite \'gär-nē-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [Jules *Garnier* †1904 F geologist] : a soft mineral prob. $(Mg, Ni)_3Si_2O_5(OH)_4$ consisting of hydrous nickel magnesium silicate and constituting an important ore of nickel

¹gar·nish \'gär-nish\ *vt* [ME *garnishen*, fr. MF *garniss-*, stem of *garnir* to warn, equip, garnish, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *warnōn* to take heed — more at WARN] **1 a** : DECORATE, EMBELLISH **b** : to add decorative or savory touches to (food) **2** : to equip with accessories : FURNISH **3** : GARNISHEE ***syn*** see ADORN

²garnish *n* **1** : EMBELLISHMENT, ORNAMENT **2** : a savory or decorative condiment (as watercress or parsley) **3 a** : an unauthorized fee formerly extorted from a new inmate of an English jail **b** : a similar payment required of a new workman

¹gar·nish·ee \ˌgär-nə-'shē\ *n* : one who is served with a garnishment

²garnishee *vt* **-eed; -ee·ing** **1** : to serve with a garnishment **2** : to take (as a debtor's wages) by legal authority

gar·nish·ment \'gär-nish-mənt\ *n* **1** : GARNISH **2** : a legal summons or warning concerning the attachment of property to satisfy a debt **3** : a stoppage of a specified sum from wages to satisfy a creditor

gar·ni·ture \'gär-ni-chər, -nə-ˌchu̇(ə)r\ *n* [MF, equipment, alter. of OF *garnesture*, fr. *garnir*] : EMBELLISHMENT, TRIMMING

gar·pike \'gär-ˌpīk\ *n* : GAR b

gar·ret \'gar-ət\ *n* [ME *garette* watchtower, fr. MF *garite*, perh. fr. OProv *garida*, fr. *garir* to protect, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *werien*] : a room or unfinished part of a house just under the roof
[1]gar·ri·son \'gar-ə-sən\ *n* [ME *garisoun* protection, fr. OF *garison*, fr. *garir* to protect, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *werien* to defend — more at WEIR] **1** : a military post; *esp* : a permanent military installation **2** : the troops stationed at a garrison
[2]garrison *vt* **gar·ri·soned; gar·ri·son·ing** \'gar-ə-s(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to station troops in **2 a** : to assign as a garrison **b** : to occupy with troops
garrison cap *n* : a visorless folding cap worn as part of a military uniform — compare SERVICE CAP
Gar·ri·son finish \ˌgar-ə-sən-\ *n* [prob. fr. Snapper *Garrison*, 19th cent. Am jockey] : a finish in which the winner comes from behind at the end
garrison house *n* **1** : a house fortified against Indian attack **2** : BLOCKHOUSE **3** : a house having the second story overhanging the first in the front
garrison state *n* : a state organized on a primarily military basis; *esp* : one whose military preparations threaten to convert it into a totalitarian state
gar·ron \'gar-ən, gə-'rȯn\ *n* [IrGael *gearrān* & ScGael *gearran*, gelding] *Scot & Irish* : a small sturdy workhorse
[1]gar·rote *or* **ga·rotte** \gə-'rät, -'rōt\ *n* [Sp *garrote*] **1 a** : a method of execution by strangling with an iron collar **b** : the iron collar used **2 a** : strangulation esp. with robbery as the motive **b** : an implement for this purpose
[2]garrote *or* **garotte** *vt* **gar·rot·ed** *or* **ga·rott·ed; gar·rot·ing** *or* **ga·rott·ing** **1** : to execute with or as if with a garrote **2** : to strangle and rob — **gar·rot·er** *n*
gar·ru·li·ty \gə-'rü-lət-ē, ga-\ *n* : the quality or state of being talkative
gar·ru·lous \'gar-ə-ləs *also* 'gar-yə-\ *adj* [L *garrulus*, fr. *garrire* to chatter — more at CARE] : given to prosy, rambling, or tedious loquacity : pointlessly or annoyingly talkative ***syn*** see TALKATIVE ***ant*** taciturn — **gar·ru·lous·ly** *adv* — **gar·ru·lous·ness** *n*
[1]gar·ter \'gärt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. ONF *gartier*, fr. *garet* bend of the knee, of Celt origin; akin to OIr *gairri* calves of the legs] **1 a** : a band worn to hold up a stocking or sock **b** : a strap hanging from a girdle or corset to support a stocking **c** : a band worn to hold up a shirt sleeve **2** *cap* **a** : the British Order of the Garter **b** : the blue velvet garter that is its badge **c** : membership in the order
[2]garter *vt* : to support with or as if with a garter
garter snake *n* : any of numerous harmless viviparous American snakes (genus *Thamnophis*) with longitudinal stripes on the back
garth \'gärth\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *garthr* yard; akin to OHG *gart* enclosure — more at YARD] *archaic* : a small yard or enclosure : CLOSE
gar·vey \'gär-vē\ *n, pl* **garveys** [prob. fr. the name *Garvey*] : a small scow of the New Jersey coast
[1]gas \'gas\ *n, pl* **gas·es** *also* **gas·ses** [NL, alter. of L *chaos* space, chaos] **1** : a fluid (as air) that has neither independent shape nor volume but tends to expand indefinitely **2 a** : a gas or gaseous mixture with the exception of atmospheric air: as (1) : a gas or gaseous mixture used to produce anesthesia (2) : a combustible gaseous mixture (as for fuel) **b** : a substance that can be used to produce a poisonous, asphyxiating, or irritant atmosphere **3** *slang* : empty talk : BOMBAST **4** : GASOLINE **5** *slang* : one that has unusual appeal ⟨if you dig skinny-dipping with kindred souls, it is a ~ —*Berkeley Barb*⟩
[2]gas *vb* **gassed; gas·sing** *vt* **1 a** : to treat chemically with gas **b** : to poison or otherwise affect adversely with gas **2** : to supply with gas or esp. gasoline ⟨~ up the automobile⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to give off gas **2** *slang* : to talk idly **3** : to fill the tank (as of an automobile) with gasoline — often used with *up*
gas·bag \'gas-ˌbag\ *n* **1** : a bag for holding gas **2** : an idle talker
gas chamber *n* : a chamber in which prisoners are executed by poison gas
gas·con \'gas-kən\ *n* **1** *cap* : a native of Gascony **2** : a boastful swaggering person — **Gascon** *adj*
gas·con·ade \ˌgas-kə-'nād\ *n* [F *gasconnade*, fr. *gasconner* to boast, fr. *gascon* gascon, boaster] : BRAVADO, BOASTING — **gasconade** *vi* — **gas·con·ad·er** *n*
gas·eous \'gas-ē-əs, 'gash-əs\ *adj* **1 a** : having the form of or being gas; *also* : of or relating to gases **b** : heated so as to remain free from suspended liquid droplets — used of a vapor not in contact with its own liquid **2** : lacking substance or solidity : TENUOUS — **gas·eous·ness** *n*
gas fitter *n* : a workman who installs or repairs gas pipes and appliances
gas gangrene *n* : progressive gangrene marked by impregnation of the dead and dying tissue with gas and caused by one or more toxin-producing clostridia
[1]gash \'gash\ *vb* [ME *garsen*, fr. ONF *garser*, fr. (assumed) VL *charissare*, fr. Gk *charassein* to scratch, engrave — more at CHARACTER] *vt* : to make a gash in ~ *vi* : to make a gash : CUT
[2]gash *n* **1** : a deep long cut esp. in flesh **2** : a deep narrow depression in land whether natural or man-made
[3]gash *adj* [origin unknown] **1** *chiefly Scot* : KNOWING, WITTY **2** *chiefly Scot* : well dressed : TRIM
gas·hold·er \'gas-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : a container for gas; *esp* : a large cylindrical tank for storing fuel gas under pressure
gas·house \-ˌhaůs\ *n* : GASWORKS
gas·ify \'gas-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-ified; -ify·ing** *vt* : to convert into gas ⟨~ coal⟩ ~ *vi* : to become gaseous — **gas·ifi·ca·tion** \ˌgas-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **gas·ifi·er** \'gas-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
gas·ket \'gas-kət\ *n* [prob. modif. of F *garcette*] **1** : a line or band used to lash a furled sail **2 a** : plaited hemp or tallowed rope for packing pistons or making pipe or other joints fluid-tight **b** : packing for the same purpose made of other material (as rubber, asbestos, or metal)
gas·kin \'gas-kən\ *n* [prob. short for *galligaskins*] **1** *pl, obs* : HOSE, BREECHES **2** : a part of the hind leg of a quadruped between the stifle and the hock — see HORSE illustration
gas·light \'gas-ˌlīt, -'līt\ *n* **1** : light made by burning illuminating gas **2** : a gas flame or gas lighting fixture
gas·lit \-ˌlit, -'lit\ *adj* : illuminated by gaslight
gas log *n* : a hollow perforated imitation log used as a gas burner in a fireplace
gas mask *n* : a mask connected to a chemical air filter and used to protect the face and lungs against poison gases; *broadly* : RESPIRATOR 1



gas mask

gas·ogene \'gas-ə-ˌjēn\ *n* [F *gazogène*, fr. *gaz* gas (fr. NL *gas*) + *-o-* + *-gène* -gen] **1** : a portable apparatus for carbonating liquids **2** : an apparatus carried by a vehicle to produce gas for fuel by partial burning of charcoal or wood
gas·o·hol \'gas-ə-ˌhȯl\ *n* [blend of *gasoline* and *alcohol*] : a fuel consisting of 10 percent ethyl alcohol and 90 percent gasoline
gas oil *n* : a hydrocarbon oil used as a fuel oil; *esp* : a petroleum distillate intermediate in boiling range and viscosity between kerosene and lubricating oil
gas·olier \ˌgas-ə-'li(ə)r\ *n* [alter. of *gaselier*, fr. *gas* + *-elier* (as in *chandelier*)] : a gaslight chandelier
gas·o·line *also* **gas·o·lene** \'gas-ə-ˌlēn, ˌgas-ə-'\ *n* [¹*gas* + *-ol* + *-ine* or *-ene*] : a volatile flammable liquid hydrocarbon mixture used as a fuel esp. for internal-combustion engines and blended from several products of natural gas and petroleum — **gas·o·lin·ic** \ˌgas-ə-'lē-nik, -'lin-ik\ *adj*
gas·om·e·ter \ga-'säm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *gazomètre*, fr. *gaz* + *-o-* + *-mètre* -meter] **1** : a laboratory apparatus for holding and measuring gases **2** : GASHOLDER
gas–operated *adj, of a firearm* : utilizing part of the powder gases to operate the action
gasp \'gasp\ *vb* [ME *gaspen*; akin to ON *geispa* to yawn] *vi* **1** : to catch the breath convulsively and audibly (as with shock) **2** : to breathe laboriously : PANT ~ *vt* : to utter in a gasping manner — **gasp** *n*
gasp·er \'gäs-pə(r)\ *n, slang Brit* : CIGARETTE
gas plant *n* : FRAXINELLA
gas·ser \'gas-ər\ *n* **1** : an oil well that yields gas **2** *slang* : a talkative person **3** *slang* : something outstanding
gas station *n* : SERVICE STATION 1
gas·sy \'gas-ē\ *adj* **gas·si·er; -est** **1** : full of or containing gas **2** : having the characteristics of gas **3** : full of boastful or insincere talk — **gas·si·ness** *n*
gast \'gast\ *vt* [ME *gasten*, fr. *gast, gost* ghost] *obs* : SCARE ⟨~*ed* by the noise I made, full suddenly he fled —Shak.⟩
gas·tight \'gas-'tīt\ *adj* : impervious to gas — **gas·tight·ness** *n*
gast·ness \'gas(t)-nəs\ *n, obs* : FRIGHT, TERROR
gastr- *or* **gastro-** *also* **gastri-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *gastr-, gastēr*] **1** : belly ⟨*Gastro*poda⟩ : stomach ⟨*gastr*itis⟩ **2** : gastric and ⟨*gastro*intestinal⟩
gas·traea *also* **gas·trea** \ga-'strē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *gastr-, gastēr*] : a hypothetical metazoan ancestral form corresponding in organization to a simple invaginated gastrula — **gas·trae·al** \-əl\ *adj*
gas·tral \'gas-trəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the stomach or digestive tract
gas·trec·to·my \ga-'strek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : surgical removal of all or part of the stomach
gas·tric \'gas-trik\ *adj* [Gk *gastr-, gastēr*, alter. of (assumed) Gk *grastēr*, fr. Gk *gran* to gnaw, eat] : of or relating to the stomach
gastric juice *n* : a thin watery acid digestive fluid secreted by glands in the mucous membrane of the stomach
gastric ulcer *n* : a peptic ulcer situated in the stomach
gas·trin \'gas-trən\ *n* : a polypeptide hormone that is secreted by the gastric mucosa and induces secretion of gastric juice
gas·tri·tis \ga-'strīt-əs\ *n* : inflammation esp. of the mucous membrane of the stomach
gas·troc·ne·mi·us \ˌgas-(ˌ)träk-'nē-mē-əs, -trək-\ *n, pl* **-mii** \-mē-ˌī\ [NL, fr. Gk *gastroknēmē* calf of the leg, fr. *gastr-* + *knēmē* shank] : the largest and most superficial muscle of the calf of the leg arising by two heads from the condyles of the femur and having its tendon of insertion incorporated as part of the Achilles tendon
gas·tro·coel *also* **gas·tro·coele** \'gas-trə-ˌsēl\ *n* [F *gastrocèle*, fr. *gastr-* + *-cèle* -coele] : ARCHENTERON
gas·tro·du·o·de·nal \'gas-trō-ˌd(y)ü-ə-'dēn-ᵊl, -d(y)ů-'äd-ᵊn-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving both the stomach and the duodenum
gas·tro·en·ter·i·tis \ˌgas-trō-ˌent-ə-'rīt-əs\ *n* : inflammation of the lining membrane of the stomach and the intestines
gas·tro·en·ter·ol·o·gy \-ˌent-ə-'räl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the study of the diseases and pathology of the stomach and intestines — **gas·tro·en·ter·o·log·i·cal** \-rə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **gas·tro·en·ter·ol·o·gist** \-ˌent-ə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n*
gas·tro·esoph·a·ge·al \'gas-trō-i-ˌsäf-ə-'jē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving the stomach and esophagus
gas·tro·gen·ic \ˌgas-trə-'jen-ik\ *or* **gas·trog·e·nous** \ga-'sträj-ə-nəs\ *adj* : of gastric origin ⟨~ anemia⟩
gas·tro·in·tes·ti·nal \ˌgas-trō-in-'tes-tən-ᵊl, -'tes(t)-nəl\ *adj* : of or relating to both stomach and intestine
gas·tro·nome \'gas-trə-ˌnōm\ *n* [F, back-formation fr. *gastronomie*] : EPICURE, GOURMET
gas·tro·nom·ic \ˌgas-trə-'näm-ik\ *also* **gas·tro·nom·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to gastronomy — **gas·tro·nom·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
gas·tron·o·mist \ga-'strän-ə-məst\ *n* : GASTRONOME
gas·tron·o·my \-mē\ *n* [F *gastronomie*, fr. Gk *Gastronomia*, title of a 4th cent. B.C. poem, fr. *gastro-* belly + *-nomia* -nomy] **1** : good eating or its lore **2** : culinary customs or style
gas·tro·pod \'gas-trə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Gastropoda*, class name] : any of a large class (Gastropoda) of mollusks (as snails) with a univalve

shell or none and usu. with a distinct head bearing sensory organs — **gastropod** *also* **gas·trop·o·dan** \ga-'sträp-əd-ən\ *or* **gas·trop·o·dous** \-əd-əs\ *adj*

gas·tro·scope \'gas-trə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for viewing the interior of the stomach — **gas·tro·scop·ic** \ˌgas-trə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* — **gas·tros·co·pist** \ga-'sträs-kə-pəst\ *n* — **gas·tros·co·py** \-pē\ *n*

gas·tro·trich \'gas-trə-ˌtrik\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *gastr-* + *trich-, thrix* hair — more at TRICH-] : any of a small group (Gastrotricha) of minute freshwater multicellular animals superficially resembling infusorians — **gas·trot·ri·chan** \ga-'strä-tri-kən\ *adj or n*

gas·tro·vas·cu·lar \ˌgas-trō-'vas-kyə-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : functioning in both digestion and circulation ⟨the ~ cavity of a coelenterate⟩

gas·tru·la \'gas-trə-lə\ *n, pl* **-las** *or* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. *gastr-*] : an early metazoan embryo consisting of a hollow 2-layered cellular cup made up of an outer epiblast and an inner hypoblast that meet along the marginal line of a blastopore and jointly enclose the archenteron — **gas·tru·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

gas·tru·late \-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** : to become or form a gastrula — **gas·tru·la·tion** \ˌgas-trə-'lā-shən\ *n*

gas turbine *n* : an internal-combustion engine in which turbine blades are driven by hot gases whose pressure and velocity are intensified by compressed air introduced into the combustion chamber

gas-works \'gas-ˌwərks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a plant for manufacturing gas and esp. illuminating gas

¹gat \(')gat\ *archaic past of* GET

²gat \'gat\ *n* [prob. fr. D, lit., hole; akin to OE *geat*] : a natural or artificial channel or passage

³gat \'gat\ *n* [short for *Gatling gun*] *slang* : PISTOL

¹gate \'gāt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *geat;* akin to ON *gat* opening, Gk *chezein* to defecate] **1** : an opening in a wall or fence **2** : a city or castle entrance often with defensive structures (as towers) **3** : the frame or door that closes a gate **4 a** : a means of entrance or exit **b** : a pass or defile in mountains **c** : a space between two markers through which a skier must pass in the course of a slalom race **d** : a mechanically operated barrier used as a starting device for a race (as in skiing) **5 a** : a door, valve, or other device for controlling the passage esp. of fluid **b** : a signal that makes an electronic circuit operative for a short period **c** : a device (as in a computer) that outputs a signal when specified input conditions are met ⟨logic ~⟩ **6** : a channel in a foundry mold through which the molten metal flows into the cavity made by the pattern **7** : the total admission receipts or the number of spectators at a sports event **8** *slang* : DISMISSAL ⟨gave him the ~⟩

²gate *vt* **gat·ed; gat·ing** **1** : to supply with a gate **2** *Brit* : to punish by confinement to a campus or dormitory **3** : to control by means of a gate

³gate *n* [ME, fr. ON *gata* road; akin to OHG *gazza* road] **1** *archaic* : WAY, PATH **2** *dial* : METHOD, STYLE

gate-crash·er \'gāt-ˌkrash-ər\ *n* : one who enters, attends, or participates without ticket or invitation — **gate-crash** *vb*

gate-fold \-ˌfōld\ *n* : FOLDOUT

gate-keep·er \-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : one that tends or guards a gate

gate-leg table \ˌgāt-ˌleg-, -ˌlāg-\ *n* : a table with drop leaves supported by movable paired legs



gateleg table

gate-post \'gāt-ˌpōst\ *n* : the post to which a gate is hung or the one against which it closes

gate-way \-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : an opening for a gate **2** : GATE 4a

¹gath·er \'gath-ər, 'geth-\ *vb* **gath·ered; gath·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *gaderen,* fr. OE *gaderian;* akin to Skt *gadh* to hold fast — more at GOOD] *vt* **1** : to bring together : COLLECT **2 a** : PICK, HARVEST **b** : to pick up little by little **c** : to accumulate and place in readiness ⟨~*ed* up his tools⟩ **d** : to assemble (volume signatures) in sequence for binding **3** : to serve as a center of attraction for **4** : to effect the collection of (as tax) **5 a** : to summon up ⟨~*ed* his courage⟩ **b** : to gain by gradual increase : ACCUMULATE ⟨~ speed⟩ **c** : to prepare (as oneself) by mustering strength **6 a** : to bring together the parts of **b** : to draw about or close to something ⟨~*ing* his cloak about him⟩ **c** : to pull (fabric) along a line of stitching so as to draw into puckers **d** : to haul in **7** : to reach a conclusion often intuitively from hints or through inferences ⟨I ~ that you are ready to leave⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to come together in a body **b** : to cluster around a focus of attraction **2 a** : to swell and fill with pus **b** : GROW, INCREASE — **gath·er·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

syn **1** GATHER, COLLECT, ASSEMBLE, CONGREGATE *shared meaning element* : to come or bring together into a group, mass, or unit **2** see INFER

²gather *n* **1** : something gathered; *esp* : a puckering in cloth made by gathering **2** : an act or instance of gathering

gath·er·ing *n* **1** : ASSEMBLY, MEETING **2** : a suppurating swelling : ABSCESS **3** : the collecting of food and raw materials from the wild **4** : COLLECTION, COMPILATION **5** : a gather in cloth

Gat·ling gun \ˌgat-liŋ-\ *n* [Richard J. *Gatling* †1903 Am inventor] : an early machine gun with a crank-operated revolving cluster of barrels fired once each per revolution

GATT *abbr* General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

gauche \'gōsh\ *adj* [F, lit., left] **1** : lacking social experience or grace : CRUDE **2** : not planar ⟨~ conformation of molecules⟩ ***syn*** see AWKWARD — **gauche·ly** *adv* — **gauche·ness** *n*

gau·che·rie \ˌgōsh-(ə-)'rē\ *n* : a tactless or awkward act

gau·cho \'gau̇-(ˌ)chō\ *n, pl* **gauchos** [AmerSp] : a cowboy of the So. American pampas

gaud \'gȯd, 'gäd\ *n* [ME *gaude*] : ORNAMENT, TRINKET

gaud·ery \-ə-rē\ *n* : showy ornamentation; *esp* : personal finery

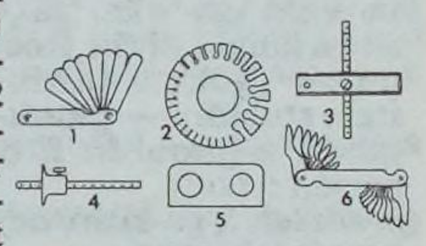
¹gaudy \'gȯd-ē, 'gäd-\ *adj* **gaud·i·er; -est** : ostentatiously or tastelessly ornamented — **gaud·i·ly** \'gȯd-ᵊl-ē, 'gäd-\ *adv* — **gaud·i·ness** \'gȯd-ē-nəs, 'gäd-\ *n*

syn GAUDY, TAWDRY, GARISH, FLASHY, MERETRICIOUS *shared meaning element* : vulgarly or cheaply showy. GAUDY implies a tasteless use of overly bright, often clashing colors or excessive ornamentation ⟨false eloquence, like the prismatic glass, its *gaudy* colors spreads on every place —Alexander Pope⟩ TAWDRY applies to what is at once gaudy and cheap and sleazy ⟨the woman . . . big, bovine in a motley of cheap and tawdry clothes —William Styron⟩ GARISH describes what is distressingly or offensively bright ⟨hide me from day's *garish* eye —John Milton⟩ FLASHY implies an effect of brilliance quickly and easily seen to be shallow or vulgar ⟨two painted *flashy* women with fine legs —Graham Greene⟩ MERETRICIOUS stresses falsity and may describe a tawdry show that beckons with a false allure or promise ⟨soldiers . . . circled displays of colored postcards, and picked up *meretricious* mementos —James Baldwin⟩ ***ant*** quiet (*in taste or color*)

²gau·dy \'gȯd-ē, 'gäd-\ *n, pl* **gaudies** [prob. fr. L *gaudium* joy — more at JOY] : a feast or entertainment esp. in the form of an annual college dinner in a British university

gauf·fer \'gäf-ər, 'gȯf-, 'gōf-\ *var of* GOFFER

¹gauge \'gāj\ *n* [ME *gauge,* fr. ONF] **1 a** : measurement according to some standard or system **b** : DIMENSIONS, SIZE **2** : an instrument for or a means of measuring or testing: as **a** : an instrument for measuring a dimension or for testing mechanical accuracy **b** : an instrument with a graduated scale or dial for measuring or indicating quantity **3** : relative position of a ship with reference to another ship and the wind **4 a** : the distance between the rails of a railroad **b** : the distance between a pair of wheels on an axle **5** : the quantity of plaster of paris used with mortar to accelerate its setting **6** : the size of a shotgun expressed as the number of lead balls each just fitting the interior diameter of the barrel required to make a pound ⟨a 12-*gauge* shotgun⟩ **7 a** : the thickness of a thin material (as sheet metal or plastic film) **b** : the diameter of a slender object (as wire, a hypodermic needle, or a screw) **c** : the fineness of a knitted fabric expressed by the number of loops per $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch so that the higher the number the finer the texture ***syn*** see STANDARD



gauges 2a: *1* feeler, *2* wire or sheet metal, *3* depth, *4* marking, *5* go no-go, *6* thread

²gauge *vt* **gauged; gaug·ing** **1 a** : to measure the size, dimensions, or other measurable quantity of exactly **b** : to determine the capacity or contents of **c** : ESTIMATE, JUDGE **2 a** : to check for conformity to specifications or limits **b** : to measure off or set out **3** : to mix (plaster) in definite proportions **4** : to dress (as bricks) to size by rubbing or chipping — **gauge·able** \'gā-jə-bəl\ *adj* — **gauge·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

gaug·er \'gā-jər\ *n* **1** : one that gauges **2** *chiefly Brit* : an exciseman who inspects dutiable bulk goods

Gaul \'gȯl\ *n* **1** : a Celt of ancient Gaul **2** : FRENCHMAN

¹Gaul·ish \'gȯ-lish\ *adj* : of or relating to the Gauls or their language or land

²Gaulish *n* : the Celtic language of the ancient Gauls — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

Gaull·ism \'gō-ˌliz-əm, 'gȯ-\ *n* **1** : a French political movement during World War II led by Charles de Gaulle in opposition to the Vichy regime **2** : a postwar French political movement led by Charles de Gaulle — **Gaull·ist** \-ləst\ *adj or n*

gault \'gȯlt\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *gald* hard-packed snow] : a heavy thick clay soil

gaum \'gȯm, 'gäm\ *vt* [perh. alter. of ⁴*gum*] *dial* : SMUDGE, SMEAR

gaunt \'gȯnt, 'gänt\ *adj* [ME] **1** : excessively thin and angular often as a result of suffering **2** : BARREN, DESOLATE ***syn*** see LEAN — **gaunt·ly** *adv* — **gaunt·ness** *n*

¹gaunt·let \'gȯnt-lət, 'gänt-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *gantelet,* dim. of *gant* glove, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *want* mitten, ON *vöttr* gloves] **1** : a glove to protect the hand worn with medieval armor **2** : any of various protective gloves used esp. in industry **3** : a challenge to combat **4** : a dress glove extending above the wrist — **gaunt·let·ed** \-lət-əd\ *adj*



gauntlet 1

²gauntlet *n* [by folk etymology fr. *gantelope*] **1** : a double file of men facing each other and armed with clubs or other weapons with which to strike at an individual who is made to run between them **2** : a cross fire of any kind; *also* : ORDEAL ⟨ran the ~ of criticism and censure⟩

gaur \'gau̇(ə)r\ *n* [Hindi, fr. Skt *gaura;* akin to Skt *go* bull, cow — more at COW] : a large East Indian wild ox (*Bibos gaurus*) with a broad forehead and short thick conical horns

gauss \'gau̇s\ *n, pl* **gauss** *also* **gauss·es** [Karl F. *Gauss*] : the cgs unit of magnetic induction equal to the magnetic flux density that will induce an electromotive force of one one-hundred millionth of a volt in each linear centimeter of a wire moving laterally with a speed of one centimeter per second at right angles to a magnetic flux

Gauss·ian distribution \ˌgau̇-sē-ən-\ *n* [Karl F. *Gauss*] : NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

gauze \'gȯz\ *n* [MF *gaze*] **1 a** : a thin often transparent fabric used chiefly for clothing or draperies **b** : a loosely woven cotton surgical dressing **c** : a firm woven fabric of metal or plastic filaments **2** : HAZE, MIST — **gauze·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **gauz·i·ly** \'gȯ-zə-lē\ *adv* — **gauz·i·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n* — **gauzy** \-zē\ *adj*

ga·vage \gə-'väzh, gä-\ *n* [F] : introduction of material into the stomach by a tube

gave *past of* GIVE
¹gav·el \'gav-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gafol;* akin to OE *giefan* to give] : rent or tribute in medieval England
²gavel *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a mason's setting maul **2** : a mallet used (as by a presiding officer or auctioneer) for commanding attention or confirming an action (as a vote or sale)
³gavel *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \'gav-(ə-)liŋ\ : to bring or force by use of a gavel
gav·el·kind \'gav-əl-ˌkīnd\ *n* [ME *gavelkynde,* fr. ¹*gavel* + *kinde* kind] : a tenure of land existing chiefly in Kent from Anglo-Saxon times until 1925 and providing for division of an intestate's estate equally among the sons or other heirs
gave·lock \'gav-lək\ *n* [ME *gavelok,* fr. OE *gafeluc,* of Celt origin; akin to W *gaflach* javelin] *dial Brit* : an iron crowbar
ga·votte \gə-'vät\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. OProv *gavato*] **1** : a dance of French peasant origin marked by the raising rather than sliding of the feet **2** : a tune for the gavotte in moderately quick 4/4 time — **gavotte** *vi*
GAW *abbr* guaranteed annual wage
Ga·wain \gə-'wān, 'gä-ˌwān, 'gau̇-ən\ *n* : a nephew of King Arthur and a knight of the Round Table
¹gawk \'gȯk\ *vi* [perh. alter. of obs. *gaw* (to stare)] : to gape or stare stupidly — **gawk·er** *n*
²gawk *n* [prob. fr. E dial. *gawk* (left-handed)] : a clumsy stupid person : LOUT
gawk·ish \'gȯ-kish\ *adj* : AWKWARD, DULL — **gawk·ish·ly** *adv* — **gawk·ish·ness** *n*
gawky \'gȯ-kē\ *adj* **gawk·i·er; -est** : AWKWARD, CLUMSY ⟨a ~ child with long arms and legs⟩ — **gawk·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **gawky** *n*
gaw·sie *or* **gaw·sy** \'gȯ-sē\ *adj* [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* : prosperous and jolly looking
¹gay \'gā\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *gai*] **1 a** : happily excited : MERRY **b** : keenly alive and exuberant : having or inducing high spirits ⟨he turned from a sober traditional style to one more timely and ~⟩ **2 a** : BRIGHT, LIVELY ⟨~ sunny meadows⟩ **b** : brilliant in color **3** : given to social pleasures; *also* : LICENTIOUS **4 a** : HOMOSEXUAL **b** : being a socially integrated group oriented toward and concerned with the welfare of the homosexual ***syn*** see LIVELY ***ant*** grave, sober — **gay** *adv* — **gay·ness** *n*
²gay *n* : HOMOSEXUAL
gay·ety *var of* GAIETY
gayly *var of* GAILY
gaz *abbr* gazette
¹gaze \'gāz\ *vi* **gazed; gaz·ing** [ME *gazen*] : to fix the eyes in a steady and intent look and often with eagerness or studious attention — **gaz·er** *n*
syn GAZE, GAPE, STARE, GLARE, PEER, GLOAT *shared meaning element* : to look at long and attentively
²gaze *n* : a fixed intent look
ga·ze·bo \gə-'zā-(ˌ)bō, -'zē-\ *n, pl* **-bos** [perh. fr. ¹*gaze* + L *-ebo* (as in *videbo* I shall see)] **1** : BELVEDERE **2** : a freestanding roofed structure usu. open on the sides
gaze·hound \'gāz-ˌhau̇nd\ *n* : a dog that hunts by sight rather than by scent; *esp* : GREYHOUND
ga·zelle \gə-'zel\ *n, pl* **gazelles** *also* **gazelle** [F, fr. MF, fr. Ar *ghazāl*] : any of numerous small, graceful, and swift African and Asiatic antelopes (of *Gazella* and related genera) noted for their soft lustrous eyes
¹ga·zette \gə-'zet\ *n* [F, fr. It *gazetta*] **1** : NEWSPAPER **2** : an official journal **3** *Brit* : an announcement in an official gazette
²gazette *vt* **ga·zett·ed; ga·zett·ing** **1** *chiefly Brit* : to announce or publish in a gazette **2** *Brit* : to announce the appointment or status of in an official gazette
gaz·et·teer \ˌgaz-ə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* **1** *archaic* : JOURNALIST, PUBLICIST **2** [*The Gazetteer's: or, Newsman's Interpreter,* a geographical index edited by Laurence Echard] : a geographical dictionary; *also* : a book in which something (as wines or restaurants) is treated esp. in regard to geographical distribution and regional specialization
gaz·o·gene \'gaz-ə-ˌjēn\ *var of* GASOGENE
gaz·pa·cho \gəz-'päch-(ˌ)ō, gəs-\ *n, pl* **-chos** [Sp] : a cold soup whose ingredients include tomatoes, olive oil, garlic, spices, and bread crumbs
¹GB \(')jē-'bē\ *n* [code name] : SARIN
²GB *abbr* Great Britain
GBF *abbr* Great Books Foundation
GC *abbr* gigacycle
GCA *abbr* ground-controlled approach
GCB *abbr* Knight Grand Cross of the Bath
GCD *abbr* greatest common divisor
GCF *abbr* greatest common factor
G clef *n* : TREBLE CLEF
GCT *abbr* Greenwich civil time
gd *abbr* good
Gd *symbol* gadolinium
Ge *symbol* germanium
GE *abbr* gilt edges
ge- *or* **geo-** *comb form* [ME *geo-,* fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L, fr. Gk *gē-, geō-,* fr. *gē*] **1** : earth : ground : soil ⟨*ge*anticline⟩ ⟨*geo*phyte⟩ **2** : geographical : geography and ⟨*geo*politics⟩
ge·an·ti·cline \jē-'ant-i-ˌklīn\ *also* **ge·an·ti·cli·nal** \(ˌ)jē-ˌant-i-'klīn-ᵊl\ *n* : a great upward flexure of the earth's crust — compare GEOSYNCLINE
¹gear \'gi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *gere,* fr. OE *gearwe;* akin to OHG *garuwi* equipment, clothing, OE *gearu* ready — more at YARE] **1 a** : CLOTHING, GARMENTS **b** : movable property : GOODS **2** : EQUIPMENT, PARAPHERNALIA ⟨fishing ~⟩ **3 a** : the rigging of a ship or boat **b** : the harness esp. of horses **4** *dial chiefly Brit* : absurd talk : NONSENSE **5** *dial chiefly Brit* : DOINGS **6 a** (1) : a mechanism that performs a specific function in a complete machine ⟨steering ~⟩ (2) : a toothed wheel (3) : working relation, position, or adjustment ⟨in ~⟩ **b** : one of two or more adjustments of a transmission (as of a bicycle or motor vehicle) that determine mechanical advantage, relative speed, and direction of travel — **gear·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²gear *vt* **1 a** : to provide (as machinery) with gearing **b** : to connect by gearing **c** : to put into gear **2 a** : to make ready for effective operation **b** : to adjust so as to match, blend with, or satisfy something ⟨an institution ~*ed* to the needs of the blind⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *of machinery* : to be in or come into gear **2** : to become adjusted so as to match, blend, or harmonize
gear·box \'gi(ə)r-ˌbäks\ *n* **1** : TRANSMISSION 3 **2** : GEARING 2
gear·ing \'gi(ə)r-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of providing or fitting with gears **2** : the parts by which motion is transmitted from one portion of machinery to another; *esp* : a train of gear wheels
gear·shift \'gi(ə)r-ˌshift\ *n* : a mechanism by which the transmission gears in a power-transmission system are engaged and disengaged
gear wheel *n* : a toothed wheel that gears with another piece of a mechanism; *specif* : COGWHEEL
Geat \'gēt, 'yaət\ *n* [OE *Gēat*] : a member of a Scandinavian people of southern Sweden subjugated by the Swedes in the 6th century — **Geat·ish** \-ish\ *adj*
gecko \'gek-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **geck·os** *or* **geck·oes** [Malay *ge'kok,* of imit. origin] : any of numerous small harmless chiefly tropical and nocturnal insectivorous lizards (family Gekkonidae)
¹gee \'jē\ *vb imper* [origin unknown] — used as a direction to turn to the right or move ahead; compare ⁵HAW ~ *vi* **geed; gee·ing** : to turn to the right side
²gee *n* **1** : the letter *g* **2** [grand] *slang* : a thousand dollars
³gee *interj* [euphemism for *Jesus*] — used as an introductory expletive or to express surprise or enthusiasm
gee·gaw \'jē-(ˌ)gȯ, 'gē-\ *var of* GEWGAW
geek \'gēk\ *n* [prob. fr. E dial. *geek, geck* fool, fr. LG *geck,* fr. MLG] : a carnival performer often billed as a wild man whose act usu. includes biting the head off a live chicken or snake
geese *pl of* GOOSE
geest \'gāst, 'gēst\ *n* [G] **1** : alluvial matter not of recent origin on the surface of land **2** : loose material (as earth or soil) formed by decay of rocks in a place
gee–whiz \(')jē-'(h)wiz\ *adj* **1** : designed to arouse wonder or excitement or to amplify the merits or significance of something esp. by the use of clever or sensational language ⟨a welcome antidote to the . . . play-by-play specialists who wallow in ~ banality — Jack Gould⟩ **2** : marked by spectacular or astonishing qualities or achievement ⟨some people still look upon atom power as in the ~ stage —*Kiplinger Washington Letter*⟩ **3** : characterized by wide-eyed enthusiasm, excitement, and wonder
gee whiz *interj* : ³GEE
Ge·ez \gē-'ez\ *n* [Ethiopic *ge'ez*] : ETHIOPIC 1
gee·zer \'gē-zər\ *n* [prob. alter. of Sc *guiser* (one in disguise)] : a queer, odd, or eccentric man
ge·fil·te fish \gə-'fil-tə-\ *n* [Yiddish, lit., filled fish] : a dish of stewed or baked fish stuffed with a mixture of the fish flesh, bread crumbs, eggs, and seasoning or prepared as balls or oval cakes boiled in a fish stock
ge·gen·schein \'gā-gən-ˌshīn\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *gegen* against, counter- + *schein* shine] : a faint light about 20° across on the celestial sphere opposite the sun probably associated in origin with the zodiacal light
Ge·hen·na \gi-'hen-ə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Geenna,* fr. Heb *Gê' Hinnōm,* lit., valley of Hinnom] **1** : HELL 1a(2) **2** : a place or state of misery
Gei·ger counter \ˌgī-gər-\ *or* **Geiger–Mül·ler counter** \-'myül-ər-, -'mil-, -'məl-\ *n* [Hans *Geiger* †1945 G physicist & W. *Müller,* 20th cent. G physicist] : an instrument for detecting the presence and intensity of radiations (as cosmic rays or particles from a radioactive substance) by means of the ionizing effect on an enclosed gas which results in a pulse that is amplified and fed to a device giving a visible or audible indication
gei·sha \'gā-shə, 'gē-\ *n, pl* **geisha** *or* **geishas** [Jap, fr. *gei* art + *-sha* person] : a Japanese girl who is trained to provide entertaining and lighthearted company esp. for a man or a group of men
¹gel \'jel\ *n* [*gelatin*] **1** : a colloid in a more solid form than a sol **2** : JELLY 2
²gel *vi* **gelled; gel·ling** : to change into or take on the form of a gel — **gel·able** \'jel-ə-bəl\ *adj*
ge·lände·läu·fer \gə-'len-də-ˌlȯi-fər\ *n* [G, fr. *gelände* open fields + *läufer* runner] : a skier making a cross-country run : LANGLAUFER
ge·lände·sprung \-ˌs(h)prüŋ\ *n* [G, fr. *gelände* open fields + *sprung* jump] : a jump in skiing made from a low crouching position with the aid of both ski poles and usu. over an obstacle
gel·ate \'jel-ˌāt\ *vi* **gel·at·ed; gel·at·ing** : GEL
gel·a·tin *also* **gel·a·tine** \'jel-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [F *gélatine* edible jelly, gelatin, fr. It *gelatina,* fr. *gelato,* pp. of *gelare* to freeze, fr. L — more at COLD] **1** : glutinous material obtained from animal tissues by boiling; *esp* : a colloidal protein used as a food, in photography, and in medicine **2 a** : any of various substances (as agar) resembling gelatin **b** : an edible jelly made with gelatin **3** : a thin colored transparent sheet used over a stage light to color it
ge·la·ti·nize \jə-'lat-ᵊn-ˌīz, 'jel-ət-ᵊn-\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *vt* **1** : to convert into a gelatinous form or into a jelly **2** : to coat or treat with gelatin ~ *vi* : to become gelatinous or change into a jelly — **ge·la·ti·ni·za·tion** \jə-ˌlat-ᵊn-ə-'zā-shən, ˌjel-ət-ᵊn-\ *n*
ge·lat·i·nous \jə-'lat-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* **1** : resembling gelatin or jelly : VISCOUS ⟨a ~ precipitate⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or containing gelatin — **ge·lat·i·nous·ly** *adv* — **ge·lat·i·nous·ness** *n*
¹ge·la·tion \ji-'lā-shən\ *n* [L *gelation-, gelatio,* fr. *gelatus,* pp. of *gelare*] : the action or process of freezing
²gel·ation \je-'lā-shən\ *n* [¹*gel* + *-ation*] : the formation of a gel from a sol
¹geld \'geld\ *vt* [ME *gelden,* fr. ON *gelda;* akin to OE *gelte* young sow, Gk *gallos* eunuch, priest of Cybele] **1** : CASTRATE; *also* : SPAY **2** : to deprive of a natural or essential part ⟨sick of workingmen being ~*ed* of their natural expression . . . A workingman bereft of his profanity is a silent man — *Atlantic*⟩

²geld *n* [OE *gield, geld* service, tribute; akin to OE *gieldan* to pay, yield — more at YIELD] : the crown tax paid under Anglo-Saxon and Norman kings
geld·ing \'gel-diŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *geldingr*, fr. *gelda*] **1** : a castrated animal; *specif* : a castrated male horse **2** : EUNUCH
ge·lée \zhə-'lā\ *n* [F, jelly, fr. MF — more at JELLY] : a cosmetic gel
gel·id \'jel-əd\ *adj* [L *gelidus*, fr. *gelu* frost, cold — more at COLD] : extremely cold : ICY ⟨the ~ waters of the North Atlantic⟩ ⟨a man of ~ reserve — *New Yorker*⟩— **ge·lid·i·ty** \jə-'lid-ət-ē, je-\ *n* — **gel·id·ly** \'jel-əd-lē\ *adv*
gel·ig·nite \'jel-ig-ˌnīt\ *n* [*gel*atin + L *ign*is fire + E *-ite* — more at IGNITE] : a dynamite in which the adsorbent base is largely potassium nitrate or a similar nitrate usu. with some wood pulp
gel·lant *also* **gel·ant** \'jel-ənt\ *n* : a substance used to produce gelling
gelt \'gelt\ *n* [D & G *geld* & Yiddish *gelt*; all akin to OE *geld* service, tribute] *slang* : MONEY
¹gem \'jem\ *n* [ME *gemme*, fr. MF, fr. L *gemma* bud, gem] **1 a** : JEWEL **b** : a precious or sometimes semiprecious stone cut and polished for ornament **2 a** : something prized esp. for great beauty or perfection **b** : a highly prized or well-beloved person **3** : MUFFIN
²gem *vt* **gemmed; gem·ming** : to adorn with or as if with gems
GEM *abbr* ground-effect machine
gem- \(')jem\ *comb form* : geminal ⟨*gem*dichloride⟩
Ge·ma·ra \gə-'mär-ə, -'mȯr-\ *n* [Aram *gĕmārā* completion] : a commentary on the Mishnah forming the second part of the Talmud — **Ge·ma·ric** \-ik\ *adj* — **Ge·ma·rist** \-əst\ *n*
ge·mein·schaft \gə-'mīn-ˌshäft\ *n* [G, community, fr. *gemein* common, general + *-schaft* -ship] : a spontaneously arising organic social relationship characterized by strong reciprocal bonds of sentiment and kinship within a common tradition; *also* : a community or society characterized by this relationship — compare GESELLSCHAFT
gem·i·nal \'jem-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *geminus* twin] : relating to or characterized by two usu. similar substituents on the same atom — **gem·i·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
¹gem·i·nate \'jem-ə-nət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* [L *geminatus*, pp. of *geminare* to double, fr. *geminus* twin] : arranged in pairs : DUPLICATE — **gem·i·nate·ly** *adv*
²gem·i·nate \-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** *vt* : DOUBLE ~ *vi* : to become double or paired — **gem·i·na·tion** \ˌjem-ə-'nā-shən\ *n*
Gem·i·ni \'jem-ə(ˌ)nē, -ˌnī; 'gem-ə-ˌnē\ *n pl but sing in constr* [L (gen. *Geminorum*), lit., the twins (Castor and Pollux)] **1** : the 3d zodiacal constellation pictorially represented as the twins Castor and Pollux sitting together and located on the opposite side of the Milky Way from Taurus and Orion **2 a** : the 3d sign of the zodiac in astrology — see ZODIAC table **b** : one born under this sign
gem·ma \'jem-ə\ *n, pl* **gem·mae** \-ˌē\ [L] : BUD; *broadly* : an asexual reproductive body that becomes detached from a parent plant — **gem·ma·ceous** \je-'mā-shəs\ *adj* — **gem·ma·tion** \-shən\ *n*
gem·mate \'jem-ˌāt\ *adj* **1** : having gemmae **2** : reproducing by a bud
gem·mip·a·rous \je-'mip-ə-rəs\ *adj* : producing or reproducing by buds — **gem·mip·a·rous·ly** *adv*
gem·mu·la·tion \ˌjem-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* : formation of or reproduction by gemmules
gem·mule \'jem-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *gemmula*, dim. of *gemma* bud] : a small bud: **a** : a minute particle that in the theory of pangenesis mediates the production in a new individual of cells like that in which it originated **b** : an internal resistant reproductive bud (as of a sponge) — **gem·mu·lif·er·ous** \ˌjem-yù-'lif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj*
gem·my \'jem-ē\ *adj* **1** : having the characteristics desired in a gemstone **2** : BRIGHT, GLITTERING
gem·ol·o·gist *or* **gem·mol·o·gist** \je-'mäl-ə-jəst, jə-\ *n* : a specialist in gems; *specif* : one who appraises gems
gem·ol·o·gy *or* **gem·mol·o·gy** \-jē\ *n* [L *gemma* gem] : the science of gems — **gem·olog·i·cal** *or* **gem·mo·log·i·cal** \ˌjem-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*
ge·mot *or* **ge·mote** \gə-'mōt\ *n* [OE *gemōt*, fr. *ge-* (perfective prefix) + *mōt* assembly — more at CO-, MOOT] : a judicial or legislative assembly in Anglo-Saxon England
gems·bok \'gemz-ˌbäk\ *n* [Afrik, lit., male chamois, fr. G *gemsbock*, fr. *gems* chamois + *bock* male goat] : a large and strikingly marked oryx (*Oryx gazella*) formerly abundant in southern Africa
gem·stone \'jem-ˌstōn\ *n* : a mineral or petrified material that when cut and polished can be used in jewelry
ge·müt·lich·keit \gə-'müt-likˌkīt\ *n* [G, fr. *gemütlich* good-natured, comfortable, fr. *gemüt* spirit, heart] : CORDIALITY, FRIENDLINESS
gen *abbr* **1** general **2** genitive **3** genus
Gen *abbr* Genesis
¹gen- *or* **geno-** *comb form* [Gk *genos* birth, race, kind — more at KIN] **1** : race ⟨*geno*cide⟩ **2** : genus : kind ⟨*geno*type⟩
²gen- *or* **geno-** *comb form* : gene ⟨*geno*cline⟩
-gen \jən *also esp when two unstressed syllables precede* ˌjen\ *also* **-gene** \ˌjēn\ *n comb form* [F *-gène*, fr. Gk *-genēs* born; akin to Gk *genos* birth] **1** : producer ⟨androgen⟩ **2** : one that is (so) produced ⟨cultigen⟩ ⟨phosgene⟩
Gen AF *abbr* general of the air force
gen·darme \'zhän-ˌdärm *also* 'jän-\ *n* [F, fr. MF, back-formation fr. *gensdarmes*, pl. of *gent d'armes*, lit., armed people] **1** : one of a body of soldiers esp. in France serving as an armed police force for the maintenance of public order **2** : POLICEMAN
gen·dar·mer·ie *or* **gen·dar·mery** \jän-'därm-ə-rē, zhän-\ *n, pl* **-mer·ies** [MF *gendarmerie*, fr. *gendarme*] : a body of gendarmes
¹gen·der \'jen-dər\ *n* [ME, *gendre*, fr. MF *genre, gendre*, fr. L *gener-, genus* birth, race, kind, gender — more at KIN] **1** : SEX ⟨black divinities of the feminine ~ —Charles Dickens⟩ **2 a** : a subclass within a grammatical class (as noun, pronoun, adjective, or verb) of a language that is partly arbitrary but also partly based on distinguishable characteristics (as shape, social rank, manner of existence, or sex) and that determines agreement with and selection of other words or grammatical forms **b** : membership of a word or a grammatical form in such a subclass **c** : an inflectional form showing membership in such a subclass
²gender *vb* **gen·dered; gen·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *gendren*, fr. MF *gendrer*, fr. L *generare* — more at GENERATE] : ENGENDER
gene \'jēn\ *n* [G *gen*, short for *pangen*, fr. *pan-* + *-gen*] : an element of the germ plasm that controls transmission of a hereditary character by specifying the structure of a particular protein or by controlling the function of other genetic material and that consists of a specific sequence of purine and pyrimidine bases usu. in DNA
ge·ne·al·o·gist \ˌjē-nē-'äl-ə-jəst, ˌjen-ē-, -'al-\ *n* : a person who traces or studies the descent of persons or families
ge·ne·al·o·gy \-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [ME *genealogie*, fr. MF, fr. LL *genealogia*, fr. Gk, fr. *genea* race, family + *-logia* -logy; akin to Gk *genos* race] **1** : an account of the descent of a person, family, or group from an ancestor or from older forms **2** : regular descent of a person, family, or group of organisms from a progenitor or older form : PEDIGREE **3** : the study of family pedigrees — **ge·ne·a·log·i·cal** \ˌjē-nē-ə-'läj-i-kəl, ˌjen-ē-\ *adj* — **ge·ne·a·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
gene flow *n* : the passage and establishment of genes typical of one breeding population into the gene pool of another by hybridization and backcrossing
gene frequency *n* : the frequency of occurrence of a specified gene in a population compared to its alleles
gene mutation *n* : mutation due to fundamental intramolecular reorganization of a gene
gene pool *n* : the whole body of genes in an interbreeding population that includes each gene at a certain frequency in relation to its alleles
genera *pl of* GENUS
gen·er·a·ble \'jen-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being generated
¹gen·er·al \'jen-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *generalis*, fr. *gener-, genus* kind, class — more at KIN] **1** : involving or applicable to the whole **2** : involving, relating to, or applicable to every member of a class, kind, or group **3 a** : applicable to or characteristic of the majority of individuals involved : PREVALENT **b** : concerned or dealing with universal rather than particular aspects **4** : relating to, determined by, or concerned with main elements rather than limited details ⟨bearing a ~ resemblance to the original⟩ **5** : not confined by specialization or careful limitation **6** : belonging to the common nature of a group of like individuals : GENERIC **7** : holding superior rank or taking precedence over others similarly titled ⟨the ~ manager⟩ ⟨~ secretary⟩ ***syn*** see UNIVERSAL
²general *n* **1** : something (as a concept, principle, or statement) that involves or is applicable to the whole **2** *archaic* : the general public : PEOPLE **3** : SUPERIOR GENERAL **4 a** : GENERAL OFFICER **b** : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps who ranks above a lieutenant general and whose insignia is four stars — compare ADMIRAL — **in general** : for the most part : GENERALLY
general admission *n* : a fee paid for admission to a usu. unreserved seating area (as in an auditorium or stadium)
general agent *n* **1** : one employed to transact generally all legal business entrusted to him by his principal **2** : an insurance company agent who administers the company's business within a specified area
general assembly *n* **1** : the highest governing body in a religious denomination (as the United Presbyterian Church) **2** : a legislative assembly; *esp* : a U.S. state legislature **3** *cap G&A* : the supreme deliberative body of the United Nations
General Court *n* : a legislative assembly; *specif* : the state legislature in Massachusetts and New Hampshire
general delivery *n* : a department of a post office that handles the delivery of mail at a post office window to persons who call for it
general election *n* : an election usu. held at regular intervals in which candidates are elected in all or most constituencies of a nation or state
gen·er·a·lis·si·mo \ˌjen-(ə-)rə-'lis-ə-ˌmō\ *n, pl* **-mos** [It, fr. *generale* general] : the chief commander of an army : COMMANDER IN CHIEF
gen·er·al·ist \'jen-(ə-)rə-ləst\ *n* : one whose skills or interests extend to several different fields
gen·er·al·i·ty \ˌjen-ə-'ral-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being general : total applicability **2 a** : GENERALIZATION 2 **b** : a vague or inadequate statement **3** : the greatest part : BULK
gen·er·al·iza·tion \ˌjen-(ə-)rə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of generalizing **2** : a general statement, law, principle, or proposition **3** : the act or process whereby a response is made to a stimulus similar to but not identical with a reference stimulus
gen·er·al·ize \'jen-(ə-)rə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to give a general form to **2 a** : to derive or induce (a general conception or principle) from particulars **b** : to draw a general conclusion from **3** : to give general applicability to ⟨~ a law⟩; *also* : to make indefinite ~ *vi* **1** : to form generalizations; *also* : to make vague or indefinite statements **2** : to extend throughout the body — **gen·er·al·iz·able** \-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **gen·er·al·iz·er** *n*
gen·er·al·ized *adj* : made general; *esp* : not highly differentiated biologically nor strictly adapted to a particular environment
gen·er·al·ly \'jen-(ə-)rə-lē, 'jen-ər-lē\ *adv* : in a general manner: as **a** : in disregard of specific instances and with regard to an overall picture ⟨~ speaking⟩ **b** : as a rule : USUALLY
general officer *n* : any of the officers in the army, air force, or marine corps above colonel — compare COMPANY OFFICER, FIELD OFFICER
general of the air force : a general of the highest rank in the air force whose insignia is five stars

general of the army : a general of the highest rank in the army whose insignia is five stars
general paresis *n* : insanity caused by syphilitic alteration of the brain that leads to dementia and paralysis
general practitioner *n* : a physician or veterinarian who does not limit his practice to a specialty; *broadly* : GENERALIST
general–purpose *adj* : suitable to be used for two or more basic purposes
general semantics *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a doctrine and educational discipline intended to improve habits of response of human beings to their environment and one another esp. by training in the more critical use of words and other symbols
gen·er·al·ship \'jen-(ə-)rəl-ˌship\ *n* **1** : office or tenure of office of a general **2** : military skill in a high commander **3** : LEADERSHIP
general store *n* : a retail store located usu. in a small or rural community that carries a wide variety of goods including groceries but is not divided into departments
general theory of relativity : RELATIVITY 3b
general will *n* : the collective will of a community that is the embodiment or expression of its common interest
gen·er·ate \'jen-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *generatus*, pp. of *generare*, fr. *gener-*, *genus* birth — more at KIN] **1** : to bring into existence: as **a** : PROCREATE, BEGET **b** : to originate by a vital or chemical process : PRODUCE ⟨~ electricity⟩ **2** : to define (as a mathematical or linguistic set or structure) by the application of one or more rules or operations to given quantities; *esp* : to trace out (as a curve) by a moving point or trace out (as a surface) by a moving curve **3** : to be the cause of (a situation, action, or state of mind) ⟨these stories . . . ~ a good deal of psychological suspense —*Atlantic*⟩
gen·er·a·tion \ˌjen-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : a body of living beings constituting a single step in the line of descent from an ancestor **b** : a group of individuals born and living contemporaneously **c** : a group of individuals having contemporaneously a status (as that of students in a school) which each one holds only for a limited period **d** : a type or class of objects usu. developed from an earlier type ⟨first of the . . . new ~ of powerful supersonic fighters — Kenneth Koyen⟩ **2** : the average span of time between the birth of parents and that of their offspring **3 a** : the action or process of producing offspring : PROCREATION **b** : origination by a mathematical, chemical, or other process : PRODUCTION; *specif* : formation of a geometrical figure by motion of another **c** : the process of coming or bringing into being ⟨~ of income⟩ — **gen·er·a·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
gen·er·a·tive \'jen-ə-ˌrāt-iv, -(ə-)rət-\ *adj* : having the power or function of generating, originating, producing, or reproducing
generative cell *n* : a sexual reproductive cell : GAMETE
generative grammar *n* **1** : a description in the form of an ordered set of rules for producing the grammatical sentences of a language **2** : TRANSFORMATIONAL GRAMMAR
generative nucleus *n* : the one of the two nuclei resulting from the first division in the pollen grain of a seed plant that gives rise to sperm nuclei — compare TUBE NUCLEUS
gen·er·a·tor \'jen-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that generates **2** : an apparatus in which vapor or gas is formed **3** : a machine by which mechanical energy is changed into electrical energy **4** : a mathematical entity that when subjected to one or more operations yields another mathematical entity or its elements; *specif* : GENERATRIX
gen·er·a·trix \ˌjen-ə-'rā-triks\ *n, pl* **-er·a·tri·ces** \-trə-ˌsēz, -ə-rə-'trī-(ˌ)sēz\ : a point, line, or surface whose motion generates a line, surface, or solid
¹ge·ner·ic \jə-'ner-ik\ *adj* [F *générique*, fr. L *gener-*, *genus* birth, kind, class] **1 a** : relating to or characteristic of a whole group or class : GENERAL **b** : not protected by trademark registration **2** : relating to or having the rank of a biological genus ***syn*** see UNIVERSAL — **ge·ner·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ge·ner·ic·ness** *n*
²generic *n* : a generic drug
gen·er·os·i·ty \ˌjen-ə-'räs-ət-ē, -'räs-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : liberality in spirit or act; *esp* : liberality in giving **b** : a generous act **2** : ABUNDANCE
gen·er·ous \'jen-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *genereus*, fr. L *generosus*, fr. *gener-*, *genus* birth, family] **1** *archaic* : HIGHBORN **2 a** : characterized by a noble or forbearing spirit : MAGNANIMOUS, KINDLY **b** : liberal in giving : OPENHANDED **c** : marked by abundance or ample proportions : COPIOUS **d** : full flavored ⟨~ wine⟩ ***syn*** see LIBERAL ***ant*** stingy — **gen·er·ous·ly** *adv* — **gen·er·ous·ness** *n*
gen·e·sis \'jen-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-e·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk, fr. *gignesthai* to be born — more at KIN] : the origin or coming into being of something
Genesis *n* [Gk] : the mainly narrative first book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scriptures — see BIBLE table
gen·et \'jen-ət\ *n* [ME *genete*, fr. MF, fr. Ar *jarnayṭ*] : any of several small Old World carnivorous mammals (genus *Genetta*) related to the civets but with scent glands less developed and claws fully retractile
ge·net·ic \jə-'net-ik\ *also* **ge·net·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [*genesis*] **1** : relating to or determined by the origin, development, or causal antecedents of something **2 a** : of, relating to, or involving genetics **b** : GENIC — **ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
-ge·net·ic \jə-'net-ik\ *adj comb form* : -GENIC 1, 2 ⟨psycho*genetic*⟩ ⟨spermato*genetic*⟩
genetic code *n* : the biochemical basis of heredity consisting of codons that determine the specific amino acid sequence in proteins and that are uniform for the forms of life studied so far
genetic drift *n* : changes of gene frequency in small populations due to chance preservation or extinction of particular genes
genetic map *n* : MAP 3
genetic marker *n* : a usu. dominant gene or trait that serves esp. to identify genes or traits linked with it
ge·net·ics \jə-'net-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1 a** : a branch of biology that deals with the heredity and variation of organisms **b** : a treatise or textbook on genetics **2** : the genetic makeup and phenomena of an organism, type, group, or condition **3** : GENESIS — **ge·net·i·cist** \-'net-ə-səst\ *n*
ge·ne·va \jə-'nē-və\ *n* [modif. of obs. D *genever* (now *jenever*), lit., juniper, deriv. of L *juniperus*] : a strongly alcoholic liquor flavored with juniper berries and made in the Netherlands
Ge·ne·va bands \jə-ˌnē-və-\ *n pl* [*Geneva*, Switzerland; fr. their use by the Calvinist clergy of Geneva] : two strips of white cloth suspended from the front of a clerical collar and sometimes used by Protestant clergymen — called also *Geneva tabs*



Geneva bands

Geneva convention *n* : one of a series of agreements concerning the treatment of prisoners of war and of the sick, wounded, and dead in battle first made at Geneva, Switzerland, in 1864 and subsequently accepted in later revisions by most nations
Geneva cross *n* [fr. its adoption by the Geneva convention] : RED CROSS
Geneva gown *n* [fr. its use by the Calvinist clergy of Geneva] : a loose large-sleeved black academic gown widely used as a vestment by Protestant clergymen
Ge·ne·van \jə-'nē-vən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Geneva, Switzerland **2** : of or relating to Geneva about the time of the beginning of the Reformation; *specif* : of or relating to Calvinism — **Genevan** *n*
¹ge·nial \'jē-nyəl\ *adj* [L *genialis*, fr. *genius*] **1** *obs* : of or relating to marriage or generation ⟨the ~ bed —John Milton⟩ **2 a** : favorable to growth or comfort : MILD ⟨~ sunshine⟩ **b** : marked by or diffusing sympathy or friendliness : KINDLY **3** *obs* : NATIVE, INBORN **4** : displaying or marked by genius ***syn*** see GRACIOUS ***ant*** saturnine (*as manner or aspect*), caustic (*as remarks*) — **ge·nial·i·ty** \ˌjē-nē-'al-ət-ē, jēn-'yal-\ *n* — **ge·nial·ly** \'jē-nyə-lē\ *adv* — **ge·nial·ness** *n*
²ge·ni·al \ji-'nī(-ə)l\ *adj* [Gk *geneion* chin, fr. *genys* jaw — more at CHIN] : of or relating to the chin
gen·ic \'jēn-ik, 'jen-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a gene — **gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
-gen·ic \'jen-ik *sometimes* 'jē-nik\ *adj comb form* [ISV *-gen* & *-geny* + *-ic*] **1** : producing : forming ⟨ero*genic*⟩ **2** : produced by : formed from ⟨phyto*genic*⟩ **3** [*photogenic*] : suitable for production or reproduction by (such) a medium ⟨tele*genic*⟩
ge·nic·u·late \jə-'nik-yə-lət\ *or* **ge·nic·u·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* [L *geniculatus*, fr. *geniculum*, dim. of *genu* knee — more at KNEE] : bent abruptly at an angle like a bent knee — **ge·nic·u·late·ly** *adv*
ge·nie \'jē-nē *also* 'jen-ē\ *n, pl* **ge·nies** *also* **ge·nii** \'jē-nē-ˌī\ [F *génie*, fr. Ar *jinnīy*] : JINN
gen·i·tal \'jen-ə-tᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *genitalis*, fr. *genitus*, pp. of *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1** : GENERATIVE **2** : of, relating to, or being a sexual organ **3** : of, relating to, or characterized by the stage of psychosexual development in which oral and anal impulses are subordinated to adaptive interpersonal mechanisms — **gen·i·tal·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv*
gen·i·ta·lia \ˌjen-ə-'tāl-yə\ *n pl* [L, fr. neut. pl. of *genitalis*] : the organs of the reproductive system; *esp* : the external genital organs — **gen·i·ta·lic** \-'tal-ik, -'tāl-\ *adj*
gen·i·tals \'jen-ə-tᵊlz\ *n pl* : GENITALIA
gen·i·ti·val \ˌjen-ə-'tī-vəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or formed with or from the genitive case — **gen·i·ti·val·ly** \-və-lē\ *adv*
gen·i·tive \'jen-ət-iv\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *genetivus, genitivus*, lit., of generation (erroneous translation of Gk *genikos* genitive), fr. *genitus*] **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a grammatical case marking typically a relationship of possessor or source — compare POSSESSIVE **2** : not characterized by case inflection but nevertheless expressing a relationship that in some inflected languages is often marked by a genitive case — used esp. of English prepositional phrases introduced by *of* — **genitive** *n*
genito- *comb form* [*genital*] : genital and ⟨*genito*urinary⟩
gen·i·to·uri·nary \ˌjen-ə-tō-'yůr-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : of or relating to the genital and urinary organs or functions
gen·i·ture \'jen-ə-ˌchů(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)ů(ə)r\ *n* : NATIVITY, BIRTH
ge·nius \'jē-nyəs, -nē-əs\ *n, pl* **ge·nius·es** *or* **ge·nii** \-nē-ˌī\ [L, tutelary spirit, fondness for social enjoyment, fr. *gignere* to beget] **1 a** *pl genii* : an attendant spirit of a person or place **b** *pl usu genii* : a person who influences another for good or bad **2** : a strong leaning or inclination : PENCHANT ⟨fate did not allow him to indulge his ~ till those last few years — Norman Douglas⟩ **3 a** : a peculiar, distinctive, or identifying character or spirit **b** : the associations and traditions of a place **c** : a personification or embodiment esp. of a quality or condition **4** *pl usu genii* : SPIRIT, JINN **5** *pl usu geniuses* **a** : a single strongly marked capacity or aptitude ⟨had a ~ for getting along with boys — Mary Ross⟩ **b** : extraordinary intellectual power esp. as manifested in creative activity **c** : a person endowed with transcendent mental superiority; *specif* : a person with a very high intelligence quotient ***syn*** see GIFT
genius lo·ci \-'lō-ˌsī, -ˌkē\ *n* [L] **1** : a tutelary deity of a place **2** : the pervading spirit of a place
genl *abbr* general
geno- — see GEN-
geno·cide \'jen-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* : the deliberate and systematic destruction of a racial, political, or cultural group — **geno·cid·al** \ˌjen-ə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*
ge·nome \'jē-ˌnōm\ *or* **ge·nom** \-ˌnäm\ *n* [G *genom*, fr. *gen-* ²gen- + chromos*om* chromosome] : one haploid set of chromosomes with the genes they contain — **ge·no·mic** \ji-'nō-mik, -'näm-ik\ *adj*
ge·no·spe·cies \ˌjē-nō-'spē-(ˌ)shēz, -(ˌ)sēz\ *n* : the sum of the genotypes of a taxonomic species
ge·no·type \'jē-nə-ˌtīp, 'jen-ə-\ *n* **1** [¹*gen-*] : TYPE SPECIES **2** [²*gen-*] **a** : the genetic constitution of an individual or group **b** : a class or group of individuals sharing a specified genetic makeup — com-

pare PHENOTYPE — **ge·no·typ·ic** \ˌjē-nə-'tip-ik, ˌjen-ə-\ *also* **ge·no·typ·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ge·no·typ·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ge·no·ty·pic·i·ty** \-tī-'pis-ət-ē\ *n*

-g·e·nous \j-ə-nəs\ *adj comb form* [*-gen* + *-ous*] **1** : producing : yielding ⟨pyrog*enous*⟩ **2** : having (such) an origin ⟨hypog*enous*⟩

genre \'zhän-rə, 'zhäⁿ-, 'zhänj-; 'zhäⁿ(-ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. MF *genre* kind, gender — more at GENDER] **1** : KIND, SORT **2** : a category of artistic, musical, or literary composition characterized by a particular style, form, or content ⟨the movie won international acclaim as a masterpiece of the suspense ~ — *Current Biog.*⟩; *esp* : painting that depicts scenes or events from everyday life usu. realistically

gen·ro \'gen-'rō\ *n pl, often cap* [Jap *genrō*] : the elder statesmen of Japan who formerly advised the emperor

gens \'jenz, 'gen(t)s\ *n, pl* **gen·tes** \'jen-ˌtēz, 'gen-ˌtās\ [L *gent-, gens* — more at GENTLE] **1** : a Roman clan embracing the families of the same stock in the male line with the members having a common name and being united in worship of their common ancestor **2** : CLAN; *esp* : a patrilineal clan **3** : a distinguishable group of related organisms

¹gent \'jent\ *adj* [ME, noble, graceful, fr. OF, fr. L *genitus*, pp. of *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] *archaic* : PRETTY, GRACEFUL

²gent *n* [short for *gentleman*] : MAN, FELLOW

gen·ta·mi·cin \ˌjent-ə-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* [alter. of earlier *gentamycin*, fr. *genta-* (prob. irreg. fr. *gentian violet*; fr. the color of the organism from which it is produced) + *-mycin*] : a broad-spectrum antibiotic that is derived from an actinomycete (*Micromonospora purpurea* or *M. echinospora*)

gen·teel \jen-'tē(ə)l\ *adj* [MF *gentil* gentle] **1 a** : having an aristocratic quality or flavor : STYLISH **b** : of or relating to the gentry or upper class **c** : elegant or graceful in manner, appearance, or shape **d** : free from vulgarity or rudeness : POLITE **2 a** : maintaining or striving to maintain the appearance of superior or middle-class social status or respectability **b** (1) : marked by false delicacy, prudery, or affectation (2) : conventionally or insipidly pretty ⟨timid and ~ artistic style⟩ — **gen·teel·ly** \-'tē(ə)l-lē\ *adv* — **gen·teel·ness** *n*

gen·teel·ism \-'tē(ə)l-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a word believed by its user to be genteel (as *stomach* for *belly*)

gen·tian \'jen-chən\ *n* [ME *gencian*, fr. MF *gentiane*, fr. L *gentiana*] **1** : any of two genera (*Gentiana* and *Dasystephana*) of herbs of a family (Gentianaceae, the gentian family) with opposite smooth leaves and showy usu. blue flowers **2** : the rhizome and roots of a yellow-flowered gentian (*Gentiana lutea*) of southern Europe that is used as a tonic and stomachic

gen·tia·nel·la \ˌjen-ch(ē-)ə-'nel-ə\ *n* [NL, dim. of L *gentiana*] : any of several gentians; *esp* : an often cultivated blue-flowered alpine gentian (*Gentiana acaulis*)

gentian violet *n, often cap G&V* : a dye consisting of one or more methyl derivatives of pararosaniline used as a biological stain, as a bactericide, fungicide, and anthelmintic, and in the treatment of burns

¹gen·tile \'jen-ˌtīl\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *gentilis*, fr. L *gent-, gens* nation] **1** *often cap* : a person of a non-Jewish nation or of non-Jewish faith; *esp* : a Christian as distinguished from a Jew **2** : HEATHEN, PAGAN **3** *often cap* : a non-Mormon

²gentile *adj* **1** *often cap* **a** : of or relating to the nations at large as distinguished from the Jews; *also* : of or relating to Christians as distinguished from the Jews **b** : of or relating to non-Mormons **2** : PAGAN, HEATHEN **3** [L *gentilis*] : relating to a tribe or clan

gen·ti·lesse \ˌjent-ᵊl-'es\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *gentil*] *archaic* : decorum of conduct befitting a member of the gentry

gen·til·i·ty \jen-'til-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the condition of belonging to the gentry **b** : the members of the upper class : GENTRY **2 a** (1) : decorum of conduct : COURTESY (2) : attitudes or activity marked by false delicacy, prudery, or affectation **b** (1) : superior social status or prestige evidenced by manners, possessions, or mode of life (2) : the maintenance of the appearance of superior or middle-class social status esp. in the face of decayed prosperity

gen·tis·ic acid \jen-ˌtis-ik-, -ˌtiz-\ *n* [ISV fr. *gentisin* (a pigment obtained from gentian root)] : a crystalline acid $C_7H_6O_4$ used medicinally as an analgesic and diaphoretic

¹gen·tle \'jent-ᵊl\ *adj* **gen·tler** \'jent-lər, -ᵊl-ər\; **gen·tlest** \'jent-ləst, -ᵊl-əst\ [ME *gentil*, fr. OF, fr. L *gentilis* of a clan, of the same clan, fr. *gent-, gens* clan, nation; akin to L *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1 a** : belonging to a family of high social station **b** *archaic* : CHIVALROUS **c** : HONORABLE, DISTINGUISHED; *specif* : of or relating to a gentleman **d** : KIND, AMIABLE — used esp. in address as a complimentary epithet ⟨~ reader⟩ **e** : suited to a person of high social station **2 a** : TRACTABLE, DOCILE **b** : free from harshness, sternness, or violence ⟨a ~ zephyr⟩ ⟨O sleep, O ~ sleep, Nature's soft nurse —Shak.⟩ **3** : SOFT, DELICATE ⟨heard a ~ knock on the door⟩ **4** : MODERATE ***syn*** see SOFT ***ant*** rough, harsh — **gent·ly** \'jent-lē\ *adv*

²gentle *n* : a person of gentle birth or status

³gentle *vt* **gen·tled; gen·tling** \'jent-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ **1** : to raise from the commonalty : ENNOBLE **2 a** : to make mild, docile, soft, or moderate **b** : MOLLIFY, PLACATE **c** : to stroke soothingly : PET

gentle breeze *n* : wind having a speed of 8 to 12 miles per hour

gen·tle·folk \'jent-ᵊl-ˌfōk\ *also* **gen·tle·folks** \-ˌfōks\ *n pl* : persons of gentle or good family and breeding

gen·tle·man \'jent-ᵊl-mən\ *n, often attrib* **1 a** : a man of noble or gentle birth **b** : a man belonging to the landed gentry **c** (1) : a man who combines gentle birth or rank with chivalrous qualities (2) : a man whose conduct conforms to a high standard of propriety or correct behavior **d** (1) : a man of independent means who does not engage in any occupation or profession for gain (2) : a man who does not engage in a menial occupation or in manual labor for gain **2** : VALET — often used in the phrase *gentleman's gentleman* **3** : a man of any social class or condition — often used in a courteous reference ⟨show this ~ to a seat⟩ or usu. in the pl. in address ⟨ladies and *gentlemen*⟩ — **gen·tle·man·like** \-mən-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **gen·tle·man·like·ness** *n*

gentleman–at–arms *n, pl* **gentlemen–at–arms** : one of a military corps of 40 gentlemen who attend the British sovereign on state occasions

gentleman–commoner *n, pl* **gentlemen–commoners** : one of a privileged class of commoners formerly required to pay higher fees than ordinary commoners at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge

gentleman farmer *n, pl* **gentlemen farmers** : a man of superior social position and wealth who farms mainly for pleasure rather than for profit

gen·tle·man·ly \-lē\ *adj* : characteristic of or having the character of a gentleman — **gen·tle·man·li·ness** *n*

gentleman of fortune : ADVENTURER

gentleman's agreement *or* **gentlemen's agreement** *n* : an agreement secured only by the honor of the participants

gen·tle·ness \'jent-ᵊl-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being gentle; *esp* : mildness of manners or disposition

gentle sex *n* : the female sex : women in general

gen·tle·wom·an \'jent-ᵊl-ˌwüm-ən\ *n* **1 a** : a woman of noble or gentle birth **b** : a woman attendant upon a lady of rank **2** : a woman of refined manners or good breeding : LADY

Gen·too \ˈjen-(ˌ)tü\ *n, pl* **Gentoos** [Pg *gentio*, lit., gentile, fr. LL *gentilis*] *archaic* : HINDU

gen·trice \'jen-trəs\ *n* [ME *gentrise*, fr. OF *genterise*, alter. of *gentelise*, fr. *gentil* gentle] *archaic* : gentility of birth : RANK

gen·try \'jen-trē\ *n, pl* **gentries** [ME *gentrie*, alter. of *gentrise*] **1 a** *obs* : the qualities appropriate to a person of gentle birth; *esp* : COURTESY **b** : the condition or rank of a gentleman **2 a** : upper or ruling class : ARISTOCRACY **b** : a class whose members are entitled to bear a coat of arms though not of noble rank; *esp* : the landed proprietors having such status **3** : people of a specified class or kind : FOLKS ⟨no real heroes or heroines among the academic ~ — R. G. Hanvey⟩

gen·u·flect \'jen-yə-ˌflekt\ *vi* [LL *genuflectere*, fr. L *genu* knee + *flectere* to bend — more at KNEE] **1 a** : to bend the knee **b** : to touch the knee to the floor or ground esp. in worship **2** : to be servilely obedient or respectful : KOWTOW — **gen·u·flec·tion** \ˌjen-yə-'flek-shən\ *n*

gen·u·ine \'jen-yə-wən\ *adj* [L *genuinus* native, genuine; akin to L *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1 a** : actually having the reputed or apparent qualities or character ⟨~ vintage wines⟩ **b** : actually produced by or proceeding from the alleged source or author ⟨the signature is ~⟩ **c** : sincerely and honestly felt or experienced ⟨a deep and ~ love⟩ **2** : free from hypocrisy or pretense : SINCERE ***syn*** see AUTHENTIC ***ant*** counterfeit, fraudulent — **gen·u·ine·ly** *adv* — **gen·u·ine·ness** \-wən-(n)əs\ *n*

ge·nus \'jē-nəs\ *n, pl* **gen·era** \'jen-ə-rə\ [L *gener-, genus* birth, race, kind — more at KIN] **1** : a class, kind, or group marked by common characteristics or by one common characteristic; *specif* : a category of biological classification ranking between the family and the species, comprising structurally or phylogenetically related species or an isolated species exhibiting unusual differentiation, and being designated by a Latin or latinized capitalized singular noun **2** : a class of objects divided into several subordinate species

-g·e·ny \j-ə-nē\ *n comb form* [Gk *-geneia* act of being born, fr. *-genēs* born — more at -GEN] : generation : production ⟨biog*eny*⟩

geo- — see GE-

geo·bot·a·ny \ˌjē-ō-'bät-ᵊn-ē, -'bät-nē\ *n* : PHYTOGEOGRAPHY — **geo·bo·tan·i·cal** \-bə-'tan-i-kəl\ *also* **geo·bo·tan·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **geo·bo·tan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **geo·bot·a·nist** \-'bät-ᵊn-əst, -'bät-nəst\ *n*

geo·cen·tric \ˌjē-ō-'sen-trik\ *adj* **1 a** : relating to, measured from, or as if observed from the earth's center — compare TOPOCENTRIC **b** : having or relating to the earth as center — compare HELIOCENTRIC **2** : taking or based on the earth as the center of perspective and valuation — **geo·cen·tri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

geo·chem·is·try \ˌjē-ō-'kem-ə-strē\ *n* **1** : a science that deals with the chemical composition of and chemical changes in the crust of the earth **2** : the related chemical and geological properties of a substance — **geo·chem·i·cal** \-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj* — **geo·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **geo·chem·ist** \-'kem-əst\ *n*

geo·chro·nol·o·gy \-krə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* : the chronology of the past as indicated by geologic data — **geo·chro·no·log·ic** \-ˌkrän-ᵊl-'äj-ik, -ˌkrōn-\ *or* **geo·chro·no·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **geo·chro·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **geo·chro·nol·o·gist** \-krə-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*

geo·chro·nom·e·try \-krə-'näm-ə-trē\ *n* : the measurement of past time by geochronological methods — **geo·chro·no·met·ric** \-ˌkrän-ə-'me-trik, -ˌkrōn-\ *adj*

ge·ode \'jē-ˌōd\ *n* [L *geodes*, a gem, fr. Gk *geōdēs* earthlike, fr. *gē* earth] **1** : a nodule of stone having a cavity lined with crystals or mineral matter **2** : the cavity in a geode

¹geo·de·sic \ˌjē-ə-'des-ik, -'dēs-, -'dez-, -'dēz-\ *adj* **1** : GEODETIC **2** : made of light straight structural elements mostly in tension ⟨a ~ dome⟩

²geodesic *n* : the shortest line between two points that lies in a given surface

ge·od·e·sy \jē-'äd-ə-sē\ *n* [Gk *geōdaisia*, fr. *geō-* ge- + *daiesthai* to divide — more at TIDE] : a branch of applied mathematics that determines the exact positions of points and the figures and areas of large portions of the earth's surface, the shape and size of the earth, and the variations of terrestrial gravity and magnetism — **ge·od·e·sist** \-səst\ *n*

geo·det·ic \ˌjē-ə-'det-ik\ *adj* [*geodesy*; after such pairs as *heresy: heretic*] **1** : of, relating to, or determined by geodesy **2** : relating

GEOLOGIC TIME AND FORMATIONS

ERAS	PERIODS AND SYSTEMS	EPOCHS AND SERIES	APPROXIMATE NO. OF YEARS AGO	EARLIEST RECORD OF ANIMALS	EARLIEST RECORD OF PLANTS
Cenozoic	Quaternary	Holocene (Recent) Pleistocene (Glacial)	70,000,000	mankind	
	Tertiary	Pliocene Miocene Oligocene Eocene Paleocene		placental mammals	grasses and cereals
Mesozoic	Cretaceous	Upper		birds	
		Lower			flowering plants
	Jurassic		160,000,000	mammals	
	Triassic				ginkgoes
Paleozoic	Permian		230,000,000		cycads and conifers
	Pennsylvanian			insects	primitive gymnosperms
	Mississippian			reptiles	
	Devonian		390,000,000	amphibians	vascular plants: lycopodiums equisetums, ferns, etc.
	Silurian			fishes	
	Ordovician		500,000,000		mosses
	Cambrian		620,000,000	invertebrates	spores of uncertain relationship marine algae
Proterozoic	not divided into periods		1,420,000,000		
Archeozoic			2,300,000,000		

to the geometry of geodetic lines — **geo·det·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **geo·det·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geodetic line *n* : a geodesic on the earth's surface
geodetic survey *n* : a survey of a large land area in which corrections are made for the curvature of the earth's surface
Geo·dim·e·ter \ˌjē-ə-'dim-ət-ər\ *trademark* — used for an electronic-optical device that measures distance on the basis of the velocity of light
geo·duck \'gü-ē-ˌdək\ *n* [Chinook Jargon *go-duck*] : an edible clam (*Panope generosa*) of the Pacific coast that sometimes weighs over five pounds
geo–eco·nom·ic \'jē-ō-ˌek-ə-'näm-ik, -ˌē-kə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by economic conditions or policies that are influenced by geographic factors and are international in scope
geog *abbr* geographic; geographical; geography
ge·og·ra·pher \jē-'äg-rə-fər\ *n* : a specialist in geography
geo·graph·ic \ˌjē-ə-'graf-ik\ *or* **geo·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to geography **2** : belonging to or characteristic of a particular region — **geo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geographical mile *n* : NAUTICAL MILE
ge·og·ra·phy \jē-'äg-rə-fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** [L *geographia*, fr. Gk *geōgraphia*, fr. *geōgraphein* to describe the earth's surface, fr. *geō-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] **1** : a science that deals with the earth and its life; *esp* : the description of land, sea, air, and the distribution of plant and animal life including man and his industries **2** : the geographic features of an area **3** : a treatise on geography **4** : a delineation or systematic arrangement of constituent elements : CONFIGURATION ⟨the philosophers . . . have tried to construct *geographies* of human reason —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩
geo·hy·drol·o·gy \ˌjē-ō-hī-'dräl-ə-jē\ *n* : a science that deals with the character, source, and mode of occurrence of underground water — **geo·hy·dro·log·ic** \-ˌhī-drə-'läj-ik\ *adj*
ge·oid \'jē-ˌȯid\ *n* [G, fr. Gk *geoeidēs* earthlike, fr. *gē*] : the surface within or around the earth that is everywhere normal to the direction of gravity and coincides with mean sea level in the oceans — **ge·oi·dal** \jē-'ȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*
geol *abbr* geologic; geological; geology
geo·log·ic \ˌjē-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **geo·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or based on geology — **geo·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geologic time *n* : the long period of time occupied by the earth's geologic history
ge·ol·o·gize \jē-'äl-ə-ˌjīz\ *vi* **-gized; -giz·ing** : to study geology or make geologic investigations
ge·ol·o·gy \jē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *geologia*, fr. *ge-* + *-logia* -logy] **1 a** : a science that deals with the history of the earth and its life esp. as recorded in rocks **b** : a study of the solid matter of a celestial body (as the moon) **2** : geologic features **3** : a treatise on geology — **ge·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
geom *abbr* geometric; geometrical; geometry
geo·mag·net·ic \ˌjē-ō-mag-'net-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to terrestrial magnetism — **geo·mag·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **geo·mag·ne·tism** \-'mag-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n*
geomagnetic storm *n* : MAGNETIC STORM
geo·man·cer \'jē-ə-ˌman(t)-sər\ *n* : one that practices geomancy
geo·man·cy \-sē\ *n* [ME *geomancie*, fr. MF, fr. ML *geomantia*, fr. LGk *geōmanteia*, fr. Gk *geō-* + *-manteia* -mancy] : divination by means of figures or lines or geographical features — **geo·man·tic** \ˌjē-ə-'mant-ik\ *adj*
ge·om·e·ter \jē-'äm-ət-ər\ *n* **1** : a specialist in geometry **2** : GEOMETRID
geo·met·ric \ˌjē-ə-'me-trik\ *or* **geo·met·ri·cal** \-'me-tri-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or according to the methods or principles of geometry **b** : increasing in a geometric progression ⟨~ population growth⟩ **2** *cap* : of or relating to a style of ancient Greek pottery characterized by geometric decorative motifs **3 a** : utilizing rectilinear or simple curvilinear motifs or outlines in design **b** : of or relating to art based on simple geometric shapes (as straight lines, circles, or squares) ⟨~ abstractions⟩ — **geo·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geo·me·tri·cian \(ˌ)jē-ˌäm-ə-'trish-ən, ˌjē-ə-mə-\ *n* : GEOMETER 1
geometric mean *n* : the nth root of the product of *n* numbers; *specif* : a number that is the second term of three consecutive terms of a geometric progression ⟨the *geometric mean* of 9 and 4 is 6⟩
geometric progression *n* : a sequence (as 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$) in which the ratio of a term to its predecessor is always the same — called also *geometric sequence*
geometric series *n* : a series (as $1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \ldots$) whose terms form a geometric progression
geo·me·trid \jē-'äm-ə-trəd, ˌjē-ə-'me-trəd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *geōmetrēs* geometer, fr. *geōmetrein*] : any of a family (Geometridae) of medium-sized moths with large wings and larvae that are loopers — **geometrid** *adj*
ge·om·e·trize \jē-'äm-ə-ˌtrīz\ *vb* **-trized; -triz·ing** *vi* : to work by or as if by geometric methods or laws ~ *vt* **1** : to represent geometrically **2** : to make conform to geometric principles and laws
ge·om·e·try \jē-'äm-ə-trē\ *n, pl* **-tries** [ME *geometrie*, fr. MF, fr. L *geometria*, fr. Gk *geōmetria*, fr. *geōmetrein* to measure the earth, fr. *geō-* ge- + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] **1 a** : a branch of mathematics that deals with the measurement, properties, and relationships of points, lines, angles, surfaces, and solids; *broadly* : the study of properties of given elements that remain invariant under specified transformations **b** : a particular type or system of geometry **c** : a treatise on geometry **2 a** : CONFIGURATION **b** : surface shape **3** : an arrangement of objects or parts that suggests geometrical figures
geo·mor·phic \ˌjē-ə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* : of or relating to the form of the earth or a celestial body (as the moon) or its solid surface features
geo·mor·phol·o·gy \-mȯr-'fäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a science that deals with the land and submarine relief features of the earth's surface or the comparable relief features of a celestial body (as the moon) and seeks a genetic interpretation of them **2 a** : the features dealt with in geomorphology **b** : a treatise on geomorphology — **geo·mor·pho·log·ic** \-ˌmȯr-fə-'läj-ik\ *or* **geo·mor·pho·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **geo·mor·pho·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **geo·mor·phol·o·gist** \-mȯr-'fäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
ge·oph·a·gy \jē-'äf-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a practice of eating earthy substances (as clay) widespread among primitive or depressed peoples on a scanty or unbalanced diet
geo·phone \'jē-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* : an instrument for detecting vibrations passing through rocks, soil, or ice
geo·phys·ics \ˌjē-ə-'fiz-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ISV] : the physics of the earth including the fields of meteorology, hydrology, oceanography, seismology, volcanology, magnetism, radioactivity, and geodesy — **geo·phys·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **geo·phys·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **geo·phys·i·cist** \-'fiz-(ə-)səst\ *n*
geo·phyte \'jē-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* : a perennial plant that bears its overwintering buds below the surface of the soil
geo·po·lit·i·cal \ˌjē-ō-pə-'lit-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or based on geopolitics — **geo·po·lit·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geo·pol·i·ti·cian \-ˌpäl-ə-'tish-ən\ *n* : a specialist in geopolitics
geo·pol·i·tics \-'päl-ə-ˌtiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : a study of the influence of such factors as geography, economics, and demography on the politics and esp. the foreign policy of a state **2** : a governmental policy guided by geopolitics **3** : the combination of political and geographic factors characterizing a particular state or region
geo·pon·ic \ˌjē-ə-'pän-ik\ *adj* [Gk *geōponikos*, fr. *geōponein* to plow, fr. *geō-* + *ponein* to toil, fr. *ponos* labor] : AGRICULTURAL
geo·pon·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the art or science of cultivating the earth : HUSBANDRY
George \'jȯ(ə)rj\ *n* [St. *George*, patron saint of England] **1** : either of two of the insignia of the British Order of the Garter **2** : a British coin bearing the image of St. George
geor·gette \jȯr-'jet\ *n* [fr. *Georgette*, a trademark] : a thin strong clothing crepe of fibers woven from hard twisted yarns to produce a dull pebbly surface
[1]Geor·gian \'jȯr-jən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Georgia in the Caucasus **2** : the language of the Georgian people
[2]Georgian *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting Georgia in the Caucasus, the Georgians, or Georgian
[3]Georgian *n* : a native or resident of the state of Georgia
[4]Georgian *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the state of Georgia or its people
[5]Georgian *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the reigns of the first four Georges of Great Britain **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the reign of George V of Great Britain
[6]Georgian *n* **1** : one belonging to either of the Georgian periods **2** : Georgian taste or style
Geor·gia pine \ˌjȯr-jə-\ *n* : LONGLEAF PINE
[1]geor·gic \'jȯr-jik\ *n* [the *Georgics*, poem by Vergil] : a poem dealing with agriculture
[2]georgic *adj* [L *georgicus*, fr. Gk *geōrgikos*, fr. *geōrgos* farmer, fr. *geō-* ge- + *ergon* work — more at WORK] : of or relating to agriculture
geo·sci·ence \ˌjē-ō-'sī-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the sciences (as geology, geophysics, and geochemistry) dealing with the earth **2** : any of the geosciences — **geo·sci·en·tist** \-ənt-əst\ *n*
geo·sta·tion·ary \-'stā-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an artificial satellite that travels above the equator and at the same speed as the earth rotates so that the satellite seems to remain in the same place
geo·strat·e·gy \-'strat-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : a branch of geopolitics that deals with strategy **2** : the combination of geopolitical and strategic factors characterizing a particular geographic region **3** : the use by a government of strategy based on geopolitics — **geo·stra·te·gic** \-strə-'tē-jik\ *adj* — **geo·strat·e·gist** \-'strat-ə-jəst\ *n*
geo·stroph·ic \ˌjē-ə-'sträf-ik\ *adj* [*ge-* + Gk *strophikos* turned, fr. *strophē* turning — more at STROPHE] : of or relating to deflective force due to the rotation of the earth — **geo·stroph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geo·syn·chro·nous \ˌjē-ō-'siŋ-krə-nəs, -'sin-\ *adj* : GEOSTATIONARY
geo·syn·cline \-'sin-ˌklīn\ *or* **geo·syn·cli·nal** \-sin-'klīn-ᵊl\ *n* : a great downward flexure of the earth's crust — compare GEANTICLINE — **geosynclinal** *adj*
geo·tac·tic \ˌjē-ō-'tak-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to geotaxis — **geo·tac·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geo·tax·is \-'tak-səs\ *n* [NL] : a taxis in which the force of gravity is the directive factor
geo·tec·ton·ic \-tek-'tän-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the form, arrangement, and structure of rock masses of the earth's crust resulting from folding or faulting — **geo·tec·ton·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
geo·ther·mal \-'thər-məl\ *or* **geo·ther·mic** \-mik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to the heat of the earth's interior; *also* : produced by such heat ⟨~ steam⟩ — **geo·ther·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*
geo·tro·pic \ˌjē-ə-'trō-pik, -'träp-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to geotropism — **geo·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-'trō-pi-k(ə-)lē, -'träp-i-\ *adv*
ge·ot·ro·pism \jē-'ä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] **1** : tropism in which gravity is the orienting factor **2** : tropism in which turning or movement is toward rather than away from the earth
ger *abbr* gerund
Ger *abbr* German; Germany
ge·rah \'gir-ə\ *n* [Heb *gērāh*, lit., grain] : an ancient Hebrew unit of weight equal to $\frac{1}{20}$ shekel
ge·ra·ni·ol \jə-'rā-nē-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Geranium*] : a fragrant liquid unsaturated alcohol $C_{10}H_{18}O$ used chiefly in perfumes and soap
ge·ra·ni·um \jə-'rā-nē-əm, -nyəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, geranium, fr. Gk *geranion*, fr. dim. of *geranos* crane — more at CRANE] **1** : any of a widely distributed genus (*Geranium* of the family

Geraniaceae, the geranium family) of plants having regular flowers without spurs and with glands that alternate with the petals **2** : PELARGONIUM **3** : a vivid or strong red

ge·rar·dia \jə-'rärd-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. John *Gerard* †1612 E botanist] : any of a genus (*Gerardia*) of often root-parasitic herbs of the figwort family having showy pink, purple, or yellow flowers

ger·bera \'gər-bə-rə, 'jər-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Traugott *Gerber* †1743 G naturalist] : any of a genus (*Gerbera*) of Old World composite herbs having basal tufted leaves and showy heads of yellow, pink, or orange flowers with prominent rays

ger·bil *also* **ger·bille** \'jər-bəl\ *n* [F *gerbille*, fr. NL *Gerbillus*, genus name, dim. of *jerboa*] : any of numerous Old World burrowing desert rodents (of *Gerbillus* and related genera) with long hind legs adapted for leaping

ge·rent \'jir-ənt\ *n* [L *gerent-*, *gerens* prp. of *gerere* to bear, carry on — more at CAST] : one that rules or manages

gerfalcon *var of* GYRFALCON

ge·ri·at·ric \ˌjer-ē-'a-trik, ˌjir-\ *adj* [Gk *gēras* old age + E *-iatric*] : of or relating to geriatrics, the aged, or the process of aging

ger·i·a·tri·cian \ˌjer-ē-ə-'trish-ən, ˌjir-\ *n* : a specialist in geriatrics

ge·ri·at·rics \ˌjer-ē-'a-triks, ˌjir-\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of medicine that deals with the problems and diseases of old age and aging people — compare GERONTOLOGY

ge·ri·a·trist \ˌjer-ē-'a-trəst, ˌjir-; jə-'rī-ə-\ *n* : GERIATRICIAN

germ \'jərm\ *n* [F *germe*, fr. L *germin-*, *germen*, fr. *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1 a** : a small mass of living substance capable of developing into an organism or one of its parts **b** : the embryo with the scutellum of a cereal grain that is usu. separated from the starchy endosperm during milling **2** : something that serves as an origin : RUDIMENT **3** : MICROORGANISM; *esp* : a microorganism causing disease

[1]ger·man \'jər-mən\ *adj* [ME *germain*, fr. MF, fr. L *germanus* having the same parents, irreg. fr. *germen*] : having the same parents or the same grandparents on either the maternal or paternal side — usu. used after the noun which it modifies and joined to it by a hyphen ⟨brother-*german*⟩ ⟨cousin-*german*⟩

[2]german *n, obs* : a near relative

[1]Ger·man \'jər-mən\ *n* [ML *Germanus*, fr. L, any member of the Germanic peoples] **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Germany **b** : a person of German descent **c** : one who speaks German outside Germany (as a Swiss German) **2 a** : the Germanic language spoken mainly in Germany, Austria, and parts of Switzerland **b** : the literary and official language of Germany **3** *often not cap* **a** : a dance consisting of intricate figures that are improvised and intermingled with waltzes **b** *chiefly Midland* : a dancing party; *specif* : one at which the german is danced

[2]German *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Germany, the Germans, or German

German cockroach *n* : a small active winged cockroach (*Blattella germanica*) prob. of African origin but now common in many urban buildings in the U.S. — called also *Croton bug*

ger·man·der \(ˌ)jər-'man-dər\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *chamaidrys*, fr. *chamai* on the ground + *drys* tree — more at HUMBLE, TREE] **1** : any of a genus (*Teucrium*) of plants of the mint family with flowers having four exserted stamens, a short corolla tube, and a prominent lower lip **2** : any of several speedwells

ger·mane \(ˌ)jər-'mān\ *adj* [ME *germain*, lit., having the same parents, fr. MF] **1** *obs* : closely akin **2** : being at once relevant and appropriate : FITTING ***syn*** see RELEVANT ***ant*** foreign — **ger·mane·ly** *adv*

[1]Ger·man·ic \(ˌ)jər-'man-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Germany, the Germans, or German **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Germanic-speaking peoples **3** : of, relating to, or constituting Germanic

[2]Germanic *n* : a branch of the Indo-European language family containing English, German, Dutch, Afrikaans, Flemish, Frisian, the Scandinavian languages, and Gothic — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

Ger·man·ism \'jər-mə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : a characteristic feature of German occurring in another language **2** : partiality for Germany or German customs **3** : the practices or objectives characteristic of the Germans

Ger·man·ist \-nəst\ *n* : a specialist in German or Germanic language, literature, or culture

ger·ma·ni·um \(ˌ)jər-'mā-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. ML *Germania* Germany] : a grayish white hard brittle metalloid element that resembles silicon and is used as a semiconductor — see ELEMENT table

ger·man·iza·tion \ˌjər-mə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n, often cap* : the act or process of germanizing : the state of being germanized

ger·man·ize \'jər-mə-ˌniz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap, vt* **1** *archaic* : to translate into German **2** : to cause to acquire German characteristics ~ *vi* : to have or acquire German customs or leanings

German measles *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : an acute contagious virus disease that is milder than typical measles but is damaging to the fetus when occurring early in pregnancy

Ger·mano- *comb form* **1** \(ˌ)jər-'man-ō, -ə\ : German ⟨*Germano*phile⟩ **2** \-ō\ : German and

Ger·mano·phile \(ˌ)jər-'man-ə-ˌfīl\ *adj* : approving or favoring the German people and their institutions and customs

[2]Germanophile *n* : one that is Germanophile

German shepherd *n* : a working dog of a breed originating in northern Europe that is intelligent and responsive and is often used in police work and as a guide dog for the blind

German shorthaired pointer *n* : any of a German breed of liver or liver and white hunting dogs that were developed by hybridizing several types of pointer with the bloodhound

German silver *n* : NICKEL SILVER

German wirehaired pointer *n* : any of a German breed of liver or liver and white hunting dogs that have a flat-lying wiry coat composed of hairs one and one-half to two inches in length

germ cell *n* : an egg or sperm cell or one of their antecedent cells

ger·men \'jər-mən\ *n* [L] *archaic* : GERM 1a, 2

germ·free \'jərm-ˌfrē\ *adj* : free of microorganisms : AXENIC

ger·mi·cid·al \ˌjər-mə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to a germicide; *also* : destroying germs

ger·mi·cide \'jər-mə-ˌsīd\ *n* : an agent that destroys germs

ger·mi·na·bil·i·ty \ˌjər-mə-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : the capacity to germinate

ger·mi·nal \'jərm-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [F, fr. L *germin-*, *germen* — more at GERM] **1 a** : being in the earliest stage of development **b** : CREATIVE, PRODUCTIVE **2** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a germ cell or early embryo — **ger·mi·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

germinal area *n* : the part of the blastoderm that forms the embryo proper of an amniote vertebrate

germinal disc *n* **1** : BLASTODISC **2** : GERMINAL AREA

germinal vesicle *n* : the enlarged nucleus of the egg before completion of the reduction divisions

ger·mi·nate \'jər-mə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *germinatus*, pp. of *germinare* to sprout, fr. *germin-*, *germen* bud, germ] *vt* : to cause to sprout or develop ~ *vi* **1** : to begin to grow : SPROUT **2** : to come into being : EVOLVE ⟨before Western civilization began to ~ —A. L. Kroeber⟩ — **ger·mi·na·tion** \ˌjər-mə-'nā-shən\ *n* — **ger·mi·na·tive** \'jər-mə-ˌnāt-iv\ *adj*

germ layer *n* : any of the three primary layers of cells differentiated in most embryos during and immediately following gastrulation

germ plasm *n* **1** : germ cells and their precursors serving as the bearers of heredity and being fundamentally independent of other cells **2** : the hereditary material of the germ cells : GENES

germ·proof \'jərm-'prüf\ *adj* : impervious to the penetration or action of germs

germ theory *n* : a theory in medicine: infections, contagious diseases, and various other conditions result from the action of microorganisms

germ warfare *n* : the use of harmful bacteria as weapons in war

germy \'jər-mē\ *adj* **germ·i·er; -est** : full of germs ⟨~ river water⟩

geront- *or* **geronto-** *comb form* [F *géront-*, *géronto-*, fr. Gk *geront-*, *geronto-*, fr. *geront-*, *gerōn* old man; akin to Gk *gēras* old age — more at CORN] : aged one : old age ⟨*geront*ology⟩

ge·ron·tic \jə-'rän-tic\ *adj* : of or relating to decadence or old age

ger·on·toc·ra·cy \ˌjer-ən-'täk-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [F *gérontocratie*, fr. *géront-* geront- + *-cratie* -cracy] : rule by elders; *specif* : a form of social organization in which a group of old men or a council of elders dominates or exercises control — **ge·ron·to·crat** \jə-'ränt-ə-ˌkrat\ *n* — **ge·ron·to·crat·ic** \-ˌränt-ə-'krat-ik\ *adj*

ger·on·tol·o·gy \ˌjer-ən-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of knowledge dealing with aging and the problems of the aged — compare GERIATRICS — **ge·ron·to·log·i·cal** \jə-ˌränt-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *or* **ge·ron·to·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **ger·on·tol·o·gist** \ˌjer-ən-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*

ge·ron·to·mor·pho·sis \jə-ˌränt-ə-'mōr-fə-səs\ *n* [NL] : phylogenetic change involving specialization of the adult with decreased capacity for further change indicative of racial senescence

-g·er·ous \j-(ə-)rəs\ *adj comb form* [L *-ger*, fr. *gerere* to bear — more at CAST] : bearing : producing ⟨dentig*erous*⟩

[1]ger·ry·man·der \ˌjer-ē-'man-dər, 'jer-ē-, *also* ˌger-, 'ger-\ *n* [Elbridge *Gerry* + sala*mander*; fr. the shape of an election district formed during Gerry's governorship of Massachusetts] **1** : the act or method of gerrymandering **2** : a district or pattern of districts varying greatly in size or population as a result of gerrymandering



gerrymander 2

[2]gerrymander *vt* **ger·ry·man·dered; ger·ry·man·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to divide (a territorial unit) into election districts to give one political party an electoral majority in a large number of districts while concentrating the voting strength of the opposition in as few districts as possible **2** : to divide (an area) into political units to give special advantages to one group ⟨~ a school district⟩

ger·und \'jer-ənd\ *n* [LL *gerundium*, fr. L *gerundus*, gerundive of *gerere* to bear, carry on — more at CAST] **1** : a verbal noun in Latin that expresses generalized or uncompleted action **2** : any of several linguistic forms analogous to the Latin gerund in languages other than Latin; *esp* : the English verbal noun in *-ing* that has the function of a substantive and at the same time shows the verbal features of tense, voice, and capacity to take adverbial qualifiers and to govern objects

ge·run·dive \jə-'rən-div\ *n* **1** : the Latin future passive participle that functions as the verbal adjective, that expresses the fitness or necessity of the action to be performed, and that has the same suffix as the gerund **2** : a verbal adjective in a language other than Latin analogous to the gerundive

ge·sell·schaft \gə-'zel-ˌshäft\ *n* [G, companionship, society, fr. *gesell* companion + *-schaft* -ship] : a rationally developed mechanistic type of social relationship characterized by impersonally contracted associations between persons; *also* : a community or society characterized by this relationship — compare GEMEINSCHAFT

ges·so \'jes-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **gessoes** [It, lit., gypsum, fr. L *gypsum*] **1** : plaster of paris or gypsum prepared with glue for use in painting or making bas-reliefs **2** : a paste prepared by mixing whiting with size or glue and spread upon a surface to fit it for painting or gilding

gest *or* **geste** \'jest\ *n* [ME *geste* — more at JEST] **1** : ADVENTURE, EXPLOIT **2** : a tale of adventures; *esp* : a romance in verse

ge·stalt \gə-'s(h)tält, -'s(h)tȯlt\ *n, pl* **ge·stalt·en** \-ᵊn\ *or* **gestalts** [G, lit., shape, form] : a structure, configuration, or pattern of physical, biological, or psychological phenomena so integrated as to constitute a functional unit with properties not derivable from its parts in summation

Gestalt psychology *n* : the study of perception and behavior from the standpoint of an organism's response to configurational wholes with stress on the identity of psychological and physiological events and rejection of atomistic or elemental analysis of stimulus, percept, and response

ge·sta·po \gə-'stäp-(,)ō\ *n, pl* **-pos** [G, fr. *Geheime Staatspolizei*, lit., secret state police] : a secret-police organization operating esp. against persons suspected of treason or sedition and often employing underhanded and terrorist methods

ges·tate \'jes-,tāt\ *vb* **ges·tat·ed; ges·tat·ing** [back-formation fr. *gestation*] *vt* **1** : to carry in the uterus during pregnancy **2** : to conceive and gradually develop in the mind ~ *vi* : to be in the process of gestation

ges·ta·tion \je-'stā-shən\ *n* [L *gestation-, gestatio*, fr. *gestatus*, pp. of *gestare* to bear, fr. *gestus*, pp. of *gerere* to bear — more at CAST] **1** : the carrying of young in the uterus : PREGNANCY **2** : conception and development esp. in the mind — **ges·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

geste *also* **gest** \'jest\ *n* [MF *geste*, fr. L *gestus*, fr. *gestus*, pp. of *gerere*] **1** *archaic* : DEPORTMENT **2** *archaic* : GESTURE

ges·tic \'jes-tik\ *adj* : relating to or consisting of bodily movements or gestures

ges·tic·u·lant \je-'stik-yə-lənt\ *adj* : making gesticulations

ges·tic·u·late \je-'stik-yə-,lāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *gesticulatus*, pp. of *gesticulari*, fr. (assumed) L *gesticulus*, dim. of L *gestus*] : to make gestures esp. when speaking ⟨talking excitedly and *gesticulating* with her hands —Louis Auchincloss⟩ — **ges·tic·u·la·tor** \-,lāt-ər\ *n* — **ges·tic·u·la·to·ry** \-lə-,tōr-ē, -,tȯr-\ *adj*

ges·tic·u·la·tion \je-,stik-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of making gestures **2** : GESTURE; *esp* : an expressive gesture made in showing strong feeling or in enforcing an argument

ges·tic·u·la·tive \je-'stik-yə-,lāt-iv\ *adj* : inclined to or marked by gesticulation

¹ges·ture \'jes(h)-chər\ *n* [ML *gestura* mode of action, fr. L *gestus*, pp.] **1** *archaic* : CARRIAGE, BEARING **2** : the use of motions of the limbs or body as a means of expression **3** : a movement usu. of the body or limbs that expresses or emphasizes an idea, sentiment, or attitude **4** : something said or done by way of formality or courtesy, as a symbol or token, or for its effect on the attitudes of others ⟨a political ~ to draw popular support —V. L. Parrington⟩ — **ges·tur·al** \-chə-rəl\ *adj*

²gesture *vb* **ges·tured; ges·tur·ing** *vi* : to make a gesture ~ *vt* : to express or direct by a gesture

gesture language *n* : communication by gestures; *esp* : SIGN LANGUAGE

ge·sund·heit \gə-'zůnt-,hīt\ *interj* [G, lit., health] — used to wish good health esp. to one who has just sneezed

¹get \(')get; *often* git, *without stress, when a heavily stressed syllable follows, as in "get up"*\ *vb* **got** \(')gät\; **got** *or* **got·ten** \'gät-ᵊn\; **get·ting** [ME *geten*, fr. ON *geta* to get, beget; akin to OE *bigietan* to beget, L *prehendere* to seize, grasp, Gk *chandanein* to hold, contain] *vt* **1 a** : to gain possession of **b** : to receive as a return : EARN ⟨he *got* a bad reputation for carelessness⟩ **2 a** : to obtain or receive by way of benefit or advantage ⟨he *got* little for his trouble⟩ ⟨~ the better of an enemy⟩ **b** : to achieve as a result of military activity **3 a** : to obtain by concession or entreaty ⟨~ your mother's permission to go⟩ **b** : to become affected by : CATCH ⟨*got* measles from his sister⟩ **4 a** : to seek out and obtain ⟨hoped to ~ dinner at the inn⟩ **b** : to obtain and bring where wanted or needed ⟨~ a pencil from the desk⟩ **5** : BEGET **6 a** : to cause to come or go ⟨quickly *got* his luggage through customs⟩ **b** : to cause to move ⟨~ him out of the house⟩ **c** : to cause to be in a certain position or condition ⟨*got* his feet wet⟩ **d** : to make ready : PREPARE **7 a** : SEIZE **b** : OVERCOME **c** : to have an emotional effect on ⟨the sight of her tears *got* him⟩ **d** : PUZZLE **e** : IRRITATE **f** : to take vengeance on; *specif* : KILL **g** : HIT **8 a** : to be subjected to ⟨*got* a bad fall⟩ **b** : to receive by way of punishment **c** : to suffer a specified injury to **9 a** : MEMORIZE ⟨*got* the verse by heart⟩ **b** : to find out by calculation ⟨~ the answer to a problem⟩ **c** : HEAR **d** : UNDERSTAND **10** : to prevail on : CAUSE ⟨finally *got* the boy to start his homework⟩ **11 a** : HAVE — used in the present perfect tense form with present meaning ⟨I've *got* no money⟩ **b** : to have as an obligation or necessity — used in the present perfect tense form with present meaning ⟨he has *got* to come⟩ **12** : to establish communication with **13** : to put out in baseball ~ *vi* **1 a** : to succeed in coming or going ⟨~ to the city⟩ **b** : to reach or enter into a certain condition ⟨*got* to sleep after midnight⟩ ⟨they *got* married last week⟩ **2** : to acquire wealth **3** : to be able : CONTRIVE **4 a** : to succeed in becoming ⟨how to ~ clear of all the debts I owe —Shak.⟩ **b** : to become involved ⟨people who ~ into trouble with the law⟩ **5** : to leave immediately ⟨told them to ~⟩ — **get after** : to pursue with exhortation, reprimand, or attack — **get ahead** : to achieve success ⟨determined to *get ahead* in life⟩ — **get around** **1** : to get the better of : CIRCUMVENT **2** : EVADE — **get at** **1** : to reach effectively **2** : to influence corruptly : BRIBE **3** : to turn one's attention to **4** : to try to prove or make clear ⟨what is he *getting at*⟩ — **get away with** **1** : to do (as a reprehensible act) without criticism or penalty **2** : to take as food or drink : CONSUME ⟨the crew *got away with* over ten cases of beer that afternoon⟩ — **get cracking** : to make a start : get going ⟨ought to *get cracking* on that assignment⟩ — **get even** : to get revenge — **get even with** : to repay in kind — **get it** : to receive a scolding or punishment — **get on** : to produce an unfortunate effect on : UPSET ⟨the noise *got on* my nerves⟩ — **get one's goat** : to make one angry or annoyed — **get over** **1 a** : OVERCOME, SURMOUNT **b** : to recover from **2** : to move or travel across — **get somewhere** : to be successful — **get there** : to be successful — **get through** **1** : to reach the end of : COMPLETE **2** : to while away ⟨hardly knew how to *get through* his days⟩ — **get to** **1 a** : BEGIN ⟨she *gets to* worrying over nothing at all⟩ **b** : to be ready to begin or deal with ⟨I'll *get to* the accounts as soon as I can⟩ **2** : to have an effect on : INFLUENCE — **get together** **1** : to bring together : ACCUMULATE **2** : to come together : ASSEMBLE **3** : to reach agreement — **get wind of** : to become aware of — **get with it** : to become alert or aware : show sophisticated consciousness

syn **1** GET, OBTAIN, PROCURE, SECURE, ACQUIRE, GAIN, WIN, EARN *shared meaning element* : to come into possession of. GET is both general in meaning and simple and familiar in use. Thus, one may *get* something by fetching ⟨*get* a book from the shelf⟩ by extracting ⟨*get* gold from ore⟩ by receiving ⟨*get* a present⟩ or by earning ⟨*get* good wages⟩ OBTAIN is more likely to suggest attainment of something sought, often after expenditure of time and effort ⟨*obtain* a graduate degree⟩ PROCURE stresses effort employed in obtaining ⟨pursued with unflagging energy his program of building up the armed services and *procuring* arms for them —W. L. Shirer⟩ SECURE may suggest safe lasting possession or control ⟨safety against infection could be *secured* by the simple precaution of using safe, potable water —V. G. Heiser⟩ or the obtaining of what is hard to come by ⟨*secure* bookings for a new singer⟩ ACQUIRE often suggests addition to what is already possessed ⟨*acquire* a taste for olives⟩ GAIN adds to *obtain* the notion of struggle or competition and often imputes material worth to the thing obtained ⟨worked hard to *gain* an education⟩ WIN may differ from *gain* in suggesting the influence of favoring factors or circumstances ⟨her excellent performance *won* her an award⟩ EARN implies a correspondence between one's effort and what one gains thereby ⟨his behavior *earned* him general condemnation⟩ **2** see INDUCE

²get \'get\ *n* **1 a** : something begotten: (1) : OFFSPRING (2) : the entire progeny of a male animal **b** : LINEAGE **2** : a successful return of a difficult shot in a game (as tennis)

get about *vi* **1** : to be up and about : begin to walk ⟨has recovered from his injuries and is able to *get about* again⟩ **2** : to become current : CIRCULATE

get across *vi* : to become clear or convincing ~ *vt* : to make clear or convincing ⟨she can't *get* her point *across*⟩

get along *vi* **1 a** : to proceed toward a destination : PROGRESS **b** : to approach an advanced stage; *esp* : to approach old age **2** : to meet one's needs : MANAGE **3** : to be or remain on congenial terms

get·at·able \get-'at-ə-bəl\ *adj* : ACCESSIBLE, APPROACHABLE

get·away \'get-ə-,wā\ *n* : an act or instance of getting away: as **a** : START **b** : ESCAPE

get back *vi* **1** : to come or go again to a person, place, or condition : RETURN, REVERT ⟨*getting back* to the main topic of the lecture⟩ **2** : to gain revenge : RETALIATE — used with *at*

get by *vi* **1** : to make ends meet : SURVIVE **2** : to succeed with the least possible effort or accomplishment **3** : to proceed without being discovered, criticized, or punished

get down *vi* **1** : to alight esp. from a vehicle : DESCEND **2** : to give one's attention or consideration — used with *to* ⟨*get down* to business⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to be physically, mentally, or emotionally exhausted : DEPRESS ⟨the weather was *getting* her *down*⟩ **2** : to bring oneself to eat : SWALLOW **3** : to commit to writing : DESCRIBE

Geth·sem·a·ne \geth-'sem-ə-nē\ *n* [Gk *Gethsēmanē*] **1** : the garden outside Jerusalem mentioned in Mk 14 as the scene of the agony and arrest of Jesus **2** : a place or occasion of great mental or spiritual suffering

get off *vi* **1** : START, LEAVE ⟨intended to *get off* on his trip early in the morning⟩ **2** : to escape from a dangerous situation or from punishment ⟨expected to *get off* with a light prison term —S. L. A. Marshall⟩ **3** : to leave work with permission ⟨*got off* early and went to the ball game⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to secure the release of or procure a modified penalty for ⟨his lawyers *got* him *off* with little difficulty⟩ **2 a** : UTTER ⟨*get off* a joke⟩ **b** : to write and send : DISPATCH

get on *vi* **1** : to get along **2** : to gain knowledge or understanding ⟨*got on* to the racket⟩

get out *vi* **1** : EMERGE, ESCAPE ⟨doubted that he would *get out* alive⟩ **2** : to become known : leak out ⟨their secret *got out*⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to emerge or escape ⟨how can I *get* myself *out* of this muddle —C. W. H. Johnson⟩ **2** : to bring before the public; *esp* : PUBLISH

get round *vi* : to get around

get·ter \'get-ər\ *n* **1** : one that gets **2** : a substance introduced into a vacuum tube or electric lamp to remove traces of gas

get–to·geth·er \'get-tə-,geth-ər\ *n* : MEETING; *esp* : an informal social gathering

get·up \'get-,əp\ *n* **1** : general composition or structure **2** : OUTFIT, COSTUME

get up \get-'əp, git-\ *vi* **1 a** : to arise from bed **b** : to rise to one's feet **c** : CLIMB, ASCEND **2** : to go ahead or faster — used in the imperative as a command esp. to driven animals ~ *vt* **1** : to make preparations for : ORGANIZE ⟨*got up* a party for the newcomers⟩ **2** : to arrange as to external appearance : DRESS **3** : to acquire a knowledge of **4** : to create in oneself ⟨cannot *get up* an atom of sympathy for them⟩

ge·um \'jē-əm\ *n* [L] : AVENS

GeV *abbr* giga-electron-volt

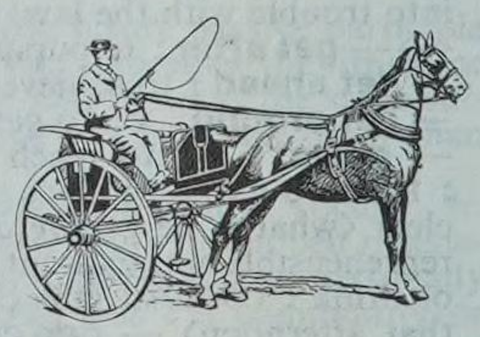
gew·gaw \'g(y)ü-(,)gȯ\ *n* [origin unknown] : a showy trifle : BAUBLE, TRINKET

gey \(')gā\ *adv* [alter. of *gay*, adv.] *chiefly Scot* : VERY, QUITE

gey·ser \'gī-zər, *Brit sometimes* 'gā- *or* 'gē- *for 1 & usu* 'gē- *for 2*\ *n* [Icel *geysir* gusher, fr. *geysa* to rush forth, fr. ON; akin to OE *gēotan* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : a spring that throws forth intermittent jets of heated water and steam **2** *Brit* : an apparatus for heating water rapidly with a gas flame (as for a bath)

gey·ser·ite \-zə-,rīt\ *n* [F *geysérite*, fr. *geyser*, fr. Icel *geysir*] : a hydrous silica that constitutes one variety of opal and is deposited

around some hot springs and geysers in white or grayish concretionary masses
GFE *abbr* government-furnished equipment
GFWC *abbr* General Federation of Women's Clubs
GGPA *abbr* graduate grade-point average
ghar·ry \'gar-ē, 'gär-\ *n, pl* **gharries** [Hindi *gāṛī*] : a horse-drawn cab used esp. in India and Egypt
ghast \'gast\ *adj, archaic* : GHASTLY
ghast·ful \-fəl\ *adj, archaic* : FRIGHTFUL — **ghast·ful·ly** *adv, archaic*
ghast·ly \'gast-lē\ *adj* **ghast·li·er; -est** [ME *gastly,* fr. *gasten* to terrify] **1 a** : terrifyingly horrible to the senses : FRIGHTENING ⟨a ~ crime⟩ **b** : intensely unpleasant, disagreeable, or objectionable ⟨such a life seems ~ in its emptiness and sterility —Aldous Huxley⟩ **2** : resembling a ghost **3** *obs* : filled with fear : TERRIFIED **4** : very great ⟨~ mistake⟩ — **ghast·li·ness** *n* — **ghastly** *adv*
ghat \'gȯt, 'gät\ *n* [Hindi *ghāṭ*] : a broad flight of steps that is situated on an Indian riverbank and that provides access to the water esp. for bathing
ghee *or* **ghi** \'gē\ *n* [Hindi, *ghī,* fr. Skt *ghṛta;* akin to MIr *gert* milk] : a semifluid clarified butter made esp. in India
gher·kin \'gər-kən\ *n* [D *gurken,* pl. of *gurk* cucumber, deriv. of Pol *ogurek,* fr. MGk *agouros*] **1** : a small prickly fruit used for pickling; *also* : the slender annual vine (*Cucumis anguria*) of the gourd family that bears it **2** : the immature fruit of the cucumber
¹ghet·to \'get-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **ghettos** *or* **ghettoes** [It] **1** : a quarter of a city in which Jews were formerly required to live **2** : a quarter of a city in which members of a minority group live esp. because of social, legal, or economic pressure
²ghetto *vt* : GHETTOIZE
ghet·to·ize \'get-ō-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to isolate in or as if in a ghetto — **ghet·to·iza·tion** \ˌget-ō-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*
Ghib·el·line \'gib-ə-ˌlēn, -ˌlīn, -lən\ *n* [It *Ghibellino*] : a member of an aristocratic political party in medieval Italy supporting the authority of the German emperors — compare GUELF
ghib·li \'gib-lē\ *n* [Ar *giblīy* south wind] : a hot desert wind of northern Africa
ghillie *var of* GILLIE
¹ghost \'gōst\ *n* [ME *gost, gast,* fr. OE *gāst;* akin to OHG *geist* spirit, Skt *heḍa* anger] **1** : the seat of life or intelligence : SOUL ⟨give up the ~⟩ **2** : a disembodied soul; *esp* : the soul of a dead person believed to be an inhabitant of the unseen world or to appear to the living in bodily likeness **3** : SPIRIT, DEMON **4 a** : a faint shadowy trace ⟨a ~ of a smile⟩ **b** : the least bit : IOTA ⟨didn't have a ~ of a chance⟩ **5** : a false image in a photographic negative or on a television screen caused esp. by reflection **6** : one who ghostwrites **7** : a red blood cell that has lost its hemoglobin — **ghost·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **ghosty** \'gō-stē\ *adj*
²ghost *vt* **1** : to haunt like a ghost **2** : GHOSTWRITE ~ *vi* **1** : to move silently like a ghost **2** : GHOSTWRITE
ghost dance *n* : a group dance for communication with the spirits of the dead characteristic of an Amerindian messianic cult
ghost·ly \'gōst-lē\ *adj* **ghost·li·er; -est** **1** : of or relating to the soul : SPIRITUAL **2** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a ghost : SPECTRAL **3** : of or relating to a ghost-writer — **ghost·li·ness** *n* — **ghostly** *adv*
ghost story *n* **1** : a story about ghosts **2** : a tale based on imagination rather than fact
ghost town *n* : a once-flourishing town wholly or nearly deserted usu. as a result of the exhaustion of some natural resource (as gold)
ghost word *n* : a word form never in established usage; *esp* : one arising from an editorial or typographical error or a mistaken pronunciation
ghost·write \'gō-ˌstrīt\ *vb* **-wrote** \-ˌstrōt\; **-writ·ten** \-ˌstrit-ᵊn\ [back-formation fr. *ghostwriter*] *vi* : to write for and in the name of another ~ *vt* : to write (as a speech) for another who is the presumed author — **ghost·writ·er** *n*
ghoul \'gül\ *n* [Ar *ghūl*] **1** : a legendary evil being that robs graves and feeds on corpses **2** : one suggestive of a ghoul — **ghoul·ish** \'gü-lish\ *adj* — **ghoul·ish·ly** *adv* — **ghoul·ish·ness** *n*
GHQ *abbr* general headquarters
GHz *abbr* gigahertz
gi *abbr* gill
¹GI \(')jē-'ī\ *adj* [galvanized *i*ron; fr. abbr. used in listing such articles as garbage cans, but taken as abbr. for *government issue*] **1** : provided by an official U.S. military supply department ⟨~ shoes⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of U.S. military personnel **3** : conforming to military regulations or customs ⟨a ~ haircut⟩
²GI *n, pl* **GI's** *or* **GIs** \-'īz\ : a member or former member of the U.S. armed forces; *esp* : a man enlisted in the army
³GI *vt* **GI'd** \-'īd\; **GI'·ing** \-'ī-iŋ\ : to clean thoroughly (as floors) in preparation for or as if for a military inspection
⁴GI *adv* : in strict conformity with military regulations or customs
⁵GI *abbr* **1** galvanized iron **2** gastrointestinal **3** general issue **4** government issue
¹gi·ant \'jī-ənt\ *n* [ME *giaunt,* fr. MF *geant,* fr. L *gigant-, gigas,* fr. Gk] **1** : a legendary being of great stature and strength and of more than mortal but less than godlike power **2 a** : a living being of great size **b** : a person of extraordinary powers ⟨a literary ~⟩ **3** : something unusually large or powerful — **gi·ant·ess** \-əs\ *n* —**gi·ant·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
²giant *adj* : characterized by extremely large size, proportion, or power
gi·ant·ism \'jī-ənt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being a giant ⟨~ in industry⟩ **2** : GIGANTISM 2
giant panda *n* : PANDA 2
giant reed *n* : a tall European grass (*Arundo donax*) with woody stems used in making organ reeds
giant schnauzer *n* : any of a breed of robust, sinewy, heavyset schnauzers that attain a height of 21½ to 25½ inches
giant sequoia *n* : BIG TREE
giant star *n* : a star of great intrinsic luminosity and of large mass
giaour \'jau̇(ə)r\ *n* [Turk *gâvur*] : one outside the Muslim faith : INFIDEL 2a
¹gib \'gib\ *n* [ME, fr. *Gib,* nickname for *Gilbert*] : a male cat; *specif* : a castrated male cat
²gib *n* [origin unknown] : a plate of metal or other material machined to hold other parts in place, to afford a bearing surface, or to provide means for taking up wear
³gib *vt* **gibbed; gib·bing** : to fasten with a gib
Gib *abbr* Gibraltar
gib·ber \'jib-ər\ *vi* **gib·bered; gib·ber·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [imit.] : to speak rapidly, inarticulately, and often foolishly — **gibber** *n*
gib·ber·el·lic acid \ˌjib-ə-ˌrel-ik-\ *n* : a crystalline acid $C_{19}H_{22}O_6$ associated with and similar in effect to the gibberellins
gib·ber·el·lin \-'rel-ən\ *n* [NL *Gibberella fujikoroi,* fungus from which it was first isolated] : any of several plant-growth regulators that in low concentrations promote shoot growth
gib·ber·ish \'jib-(ə-)rish, 'gib-\ *n* [prob. fr. *gibber*] : unintelligible or meaningless language: **a** : a technical or esoteric language **b** : pretentious or needlessly obscure language
¹gib·bet \'jib-ət\ *n* [ME *gibet,* fr. OF] **1** : GALLOWS **2** : an upright post with a projecting arm for hanging the bodies of executed criminals as a warning
²gibbet *vt* **1 a** : to hang on a gibbet **b** : to expose to infamy or public scorn **2** : to execute by hanging on a gibbet
gib·bon \'gib-ən\ *n* [F] : any of several tailless apes (genera *Hylobates* and *Symphalangus*) of southeastern Asia and the East Indies that are the smallest and most arboreal anthropoid apes
gib·bos·i·ty \jib-'äs-ət-ē, gib-\ *n, pl* **-ties** : PROTUBERANCE, SWELLING
gib·bous \'jib-əs, 'gib-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *gibbeux,* fr. LL *gibbosus* humpbacked, fr. L *gibbus* hump] **1 a** : marked by convexity : PROTUBERANT **b** *of the moon or a planet* : seen with more than half but not all of the apparent disk illuminated **c** : swollen on one side **2** : having a hump : HUMPBACKED — **gib·bous·ly** *adv* — **gib·bous·ness** *n*
gibe \'jīb\ *vb* **gibed; gib·ing** [perh. fr. MF *giber* to shake, handle roughly] *vi* : to utter taunting words ~ *vt* : to deride or tease with taunting words ***syn*** see SCOFF — **gibe** *n* — **gib·er** *n*
gib·lets \'jib-ləts *also* 'gib-\ *n pl* [ME *gibelet* entrails, garbage, fr. MF, stew of wildfowl] : the edible viscera of a fowl
Gibr *abbr* Gibraltar
Gi·bral·tar \jə-'brȯl-tər\ *n* [*Gibraltar,* fortress in the Brit. colony of Gibraltar] : an impregnable stronghold
Gib·son \'gib-sən\ *n* [fr. the name *Gibson*] : a cocktail made of gin or vodka and dry vermouth and garnished with onions
gid \'gid\ *n* [back-formation fr. *giddy*] : a disease esp. of sheep caused by the larva of a tapeworm (*Multiceps multiceps*) in the brain
gid·dap \gid-'ap, -'əp\ *also* **gid·dy·ap** \ˌgid-ē-'ap, -'əp\ *or* **gid·dy·up** \-'əp\ *vb imper* [alter. of *get up*] — a command to a horse to go ahead or go faster
¹gid·dy \'gid-ē\ *adj* **gid·di·er; -est** [ME *gidy* mad, foolish, fr. OE *gydig* possessed, mad; akin to OE *god*] **1** : lightheartedly silly : FRIVOLOUS **2 a** : DIZZY ⟨~ from the unaccustomed exercise⟩ **b** : causing dizziness ⟨a ~ height⟩ **c** : whirling rapidly — **gid·di·ly** \'gid-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **gid·di·ness** \'gid-ē-nəs\ *n*
²giddy *vb* **gid·died; gid·dy·ing** *vt* : to make giddy ~ *vi* : to become giddy
Gid·e·on \'gid-ē-ən\ *n* [Heb *Gidh'ōn*] **1** : an early Hebrew hero noted for his defeat of the Midianites **2** : a member of an interdenominational organization whose activities include the placing of Bibles in hotel rooms
gie \'gē\ *chiefly Scot var of* GIVE
¹gift \'gift\ *n* [ME, fr. ON, something given, talent; akin to OE *giefan* to give] **1** : a notable capacity or talent **2** : something voluntarily transferred by one person to another without compensation **3** : the act, right, or power of giving
syn GIFT, FACULTY, APTITUDE, BENT, TALENT, GENIUS, KNACK *shared meaning element* : a special ability or an unusual capacity for doing or achieving something
²gift *vt* **1** : to endow with some power, quality, or attribute **2** : PRESENT ⟨generously ~*ed* us with a copy —*Saturday Rev.*⟩
gift certificate *n* : a certified statement entitling the recipient to select merchandise in the establishment of the issuer to the amount stated thereon
gift·ed \'gif-təd\ *adj* **1** : having great natural ability : TALENTED ⟨~ children⟩ **2** : revealing a special gift ⟨~ voices⟩ — **gift·ed·ly** *adv* — **gift·ed·ness** *n*
gift of gab : the ability to talk glibly and persuasively
gift wrap *vt* : to wrap (merchandise intended as a gift) decoratively
¹gig \'gig\ *n* [ME *gigg* top, perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *geiga* to turn aside; akin to OE *geonian* to yawn — more at YAWN] **1** : something that whirls or is whirled: as **a** *obs* : TOP, WHIRLIGIG **b** : a 3-digit selection in a numbers game **2** : a person of odd or grotesque appearance **3 a** : a long light ship's boat propelled by oars, sail, or motor **b** : a rowboat designed for speed rather than for work **4** : a light two-wheeled one-horse carriage


gig 4

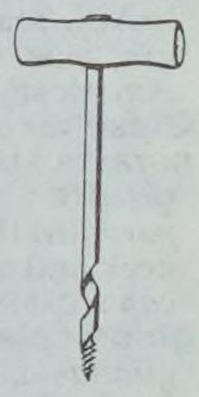
²gig *vi* **gigged; gig·ging** : to travel in a gig
³gig *n* [short for earlier *fizgig, fishgig,* of unknown origin] **1** : a pronged spear for catching fish **2** : an arrangement of hooks to be drawn through a school of fish when they will not bite in order to hook them in the bodies
⁴gig *vb* **gigged; gig·ging** *vt* **1** : to spear with a gig **2 a** *chiefly West* : SPUR, JAB **b** : GOAD, PROVOKE ~ *vi* : to fish with a gig
⁵gig *n* [origin unknown] : a military demerit
⁶gig *vt* **gigged; gig·ging** : to give a military gig to
⁷gig *n* [origin unknown] : JOB; *esp* : a musician's engagement for a specified time

giga- \'jig-ə, 'gig-ə\ *comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *gigas* giant] : billion ⟨*giga*ton⟩ ⟨*giga*volt⟩
giga·bit \-ˌbit\ *n* : a unit of information equal to one billion bits
giga·cy·cle \-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* : GIGAHERTZ
giga·hertz \-ˌhərts, -ˌhe(ə)rts\ *n* : a unit of frequency equal to one billion hertz
gigant- *or* **giganto-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *gigant-, gigas*] : giant ⟨*gigant*ism⟩
gi·gan·tesque \ˌjī-ˌgan-'tesk, -gən-\ *adj* : of enormous or grotesquely large proportions
gi·gan·tic \jī-'gant-ik, jə-\ *adj* : exceeding the usual or expected (as in size, force, or prominence) ⟨a man of ~ stature⟩ ⟨made a last ~ effort⟩ ⟨the growth of ~ industrial combines⟩ ***syn*** see HUGE — **gi·gan·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
gi·gan·tism \jī-'gan-ˌtiz-əm, jə-; 'jī-gən-\ *n* **1** : GIANTISM 1 **2** : development to abnormally large size **3** : excessive vegetative growth often accompanied by the inhibiting of reproduction
gi·gas \'jī-gəs\ *adj* [NL, fr. L, giant, fr. Gk] *of a polyploid plant* : having thicker stem, taller growth, darker thicker leaves, and larger flowers and seeds than a corresponding diploid
giga·watt \'jig-ə-ˌwät, 'gig-\ *n* : a unit of power equal to one billion watts
gig·gle \'gig-əl\ *vb* **gig·gled; gig·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [imit.] *vi* : to laugh with repeated short catches of the breath : laugh in a silly manner ~ *vt* : to utter with a giggle — **giggle** *n* — **gig·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n* — **gig·gling·ly** \-(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv* — **gig·gly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adj*
gi·go·lo \'jig-ə-ˌlō, 'zhig-\ *n, pl* **-los** [F] **1** : a man living on the earnings of or supported by a woman **2** : a professional dancing partner or male escort
gi·got \'jig-ət, zhē-'gō\ *n, pl* **gi·gots** \-əts, -'gō(z)\ [MF, dim. of *gigue* fiddle; fr. its shape — more at JIG] **1** : a leg of meat (as lamb) esp. when cooked **2** : a leg-of-mutton sleeve
gigue \'zhēg\ *n* [F — more at JIG] : a lively dance movement (as of a suite) having compound triple rhythm and consisting of two sections each of which is repeated
Gi·la monster \ˌhē-lə-\ *n* [*Gila* river, Arizona] : a large orange and black venomous lizard (*Heloderma suspectum*) of the southwestern U.S.; *also* : a related lizard (*H. horridum*) of Mexico



Gila monster

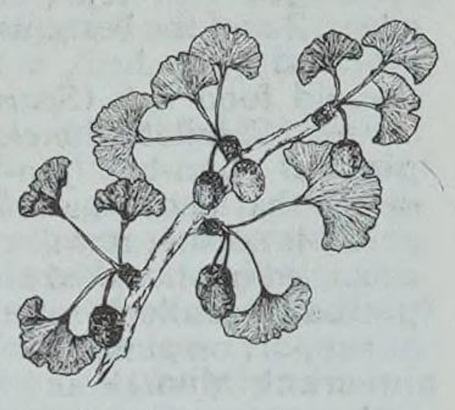
gil·bert \'gil-bərt\ *n* [William *Gilbert* †1603 E physicist] : the cgs unit of magnetomotive force equivalent to $10 \div 4\pi$ ampere-turn
¹gild \'gild\ *vt* **gild·ed** \'gil-dəd\ *or* **gilt** \'gilt\; **gild·ing** [ME *gilden*, fr. OE *gyldan;* akin to OE *gold*] **1** : to overlay with or as if with a thin covering of gold **2 a** : to give money to **b** : to give an attractive but often deceptive appearance to **c** *archaic* : to make bloody — **gild·er** *n* — **gild·ing** *n* — **gild the lily** : to add unnecessary ornamentation to something beautiful in its own right
²gild *var of* GUILD
Gil·ga·mesh \'gil-gə-ˌmesh\ [Sumerian *Gil-ga-meš*] : the King of Uruk and hero of the Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh to whom is related according to the epic an account of the Flood that covers the earth
¹gill \'jil\ *n* [ME *gille*] — see WEIGHT table
²gill \'gil\ *n* [ME *gile, gille*] **1** : an organ (as of a fish) for obtaining oxygen from water **2 a** : WATTLE 2a **b** : the flesh under or about the chin or jaws — usu. used in pl. **c** : one of the radiating plates forming the undersurface of the cap of a mushroom fungus — **gilled** \'gild\ *adj*
³gill \'gil\ *vt* : GILLNET ~ *vi, of fish* : to become entangled in a gill net — **gill·er** *n*
⁴gill \'gil\ *n* [ME *gille*, fr. ON *gil*] **1** *Brit* : RAVINE **2** *Brit* : a narrow stream or rivulet
⁵gill \'jil\ *n, often cap* [ME, fr. *Gill*, nickname for *Gillian*] : GIRL, SWEETHEART
gill arch *n* **1** : one of the bony or cartilaginous arches or curved bars extending dorsoventrally and placed one behind the other on each side of the pharynx and supporting the gills of fishes and amphibians **2** : one of the rudimentary ridges in the embryos of all higher vertebrates that correspond to the gill arches
gill cleft *n* : GILL SLIT 1, 2
gill fungus *n* : a basidiomycete (as an agaric) having gills
¹gil·lie *or* **gil·ly** *or* **ghil·lie** \'gil-ē\ *n, pl* **gillies** *or* **ghillies** [ScGael *gille* & IrGael *giolla* boy] **1** : a male attendant on a Scottish Highland chief **2** *Scot & Irish* : a fishing and hunting guide **3** *usu ghillie* : a shoe with a low top and decorative lacing
²gillie *vi* **gil·lied; gil·ly·ing** : to serve as a gillie
gill·net \'gil-ˌnet\ *vt* : to catch (fish) with a gill net — **gill–net·ter** *n*
gill net *n* : a flat net suspended vertically in the water with meshes that allow the head of a fish to pass but entangle it as it seeks to withdraw
gill raker *n* : one of the bony processes on a gill arch that divert solid substances from the gills
gill slit *n* **1** : one of the openings or clefts between the gill arches in vertebrates that breathe by gills through which water taken in at the mouth passes to the exterior and so bathes the gills **2** : one of the rudimentary grooves in the neck region of the embryos of air-breathing vertebrates that correspond to the gill slits **3** : the external opening to the cavity containing the gills when a protective covering of the gills is present
gil·ly·flow·er \'jil-ē-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. ME *gilofre* clove, fr. MF *girofle, gilofre*, fr. L *caryophyllum*, fr. Gk *karyophyllon*, fr. *karyon* nut + *phyllon* leaf — more at CAREEN, BLADE] **1** : an Old World pink (*Dianthus caryophyllus*) widely cultivated for its clove-scented flowers — called also *clove pink* **2** : any of several plants (genus *Dianthus*) related to the gillyflower
Gil·son·ite \'gil-sə-ˌnīt\ *trademark* — used for uintaite
¹gilt \'gilt\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *gilden* to gild] : covered with gold or gilt : of the color of gold
²gilt *n* **1** : gold or something that resembles gold laid on a surface **2** *slang* : MONEY **3** : superficial brilliance
³gilt *n* [ME *gylte*, fr. ON *gyltr;* akin to OE *gelte* young sow — more at GELD] : a young female swine
gilt–edged \'gil-'tejd\ *or* **gilt–edge** \-'tej\ *adj* **1** : having a gilt edge **2** : of the best quality ⟨~ securities⟩
gilt·head \'gilt-ˌhed\ *n* : any of several marine fishes: as **a** : a percoid food fish (*Sparus auratus*) of the Mediterranean **b** : a cunner (*Crenilabrus melops*) of the British coasts
¹gim·bal \'gim-bəl, 'jim-\ *n* [alter. of obs. *gemel* (double ring)] : a device that permits a body to incline freely in any direction or suspends it so that it will remain level when its support is tipped — usu. used in pl.; called also *gimbal ring*
²gimbal *vt* **-balled** *or* **-baled; -bal·ling** *or* **-bal·ing** : to provide with or support on gimbals
gim·crack \'jim-ˌkrak\ *n* [origin unknown] : a showy object of little use or value : GEWGAW — **gimcrack** *adj* — **gim·crack·ery** \-(ə-)rē\ *n*
gim·el \'gim-əl\ *n* [Heb *gīmel*] : the 3d letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
¹gim·let \'gim-lət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *guimbelet*] : a small tool with a screw point, grooved shank, and cross handle for boring holes



gimlet

²gimlet *adj* : having a piercing or penetrating quality
³gimlet *vt* : to pierce with or as if with a gimlet
⁴gimlet *n* [prob. fr. ¹*gimlet*] : a drink consisting of sweetened lime juice, gin, or vodka and carbonated or plain water
gim·mal \'gim-əl, 'jim-\ *n* [alter. of obs. *gemel* (double ring)] **1** *pl* : joined work (as in a clock) whose parts move within each other **2** : a pair or series of interlocked rings
¹gim·mick \'gim-ik\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : a mechanical device for secretly and dishonestly controlling gambling apparatus **b** : an ingenious or novel mechanical device : GADGET **2 a** : an important feature that is not immediately apparent : CATCH ⟨what's the ~ . . . what's in it for you —Maxwell Griffith⟩ **b** : a new and ingenious scheme or angle — **gim·micky** \-i-kē\ *adj*
²gimmick *vt* **1** : to alter or influence by means of a gimmick **2** : to provide with a gimmick (as an attention-getting device, a novel twist, or a gadget)
gim·mick·ry \'gim-i-krē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : an array or profusion of gimmicks
¹gimp \'gimp\ *n* [perh. fr. D] : an ornamental flat braid or round cord used as a trimming
²gimp *n* [origin unknown] : SPIRIT, VIM
³gimp *n* [origin unknown] **1** : CRIPPLE **2** : LIMP ⟨walks with a ~ —Damon Runyon⟩ — **gimpy** \'gim-pē\ *adj*
⁴gimp *vi* : LIMP, HOBBLE ⟨came ~*ing* across the floor on three legs —Nelson Algren⟩
¹gin \'gin\ *vb* **gan** \'gan\; **gin·ning** [ME *ginnen*, short for *beginnen*] *archaic* : BEGIN
²gin \'jin\ *n* [ME *gin*, modif. of OF *engin* — more at ENGINE] : any of various tools or mechanical devices: as **a** : a snare or trap for game **b** : a machine for raising or moving heavy weights **c** : COTTON GIN
³gin \'jin\ *vt* **ginned; gin·ning** **1** : SNARE **2** : to separate (cotton fiber) from seeds and waste material — **gin·ner** *n* — **gin·ning** *n*
⁴gin \(ˌ)gin\ *conj* [perh. alter. of Sc & E dial. *gif*, fr. ME *yif, if*] *dial* : IF
⁵gin \'jin\ *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. *geneva*] **1 a** : an alcoholic liquor made by distilling a mash of grain with juniper berries **b** : a liquor similar to gin made from plain spirit flavored with an aromatic **2 a** : GIN RUMMY **b** : the act of laying down a full hand of matched cards in gin rummy — **gin·ny** \'jin-ē\ *adj*
gin and tonic *n* : a drink that consists of gin and quinine water garnished with a wedge of lime or lemon
¹gin·ger \'jin-jər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gingifer*, fr. ML *gingiber*, alter. of L *zingiber*, fr. Gk *zingiberi*] **1 a** (1) : a thickened pungent aromatic rhizome that is used as a spice and sometimes in medicine (2) : the spice usu. prepared by drying and grinding ginger **b** : any of a genus (*Zingiber* of the family Zingiberaceae, the ginger family) of herbs with pungent aromatic rhizomes; *esp* : a widely cultivated tropical herb (*Z. officinale*) that supplies most of the ginger of commerce **2** : high spirit : PEP ⟨the ~ to care hard and work hard —Willa Cather⟩ **3** : a strong brown — **gin·gery** \'jinj-(ə-)rē\ *adj*
²ginger *vt* **gin·gered; gin·ger·ing** \'jinj-(ə-)riŋ\ : to make lively : pep up ⟨~ up the tourist trade —*N.Y. Times*⟩
ginger ale *n* : a sweetened carbonated nonalcoholic beverage flavored mainly with ginger extract
ginger beer *n* : a sweetened carbonated nonalcoholic beverage heavily flavored with ginger or capsicum or both
gin·ger·bread \'jin-jər-ˌbred\ *n* **1** : a cake whose ingredients include molasses and ginger **2** [fr. the fancy shapes and gilding formerly often applied to gingerbread] : lavish or superfluous ornament esp. in architecture — **gin·ger·bready** \-ē\ *adj*
gin·ger·ly \'jin-jər-lē\ *adj* [perh. fr. ¹*ginger*] : very cautious or careful — **gin·ger·li·ness** *n* — **gingerly** *adv*
gin·ger·snap \-ˌsnap\ *n* : a thin brittle cookie sweetened with molasses and flavored with ginger
ging·ham \'giŋ-əm\ *n* [modif. of Malay *genggang* checkered cloth] : a clothing fabric usu. of yarn-dyed cotton in plain weave
gingiv- *or* **gingivo-** *comb form* [L *gingiva*] : gum : gums ⟨*gingivitis*⟩

gin·gi·va \'jin-jə-və, jin-'jī-\ *n, pl* **-vae** \-ˌvē\ [L — more at CONGER EEL] : ¹GUM — **gin·gi·val** \'jin-jə-vəl\ *adj*
gin·gi·vi·tis \ˌjin-jə-'vīt-əs\ *n* : inflammation of the gums
gink \'giŋk\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : PERSON, GUY
gink·go *also* **ging·ko** \'giŋ-(ˌ)kō *also* 'giŋk-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **ginkgoes** *or* **ginkgos** [NL *Ginkgo*, genus name, fr. Jap *ginkyo*] : a showy gymnospermous tree (*Ginkgo biloba*) of eastern China with fan-shaped leaves and yellow fruit often grown as a shade tree


ginkgo

gin mill *n* : BAR, SALOON
gin rummy *n* [⁵*gin*] : a rummy game for two players in which each player is dealt 10 cards and in which a player may win a hand by matching all his cards or may end play when his unmatched cards count up to 10 or less
gin·seng \'jin-ˌsaŋ, -ˌseŋ, -(ˌ)siŋ\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *jen²-shen¹*] **1 a** : a Chinese perennial herb (*Panax schinseng* of the family Araliaceae, the ginseng family) having 5-foliolate leaves, scarlet berries, and an aromatic root valued locally as a medicine **b** : any of several plants related to ginseng; *esp* : a No. American herb (*P. quinquefolius*) **2** : the root of a ginseng
Gipsy *var of* GYPSY
gi·raffe \jə-'raf\ *n, pl* **giraffes** [It *giraffa*, fr. Ar *zirāfah*] **1** *or pl* **giraffe** : a large fleet African ruminant mammal (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) that is the tallest of living quadrupeds and has a very long neck and a short coat with dark blotches separated by pale lines **2** *cap* : CAMELOPARDALIS — **gi·raff·ish** \-'raf-ish\ *adj*
gir·an·dole \'jir-ən-ˌdōl\ *n* [F & It; F, fr. It *girandola*, fr. *girare* to turn, fr. LL *gyrare*, fr. L *gyrus* gyre] **1** : a radiating and showy composition (as a cluster of skyrockets fired together) **2** : an ornamental branched candleholder


girandole 2

gir·a·sol *or* **gir·a·sole** \'jir-ə-ˌsȯl, -ˌsōl, -ˌsäl\ *n* [It *girasole* sunflower, fr. *girare* + *sole* sun, fr. L *sol* — more at SOLAR] **1** : JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE **2** : an opal of varying color that gives out fiery reflections in bright light
¹gird \'gərd\ *vb* **gird·ed** \'gərd-əd\ *or* **girt** \'gərt\; **gird·ing** [ME *girden*, fr. OE *gyrdan*; akin to OE *geard* yard — more at YARD] *vt* **1 a** : to encircle or bind with a flexible band (as a belt) **b** : to make fast (as a sword by a belt or clothing with a cord) **c** : SURROUND **2** : PROVIDE, EQUIP; *esp* : to invest with the sword of knighthood **3** : to prepare (oneself) for action ~ *vi* : to prepare for action — **gird one's loins** : to prepare for action : muster up one's resources
²gird *vb* [ME *girden* to strike, thrust] *vt* : to sneer at : MOCK ~ *vi* : GIBE, RAIL
³gird *n* : a sarcastic remark
gird·er \'gərd-ər\ *n* [¹*gird*] : a horizontal main structural member (as in a building or bridge) that supports vertical loads and that consists of a single piece or of more than one piece bound together
¹gir·dle \'gərd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *girdel*, fr. OE *gyrdel*; akin to OHG *gurtil* girdle, OE *gyrdan* to gird] **1** : something that encircles or confines: as **a** : an article of dress encircling the body usu. at the waist **b** : a woman's close-fitting undergarment often boned and usu. elasticized that extends from the waist to below the hips **c** : either of two more or less complete bony rings at the anterior and posterior ends of the vertebrate trunk supporting the arms and legs respectively **d** : a ring made by the removal of the bark and cambium around a plant stem **2** : the edge of a brilliant that is grasped by the setting — see BRILLIANT illustration
²girdle *vt* **gir·dled; gir·dling** \'gərd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ **1** : to encircle with a girdle **2** : to move around : CIRCLE ⟨*girdled* the world⟩ **3** : to cut a girdle around (a plant) usu. to kill by interrupting the circulation of water and nutrients
gir·dler \'gərd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* **1** : a maker of girdles **2** : one that girdles; *esp* : an insect that feeds on bark and gnaws grooves about stems and twigs
girl \'gər(-ə)l\ *n* [ME *gurle, girle* young person of either sex] **1 a** : a female child **b** : a young unmarried woman **c** : a single or married woman of any age **2 a** : a female servant or employee **b** : SWEETHEART **c** : DAUGHTER — **girl·hood** \-ˌhůd\ *n*
girl Friday *n* [*girl* + *Friday* as in *man Friday*] : a female assistant (as in an office) entrusted with a wide variety of tasks
girl friend *n* **1** : a female friend **2** : a frequent or regular female companion of a boy or man **3** : MISTRESS 5a
girl guide *n* : a member of the British Girl Guides
girl·ie *or* **girly** \'gər-lē\ *adj* : featuring scantily clothed girls ⟨~ magazines⟩ ⟨~ show⟩
girl·ish \'gər-lish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a girl or girlhood ⟨~ laughter⟩ — **girl·ish·ly** *adv* — **girl·ish·ness** *n*
girl scout *n* : a member of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America
girn \'gi(ə)rn\ *vi* [ME *girnen*, alter. of *grinnen* to grin, snarl] *chiefly Scot* : SNARL — **girn** *n, chiefly Scot*
gi·ro \'zhi(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, 'ji(ə)r-\ *n* [G, fr. It, turn, transfer, fr. L *gyrus* gyre] : a highly computerized low-cost system of money transfer comparable to a checking account that is one of the national post office services in many European countries
giron *var of* GYRON
Gi·rond·ist \jə-'rän-dəst, zhi-\ *n* [F *girondiste*, fr. *Gironde*, a political party, fr. *Gironde*, department of France represented by its leaders] : a member of the moderate republican party in the French legislative assembly in 1791
girt \'gərt\ *vb* [ME *girten*, alter. of *girden*] *vt* **1** : GIRD **2** : to fasten by means of a girth ~ *vi* : to measure in girth
¹girth \'gərth\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *gjörth*; akin to OE *gyrdan* to gird] **1** : a band or strap that encircles the body of an animal to fasten something (as a saddle) upon its back **2 a** : a measure around a body ⟨for the man of more than average ~ —Agnes M. Miall⟩ **b** : SIZE, DIMENSIONS ⟨the river was twice its usual ~⟩
²girth *vt* **1** : ENCIRCLE **2** : to bind or fasten with a girth **3** : to measure the girth of
gi·sarme \giz-'ärm\ *n* [ME, fr. OF] : a medieval weapon consisting of a sharpened blade mounted on a long staff and carried by foot soldiers
gist \'jist\ *n* [AF, it lies, fr. MF, fr. *gesir* to lie, fr. L *jacēre* — more at ADJACENT] **1** : the ground of a legal action **2** : the main point of a matter : ESSENCE ⟨the ~ of an argument⟩
git·tern \'git-ərn\ *n* [ME *giterne*, fr. MF *guiterne*, modif. of OSp *guitarra* guitar] : a medieval guitar
¹give \'giv\ *vb* **gave** \'gāv\; **giv·en** \'giv-ən\; **giv·ing** [ME *given*, of Scand origin; akin to OSw *giva* to give; akin to OE *giefan, gifan* to give, L *habēre* to have, hold] *vt* **1** : to make a present of ⟨~ a doll to a child⟩ **2 a** : to grant or bestow by formal action ⟨the law ~*s* citizens the right to vote⟩ **b** : to accord or yield to another ⟨*gave* him her confidence⟩ **3 a** : to put into the possession of another for his use **b** (1) : to administer as a sacrament (2) : to administer as a medicine **c** : to commit to another as a trust or responsibility and usu. for an expressed reason ⟨*gave* her his coat to hold⟩ **d** : to transfer from one's authority or custody ⟨the sheriff *gave* the prisoner to the warden⟩ **e** : to execute and deliver ⟨all employees must ~ bond⟩ **f** : to convey to another ⟨~ my regards to your family⟩ **4 a** : to offer to the action of another : PROFFER ⟨*gave* his hand to the visitor⟩ **b** : to yield to a man in sexual intercourse **5 a** : to present in public performance ⟨~ a concert⟩ **b** : to present to view or observation ⟨*gave* the signal to start⟩ **6** : to provide by way of entertainment ⟨~ a party⟩ **7** : to propose as a toast **8 a** : to designate as a share or portion : ALLOT ⟨all the earth to thee and to thy race I ~ —John Milton⟩ **b** : to make assignment of (a name) **c** : to set forth as an actual or hypothetical datum ⟨~ the dimensions of the room⟩ **d** : to attribute in thought or utterance : ASCRIBE ⟨*gave* all the glory to God⟩ **9 a** : to yield as a product, consequence, or effect : PRODUCE ⟨cows ~ milk⟩ ⟨84 divided by 12 ~*s* 7⟩ **b** : to bring forth : BEAR **10 a** : to yield possession of by way of exchange : PAY **b** : to dispose of for a price : SELL **11 a** : to deliver by some bodily action ⟨*gave* him a push⟩ **b** : to carry out (as a bodily movement) ⟨*gave* a cynical smile⟩ **c** : to inflict as punishment ⟨*gave* the boy a whipping⟩ **d** : to award by formal verdict ⟨judgment was *given* against the plaintiff⟩ **12** : to offer for consideration, acceptance, or use ⟨~*s* no reason for his absence⟩ **13 a** : to suffer the loss of : SACRIFICE **b** : to offer as appropriate or due esp. to something higher or more worthy ⟨*gave* his spirit to God⟩ ⟨~ one's time to the service of others⟩ **c** : to apply freely or fully ⟨children *giving* themselves to their play⟩ **d** : to offer as a pledge ⟨I ~ you my word⟩ **14 a** : to cause one to have or receive ⟨mountains always *gave* him pleasure⟩ **b** : to cause a person to catch by contagion, infection, or exposure **15** : to allow one to have or take ⟨~ me time to consider your plan⟩ **16** : to care to the extent of ⟨didn't ~ a hang⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to make gifts or presents **2 a** : to yield to physical force or strain **b** : to collapse from the application of force or pressure **3 a** *of weather* : to become mild **b** *of frozen ground* : THAW **4** : to afford a view or passage : OPEN **5** *slang* : to take place : go on ⟨he demanded to know what *gave*⟩
syn GIVE, PRESENT, DONATE, BESTOW, CONFER, AFFORD *shared meaning element* : to convey to another as his possession. GIVE, the general term, is applicable to any passing over of anything by any means ⟨*give* alms⟩ ⟨*give* a boy a ride on a pony⟩ ⟨*give* my love to your mother and sisters —John Keats⟩ PRESENT carries a note of formality and ceremony ⟨*present* an award⟩ ⟨pray, *present* my respects to Lady Scott —Lord Byron⟩ DONATE is likely to imply a publicized giving (as to charity) ⟨*donate* a piano to the orphanage⟩ BESTOW implies the conveying of something as a gift and may suggest condescension on the part of the giver ⟨*bestow* unwanted advice⟩ ⟨large gifts have I *bestowed* on learned clerks —Shak.⟩ CONFER implies a gracious giving (as of a favor or honor) ⟨the Queen *confers* her titles and degrees —Alexander Pope⟩ AFFORD implies a giving or bestowing usually as a natural or legitimate consequence of the character of the giver ⟨do the laws of his country *afford* him a remedy? —John Marshall⟩ ⟨the trees *afforded* us a welcome shade⟩
— **give a good account of** : to acquit (oneself) well — **give ground** : to withdraw before superior force : RETREAT — **give the gun** : to open the throttle of : speed up — **give tongue** *of hounds* : to begin barking on the scent — **give way** **1a** : RETREAT **b** : to yield the right of way **2** : to yield oneself without restraint or control **3a** : to yield to or as if to physical stress ⟨the wind caused the roof to *give way*⟩ **b** : to yield to entreaty or insistence **4** : to yield place **5** : to begin to row
²give *n* **1** : capacity or tendency to yield to force or strain **2** : the quality or state of being springy
give-and-take \ˌgiv-ən-'tāk\ *n* **1** : the practice of making mutual concessions : COMPROMISE **2** : good-natured exchange of ideas
give·away \'giv-ə-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : an unintentional revelation or betrayal **2** : something given away free; *specif* : PREMIUM **3** : a radio or television program on which prizes are given away
give away *vt* **1** : to make a present of **2** : to deliver (a bride) to the bridegroom at a wedding **3 a** : BETRAY **b** : DISCLOSE, REVEAL **4** : to give (as weight) by way of a handicap
give back *vi* : RETIRE, RETREAT ~ *vt* : to send in return or reply : RESTORE, RETURN
give in *vt* : DELIVER, SUBMIT ⟨*gave in* his resignation⟩ ~ *vi* : to yield under insistence or entreaty : SURRENDER
giv·en \'giv-ən\ *adj* **1** : presented as a gift : bestowed without compensation **2** : PRONE, DISPOSED ⟨~ to swearing⟩ **3** *of an official document* : having been executed : DATED **4 a** : FIXED, SPECIFIED ⟨at a ~ time⟩ **b** : assumed as actual or hypothetical

: GRANTED ⟨~ that all men are equal before the law⟩ **5** : immediately present in experience — **given** *n*

given name *n* : CHRISTIAN NAME 1

give off *vt* **1** : to send out as a branch **2** : EMIT ⟨*gave off* an unpleasant smell⟩ ~ *vi* : to branch off

give out *vt* **1 a** : DECLARE, PUBLISH ⟨*giving out* that the doctor . . . required a few days of complete rest —Charles Dickens⟩ **b** : to read aloud the words of (a hymn or psalm) for congregational singing **2** : EMIT ⟨*gave out* a constant hum⟩ **3** : ISSUE ⟨*gave out* new uniforms⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become exhausted : COLLAPSE **2** : to break down : FAIL

give over *vt* **1** : CEASE **2 a** : to yield without restraint or control : ABANDON ⟨she *gave* herself *over* to laughter before she could go on —H. D. Skidmore⟩ **b** : to set apart for a particular purpose or use : DEVOTE **3** *archaic* : to pronounce incurable **4** : ENTRUST ~ *vi* : to bring an activity to an end : STOP ⟨told him to *give over* and let me alone —Brendan Behan⟩

giv·er \'giv-ər\ *n* : one that gives : DONOR

give up *vt* **1** : SURRENDER ⟨*gave up* his job⟩ **2** : to desist from ⟨refused to *give up* his efforts⟩ **3 a** : to abandon (oneself) to a particular feeling, influence, or activity ⟨*gave* himself *up* to despair⟩ **b** : to devote to a particular purpose or use **4** : to declare incurable or insoluble **5** : to despair of seeing ⟨we'd *given* you *up*⟩ **6** : to allow (a hit or run in baseball) while pitching ~ *vi* : to withdraw from an activity or course of action

giz·mo *or* **gis·mo** \'giz-(,)mō\ *n, pl* **gizmos** *or* **gismos** [origin unknown] : GADGET

giz·zard \'giz-ərd\ *n* [alter. of ME *giser*, fr. ONF *guisier*, fr. L *gigeria* (pl.) giblets] **1 a** : the muscular enlargement of the alimentary canal of birds that immediately follows the crop and has usu. thick muscular walls and a tough horny lining for grinding the food **b** : a thickened part of the alimentary canal in some animals (as an insect or an earthworm) that is similar in function to the crop of a bird **2** : INNARDS

gjet·ost \'yāt-ˌōst\ *n* [Norw, fr. *gjet* goat + *ost* cheese] : a Norwegian whey cheese similar to mysost

Gk *abbr* Greek

gla·bel·la \glə-'bel-ə\ *n, pl* **-bel·lae** \-'bel-(,)ē, -ˌī\ [NL, fr. L, fem. of *glabellus* hairless, dim. of *glaber*] : the smooth prominence between the eyebrows — **gla·bel·lar** \-'bel-ər\ *adj*

gla·bres·cent \glā-'bres-ᵊnt\ *adj* **1** : somewhat glabrous **2** : tending to become glabrous

gla·brous \'glā-brəs\ *adj* [L *glabr-, glaber* smooth, bald — more at GLAD] : SMOOTH; *esp* : having a surface without hairs or projections ⟨~ skin⟩ — **gla·brous·ness** *n*

gla·cé \gla-'sā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *glacer* to freeze, ice, glaze, fr. L *glaciare*, fr. *glacies*] **1** : made or finished so as to have a smooth glossy surface ⟨~ silk⟩ **2** : coated with a glaze : CANDIED ⟨~ cherries⟩

gla·cial \'glā-shəl\ *adj* [L *glacialis*, fr. *glacies*] **1 a** : extremely cold : FRIGID ⟨a ~ wind⟩ **b** : devoid of warmth and cordiality ⟨a ~ handshake⟩ **c** : coldly imperturbable ⟨maintained a ~ calm⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or produced by glaciers **b** : suggestive of the very slow movement of glaciers ⟨progress on the bill has been ~⟩ **c** (1) : of, relating to, or being any of those parts of geologic time from Precambrian onward when a much larger portion of the earth was covered by glaciers than at present (2) *cap* : PLEISTOCENE **3** : resembling ice in appearance ⟨~ acetic acid⟩ — **gla·cial·ly** \-shə-lē\ *adv*

gla·ci·ate \'glā-shē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** **1** : FREEZE **2 a** : to cover with a glacier **b** : to subject to glacial action; *also* : to produce glacial effects in or on — **gla·ci·a·tion** \ˌglā-s(h)ē-'ā-shən\ *n*

gla·cier \'glā-shər *also* -zhər, *esp Brit* 'glas-ē-ər *or* 'glās-ē-\ *n* [F dial., fr. MF dial., fr. MF *glace* ice, fr. L *glacies*; akin to L *gelu* frost — more at COLD] : a large body of ice moving slowly down a slope or valley or spreading outward on a land surface

glacio- *comb form* **1** : glacier ⟨*glacio*logy⟩ **2** \ˌglā-sh(ē-)ō, -sē-ō\ : glacial and ⟨*glacio*fluvial⟩

gla·ci·ol·o·gy \ˌglā-s(h)ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV *glacier* + *-o-* + *-logy*] **1** : any of the branches of science dealing with snow or ice accumulation, glaciation, or glacial epochs **2** : the glacial features of a region — **gla·ci·o·log·ic** \-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **gla·ci·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **gla·ci·ol·o·gist** \-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*

gla·cis \gla-'sē, 'glas-ē\ *n, pl* **glacis** \-'sēz, -ēz\ [F, fr. *glacer* to freeze, slide] **1 a** : a gentle slope : INCLINE **b** : a slope that runs downward from a fortification **2** : BUFFER STATE; *also* : BUFFER ZONE

¹glad \'glad\ *adj* **glad·der; glad·dest** [ME, shining, glad, fr. OE *glæd*; akin to OHG *glat* shining, smooth, L *glaber* smooth, bald] **1** *archaic* : having a cheerful or happy disposition by nature **2 a** : experiencing pleasure, joy, or delight : made happy **b** : marked by a feeling of pleased or satisfied gratification **c** : very willing : ⟨~ to do it⟩ **3 a** : marked by, expressive of, or caused by happiness and joy ⟨a ~ shout⟩ **b** : causing happiness and joy : PLEASANT ⟨~ tidings⟩ **4** : full of brightness and cheerfulness ⟨a ~ spring morning⟩ — **glad·ly** *adv* — **glad·ness** *n*

syn GLAD, HAPPY, CHEERFUL, LIGHTHEARTED, JOYFUL, JOYOUS *shared meaning element* : characterized by or expressing the mood of one who is pleased or delighted ***ant*** sad

²glad *vb* **glad·ded; glad·ding** *archaic* : GLADDEN

³glad *n* : GLADIOLUS 1

glad·den \'glad-ᵊn\ *vb* **glad·dened; glad·den·ing** \'glad-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make glad ~ *vi, archaic* : to be glad

glade \'glād\ *n* [perh. fr. ¹*glad*] : an open space surrounded by woods — **glady** \'glād-ē\ *adj*

glad–hand \'glad-ˌhand\ *vt* : to extend a glad hand to ⟨candidates ~*ing* everyone they meet⟩ ~ *vi* : to extend a glad hand ⟨~*ing* as if he were running for mayor⟩ — **glad–hand·er** \'glad-'han-dər\ *n*

glad hand *n* : a warm welcome or greeting often prompted by ulterior reasons

glad·i·a·tor \'glad-ē-ˌāt-ər\ *n* [L, fr. *gladius* sword, of Celt origin; akin to W *cleddyf* sword; akin to L *clades* destruction, Gk *klados* sprout, branch — more at HALT] **1** : a person engaged in a fight to the death as public entertainment for ancient Romans **2** : a person engaging in a public fight or controversy **3** : a trained fighter; *specif* : PRIZEFIGHTER — **glad·i·a·to·ri·al** \ˌglad-ē-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj*

glad·i·o·la \ˌglad-ē-'ō-lə\ *n* [back-formation fr. *gladiolus*, taken as a pl.] : GLADIOLUS 1

glad·i·o·lus \ˌglad-ē-'ō-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-(ˌ)lē, -ˌlī\ [NL, genus name, fr. L, gladiolus, fr. dim. of *gladius*] **1** *or pl* **gladiolus** *or* **gla·di·o·lus·es** : any of a genus (*Gladiolus*) of chiefly African plants of the iris family with erect sword-shaped leaves and spikes of brilliantly colored irregular flowers arising from flattened corms **2** : the large middle portion of the sternum

glad rags *n pl* : dressy clothes

glad·some \'glad-səm\ *adj* : giving or showing joy : CHEERFUL — **glad·some·ly** *adv* — **glad·some·ness** *n*

glad·stone \'glad-ˌstōn, *chiefly Brit* -stən\ *n, often cap* [W. E. Gladstone] : a traveling bag with flexible sides on a rigid frame that opens flat into two equal compartments

glai·kit *or* **glai·ket** \'glā-kət\ *adj* [ME (Sc) *glaikit*] *chiefly Scot* : FOOLISH, GIDDY

glair *or* **glaire** \'gla(ə)r, 'gle(ə)r\ *n* [ME *gleyre* egg white, fr. MF *glaire*, modif. of (assumed) VL *claria*, fr. L *clarus* clear — more at CLEAR] **1** : a sizing liquid made from egg white **2** : a viscid substance suggestive of an egg white

glairy \-ē\ *adj* **glair·i·er; -est** : having the characteristics of or overlaid with glair

glaive \'glāv\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, javelin, sword, modif. of L *gladius* sword] *archaic* : SWORD; *esp* : BROADSWORD

Glam *abbr* Glamorganshire

glam·or·ize *also* **glam·our·ize** \'glam-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make glamorous ⟨~ the living room⟩ **2** : to look upon as glamorous : ROMANTICIZE ⟨the novel ~*s* war⟩ — **glam·or·iza·tion** \ˌglam-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **glam·or·iz·er** \'glam-ə-ˌrī-zər\ *n*

glam·or·ous *also* **glam·our·ous** \'glam-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : full of glamour — **glam·or·ous·ly** *adv* — **glam·or·ous·ness** *n*

glam·our *or* **glam·or** \'glam-ər\ *n* [Sc *glamour*, alter. of E *grammar*; fr. the popular association of erudition with occult practices] **1** : a magic spell ⟨the girls appeared to be under a ~—Llewelyn Powys⟩ **2** : a romantic, exciting, and often illusory attractiveness; *esp* : alluring or fascinating personal attraction — **glamour** *vt* — **glam·our·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

glamour boy *n* : a man (as an actor) who is considered to have glamour or to lead a glamorous life

glamour girl *n* : a woman (as an actress) who is considered to have glamour or to lead a glamorous life

glamour puss *n* : one that has a glamorously attractive face

'glance \'glan(t)s\ *vb* **glanced; glanc·ing** [ME *glencen, glenchen*] *vi* **1** : to strike a surface obliquely so as to go off at an angle ⟨the bullet *glanced* off the wall⟩ **2 a** : to flash or gleam with quick intermittent rays of light ⟨brooks *glancing* in the sun⟩ **b** : to make sudden quick movements ⟨dragonflies *glancing* over the pond⟩ **3** : to touch on a subject or refer to it briefly or indirectly ⟨the work ~*s* at the customs of ancient cultures⟩ **4 a** *of the eyes* : to move swiftly from one thing to another **b** : to take a quick look at something ⟨*glanced* at his watch⟩ ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* **a** : to take a quick look at **b** : to catch a glimpse of **2** : to give an oblique path of direction to: **a** : to throw or shoot so that the object glances from a surface **b** *archaic* : to aim (as an innuendo) indirectly : INSINUATE ***syn*** see FLASH

²glance *n* **1 a** : a quick intermittent flash or gleam **b** *archaic* : a sudden quick movement **2 a** *archaic* : a rapid oblique movement **b** : a deflected impact or blow **3 a** : a swift movement of the eyes **b** : a quick or cursory look **4** *archaic* **a** : GIBE **b** : ALLUSION — **at first glance** : on first consideration ⟨*at first glance* the subject seems harmless enough⟩

³glance *n* [G *glanz* luster, glance; akin to OHG *glanz* bright — more at GLINT] : any of several mineral sulfides that are usu. dark colored and have a metallic luster

glanc·ing \'glan(t)-siŋ\ *adj* **1** : having a slanting direction ⟨a ~ blow⟩ **2** : INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT ⟨made ~ allusions to her past⟩ — **glanc·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹gland \'gland\ *n* [F *glande*, fr. OF, glandular swelling on the neck, gland, modif. of L *gland-, glans* acorn; akin to Gk *balanos* acorn] **1 a** : a cell or group of cells that selectively removes materials from the blood, concentrates or alters them, and secretes them for further use in the body or for elimination from the body **b** : any of various animal structures suggestive of glands though not secretory in function ⟨lymph ~⟩ **2** : any of various secreting organs (as a nectary) of plants — **gland·less** \'glan-dləs\ *adj*

²gland *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a device for preventing leakage of fluid past a joint in machinery **2** : the movable part of a stuffing box by which the packing is compressed

glan·dered \'glan-dərd\ *adj* : affected with glanders

glan·ders \-dərz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [MF *glandre* glandular swelling on the neck, fr. L *glandulae*, fr. pl. of *glandula*, dim. of *gland-, glans*] : a contagious and destructive disease esp. of horses caused by a bacterium (*Actinobacillus mallei*) and characterized by caseating nodular lesions that tend to break down and form ulcers

gland of Bartholin : BARTHOLIN'S GLAND

gland of external secretion : EXOCRINE GLAND

gland of internal secretion : ENDOCRINE GLAND

glan·du·lar \'glan-jə-lər\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or involving glands, gland cells, or their products **b** : having the characteristics or function of a gland **2 a** : INNATE, INHERENT ⟨the almost ~ . . . instinct for adventure and romance —*Newsweek*⟩ **b** : PHYSICAL, SEXUAL — **glan·du·lar·ly** *adv*

glans \'glanz\ *n, pl* **glan·des** \'glan-ˌdēz\ [L *gland-, glans,* lit., acorn] **1 a** : a conical vascular body forming the extremity of the penis — called also *glans penis* **b** : a similar body of the clitoris — called also *glans clitoridis* **2** : a nut enclosed by an involucre

¹glare \'gla(ə)r, 'gle(ə)r\ *vb* **glared; glar·ing** [ME *glaren;* akin to OE *glæs* glass] *vi* **1 a** : to shine with a harsh uncomfortably brilliant light ⟨light *glaring* from the unshaded bulb⟩ **b** *archaic* : to stand out offensively : OBTRUDE **2** : to stare angrily or fiercely ~ *vt* **1** : to express (as hostility) by staring angrily **2** *archaic* : to cause to be sharply reflected ***syn*** see GAZE

²glare *n* **1 a** : a harsh uncomfortably bright light; *specif* : painfully bright sunlight **b** : cheap showy brilliance : GARISHNESS **2** : an angry or fierce stare ***syn*** see BLAZE

³glare *n* [prob. fr. ²*glare*] : a surface or sheet of ice with a smooth slippery surface

glar·ing \'gla(ə)r-iŋ, 'gle(ə)r-\ *adj* **1** : having a fixed look of hostility, fierceness, or anger **2 a** : shining with or reflecting an uncomfortably bright light **b** (1) : GARISH (2) : vulgarly ostentatious **3** : painfully and obtrusively obvious ⟨a ~ error⟩ ***syn*** see FLAGRANT — **glar·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **glar·ing·ness** *n*

glary \'gla(ə)r-ē, 'gle(ə)r-\ *adj* **glar·i·er; -est** : having a dazzling brightness : GLARING

¹glass \'glas\ *n, often attrib* [ME *glas,* fr. OE *glæs;* akin to OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] **1 a** : an amorphous inorganic usu. transparent or translucent substance consisting of a mixture of silicates or sometimes borates or phosphates formed by fusion of silica or of oxides of boron or phosphorus with a flux and a stabilizer into a mass that cools to a rigid condition without crystallization **b** : a substance resembling glass esp. in hardness and transparency ⟨organic ~*es* made from plastics⟩ **c** : a substance (as pumice) produced by the quick cooling of an igneous magma **2 a** : something made of glass: as (1) : TUMBLER (2) : MIRROR (3) : BAROMETER **b** (1) : an optical instrument or device that has one or more lenses and is designed to aid in the viewing of objects not readily seen (2) *pl* : a device used to correct defects of vision or to protect the eyes that consists typically of a pair of glass lenses and the frame by which they are held in place — called also *eyeglasses, spectacles* **3** : the quantity held by a glass container **4** : GLASSWARE — **glass·ful** \'glas-ˌfu̇l\ *n* — **glass·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²glass *vt* **1 a** : to provide with glass : GLAZE 1 **b** : to enclose, case, or wall with glass ⟨the sun porch was ~*ed* in⟩ **c** : to put in a glass container **2** : to make glassy **3 a** : REFLECT **b** : to see mirrored **4** : to scan (as for game or forest fires) with an optical instrument ~ *vi* **1** : to become glassy **2** : to look for game through an optical instrument

glass·blow·er \'glas-ˌblō(-ə)r\ *n* : one skilled in glassblowing

glass·blow·ing \-ˌblō-iŋ\ *n* : the art of shaping a mass of glass that has been softened by heat by blowing air into it through a tube

glass eye *n* **1** : an artificial eye made of glass **2** : an eye having a pale, whitish, or colorless iris — **glass–eyed** \-ˈīd\ *adj*

glass·house \'glas-ˌhau̇s\ *n* **1** : GLASSWORKS **2** *chiefly Brit* : GREENHOUSE

glass·ie \'glas-ē\ *or* **glassy** *n, pl* **glass·ies** : a playing marble made of glass

glass·ine \gla-'sēn\ *n* : a thin dense transparent or semitransparent paper highly resistant to the passage of air and grease

glass jaw *n* : vulnerability (as of a boxer) to knockout punches

glass·mak·er \'glas-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one that makes glass

glass·mak·ing \-kiŋ\ *n* : the art or process of manufacturing glass

glass snake *n* : a limbless snakelike lizard (*Ophisaurus ventralis*) of the southern U.S. with a fragile tail that readily breaks into pieces; *also* : any of several similar Old World lizards

glass sponge *n* : a siliceous sponge (class Hyalospongiae) with 6-rayed spicules and a skeleton often resembling glass when dried

glass·ware \'glas-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : articles made of glass

glass wool *n* : glass fibers in a mass resembling wool and being used esp. for thermal insulation and air filters

glass·work \'glas-ˌwərk\ *n* **1 a** : the manufacture of glass or glassware; *also* : glaziers' work **b** *pl* : a place where glass is made **2** : GLASSWARE — **glass·work·er** \-ˌwər-kər\ *n*

glass·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [fr. its former use in the manufacture of glass] : any of a genus (*Salicornia*) of woody jointed succulent herbs of the goosefoot family with leaves reduced to fleshy sheaths

glassy \'glas-ē\ *adj* **glass·i·er; -est** **1** : resembling glass **2** : having little animation : DULL, LIFELESS ⟨~ eyes⟩ — **glass·i·ly** \'glas-ə-lē\ *adv* — **glass·i·ness** \'glas-ē-nəs\ *n*

Glau·ber salt \ˌglau̇-bər-\ *n* : GLAUBER'S SALT

Glau·ber's salt \ˌglau̇-bər(z)-\ *n* [Johann R. *Glauber* †1668 G chemist] : a colorless crystalline sulfate of sodium $Na_2SO_4.10H_2O$ used esp. in dyeing and as a cathartic — sometimes used in pl.

glau·co·ma \glau̇-'kō-mə, glȯ-\ *n* [L, cataract, fr. Gk *glaukōma,* fr. *glaukos*] : a disease of the eye marked by increased pressure within the eyeball, damage to the optic disk, and gradual loss of vision

glau·co·nite \'glȯ-kə-ˌnīt\ *n* [G *glaukonit,* irreg. fr. Gk *glaukos*] : a mineral consisting of a dull green earthy iron potassium silicate occurring abundantly in greensand — **glau·co·nit·ic** \ˌglȯ-kə-'nit-ik\ *adj*

glau·cous \'glȯ-kəs\ *adj* [L *glaucus* gleaming, gray, fr. Gk *glaukos*] **1 a** : of a pale yellow green color **b** : of a light bluish gray or bluish white color **2** : having a powdery or waxy coating that gives a frosted appearance and tends to rub off ⟨~ fruits⟩ — **glau·cous·ness** *n*

¹glaze \'glāz\ *vb* **glazed; glaz·ing** [ME *glasen,* fr. *glas* glass] *vt* **1** : to furnish or fit with glass **2 a** : to coat with or as if with a glaze ⟨the storm *glazed* trees with ice⟩ **b** : to apply a glaze to ⟨~ doughnuts⟩ **3** : to give a smooth glossy surface to ~ *vi* **1** : to become glazed or glassy ⟨his eyes *glazed* over⟩ **2** : to form a glaze — **glaz·er** *n*

²glaze *n* **1** : a smooth slippery coating of thin ice **2 a** (1) : a liquid preparation applied to food on which it hardens and forms a firm glossy coating (2) : a mixture predominantly of oxides (as silica and alumina) applied to the surface of ceramic wares to form a moisture-impervious and often lustrous or ornamental coating **b** : a transparent or translucent color applied to modify the effect of a painted surface **c** : a smooth glossy or lustrous surface or finish **3** : a glassy film

³glaze *vi* **glazed; glaz·ing** [prob. blend of *glare* and *gaze*] *archaic* : STARE

glazed \'glāzd\ *adj* **1** : covered with or as if with a glassy film ⟨~ eyes⟩ **2** : marked by rigidity of expression : grimly set ⟨the ~ faces of the survivors⟩

gla·zier \'glā-zhər, -zē-ər\ *n* : one who sets glass — **gla·ziery** \'glāzh(-ə)-rē, 'glā-zē-ə-\ *n*

glaz·ing \'glā-ziŋ\ *n* **1** : the action, process, or trade of using or applying glaze **2 a** : GLASSWORK **b** : GLAZE

¹gleam \'glēm\ *n* [ME *gleem,* fr. OE *glǣm;* akin to OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] **1 a** : a transient appearance of subdued or partly obscured light ⟨the ~ of dawn in the east⟩ **b** (1) : a small bright light ⟨the ~ of a match⟩ (2) : GLINT ⟨a ~ of anticipation in his eyes⟩ **2** : a brief or faint appearance or occurrence : TRACE ⟨a ~ of hope⟩ — **gleamy** \'glē-mē\ *adj*

²gleam *vi* **1** : to shine with subdued steady light or moderate brightness **2** : to appear briefly or faintly ⟨a light ~*ed* in the darkness⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause to gleam ***syn*** see FLASH

glean \'glēn\ *vb* [ME *glenen,* fr. MF *glener,* fr. LL *glennare;* akin to MIr *digliunn* I glean, OHG *glanz* bright — more at GLINT] *vi* **1** : to gather grain or other produce left by reapers **2** : to gather information or other material bit by bit ~ *vt* **1 a** : to pick up after a reaper **b** : to strip (as a field) of the leavings of reapers **2 a** : to gather (as information) bit by bit **b** : to pick over in search of relevant material ⟨~*ing* old letters for information on the founding of the town⟩ **3** : to find out : LEARN, ASCERTAIN — **glean·able** \'glē-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **glean·er** *n*

glean·ings \'glē-niŋz\ *n pl* : things acquired by gleaning

glebe \'glēb\ *n* [L *gleba* clod, land — more at CLIP] **1** *archaic* : LAND; *specif* : a plot of cultivated land **2** : land belonging or yielding revenue to a parish church or ecclesiastical benefice

glede \'glēd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *glida;* akin to OE *glīdan* to glide] : any of several birds of prey (as the European kite)

glee \'glē\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *glēo* entertainment, music; akin to ON *glȳ* joy, Gk *chleuē* joke] **1** : exultant high-spirited joy : MERRIMENT **2** : an unaccompanied song for three or more usu. male solo voices ***syn*** see MIRTH

glee club *n* : a chorus organized for singing usu. short choral pieces

gleed \'glēd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *glēd;* akin to OE *glōwan* to glow] *archaic* : a glowing coal

glee·ful \'glē-fəl\ *adj* : full of glee : MERRY — **glee·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **glee·ful·ness** *n*

gleek \'glēk\ *vi* [origin unknown] *archaic* : to make a gibe or jest

glee·man \'glē-mən\ *n* : MINSTREL

glee·some \'glē-səm\ *adj, archaic* : GLEEFUL

gleet \'glēt\ *n* [ME *glet* slimy or mucous matter, fr. MF *glete,* fr. L *glittus* viscous; akin to LL *glut-, glus* glue — more at CLAY] : a chronic inflammation of a bodily orifice usu. accompanied by an abnormal discharge; *also* : the discharge itself (as from the urethra in gonorrhea) — **gleety** \-ē\ *adj*

gleg \'gleg\ *adj* [ME, fr. ON *glöggr* clear-sighted] *Scot* : QUICK, SHARP

glei·za·tion \glā-'zā-shən\ *n* : development of or conversion into gley

glen \'glen\ *n* [ME (Sc), valley, fr. (assumed) ScGael *glenn;* akin to MIr *glend* valley] : a secluded narrow valley

glen·gar·ry \glen-'gar-ē\ *n, pl* **-ries** *often cap* [*Glengarry,* valley in Scotland] : a woolen cap of Scottish origin



glengarry

glen plaid \'glen-\ *n* [short for *glenurquhart plaid,* fr. *Glen Urquhart,* prob. alter. of *Clan Urquhart,* Scottish clan] : a twill pattern of broken checks; *also* : a fabric woven in this pattern — called also *glen check*

gley \'glā\ *n* [Russ *glei* clay; akin to OE *clǣg* clay — more at CLAY] : a sticky clay layer formed under the surface of some waterlogged soils

gli·a·din \'glī-əd-ən\ *n* [It *gliadina,* fr. MGk *glia* glue — more at CLAY] : PROLAMIN; *esp* : one obtained by alcoholic extraction of gluten from wheat and rye

gli·al \'glē-əl, 'glī-əl\ *adj* [NL *glia* neuroglia, fr. MGk, glue] : of or relating to neuroglia

glib \'glib\ *adj* **glib·ber; glib·best** [prob. modif. of LG *glibberig* slippery] **1** *archaic* : SMOOTH, SLIPPERY **2 a** : marked by ease and informality : NONCHALANT **b** : showing little forethought or preparation : lacking depth and substance : SUPERFICIAL, SLICK ⟨mouthing ~ solutions to knotty problems⟩ **3** : marked by ease and fluency in speaking or writing often to the point of being superficial or tricky ⟨a ~ politician⟩ — **glib·ly** *adv* — **glib·ness** *n*

¹glide \'glīd\ *vb* **glid·ed; glid·ing** [ME *gliden,* fr. OE *glīdan;* akin to OHG *glītan* to glide] *vi* **1 a** : to move smoothly, continuously, and effortlessly ⟨swans *gliding* over the lake⟩ **b** : to move stealthily : CREEP ⟨*gliding* along the wall until they were out of sight⟩ **2** : to pass gradually and imperceptibly **3** *of an airplane* : to descend at a normal angle without engine power sufficient for level flight **4** : to change the tongue position in the articulation of a glide ~ *vt* : to cause to glide

²glide *n* **1** : the act or action of gliding **2** : a calm stretch of shallow water flowing smoothly **3 a** : PORTAMENTO **b** : a nonsignificant sound produced by the passing of the vocal organs to or from the articulatory position of a speech sound **4** : a device for facilitating movement of something; *esp* : a circular usu. metal button attached to the bottom of furniture legs to provide a smooth surface

glide path *n* : the path of descent of an airplane as marked out by a radio beam that guides a pilot in landing; *also* : the radio beam

glid·er \'glīd-ər\ *n* **1** : one that glides: as **a** : an aircraft similar to an airplane but without an engine **b** : a porch seat suspended

from an upright framework by short chains or straps **2** : something that aids gliding; *specif* : GLIDE 4

glide slope *n* : GLIDE PATH

glim \'glim\ *n* [perh. short for ²*glimmer*] **1** : GLIMMER **2** : something (as a lamp, candle, or flashlight) that furnishes light; *also* : illumination esp. from a particular source of light

¹glim·mer \'glim-ər\ *vi* **glim·mered; glim·mer·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *glimeren;* akin to OE *glǣm* gleam] **1 a** : to shine faintly or unsteadily **b** : to shimmer softly **2** : to appear indistinctly with a faintly luminous quality ***syn*** see FLASH

²glimmer *n* **1 a** : a feeble or intermittent light **b** : a soft shimmer **2 a** : a dim perception or faint idea : INKLING ⟨I had only the vaguest ~ of why I was there⟩ **b** : a small amount : BIT ⟨a ~ of intelligence⟩

glim·mer·ing *n* : GLIMMER

¹glimpse \'glim(p)s\ *vb* **glimpsed; glimps·ing** [ME *glimsen;* akin to MHG *glimsen* to glimmer, OE *glǣm* gleam] *vi* **1** *archaic* : GLIMMER **2** : to take a brief look ~ *vt* : to get a brief look at — **glimps·er** *n*

²glimpse *n* **1** *archaic* : GLIMMER **2** : a brief fleeting view or look

¹glint \'glint\ *vb* [ME *glinten* to dart obliquely, glint, alter. of *glenten,* of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *gläntа* to clear up; akin to OHG *glanz* bright, OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] *vi* **1 a** *archaic* : to glance off an object **b** *of rays of light* : to strike a reflecting surface obliquely and dart out at an angle **2** : to shine by reflection: **a** : to shine with tiny bright flashes : SPARKLE **b** : GLITTER **c** : GLEAM **3** : to look quickly or briefly : GLANCE **4** : to appear briefly or faintly ~ *vt* : to cause to glint ***syn*** see FLASH

²glint *n* **1** : a tiny bright flash of light : SPARKLE **2** : a brief or faint manifestation ⟨detected a ~ of recognition in her expression⟩

gli·o·ma \glē-'ō-mə, glī-\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. *glia* neuroglia] : a tumor arising from neuroglia

¹glis·sade \glis-'äd, -'ād\ *vi* **glis·sad·ed; glis·sad·ing** [F, n., slide, glissade, fr. *glisser* to slide, fr. OF *glicier,* alter. of *glier,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *glītan* to glide] **1** : to slide in a standing or squatting position down a snow-covered slope without the aid of skis **2** : to perform a ballet glissade — **glis·sad·er** *n*

²glissade *n* **1** : the action of glissading **2** : a gliding step in ballet

glis·san·do \gli-'sän-(,)dō\ *n, pl* **-di** \-(,)dē\ *or* **-dos** [prob. modif. of F *glissade*] : a rapid sliding up or down the musical scale

¹glis·ten \'glis-ᵊn\ *vi* **glis·tened; glis·ten·ing** \'glis-niŋ-, -ᵊn-iŋ\ [ME *glistnen,* fr. OE *glisnian;* akin to OE *glisian* to glitter, *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] : to shine by reflection with a sparkling radiance or with the mild luster of a wet or oiled surface ***syn*** see FLASH

²glisten *n* : GLITTER, SPARKLE

glis·ter \'glis-tər\ *vi* **glis·tered; glis·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *glistren;* akin to OE *glisian*] : GLISTEN — **glister** *n*

glitch \'glich\ *n* [prob. fr. G *glitschen* to slide, slip; akin to OHG *glītan* to glide — more at GLIDE] **1 a** : an unwanted brief surge of electric power **b** : a false or spurious electronic signal **2** : MALFUNCTION ⟨a ~ in a spacecraft's fuel cell⟩ **3** : MISHAP; *also* : a minor technical problem

¹glit·ter \'glit-ər\ *vi* [ME *gliteren,* fr. ON *glitra;* akin to OE *geolu* yellow] **1 a** : to shine by reflection with brilliant or metallic luster ⟨~*ing* sequins⟩ **b** : SPARKLE **c** : to shine with a hard cold glassy brilliance ⟨his little eyes ~*ed* cruelly⟩ **2** : to be brilliantly attractive in a superficial or misleading way ⟨the chance of success ~*ed* before them⟩ ⟨the ~*ing* generalities of propaganda⟩ ***syn*** see FLASH — **glit·ter·ing·ly** \-ə-riŋ-lē\ *adv*

²glitter *n* **1** : sparkling brilliance, showiness, or attractiveness **2** : small glittering objects used for ornamentation — **glit·tery** \'glit-ə-rē\ *adj*

gloam \'glōm\ *n* [Sc *gloam* to become twilight, back-formation fr. *gloaming*] *archaic* : TWILIGHT

gloam·ing \'glō-miŋ\ *n* [ME (Sc) *gloming,* fr. OE *glōming,* fr. *glōm* twilight; akin to OE *glōwan* to glow] : TWILIGHT, DUSK

¹gloat \'glōt\ *vi* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *glotta* to grin scornfully; akin to OE *geolu* yellow] **1** *obs* : to look or glance admiringly or amorously **2** : to observe or think about something with great and often greedy or malicious satisfaction, gratification, or delight ⟨~ over an enemy's misfortune⟩ ***syn*** see GAZE — **gloat·er** *n*

²gloat *n* **1** : the act of gloating **2** : a feeling of triumphant or malicious satisfaction

glob \'gläb\ *n* [perh. blend of *globe* and *blob*] **1** : a small drop : BLOB ⟨little ~*s* of ink⟩ **2** : a usu. large and rounded lump ⟨a dessert with great ~*s* of whipped cream⟩

glob·al \'glō-bəl\ *adj* **1** : SPHERICAL **2** : of, relating to, or involving the entire world : WORLDWIDE ⟨~ warfare⟩ ⟨a ~ system of communication⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or embracing all or virtually all considerations : GENERAL, COMPREHENSIVE ⟨away from a ~ view of readiness toward one of greater specificity —Jeanne S. Chall⟩ — **glob·al·ly** \'glō-bə-lē\ *adv*

glob·al·ism \'glō-bə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : GLOBALIZATION **2** : a policy or system favoring or promoting globalization — **glob·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n*

glob·al·iza·tion \ˌglō-bə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the act of globalizing : the state of being globalized

glob·al·ize \'glō-bə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make global; *esp* : to make worldwide in scope or application

¹globe \'glōb\ *n* [MF, fr. L *globus* — more at CLIP] : something spherical or rounded: as **a** : a spherical representation of the earth, a heavenly body, or the heavens **b** : EARTH **c** : ORB 5

²globe *vt* **globed; glob·ing** *archaic* : to form into a globe

globe·fish \'glōb-ˌfish\ *n* : any of a family (Tetraodontidae) of chiefly tropical marine spiny-finned fishes which can distend themselves to a globular form and most of which are highly poisonous

globe·flow·er \-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : any of a genus (*Trollius*) of plants of the buttercup family with globose yellow flowers

globe-trot·ter \-ˌträt-ər\ *n* : one that travels widely — **globe-trotting** \-ˌträt-iŋ\ *n or adj*

glo·bin \'glō-bən\ *n* [ISV, back-formation fr. *hemoglobin*] : a colorless protein obtained by removal of heme from a conjugated protein and esp. hemoglobin

glo·boid \'glō-ˌbȯid\ *n* : SPHEROID — **globoid** *adj*

glo·bose \'glō-ˌbōs\ *adj* : GLOBULAR 1a — **glo·bose·ly** *adv* — **glo·bos·i·ty** \glō-'bäs-ət-ē\ *n*

glob·u·lar \'gläb-yə-lər\ *adj* [partly fr. L *globus* + E *-ular;* partly fr. L *globulus* + E *-ar*] **1 a** : having the shape of a globe or globule ⟨~ proteins⟩ **b** : WORLDWIDE **2** : having or consisting of globules — **glob·u·lar·ly** *adv* — **glob·u·lar·ness** *n*

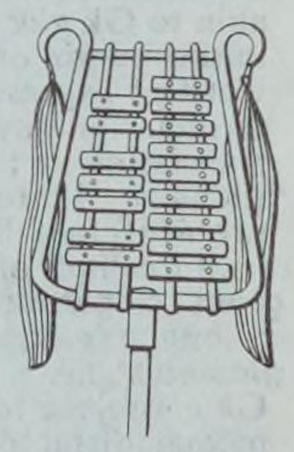
glob·ule \'gläb-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *globulus,* dim. of *globus*] : a tiny globe or ball ⟨~*s* of mercury⟩

glob·u·lin \'gläb-yə-lən\ *n* : any of a class of simple proteins (as myosin) that are insoluble in pure water but are soluble in dilute salt solutions and that occur widely in plant and animal tissues

glo·chid·i·ate \glō-'kid-ē-ət\ *adj* **1** : having glochidia **2** : having barbed tips ⟨~ leaves⟩

glo·chid·i·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *glōchis* projecting point + NL *-idium*] **1** : a barbed hair or spine (as on a cactus) **2** : a larval freshwater mussel (family Unionidae) that develops as an external parasite on fish

glock·en·spiel \'gläk-ən-ˌs(h)pēl\ *n* [G, fr. *glocke* bell + *spiel* play] : a percussion instrument consisting of a series of graduated metal bars tuned to the chromatic scale and played with two hammers



glockenspiel

glom \'gläm\ *vt* **glommed; glom·ming** [prob. alter. of E dial. *glaum* to grab] **1** *slang* : TAKE, STEAL **2** *slang* : SEIZE, CATCH — **glom on to** *slang* : to take possession of

glo·mer·u·lar \glə-'mer-(y)ə-lər, glō-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or produced by a glomerulus ⟨ ~ nephritis⟩ ⟨~ capillaries⟩

glo·mer·u·late \glə-'mer-(y)ə-lət, glō-\ *adj* : arranged in small compact clusters

glom·er·ule \'gläm-ə-ˌrül, -ər-ˌyü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *glomerulus*] : a compacted cyme like the flower head of a composite

glo·mer·u·lo·ne·phri·tis \-ˌmer-(y)ə-lō-ni-'frīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-phrit·i·des** \-'frit-ə-ˌdēz\ : nephritis marked by inflammation of the capillaries of the renal glomeruli

glo·mer·u·lus \glə-'mer-(y)ə-ləs, glō-\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, glomerulus, glomerule, dim. of L *glomer-, glomus* ball] : a small convoluted or intertwined mass; *esp* : a tuft of capillaries at the point of origin of each vertebrate nephron

glo·mus \'glō-məs\ *n, pl* **glo·mera** \'gläm-ə-rə, 'glōm-\ [NL, fr. L *glomer-, glomus* ball] : a small arteriovenous anastomosis together with its supporting structures

¹gloom \'glüm\ *vb* [ME *gloumen;* akin to OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] *vi* **1** : to look, feel, or act sullen or despondent **2** : to be or become overcast **3** : to loom up dimly or somberly ⟨the castle ~*ed* before them⟩ ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : SADDEN **2** : to make dark, murky, or somber

²gloom *n* **1 a** : partial or total darkness **b** : a dark or shadowy place ⟨in the green ~*s* of the forest⟩ **2 a** : lowness of spirits : DEJECTION **b** : an atmosphere of despondency ⟨a ~ fell over the household⟩

gloomy \'glü-mē\ *adj* **gloom·i·er; -est** **1 a** : partially or totally dark; *esp* : dismally and depressingly dark ⟨~ weather⟩ **b** : having a frowning or scowling appearance : FORBIDDING ⟨a ~ countenance⟩ **c** : low in spirits : MELANCHOLY ⟨felt ~ after the play⟩ **2 a** : causing gloom : DEPRESSING ⟨a ~ story⟩ ⟨a bleak ~ landscape⟩ **b** : marked by little or no hopefulness : PESSIMISTIC ⟨~ prophecies⟩ ***syn*** see DARK ***ant*** brilliant (*of light or illumination*) — **gloom·i·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv* — **gloom·i·ness** \-mē-nəs\ *n*

glop \'gläp\ *n* [prob. imit.] *slang* : a jumbled or messy mass or mixture ⟨clotting its rhetoric with gooey slabs of prose ~ —Pete Hamill⟩

Glo·ria \'glōr-ē-ə, 'glȯr-\ *n* [L, glory] **1** : GLORIA IN EXCELSIS **2** : GLORIA PATRI

Gloria in Ex·cel·sis \-ˌin-eks-'chel-səs, -ek-'shel-\ [LL, glory (be to God) on high] : a Christian liturgical hymn having the verse form of the Psalms

Gloria Pa·tri \-'pä-(ˌ)trē\ *n* [LL, glory (be) to the Father] : a 2-verse doxology to the Trinity

glo·ri·fy \'glōr-ə-ˌfī, 'glȯr-\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** **1 a** : to make glorious by bestowing honor, praise, or admiration **b** : to elevate to celestial glory **2** : to shed radiance or splendor on ⟨a large chandelier *glorifies* the whole room⟩ **3 a** : to cause to have great beauty, charm, or appeal ⟨romantic love is *glorified* in song and literature⟩ **b** : to cause to be or seem to be better than the actual condition ⟨a recipe for ~*ing* pancakes⟩ ⟨his new position is just a *glorified* version of his old stockroom job⟩ **4** : to give glory to (as in worship) — **glo·ri·fi·ca·tion** \ˌglōr-ə-fə-'kā-shən, ˌglȯr-\ *n* — **glo·ri·fi·er** \'glōr-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r, 'glȯr-\ *n*

glo·ri·ous \'glōr-ē-əs, 'glȯr-\ *adj* **1 a** : possessing or deserving glory : ILLUSTRIOUS **b** : conferring glory ⟨a ~ victory⟩ **2** : marked by great beauty or splendor : MAGNIFICENT **3** : DELIGHTFUL, WONDERFUL ⟨had a ~ weekend⟩ ***syn*** see SPLENDID ***ant*** inglorious — **glo·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **glo·ri·ous·ness** *n*

¹glo·ry \'glōr-ē, 'glȯr-\ *n, pl* **glories** [ME *glorie,* fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *gloria*] **1 a** : praise, honor, or distinction extended by common consent : RENOWN **b** : worshipful praise, honor, and thanksgiving ⟨giving ~ to God⟩ **2 a** : something that secures praise or renown ⟨the ~ of a brilliant career⟩ **b** : a highly commendable asset ⟨he was a ~ to his profession⟩ **3 a** (1) : RESPLENDENCE,

MAGNIFICENCE ⟨the ~ that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome —E. A. Poe⟩ (2) : something marked by beauty or resplendence ⟨a perfect ~ of a day⟩ **b** : the splendor and beatific happiness of heaven; *broadly* : ETERNITY **4 a** : a state of great gratification or exaltation ⟨when she's acting she's in her ~⟩ **b** : a height of prosperity or achievement **5** : a ring or spot of light: as **a** : AUREOLE **b** : CORONA 2a, 2b

²glory *vi* **glo·ried; glo·ry·ing** : to rejoice proudly : EXULT ⟨*glories* in his great physical strength⟩

Glos *abbr* Gloucestershire

¹gloss \'gläs, 'glȯs\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Icel *glossa* to glow; akin to OE *geolu* yellow] **1** : a surface luster or brightness : POLISH **2** : a deceptively attractive appearance : SEMBLANCE ⟨selfishness that had a ~ of humanitarianism about it⟩

²gloss *vt* **1 a** : to make appear right and acceptable : WHITEWASH — usu. used with *over* ⟨there is no use in attempting to ignore or ~ over the profundity of this conflict — Dean Acheson⟩ **b** : to veil or hide by treating rapidly or superficially — usu. used with *over* ⟨~*ing* over humiliations, gilding small moments of glory —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

³gloss *n* [ME *glose*, fr. OF, fr. L *glossa* unusual word requiring explanation, fr. Gk *glōssa, glōtta* tongue, language, unusual word; akin to Gk *glōchis* projecting point] **1 a** : a brief explanation (as in the margin or between the lines of a text) of a difficult or obscure word or expression **b** : a false and often willfully misleading interpretation (as of a text) **2 a** : GLOSSARY **b** : an interlinear translation **c** : a continuous commentary accompanying a text

⁴gloss *vt* **1** : to furnish glosses for **2** : to dispose of (as a difficult problem) by false or perverse interpretation ⟨trying to ~ away the irrationalities of the universe —Irwin Edman⟩

gloss- *or* **glosso-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk *glōss-, glōsso-*, fr. *glōssa*] **1** : tongue ⟨*gloss*algia⟩ **2** : language ⟨*glosso*logy⟩

glos·sa \'gläs-ə, 'glȯs-\ *n, pl* **glos·sae** \-ˌē, -ˌī\ *also* **glossas** [NL, fr. Gk *glōssa*] : a tongue or lingual structure esp. in an insect; *esp* : the median distal lobe of the labium of an insect

glos·sal \-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the tongue

glos·sar·i·al \glä-'sar-ē-əl, glȯ-, -'ser-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a glossary

glos·sa·rist \'gläs-ə-rəst, 'glȯs-\ *n* **1** : one that makes textual glosses **2** : a compiler of a glossary

glos·sa·ry \-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a collection of textual glosses or of terms limited to a special area of knowledge or usage

glos·sa·tor \'gläs-ˌāt-ər, 'glȯs-\ *n* : GLOSSARIST

glos·si·na \glä-'sī-nə, glȯ-, -'sē-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *glōssa* tongue; fr. its long proboscis] : TSETSE

glos·sog·ra·pher \glä-'säg-rə-fər, glȯ-\ *n* [Gk *glōssographos*, fr. *glōssa* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] : GLOSSARIST

glos·so·la·lia \ˌgläs-ə-'lā-lē-ə, ˌglȯs-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *glōss-* + *lalia* chatter, fr. *lalein* to chatter, talk] : TONGUE 4c(1)

glos·so·pha·ryn·geal \ˌgläs-ō-ˌfar-ən-'jē-əl, ˌglȯs-, -fə-'rin-j(ē-)əl\ *adj* : of or relating to both tongue and pharynx

glossopharyngeal nerve *n* : either of the 9th pair of cranial nerves that are mixed nerves and supply chiefly the pharynx, posterior tongue, and parotid gland

¹glossy \'gläs-ē, 'glȯs-\ *adj* **gloss·i·er; -est** **1** : having a surface luster or brightness ⟨rich ~ leather⟩ ⟨~ paper⟩ **2** : attractive in an artificially opulent, sophisticated, or smoothly captivating manner : SHOWY ⟨a ~ musical⟩ ⟨lots of ~ and phony chatter⟩ — **gloss·i·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv* — **gloss·i·ness** \-ē-nəs\ *n*

²glossy *n, pl* **gloss·ies** **1** : SLICK 3 **2** : a photograph printed on smooth shiny paper

glossy magazine *n, chiefly Brit* : SLICK 3

glott- *or* **glotto-** *comb form* [Gk *glōtt-, glōtto-* tongue, fr. *glōssa, glōtta*] : language ⟨*glott*ology⟩

glot·tal \'glät-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or produced in or by the glottis ⟨~ constriction⟩

glottal stop *n* : a speech sound produced by interruption of the breath stream by closure of the glottis

glot·tis \'glät-əs\ *n, pl* **glot·tis·es** *or* **glot·ti·des** \-ə-ˌdēz\ [Gk *glōttid-, glōttis*, fr. *glōtta* tongue — more at GLOSS] : the elongated space between the vocal cords; *also* : the structures that surround this space — compare EPIGLOTTIS

glot·to·chro·nol·o·gy \ˌglät-ō-krə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* : a linguistic method that makes use of the rate of vocabulary replacement in order to estimate the date of divergence for distinct but genetically related languages — **glot·to·chro·no·log·i·cal** \-ˌkrän-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl, -ˌkrōn-\ *adj*

glout \'glüt, 'glau̇t\ *vi* [ME *glouten*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *glotta* to grin scornfully — more at GLOAT] *archaic* : FROWN, SCOWL

¹glove \'gləv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *glōf*; akin to ON *glōfi* glove] **1 a** : a covering for the hand having separate sections for each of the fingers and the thumb and often extending part way up the arm **b** : ¹GAUNTLET 1, 3 **2 a** (1) : a padded leather covering for the hand used in baseball when catching a thrown or batted ball; *specif* : one having individual thumb and finger sections usu. connected with a lacing or webbing — compare MITT (2) : fielding ability ⟨he's got a good ~ at three positions and can pinch-hit —Casey Stengel⟩ **b** : BOXING GLOVE

²glove *vt* **gloved; glov·ing** **1 a** : to cover with or as if with a glove **b** : to furnish with gloves **2** : to catch (a baseball) in one's gloved hand

glove box *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : GLOVE COMPARTMENT **2** : a sealed protectively lined compartment having holes to which are attached gloves for use in handling dangerous materials inside the compartment

glove compartment *n* : a small storage cabinet in the dashboard of an automobile

glov·er \'gləv-ər\ *n* : one that makes or sells gloves

¹glow \'glō\ *vi* [ME *glowen*, fr. OE *glōwan*; akin to OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] **1 a** : to shine with or as if with an intense heat ⟨the fire ~*ing* in the darkness⟩ **b** (1) : to have a rich warm typically ruddy color ⟨cheeks ~*ing* with health⟩ (2) : FLUSH, BLUSH ⟨the children ~*ed* with excitement⟩ **2 a** : to experience a sensation of or as if of heat ⟨~*ing* with rage⟩ **b** : to show exuberance or elation ⟨~ with pride⟩ — **glow·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

²glow *n* **1** : brightness or warmth of color; *esp* : REDNESS ⟨the ~ of his cheeks⟩ **2 a** : warmth of feeling or emotion **b** : a sensation of warmth ⟨the drug produces a sustained ~⟩ **3 a** : the state of glowing with heat and light **b** : light such as is emitted by a solid body heated to luminosity : INCANDESCENCE ***syn*** see BLAZE

¹glow·er \'glau̇(-ə)r\ *vi* [ME (Sc) *glowren*; perh. of Scand origin; akin to Norw dial. *glȳra* to look askance; Icel *glossa* to glow — more at GLOW] : to look or stare with sullen annoyance or anger ***syn*** see FROWN

²glower *n* : a sullen brooding look indicative of annoyance or anger

glow lamp *n* : a gas-discharge electric lamp in which most of the light proceeds from the glow of the gas near the cathode

glow·worm \'glō-ˌwərm\ *n* : any of various luminous insect larvae or adults with wings rudimentary or lacking; *esp* : a larva or wingless female of a beetle (family Lampyridae) that emits light from the abdomen

glox·in·ia \gläk-'sin-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. B. P. *Gloxin* 18th cent. G botanist] : any of a genus (*Sinningia*) of Brazilian tuberous herbs of a family (Gesneriaceae, the gloxinia family); *esp* : a plant (*S. speciosa*) widely cultivated for its showy bell-shaped or slipper-shaped flowers

¹gloze \'glōz\ *vt* **glozed; gloz·ing** [ME *glosen* to gloss, flatter, fr. *glose* gloss] *archaic* : ⁴GLOSS 1

²gloze *vt* **glozed; gloz·ing** : ²GLOSS 1 — often used with *over*

gluc- *or* **gluco-** *comb form* [ISV] **1 a** : glucose **b** : related to or containing glucose **2** : GLYC-

glu·ca·gon \'glü-kə-ˌgän\ *n* [*gluc-* + *-agon* (perh. fr. Gk *agōn*, prp. of *agein* to lead, drive) — more at AGENT] : a protein hormone that is obtained esp. from the islets of Langerhans and that increases the content of sugar in the blood by increasing the rate of breakdown of glycogen in the liver

glu·co·cor·ti·coid \ˌglü-kō-'kȯrt-i-ˌkȯid\ *n* : a corticoid (as cortisol) that tends to increase liver glycogen and blood sugar by increasing gluconeogenesis

glu·co·ki·nase \-'kī-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* : a hexokinase that catalyzes the phosphorylation of glucose

glu·co·nate \'glü-kə-ˌnāt\ *n* : a salt of gluconic acid

glu·co·neo·gen·e·sis \ˌglü-kə-ˌnē-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : formation of glucose within the animal body esp. by the liver from substances (as fats and proteins) other than carbohydrates

glu·con·ic acid \(ˌ)glü-ˌkän-ik-\ *n* [ISV, irreg. fr. *glucose* + *-ic*] : a crystalline acid $C_6H_{12}O_7$ obtained by oxidation of glucose and used chiefly in cleaning metals

glu·cos·amine \glü-'kō-sə-ˌmēn, -zə-\ *n* : an amino derivative $C_6H_{13}NO_5$ of glucose that occurs esp. as a constituent of polysaccharides (as chitin) in animal supporting structures and some plant cell walls

glu·cose \'glü-ˌkōs, -ˌkōz\ *n* [F, modif. of Gk *gleukos* must, sweet wine; akin to Gk *glykys* sweet] **1** : a sugar $C_6H_{12}O_6$ known in dextrorotatory, levorotatory, and racemic forms; *esp* : the sweet colorless soluble dextrorotatory form that occurs widely in nature and is the usual form in which carbohydrate is assimilated by animals **2** : a light-colored syrup made from cornstarch

glucose–1–phosphate *n* [fr. the position at which the phosphate radical is attached] : an ester $C_6H_{13}O_9P$ that reacts in the presence of a phosphorylase with aldoses and ketoses to yield disaccharides or with itself in liver and muscle to yield glycogen and phosphoric acid

glucose phosphate *n* : a phosphate ester of glucose: as **a** : GLUCOSE-1-PHOSPHATE **b** : GLUCOSE-6-PHOSPHATE

glucose–6–phosphate *n* [fr. the position at which the phosphate radical is attached] : an ester $C_6H_{13}O_9P$ that is formed from glucose and ATP in the presence of a glucokinase and that is an essential early stage in glucose metabolism

glu·co·si·dase \glü-'kō-sə-ˌdās, -zə-ˌdāz\ *n* : an enzyme (as maltase) that hydrolyzes a glucoside

glu·co·side \'glü-kə-ˌsīd\ *n* : GLYCOSIDE; *esp* : a glycoside that yields glucose on hydrolysis — **glu·co·sid·ic** \ˌglü-kə-'sid-ik\ *adj* — **glu·co·sid·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

gluc·uron·ic acid \ˌglü-kyə-ˌrän-ik-\ *n* [*gluc-* + *-uronic*] : a compound $C_6H_{10}O_7$ that occurs esp. as a constituent of mucopolysaccharides (as hyaluronic acid) and combined as a glucuronide

gluc·uron·i·dase \-'rän-ə-ˌdās, -ˌdāz\ *n* : an enzyme that hydrolyzes a glucuronide; *esp* : one that occurs widely (as in liver and spleen) and hydrolyzes the beta form of a glucuronide

gluc·uro·nide \glü-'kyu̇r-ə-ˌnīd\ *n* : any of various derivatives of glucuronic acid that are formed esp. as combinations with often toxic aromatic hydroxyl compounds (as phenols) and are excreted in the urine

¹glue \'glü\ *n* [ME *glu*, fr. MF, fr. LL *glut-, glus* —more at CLAY] **1** : any of various strong adhesive substances; *esp* : a hard protein chiefly gelatinous substance that absorbs water to form a viscous solution with strong adhesive properties and that is obtained by cooking down collagenous materials (as hides or bones) **2** : a solution of glue used for sticking things together — **glu·ey** \'glü-ē\ *adj* — **glu·i·ly** \'glü-ə-lē\ *adv*

²glue *vt* **glued; glu·ing** *also* **glue·ing** **1** : to cause to stick tightly with glue ⟨*gluing* the wings onto the model airplane⟩ **2** : to fix (as the eyes) on an object steadily or with deep concentration ⟨kept his eyes *glued* to the TV screen⟩

glum \'gləm\ *adj* **glum·mer; glum·mest** [prob. akin to ME *gloumen* to gloom] **1** : broodingly morose ⟨became ~ when they heard the news⟩ **2** : DREARY, GLOOMY ⟨a ~ countenance⟩ ***syn*** see SULLEN ***ant*** cheerful — **glum·ly** *adv* — **glum·ness** *n*

glu·ma·ceous \glü-'mā-shəs\ *adj* : consisting or having the character of glumes ⟨~ flowers⟩

glume \'glüm\ *n* [NL *gluma*, fr. L, hull, husk; akin to L *glubere* to peel — more at CLEAVE] : a chaffy bract; *specif* : either of two empty bracts at the base of the spikelet in grasses

¹glut \'glət\ *vb* **glut·ted; glut·ting** [ME *glouten*] *vt* **1** : to fill esp. with food to satiety : SATIATE **2** : to flood (the market) with

goods so that supply exceeds demand ~ *vi* : to eat gluttonously *syn* see SATIATE

²glut *n* **1** *archaic* : the act or process of glutting **2** : an excessive quantity : OVERSUPPLY

³glut *vt* **glut·ted; glut·ting** [prob. fr. obs. *glut*, n. (swallow)] *archaic* : to swallow greedily

glu·ta·mate \'glüt-ə-ˌmāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of glutamic acid; *esp* : MONOSODIUM GLUTAMATE

glu·tam·ic acid \(ˌ)glü-ˌtam-ik-\ *n* [ISV *gluten* + *amino* + *-ic*] : a crystalline amino acid $C_5H_9NO_4$ widely distributed in plant and animal proteins and used in the form of a sodium salt as a seasoning

glu·ta·min·ase \'glüt-ə-mə-ˌnās, glü-'tam-ə-, -ˌnāz\ *n* : an enzyme that hydrolyzes glutamine to glutamic acid and ammonia

glu·ta·mine \'glüt-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV *gluten* + *amine*] : a crystalline amino acid $C_5H_{10}N_2O_3$ that is found both free and in proteins in plants and animals and that yields glutamic acid and ammonia on hydrolysis

glu·tar·al·de·hyde \ˌglüt-ə-'ral-də-ˌhīd\ *n* [*glutaric* acid + *aldehyde*] : a compound $C_5H_8O_2$ that contains two aldehyde groups and is used esp. in leather tanning, disinfection, and fixation of biological tissues

glu·tar·ic acid \glü-ˌtar-ik-\ *n* [prob. fr. *gluten* + *-aric* (as in *tartaric acid*)] : a crystalline acid $C_5H_8O_4$ used esp. in organic synthesis

glu·ta·thi·one \ˌglüt-ə-'thī-ˌōn\ *n* [ISV *gluta-* (fr. *glutamic acid*) + *thi-* + *-one*] : a peptide $C_{10}H_{17}N_3O_6S$ that contains one amino-acid residue each of glutamic acid, cysteine, and glycine, that occurs widely in plant and animal tissues, and that plays an important role in biological oxidation-reduction processes and the activation of some enzymes

glu·te·al \'glüt-ē-əl, glü-'tē-\ *adj* : of or relating to the gluteus muscles

glu·ten \'glüt-ᵊn\ *n* [L *glutin-, gluten* glue; akin to LL *glut-, glus* glue — more at CLAY] : a tenacious elastic protein substance esp. of wheat flour that gives cohesiveness to dough — **glu·ten·ous** \'glüt-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj*

glu·te·us \'glüt-ē-əs, glü-'tē-\ *n, pl* **glu·tei** \'glüt-ē-ˌī, -ē-ˌē; glü-'tē-ˌī\ [NL *glutaeus, gluteus*, fr. Gk *gloutos* buttock — more at CLOUD] : any of the large muscles of the buttocks

glu·ti·nous \'glüt-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *glutineux*, fr. L *glutinosus*, fr. *glutin-, gluten*] : having the quality of glue : GUMMY — **glu·ti·nous·ly** *adv* — **glu·ti·nous·ness** *n*

glut·ton \'glət-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *glotoun*, fr. OF *gloton*, fr. L *glutton-, glutto;* akin to L *gluttire* to swallow, *gula* throat, OE *ceole*] **1 a** : one given habitually to greedy and voracious eating and drinking **b** : one that has a great capacity for accepting or enduring something ⟨he's a ~ for punishment⟩ **2 a** : a shaggy thickset carnivorous mammal (*Gulo gulo* of the weasel family) of northern Europe and Asia related to the marten and the sable **b** : WOLVERINE 1 *syn* see EPICURE

glut·ton·ous \'glət-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* : marked by or given to gluttony — **glut·ton·ous·ly** *adv* — **glut·ton·ous·ness** *n*

glut·tony \'glət-nē, -ᵊn-ē\ *n, pl* **-ton·ies** : excess in eating or drinking

glyc- *or* **glyco-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *glyk-* sweet, fr. *glykys*] **1** : sugar ⟨*glyco*protein⟩ **2** : glycine ⟨*glycyl*⟩

gly·can \'glī-ˌkan\ *n* : POLYSACCHARIDE

glycer- *or* **glycero-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. *glycerin*] **1** : glycerol ⟨*glyceryl*⟩ **2** : related to glycerol or glyceric acid ⟨*glycer*aldehyde⟩

glyc·er·al·de·hyde \ˌglis-ə-'ral-də-ˌhīd\ *n* : a sweet crystalline compound $C_3H_6O_3$ that is formed as an intermediate in carbohydrate metabolism by the breakdown of sugars and that yields glycerol on reduction

gly·cer·ic acid \glis-ˌer-ik-\ *n* [ISV, fr. *glycerin*] : a syrupy acid $C_3H_6O_4$ obtainable by oxidation of glycerol or glyceraldehyde

glyc·er·ide \'glis-ə-ˌrīd\ *n* : an ester of glycerol esp. with fatty acids — **glyc·er·id·ic** \ˌglis-ə-'rid-ik\ *adj*

glyc·er·in *or* **glyc·er·ine** \'glis-(ə-)rən\ *n* [F *glycérine*, fr. Gk *glykeros* sweet; akin to Gk *glykys*] : GLYCEROL

glyc·er·in·ate \'glis-(ə-)rə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to treat with or preserve in glycerin — **glyc·er·in·ation** \ˌglis-(ə-)rə-'nā-shən\ *n*

glyc·er·ol \'glis-ə-ˌrȯl, -ˌrōl\ *n* [*glycer*in + *-ol*] : a sweet syrupy hygroscopic trihydroxy alcohol $C_3H_8O_3$ usu. obtained by the saponification of fats and used esp. as a solvent and plasticizer

glyc·er·yl \'glis-(ə-)rəl\ *n* : a radical derived from glycerol by removal of hydroxide; *esp* : a trivalent radical CH_2CHCH_2

gly·cine \'glī-ˌsēn, 'glīs-ᵊn\ *n* : a sweet crystalline amino acid $C_2H_5NO_2$ obtained esp. by hydrolysis of proteins

gly·co·gen \'glī-kə-jən\ *n* : a white amorphous tasteless polysaccharide $(C_6H_{10}O_5)_x$ that is the chief storage carbohydrate of animals

gly·co·gen·e·sis \ˌglī-kə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] **1** : formation of sugar from glycogen **2** : formation of glycogen — **gly·co·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*

gly·col \'glī-ˌkól, -ˌkōl\ *n* [ISV *glyc-* + *-ol*] : ETHYLENE GLYCOL; *broadly* : a related alcohol containing two hydroxyl groups

gly·co·late *also* **gly·col·late** \'glī-kə-ˌlāt\ *n* [ISV *glycol* + *-ate*] : a salt or ester of glycolic acid

gly·col·ic acid *also* **gly·col·lic acid** \(ˌ)glī-ˌkäl-ik-\ *n* [ISV *glycol* + *-ic*] : a translucent crystalline compound $C_2H_4O_3$ found esp. in unripe grapes and sugar beets and used esp. in textile and leather processing

gly·co·lip·id \ˌglī-kō-'lip-əd\ *n* : a lipid (as a ganglioside or a cerebroside) that contains a carbohydrate radical

gly·col·y·sis \glī-'käl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the enzymatic breakdown of a carbohydrate (as glucose or glycogen) by way of phosphate derivatives — **gly·co·lyt·ic** \ˌglī-kə-'lit-ik\ *adj* — **gly·co·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

gly·co·pep·tide \ˌglī-kō-'pep-ˌtīd\ *n* : GLYCOPROTEIN

gly·co·pro·tein \-'prō-ˌtēn, -'prōt-ē-ən\ *n* : a conjugated protein in which the nonprotein group is a carbohydrate

gly·co·si·dase \glī-'kō-sə-ˌdās, -zə-ˌdāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes the hydrolysis of a bond joining a sugar of a glycoside to an alcohol or another sugar unit

gly·co·side \'glī-kə-ˌsīd\ *n* : any of numerous sugar derivatives that contain a nonsugar group attached through an oxygen or nitrogen bond and that on hydrolysis yield a sugar (as glucose) — **gly·co·sid·ic** \ˌglī-kə-'sid-ik\ *adj* — **gly·co·sid·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

gly·cos·uria \ˌglī-kō-'shu̇r-ē-ə, -kəs-'yu̇r-\ *n* [NL] : the presence in the urine of abnormal amounts of sugar — **gly·cos·uric** \-'shu̇(ə)r-ik, -'yu̇(ə)r-\ *adj*

gly·co·syl \'glī-kə-ˌsil\ *n* : a univalent radical derived from a cyclic form of glucose by removal of the hemiacetal hydroxyl group

gly·cyl \'glī-səl\ *n* : the univalent acyl radical C_2H_4NO of glycine

glyph \'glif\ *n* [Gk *glyphē* carved work, fr. *glyphein* to carve — more at CLEAVE] **1** : an ornamental vertical groove esp. in a Doric frieze **2** : a symbolic figure or a character usu. incised or carved in relief **3** : a symbol (as a curved arrow on a road sign) that conveys information nonverbally — **glyph·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

Glyp·tal \'glip-tᵊl\ *trademark* — used for an alkyd

glyp·tic \'glip-tik\ *n* [prob. fr. F *glyptique*, fr. Gk *glyptikē*, fr. *glyphein*] : the art or process of carving or engraving esp. on gems

gm *abbr* gram

GM *abbr* **1** general manager **2** grand master **3** guided missile

G–man \'jē-ˌman\ *n* [prob. fr. government *man*] : a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

GMT *abbr* Greenwich mean time

GMW *abbr* gram-molecular weight

gn *abbr* guinea

gnar *or* **gnarr** \'när\ *vi* **gnarred; gnar·ring** [imit.] : SNARL, GROWL

¹gnarl \'när(ə)l\ *vi* [prob. freq. of *gnar*] : SNARL, GROWL

²gnarl *vt* [back-formation fr. *gnarled*] : to twist into a state of deformity

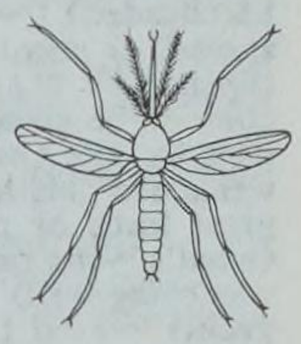
³gnarl *n* : a hard protuberance with twisted grain on a tree

gnarled \'när(ə)ld\ *adj* [prob. alter. of *knurled*] **1** : full of knots or gnarls : KNOTTY ⟨~ cypresses⟩ **2** : crabbed in disposition, aspect, or character

gnarly \'när-lē\ *adj* : GNARLED

gnash \'nash\ *vt* [alter. of ME *gnasten*] : to strike or grind (as the teeth) together — **gnash** *n*

gnat \'nat\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gnætt;* akin to OE *gnagan* to gnaw] : any of various small usu. biting two-winged flies — **gnat·ty** \-ē\ *adj*



gnat

gnat·catch·er \'nat-ˌkach-ər, -ˌkech-\ *n* : any of a genus (*Polioptila* of the family Sylviidae) of several very small No. and So. American insectivorous warblers

gnath- *or* **gnatho-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *gnath-*, fr. *gnathos;* akin to Gk *genys* jaw — more at CHIN] : jaw ⟨*gnatho*plasty⟩

gnath·ic \'nath-ik\ *or* **gna·thal** \'nā-thəl, 'nath-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the jaw

gna·thite \'nā-ˌthīt, 'na-\ *n* : a mouth appendage of an arthropod

-gna·thous *adj comb form* [NL *-gnathus*, fr. Gk *gnathos*] : having (such) a jaw ⟨opisthog*nathous*⟩

gnaw \'nȯ\ *vb* [ME *gnawen*, fr. OE *gnagan;* akin to OHG *gnagan* to gnaw] *vt* **1 a** : to bite or chew on with the teeth; *esp* : to wear away by persistent biting or nibbling ⟨a dog ~*ing* a bone⟩ **b** : to make by gnawing ⟨rats ~*ed* a hole⟩ **2 a** : to be a source of vexation to : PLAGUE ⟨anxiety always ~*ing* him⟩ **b** : to affect like gnawing ⟨hunger ~*ing* his vitals⟩ **3** : ERODE, CORRODE ~ *vi* **1** : to bite or nibble persistently ⟨~*ing* at her under lip⟩ **2** : to destroy or reduce by or as if by gnawing ⟨waves ~*ing* away at the cliffs⟩ — **gnaw·er** \'nȯ(-ə)r\ *n*

gneiss \'nīs\ *n* [G *gneis*] : a foliated metamorphic rock corresponding in composition to granite or some other feldspathic plutonic rock — **gneiss·ic** \'nī-sik\ *adj* — **gneiss·oid** \-ˌsȯid\ *adj* — **gneiss·ose** \-ˌsōs\ *adj*

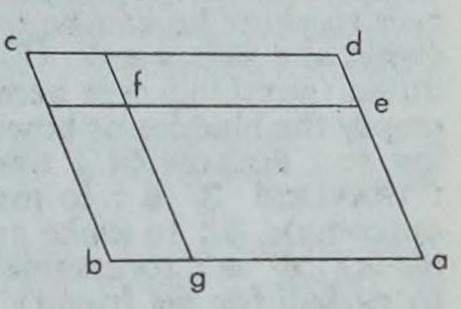
GNI *abbr* gross national income

¹gnome \'nōm\ *n* [Gk *gnōmē*, fr. *gignōskein* to know — more at KNOW] : MAXIM, APHORISM

²gnome *n* [F, fr. NL *gnomus*] **1** : an ageless and often deformed dwarf of folklore who lives in the earth and usu. guards precious ores or treasure **2** : an elemental being in the theory of Paracelsus that inhabits earth — **gnom·ish** \'nō-mish\ *adj*

gno·mic \'nō-mik\ *adj* **1** : characterized by aphorism ⟨~ poetry⟩ **2** : given to the composition of gnomic poetry ⟨a ~ poet⟩

gno·mon \'nō-ˌmän, -mən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *gnōmōn* interpreter, pointer on a sundial, fr. *gignōskein*] **1** : an object that by the position or length of its shadow serves as an indicator esp. of the hour of the day: as **a** : the style of an ordinary sundial **b** : a column or shaft erected perpendicular to the horizon **2** : the remainder of a parallelogram after the removal of a similar parallelogram containing one of its corners



bcdefg gnomon 2

gno·mon·ic \nō-'män-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the gnomon or its use in telling time

gno·sis \'nō-səs\ *n* [Gk *gnōsis*, lit., knowledge, fr. *gignōskein*] : esoteric knowledge of spiritual truth held by the ancient Gnostics to be essential to salvation

-gno·sis \(g-)'nō-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-gno·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk *gnōsis*] : knowledge : recognition ⟨psycho*gnosis*⟩

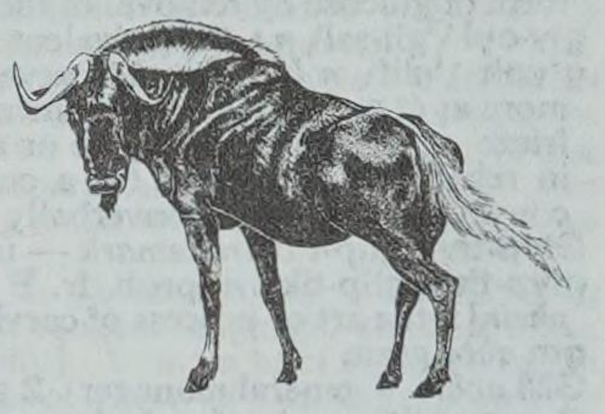
Gnos·tic \'näs-tik\ *n* [LL *gnosticus*, fr. Gk *gnōstikos* of knowledge, fr. *gignōskein*] : an adherent of gnosticism — **Gnostic** *adj*

gnos·ti·cism \'näs-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n, often cap* : the thought and practice esp. of various cults of late pre-Christian and early Christian centuries distinguished by the conviction that matter is evil and that emancipation comes through gnosis

gno·to·bi·ot·ic \ˌnōt-ō-bī-'ät-ik, -bē-\ *adj* [Gk *gnōtos* known (fr. *gignōskein* to know) + *biotē* life, way of life — more at KNOW, BIOTA] : of, relating to, living in, or being a controlled environment containing one or a few kinds of organisms; *also* : AXENIC — **gno·to·bi·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

GNP *abbr* gross national product

gnu \'n(y)ü\ *n, pl* **gnu** *or* **gnus** [modif. of Bushman *nqu*] : any of several large African antelopes (genera *Connochaetes* and *Gorgon*) with a head like that of an ox, short mane, long tail, and horns in both sexes that curve downward and outward



gnu

¹go \'gō\ *vb* **went** \'went\; **gone** \'gȯn *also* 'gän\; **go·ing** \'gō-iŋ, 'gȯ(-)iŋ; *"going to" indicating intent is often* 'gōə-nə *or* 'gȯ -nə\; **goes** \'gōz\ [ME *gon*, fr. OE *gān;* akin to OHG *gān* to go, Gk *kichanein* to reach, attain] *vi* **1** : to move on a course : PROCEED — compare STOP ⟨~ slow⟩ ⟨*went* by train⟩ **2** : to move out of or away from a place expressed or implied : LEAVE, DEPART ⟨they *went* from school to the party⟩ ⟨she is *going* away for the summer⟩ **3 a** : to take a certain course or follow a certain procedure ⟨reports ~ through channels to the president⟩ **b** : to pass by means of a process like journeying ⟨the message *went* by wire⟩ **c** : to proceed without delay and often in a thoughtless or reckless manner — used esp. to intensify a complementary verb ⟨why did he have to ~ and spoil everything⟩ **d** (1) : to extend from point to point or in a certain direction : RUN ⟨his land ~*es* almost to the river⟩ (2) : to give access : LEAD ⟨that door ~*es* to the cellar⟩ **4** *obs* : WALK **5** : to be habitually in a certain state or condition ⟨~ bareheaded⟩ ⟨~ armed after dark⟩ **6 a** : to become lost, consumed, or spent ⟨the time allotted me was *gone*⟩ **b** : DIE **c** : to slip away : ELAPSE ⟨the evening *went* pleasantly enough⟩ **d** : to come to be given up or discarded ⟨these slums have to ~⟩ **e** : to pass by sale ⟨*went* for a good price⟩ **f** : to become impaired or weakened ⟨his hearing started to ~⟩ **g** : to give way esp. under great force or pressure : BREAK **7 a** : to take place : HAPPEN ⟨what's ~*ing* on⟩ **b** : to have course or issue : FARE ⟨everything was ~*ing* well⟩ **c** : to be in general or on an average ⟨cheap, as yachts ~⟩ **d** : to be or become esp. as the result of a contest ⟨decision *went* against him⟩ **e** : to turn out well : SUCCEED ⟨worked hard to make the party ~⟩ **8 a** : to apply oneself ⟨*went* to fighting among themselves⟩ **b** : to put or subject oneself ⟨*went* to unnecessary expense⟩ **c** *chiefly South & Midland* : INTEND ⟨I didn't ~ to do it⟩ **9** : to have recourse to another for corroboration, vindication, or decision : RESORT ⟨~ to court to recover damages⟩ **10 a** : to begin an action or motion ⟨here ~*es*⟩ **b** : to maintain or perform a certain action or motion ⟨drums had been ~*ing* strong⟩ **c** : to function in the proper or expected manner ⟨trying to get the motor to ~⟩ **11 a** : to have currency ⟨now ~*es* by another name⟩ **b** : to pass from person to person : CIRCULATE ⟨the story ~*es* that the expedition was a failure⟩ **12 a** : to act in accordance or harmony ⟨a good rule to ~ by⟩ **b** : to come to be determined ⟨dreams ~ by contraries⟩ **c** : to come to be applied or appropriated ⟨part of the budget ~*es* for military purposes⟩ **d** : to pass by award, assignment, or lot ⟨the prize *went* to a sophomore⟩ **e** : to contribute to an end or result ⟨qualities that ~ to make a hero⟩ **13** : to be about, intending, or expecting something ⟨is ~*ing* to leave town⟩ **14 a** : EXTEND ⟨his knowledge fails to ~ very deep⟩ **b** : to come or arrive at a certain state or condition ⟨~ to sleep⟩ **c** : to come to be ⟨the tire *went* flat⟩ **15 a** : to be in phrasing or expression : READ ⟨as the phrase ~*es*⟩ **b** : to be capable of being sung or played ⟨the tune ~*es* like this⟩ **16** : to be compatible, suitable, or becoming : HARMONIZE ⟨claret ~*es* with beef⟩ **17 a** : to be capable of passing, extending, or being contained or inserted ⟨will these clothes ~ in your suitcase⟩ **b** : to have a usual or proper place or position : BELONG ⟨these books ~ on the top shelf⟩ **18** : to have a tendency : CONDUCE ⟨it ~*es* to show he can be trusted⟩ **19 a** (1) : to carry authority ⟨what she said *went*⟩ (2) : to be acceptable, satisfactory, or adequate ⟨anything ~*es* here⟩ **b** : to hold true : be valid **20** : to empty the bladder or bowels ~ *vt* **1** : to proceed along or according to : FOLLOW ⟨if I were ~*ing* his way⟩ **2** : to pass through : TRAVERSE **3 a** : to make a wager of : BET ⟨~ a dollar on the outcome⟩ **b** : to make an offer of : BID ⟨willing to ~ $50 for the clock⟩ **4 a** : to assume the function or obligation of ⟨promised to ~ bail for his friend⟩ **b** : to participate to the extent of ⟨decided to ~ halves if either of them found the treasure⟩ **5** : YIELD, WEIGH ⟨striped bass that would ~ a hundred pounds⟩ **6 a** : to put up with : TOLERATE — usu. used negatively ⟨left because he couldn't ~ the noise⟩ **b** : AFFORD ⟨can't ~ the price⟩ **c** : ENJOY ⟨I could ~ a soda⟩ — **go·er** \'gō(-ə)r\ *n*

syn GO, LEAVE, DEPART, QUIT, WITHDRAW, RETIRE *shared meaning element* : to move out of or away from the place where one is

— **go about** : to set about : UNDERTAKE — **go after** : SEEK, PURSUE — **go all the way** **1** : to enter into complete agreement **2** : to engage in sexual intercourse — **go ape** **1** : to become extremely angry or upset : lose control **2** : to become highly excited or enthusiastic — **go at** **1 a** : to make an attack on **b** : to make an approach to **2** : UNDERTAKE — **go back on** **1** : ABANDON **2** : BETRAY **3** : FAIL — **go begging** : to be in little demand — **go by the board** **1** : to be carried over a ship's side **2** : to be discarded — **go down the drain** : to become outmoded, discarded, or lost — go down the line : to give wholehearted support — **go fly a kite** : to stop being an annoyance or disturbance ⟨got mad and told him to *go fly a kite*⟩ — **go for** **1** : to pass for or serve as **2** : to try to secure ⟨he *went for* the last penny⟩ **3 a** : FAVOR, ACCEPT ⟨cannot *go for* your idea⟩ **b** : to have an interest in or liking for ⟨she *went for* him in a big way —Chandler Brossard⟩ **4** : ATTACK, ASSAIL ⟨*went for* him when his back was turned⟩ — **go for broke** : to put forth all one's strength or resources — **go great guns** : to achieve great success — **go hang** : to cease to be of interest or concern — **go into** : to be contained in ⟨5 *goes* into 60 12 times⟩ — **go it** **1** : to behave in a reckless, excited, or impromptu manner **2** : to proceed in a rapid or furious manner **3** : to conduct one's affairs : ACT ⟨insists on *going it* alone⟩ — **go one better** : OUTDO, SURPASS — **go over** **1** : EXAMINE **2 a** : REPEAT **b** : STUDY, REVIEW — **go places** : to be on the way to success — **go public** *of a close corporation* : to offer shares for sale to the general public — **go steady** : to date one person exclusively and frequently — **go the distance** : to complete a course of action : finish a contest in a specified capacity ⟨the pitcher *went* the distance allowing only three runs on nine hits⟩ — **go the vole** : to risk all for great gains — **go through** **1** : to subject to thorough examination, consideration, or study **2** : EXPERIENCE, UNDERGO **3** : to carry out : PERFORM ⟨*went through* his work in a daze⟩ — **go to bat for** : to give active support or assistance to : DEFEND, CHAMPION — **go to one's head** **1** : to cause one to become confused, excited, or dizzy **2** : to cause one to become conceited or overconfident — **go to pieces** : to become shattered (as in nerves or health) — **go to town** **1** : to work or act rapidly or efficiently **2** : to be markedly successful **3** : to indulge oneself excessively — **go with** : DATE — **go without saying** : to be self-evident

²go \'gō\ *n, pl* **goes** **1** : the act or manner of going **2** : the height of fashion : RAGE ⟨elegant shawls labeled . . . "quite the ~" —R. S. Surtees⟩ **3** : an often unexpected turn of affairs : OCCURRENCE **4** : the quantity used or furnished at one time ⟨you can obtain a ~ of brandy for sixpence —C. B. Fairbanks⟩ **5** : ENERGY, VIGOR **6 a** : a turn in an activity (as a game) ⟨told his opponent that it was his ~⟩ **b** : ATTEMPT, TRY ⟨have a ~ at painting⟩ **7** : a spell of activity ⟨finished the job at one ~⟩ **8** : SUCCESS ⟨made a ~ of the business⟩ **9** : permission to proceed : GO-AHEAD ⟨gave the astronauts a ~ for another orbit⟩ — **no go** : to no avail : USELESS — **on the go** : constantly or restlessly active

³go *adj* : functioning properly : being in good and ready condition ⟨declared all systems ~⟩

⁴go *n* [Jap] : an Oriental game played between two players who alternately place black and white stones on a board checkered by 19 vertical lines and 19 horizontal lines in an attempt to enclose the larger area on the board

GO *abbr* general order

¹goad \'gōd\ *n* [ME *gode*, fr. OE *gād* spear, goad; akin to Langobardic *gaida* spear, Skt *hinoti* he urges on] **1** : a pointed rod used to urge on an animal **2 a** : something that pricks like a goad : THORN **b** : something that urges or stimulates into action : SPUR ***syn*** see MOTIVE

²goad *vt* **1** : to drive (as cattle) with a goad **2** : to incite or rouse as if with a goad

¹go–ahead \'gō-ə-ˌhed\ *adj* **1** : marked by energy and enterprise : PROGRESSIVE ⟨a vigorous ~ company⟩ **2** : indicating that one may proceed ⟨~ signal⟩

²go–ahead *n* **1 a** : ENERGY, SPIRIT ⟨had a great deal of courage and ~⟩ **b** : one possessing go-ahead **2** : a sign, signal, or authority to proceed : GREEN LIGHT

goal \'gōl, *chiefly in uncultivated or children's speech* 'gül\ *n* [ME *gol* boundary, limit] **1** : the terminal point of a race **2** : the end toward which effort is directed : AIM **3 a** : an area or object toward which players in various games attempt to advance a ball or puck and usu. through or into which it must go in order to score points **b** : the act or action of causing a ball or puck to go through or into such a goal **c** : the score resulting from such an act ***syn*** see INTENTION — **goal** *vi*

goal·ie \'gō-lē\ *n* : GOALKEEPER

goal·keep·er \'gōl-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : a player who defends the goal in any of various games (as hockey, lacrosse, or soccer)

goal kick *n* : a free kick in soccer awarded to a defensive player when the ball is driven out of bounds over the end line by an opposing player

goal line *n* : a line at either end and usu. running the width of a playing area on which a goal or goalpost is situated

goal·mouth \'gōl-ˌmau̇th\ *n* : the area directly in front of the goal (as in soccer or hockey)

go along *vi* **1** : to move along : PROCEED **2** : to go or travel as a companion **3** : to act in cooperation

goal·post \'gōl-ˌpōst\ *n* : one of usu. two vertical posts that with or without a crossbar constitute the goal in various games

goal·tend·er \'gōl-ˌten-dər\ *n* : GOALKEEPER

goal·tend·ing \-diŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of guarding a goal (as in hockey) **2** : the act of touching or deflecting a basketball that is on its downward path toward the basket or that is within the rim of the basket

Goa powder \ˌgō-ə-\ *n* [*Goa*, India] : a bitter powder found in the wood of a Brazilian leguminous tree (*Vataireopsis araroba*) and valued as the chief source of the drug chrysarobin

go–around \'gō-ə-ˌrau̇nd\ *n* **1 a** : ROUND ⟨reached an apparent agreement during the first ~⟩ **b** : a heated argument or struggle ⟨had a real ~ with her about it⟩ **2** : RUNAROUND ⟨he's been giving me the ~⟩ **3** : an act or instance of going around (as in an air traffic pattern)

go around \ˌgō-ə-'rau̇nd\ *vi* **1 a** : to pass from place to place : go here and there **b** : to have currency : CIRCULATE ⟨an amusing story is *going around*⟩ **2** : to satisfy demand : fill the need ⟨not enough jobs to *go around*⟩

goat \'gōt\ *n, pl* **goats** [ME *gote*, fr. OE *gāt;* akin to OHG *geiz* goat, L *haedus* kid] **1 a** *or pl* **goat** : any of various hollow-horned ruminant mammals (esp. of the genus *Capra*) related to the sheep but of lighter build and with backwardly arching horns, a short tail, and usu. straight hair **b** *cap* : CAPRICORN **2** : a licentious

man : LECHER **3** : SCAPEGOAT — **goat·ish** \'gōt-ish\ *adj* — **goat-like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

goa·tee \gō-'tē\ *n* [fr. its resemblance to the beard of a he-goat] : a small pointed or tufted beard on a man's chin

goat·fish \'gōt-ˌfish\ *n* : MULLET 2

goat·herd \-ˌhərd\ *n* : one who tends goats

goat·skin \-ˌskin\ *n* **1** : the skin of a goat **2** : leather made from goatskin

goat·suck·er \-ˌsək-ər\ *n* : any of a family (Caprimulgidae) of medium-sized long-winged crepuscular or nocturnal birds (as the whippoorwills and nighthawks) having a short wide bill, short legs, and soft mottled plumage and feeding on insects which they catch on the wing

¹gob \'gäb\ *n* [ME *gobbe*, fr. MF *gobe* large piece of food, back-formation fr. *gobet*] **1** : LUMP **2** : a large amount — usu. used in pl. ⟨~s of money⟩

²gob *n* [origin unknown] : SAILOR

gob·bet \'gäb-ət\ *n* [ME *gobet*, fr. MF, mouthful, piece] **1** : a piece or portion (as of meat) **2** : LUMP, MASS **3** : a small quantity of liquid : DROP

¹gob·ble \'gäb-əl\ *vt* **gob·bled; gob·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. irreg. fr. *¹gob*] **1** : to swallow or eat greedily **2** : to take eagerly : GRAB — often used with *up* **3** : to read rapidly or greedily — often used with *up*

²gobble *vi* **gob·bled; gob·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [imit.] **1** : to make the natural guttural noise of a male turkey **2** : to make a sound resembling the gobble of a turkey — **gobble** *n*

gob·ble·dy·gook *or* **gob·ble·de·gook** \ˌgäb-əl-dē-'gůk, -'gük\ *n* [irreg. fr. *gobble*, n.] : wordy and generally unintelligible jargon

gob·bler \'gäb-lər\ *n* : a male turkey

Go·be·lin \'gō-bə-lən, 'gäb-ə-\ *adj* [*Gobelin* dyehouse and tapestry works, Paris, France] : of, relating to, or characteristic of tapestry produced at the Gobelin works in Paris — **Gobelin** *n*

go–be·tween \'gō-bə-ˌtwēn\ *n* : an intermediate agent : BROKER

gob·let \'gäb-lət\ *n* [ME *gobelet*, fr. MF] **1** *archaic* : a bowl-shaped drinking vessel without handles **2** : a drinking vessel (as of glass) with a foot and stem — compare TUMBLER

goblet cell *n* [fr. its shape] : a mucus-secreting epithelial cell (as of intestinal columnar epithelium) that is distended at the free end

gob·lin \'gäb-lən\ *n* [ME *gobelin*, fr. MF, fr. ML *gobelinus*, deriv. of Gk *kobalos* rogue] : an ugly or grotesque sprite that is mischievous and sometimes evil and malicious

go·bo \'gō-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **gobos** *also* **goboes** [origin unknown] **1** : a dark strip (as of wallboard) to shield a motion-picture or television camera from light **2** : a device to shield a microphone from sound

go·by \'gō-bē\ *n, pl* **gobies** *also* **goby** [L *gobius* gudgeon, fr. Gk *kōbios*] : any of numerous spiny-finned fishes (family Gobiidae) with the pelvic fins thoracic and often united to form a sucking disk

go by *vi* **1** : PASS ⟨as time *goes by*⟩ **2** : to make a brief visit : CALL ⟨all the family was at home when we *went by* yesterday⟩

go–cart \'gō-ˌkärt\ *n* **1 a** : WALKER **b** : STROLLER **2** : HANDCART **3** : a light open carriage

¹god \'gäd *also* 'gȯd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *got* god] **1** *cap* : the supreme or ultimate reality: as **a** : the Being perfect in power, wisdom, and goodness whom men worship as creator and ruler of the universe **b** *Christian Science* : the incorporeal divine Principle ruling over all as eternal Spirit : infinite Mind **2** : a being or object believed to have more than natural attributes and powers and to require man's worship; *specif* : one controlling a particular aspect or part of reality **3** : a person or thing of supreme value **4** : a powerful ruler

²god *vt* **god·ded; god·ding** : to treat as a god : IDOLIZE, DEIFY

god–aw·ful \gäd-'ȯ-fəl\ *adj* [*god*damned + *awful*] : extremely unpleasant or disagreeable : ABOMINABLE ⟨~ explosions of violence —*Playboy*⟩

god·child \'gäd-ˌchīld *also* 'gȯd-\ *n* : a person for whom another person becomes sponsor at baptism

¹god·damn *or* **god·dam** \'gäd-'dam\ *n, often cap* : DAMN ⟨they were in no mood to give a good ~ about anything —Robert Lowry⟩

²goddamn *or* **goddam** *vb, often cap, vt* : DAMN ⟨I'll be ~*ed*⟩ ~ *vi* : DAMN ⟨you feel like swearing and ~*ing* worse and worse —Ernest Hemingway⟩

¹god·damned \ˌgäd-ˌdam(d)\ *or* **god·damn** *or* **god·dam** \-ˌdam\ *adj* : DAMNED

²goddamned *or* **goddamn** *or* **goddam** *adv* : DAMNED

god·daugh·ter \'gäd-ˌdȯt-ər *also* 'gȯd-\ *n* : a female godchild

god·dess \'gäd-əs\ *n* **1** : a female god **2** : a woman whose great charm or beauty arouses adoration

go–dev·il \'gō-ˌdev-əl\ *n* : any of various devices: as **a** : a weight formerly dropped in a bored hole (as of an oil well) to explode a cartridge previously lowered **b** : a cleaning scraper rotated and propelled through a pipeline by the force of the flowing fluid **c** : a handcar or small gasoline car used on a railroad for transporting laborers and supplies

¹god·fa·ther \'gäd-ˌfäth-ər *also* 'gȯd-\ *n* **1** : a man who sponsors a person at baptism **2** : one having a relation to someone or something analogous to that of a male sponsor to his godchild ⟨made him the ~ of a whole generation of rebels —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

²godfather *vt* : to act as godfather to

God–fear·ing \-ˌfi(ə)r-iŋ\ *adj* : having a reverent feeling toward God : DEVOUT

god·for·sak·en \-fər-ˌsā-kən\ *adj* **1** : situated in a remote or desolate place ⟨a ~ deserted road⟩ **2** : neglected in appearance : DISMAL ⟨the toughest, dreariest, most ~ looking country —Richard Bissell⟩ **3** : pitiable in circumstances : MISERABLE ⟨poor ~ orphans⟩

god·head \-ˌhed\ *n* [ME *godhed*, fr. *god* + *-hed* -hood; akin to ME *-hod* -hood] **1** : divine nature or essence : DIVINITY **2** *cap* **a** : GOD 1 **b** : the nature of God esp. as existing in three persons — used with *the*

god·hood \-ˌhůd\ *n* : DIVINITY

Go·di·va \gə-'dī-və\ *n* : an English earl's wife who in legend rode naked through Coventry to save the citizens from a tax

god·less \'gäd-ləs *also* 'gȯd-\ *adj* : not acknowledging a deity or divine law — **god·less·ness** *n*

god·like \-ˌlīk\ *adj* : resembling or having the qualities of God or a god : DIVINE — **god·like·ness** *n*

god·ling \-liŋ\ *n* : an inferior or local god

god·ly \-lē\ *adj* **god·li·er; -est** **1** : DIVINE **2** : PIOUS, DEVOUT — **god·li·ness** *n* — **godly** *adv*

god·moth·er \-ˌməth-ər\ *n* : a woman who sponsors a person at baptism

go·down \'gō-ˌdaůn\ *n* [Malay *gudang*] : a warehouse in an oriental country

go down *vi* **1 a** : to fall to or as if to the ground ⟨the plane *went down* in flames⟩ **b** : to go below the horizon : SET ⟨the sun *went down*⟩ **c** : to become submerged : SINK ⟨the ship *went down* with all hands⟩ **2** : to admit of being swallowed ⟨the medicine *went down* easily⟩ **3** : to undergo defeat **4 a** : to find acceptance ⟨will the plan *go down* with the farmers⟩ **b** : to come to be remembered esp. in posterity ⟨he will *go down* in history as a great president⟩ **5** : to undergo a decline or decrease ⟨the fever *went down*⟩ ⟨the market is *going down*⟩ **6** *Brit* : to leave a university — **go down on** : to perform fellatio or cunnilingus on

god·par·ent \'gäd-ˌpar-ənt, -ˌper- *also* 'gȯd-\ *n* : a sponsor at baptism

God's acre *n* : CHURCHYARD

god·send \'gäd-ˌsend *also* 'gȯd-\ *n* [back-formation fr. *god-sent*] : a desirable or needed thing or event that comes unexpectedly

god·son \-ˌsən\ *n* : a male godchild

God·speed \-'spēd\ *n* [ME *god speid*, fr. the phrase *God spede you* God prosper you] : a prosperous journey : SUCCESS ⟨bade him ~⟩

god·wit \'gäd-ˌwit\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of a genus (*Limosa*) of long-billed wading birds related to the snipes but similar to curlews

goe·thite \'gə(r)-ˌtīt\ *n* [G *göthit*, fr. J. W. von *Goethe*] : a mineral $HFeO_2$ that consists of an iron hydrogen oxide and is the commonest constituent of many forms of natural rust

gof·fer \'gäf-ər, 'gȯf-\ *vt* [F *gaufrer*] : to crimp, plait, or flute (as linen or lace) esp. with a heated iron — **goffer** *n*

go–get·ter \'gō-ˌget-ər\ *n* : an aggressively enterprising person : HUSTLER — **go–get·ting** \-ˌget-iŋ\ *adj or n*

¹gog·gle \'gäg-əl\ *vi* **gog·gled; gog·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *gogelen* to squint] : to stare with wide or protuberant eyes — **gog·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²goggle *adj* : PROTUBERANT, STARING ⟨~ eyes⟩ — **gog·gly** \'gäg-(ə-)lē\ *adj*

gog·gle–eye \'gäg-ə-ˌlī\ *n* **1** : ROCK BASS 1 **2** : WARMOUTH

gog·gle–eyed \ˌgäg-ə-'līd\ *adj* : having bulging or rolling eyes

gog·gles \'gäg-əlz\ *n pl* : protective glasses set in a flexible frame (as of rubber or plastic) that fits snugly against the face

go–go \'gō-(ˌ)gō\ *adj* [*a-go-go*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or being a discotheque or the music or dances performed there **b** : employed to entertain in a discotheque ⟨~ dancers⟩ **2 a** : not conservative : UNRESTRAINED ⟨~ baseball⟩ **b** : very up-to-date : HIP **c** : using such tools of speculation as leverage and short selling : SPECULATIVE ⟨a ~ mutual fund⟩

¹Goi·del·ic \gȯi-'del-ik\ *adj* [MIr *Gōidel* Gael] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Gaels **2** : of, relating to, or constituting Goidelic

²Goidelic *n* : the branch of the Celtic languages that includes Irish Gaelic, Scottish Gaelic, and Manx — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

go in *vi* **1 a** : ENTER **b** : to make an approach (as in attacking) **2 a** : to take part in a game or contest **b** : to call the opening bet in poker : STAY **3** *of a celestial body* : to become obscured by a cloud **4** : to form a union or alliance : JOIN — often used with *with* ⟨asked the rest of us to *go in* with them⟩ — **go in for** **1** : to give support to : ADVOCATE **2** : to have or show an interest in or a liking for **3** : to engage in : take part in

¹go·ing \'gō-iŋ, 'gȯ(-)iŋ\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of going **2** *pl* : BEHAVIOR, ACTIONS ⟨for his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his ~*s* —Job 34:21 (AV)⟩ **3** : the condition of the ground (as for walking) **4** : advance toward an objective : PROGRESS ⟨found the ~ too slow and gave up the job⟩

²going *adj* **1 a** : that goes — often used in combination ⟨easy*going*⟩ ⟨out*going*⟩ **b** : WORKING, MOVING ⟨everything was in ~ order⟩ **2** : LIVING, EXISTING ⟨the best novelist ~⟩ **3** : CURRENT, PREVAILING ⟨~ price⟩ **4** : conducting business with the expectation of indefinite continuance ⟨~ concern⟩ — **going on** : drawing near to : APPROACHING

go·ing–over \ˌgō-iŋ-'ō-vər, ˌgȯ(-)iŋ-\ *n, pl* **go·ings–over** **1** : a thorough examination or investigation **2 a** : a severe scolding **b** : BEATING

go·ings–on \ˌgō-iŋ-'zȯn, (')gȯ(-)iŋ-, -'zän\ *n pl* **1** : ACTIONS, EVENTS ⟨studying the ~ in the . . . world around her —Jean C. Jones⟩ **2** : irregular or reprehensible happenings or conduct ⟨titillating stories about the ~ of the carefree millionaires —Eleanor Early⟩

goi·ter *also* **goi·tre** \'gȯit-ər\ *n* [F *goitre*, fr. MF, back-formation fr. *goitron* throat, fr. (assumed) VL *guttrion-, guttrio*, fr. L *guttur* — more at COT] : an enlargement of the thyroid gland visible as a swelling of the front of the neck — compare HYPERTHYROIDISM, HYPOTHYROIDISM — **goi·trous** \'gȯi-trəs, 'gȯit-ə-rəs\ *adj*

goi·tro·gen \'gȯi-trə-jən\ *n* : a substance (as thiourea or thiouracil) that induces goiter formation

goi·tro·gen·ic \ˌgȯi-trə-ˈjen-ik\ *also* **goi·ter·o·gen·ic** \ˌgȯit-ə-rō-ˈjen-\ *adj* : producing or tending to produce goiter — **goi·tro·ge·nic·i·ty** \ˌgȯi-trə-jə-ˈnis-ət-ē\ *n*

Gol·con·da \gäl-ˈkän-də\ *n* [*Golconda*, India, famous for its diamonds] : a rich mine; *broadly* : a source of great wealth

gold \ˈgōld\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *geolu* yellow — more at YELLOW] **1** : a malleable ductile yellow metallic element that occurs chiefly free or in a few minerals and is used esp. in coins, jewelry, and dentures — see ELEMENT table **2 a** (1) : gold coins (2) : a gold piece **b** : MONEY **c** : GOLD STANDARD **3** : a variable color averaging deep yellow **4** : something resembling gold; *esp* : something valued as the finest of its kind ⟨a heart of ~⟩

gold·beat·er \ˈgōl(d)-ˌbēt-ər\ *n* : one that beats gold into gold leaf — **gold·beat·ing** \-ˌbēt-iŋ\ *n*

¹gold·brick \-ˌbrik\ *n* **1 a** : a worthless brick that appears to be of gold **b** : something that appears to be valuable but is actually worthless **2** : a person (as a soldier) who shirks assigned work

²goldbrick *vt* : SWINDLE ~ *vi* : to shirk duty or responsibility : goof off

gold·bug \-ˌbəg\ *n* : a supporter of the gold standard

Gold Democrat *n* : a member of the Democratic party favoring the gold standard; *esp* : one supporting an independent ticket in the presidential election of 1896

gold digger *n* : a woman who uses feminine charm to extract money or gifts from men

gold·en \ˈgōl-dən\ *adj* **1** : consisting of, relating to, or containing gold **2 a** : having the color of gold **b** : BLOND 1a **3** : LUSTROUS, SHINING **4** : of a high degree of excellence : SUPERB **5** : PROSPEROUS, FLOURISHING ⟨~ days⟩ **6 a** : radiantly youthful and vigorous **b** : possessing talents that promise worldly success — often used with *boy* **c** : highly favored : POPULAR **7** : FAVORABLE, ADVANTAGEOUS ⟨a ~ opportunity⟩ **8** : of, relating to, or marking a 50th anniversary **9** : MELLOW, RESONANT ⟨a smooth ~ tenor⟩ — **gold·en·ly** *adv* — **gold·en·ness** \-dən-(n)əs\ *n*

golden age *n* : a period of great happiness, prosperity, and achievement

gold·en–ag·er \ˈgōl-də-ˌnā-jər\ *n* : an elderly and often retired person usu. engaging in club activities

golden al·ex·an·ders \-ˌal-ig-ˈzan-dərz, -ˌel-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr, often cap A* [ML *alexandrum*] : a showy No. American yellow-flowered perennial herb (*Zizia aurea*) of the carrot family that occurs in moist woods and meadows; *also* : any of several related herbs

golden club *n* : an American aquatic plant (*Orontium aquaticum*) of the arum family with a spadix of minute yellow flowers

golden eagle *n* : a large eagle (*Aquila chrysaëtos*) of the northern hemisphere with brownish yellow tips on the head and neck feathers

gold·en·eye \ˈgōl-də-ˌnī\ *n* **1 a** : a large-headed swift-flying Holarctic diving duck (*Bucephala clangula*) having the male strikingly marked in black and white **b** : a closely related duck **2** : a lacewing (family Chrysopidae) with yellow eyes

Golden Fleece *n* : a fleece of gold placed by the king of Colchis in a dragon-guarded grove and recovered by the Argonauts

golden glow *n* : a tall branching composite herb (*Rudbeckia laciniata hortensia*) with showy yellow much-doubled flower heads

golden hamster *n* : a small tawny hamster (*Mesocricetus auratus*) native to Asia Minor but kept as a pet in many parts of the world

Golden Horde *n* [fr. the golden tent of the Mongol ruler] : a body of Mongol Tatars that overran eastern Europe in the 13th century and dominated Russia until 1486

golden mean *n* : the medium between extremes : MODERATION

golden nematode *n* : a small yellowish Old World nematode worm (*Heterodera rostochiensis*) established locally as a pest of potatoes in eastern No. America

gold·en·rain tree \ˌgōl-dən-ˈrān-\ *n* : a round-headed tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata* of the family Sapindaceae) that has very long showy clusters of yellow flowers

golden retriever *n* : a medium-sized golden-coated retriever developed by interbreeding Russian shepherd dogs with bloodhounds

gold·en·rod \ˈgōl-dən-ˌräd\ *n* : any of numerous chiefly No. American composite biennial or perennial plants (esp. of the genus *Solidago*) with stems resembling wands and heads of small yellow or sometimes white flowers often clustered in panicles — compare RAYLESS GOLDENROD

golden rule *n* **1** : a rule of ethical conduct referring to Mt 7:12 and Lk 6:31 and stating that one should do to others as he would have others do to him **2** : a guiding principle

gold·en·seal \ˈgōl-dən-ˌsēl\ *n* : a perennial American herb (*Hydrastis canadensis*) of the crowfoot family with large rounded leaves and a thick knotted yellow rootstock sometimes used in pharmacy — compare HYDRASTIS

golden section *n* : division of a line or the proportion of a geometrical figure such that the smaller dimension is to the greater as the greater is to the whole

golden shiner *n* : a common cyprinid fish (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*) of eastern No. America having silvery sides with bright golden reflections

golden yellow *n* **1** : a vivid or light yellow **2** : a moderate to strong orange yellow

gold·field \ˈgōl(d)-ˌfēld\ *n* : a gold-mining district

gold–filled \-ˈfild\ *adj* : covered with a layer of gold so as to constitute filled gold ⟨~ bracelet⟩

gold·finch \-ˌfinch\ *n* **1** : a small largely red, black, and yellow European finch (*Carduelis carduelis*) often kept as a cage bird **2** : any of several small American finches (genus *Spinus*) typically having the male in summer plumage variably yellow with black wings, tail, and crown

¹gold·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : a small usu. golden yellow or orange cyprinid fish (*Carassius auratus*) much used as an aquarium and pond fish

²goldfish *adj* [fr. the keeping of goldfish in transparent bowls] : exposed to public view ⟨had patiently endured this ~ life —*Time*⟩

gold leaf *n* : a sheet of gold ordinarily varying from four to five millionths of an inch in thickness that is used esp. for gilding

gold mine *n* : a rich source of something desired (as information)

gold of pleasure : an annual herb (*Camelina sativa*) of the mustard family formerly grown for its oil-rich seeds

gold rush *n* **1** : a rush to newly discovered goldfields in pursuit of riches **2** : the headlong pursuit of sudden wealth in a new or lucrative field

gold·smith \ˈgōl(d)-ˌsmith\ *n* : one who makes or deals in articles of gold

gold standard *n* : a monetary standard under which the basic unit of currency is defined by a stated quantity of gold and which is usu. characterized by the coinage and circulation of gold, unrestricted convertibility of other money into gold, and the free export and import of gold for the settlement of international obligations

gold·stone \ˈgōl(d)-ˌstōn\ *n* : aventurine glass spangled close and fine with particles of gold-colored material

go·lem \ˈgō-ləm, ˈgȯi-, ˈgā-\ *n* [Yiddish *goylem*, fr. Heb *gōlem* shapeless mass] **1** : an artificial human being of Hebrew folklore endowed with life **2** : something resembling a golem: as **a** : AUTOMATON **b** : BLOCKHEAD

golf \ˈgälf, ˈgȯlf, ˈgäf, ˈgȯf\ *n, often attrib* [ME (Sc)] : a game in which a player using special clubs attempts to sink a ball into each of the 9 or 18 successive holes on a course with as few strokes as possible — **golf** *vi*

Golf — a communications code word for the letter *g*

golf bag *n* : a usu. tubular bag with outside pockets that is designed to carry golf equipment (as clubs, balls, and clothing)

golf cart *n* **1** : a small cart for wheeling a golf bag around a golf course **2** : a motorized cart for carrying a golfer and his equipment over a golf course — called also *golf car*

golf course *n* : an area of land laid out for the game of golf with a series of 9 or 18 holes each including tee, fairway, and putting green and often one or more natural or artificial hazards — called also *golf links*

golf·er *n* : one who plays golf

golf·ing *n* : the sport or practice of playing golf

golf widow *n* : a woman whose husband spends much time on the golf course

Gol·gi \ˈgȯl-(ˌ)jē\ *adj* : of or relating to the Golgi apparatus, Golgi bodies, or a method of staining for them ⟨~ vesicles⟩

Golgi apparatus *n* [Camillo *Golgi*] : a cytoplasmic component that prob. plays a part in elaboration and secretion of cell products and appears in electron microscopy as a series of parallel sometimes vesicular membranes without ribosomes — called also *Golgi complex*

Golgi body *n* : a discrete particle of the Golgi apparatus as observed in a stained preparation

go·liard \ˈgōl-yərd, -ˌyärd\ *n* [F] : a wandering student of the 12th or 13th century given to the writing of satiric Latin verse and to convivial living and minstrelsy — **go·liar·dic** \gōl-ˈyärd-ik\ *adj*

Go·li·ath \gə-ˈlī-əth\ *n* [Heb *Golyath*] **1** : a Philistine champion who in I Samuel 17 is killed by David in single combat **2** : GIANT ⟨slug it out with business ~s —Warner Olivier⟩

gol·li·wog *or* **gol·li·wogg** \ˈgäl-ē-ˌwäg\ *n* [*Golliwogg*, an animated doll in children's fiction by Bertha Upton] **1** : a grotesque black doll **2** : a grotesque person

gom·er·al *or* **gom·er·il** \ˈgäm-(ə-)rəl\ *n* [origin unknown] *Scot* : SIMPLETON, FOOL

gom·pho·sis \gäm-ˈfō-səs\ *n, pl* **-pho·ses** [NL, fr. Gk *gomphōsis*, lit., a bolting together] : an immovable articulation in which a hard part is received into a bone cavity (as the teeth into the jaws)

gon- *or* **gono-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *gonos* procreation, seed, fr. *gignesthai* to be born — more at KIN] : sexual : generative : semen : seed ⟨*gono*duct⟩

-gon \ˌgän *also* -gən\ *n comb form* [NL *-gonum*, fr. Gk *-gōnon*, fr. *gōnia* angle; akin to Gk *gony* knee — more at KNEE] : figure having (so many) angles ⟨decag*on*⟩

go·nad \ˈgō-ˌnad\ *n* [NL *gonad-*, *gonas*, fr. Gk *gonos*] : one of the primary sex glands that include the ovaries and testes — **go·nad·al** \gō-ˈnad-ᵊl\ *adj*

go·nad·ec·to·my \ˌgō-nə-ˈdek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : surgical removal of an ovary or testis — **go·nad·ec·to·mized** \-ˌmīzd\ *adj*

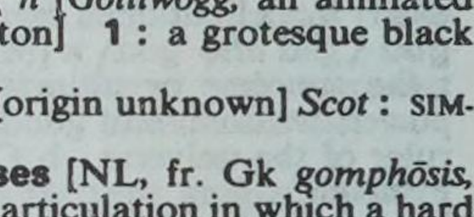
go·nad·o·tro·phic \gō-ˌnad-ə-ˈtrō-fik, -ˈträf-ik\ *or* **go·nad·o·trop·ic** \-ˈträp-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : acting on or stimulating the gonads

go·nad·o·tro·phin \-ˈtrō-fən\ *or* **go·nad·o·tro·pin** \-pən\ *n* : a gonadotrophic hormone (as follicle-stimulating hormone)

Gond \ˈgänd\ *n* : a member of a Dravidian or pre-Dravidian people of central India

Gondi \ˈgän-dē\ *n* : the Dravidian language of the Gonds

gon·do·la \ˈgän-də-lə (*usual for sense 1*), gän-ˈdō-\ *n* [It, fr. ML *gondula*, dim. of (assumed) VL *condua*] **1** : a long narrow flat-bottomed boat with a high prow and stern used on the canals of Venice **2** : a heavy flat-bottomed boat used on New England rivers and on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers **3** : a railroad car with no top, a flat bottom, and fixed sides that is used chiefly for hauling heavy bulk commodities **4 a** : an elongated car attached to the underside of an airship **b** : an often spherical airtight enclosure suspended from a balloon for carrying passengers or instruments **c** : an enclosed car suspended from a cable and used for transporting passengers; *esp* : one used as a ski lift **5** : an upholstered chair whose back curves forward at both sides to form the arms **6** : a fixture approachable from all sides used in self-service retail stores to display merchandise **7** : a motortruck or trailer having a large hopper-shaped container for transporting mixed concrete



gondola 1

gon·do·lier \ˌgän-də-ˈli(ə)r\ *n* : the boatman who propels a gondola

Gon·dwa·ni·an \gän-ˈdwän-ē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to the hypothetical prehistoric landmass Gondwana

gone \ˈgȯn *also* ˈgän\ *adj* [fr. pp. of *go*] **1** : PAST ⟨memories of ~ summers —John Cheever⟩ **2 a** : INVOLVED, ABSORBED ⟨far ~ in hysteria⟩ **b** : possessed with a strong attachment or a foolish or

unreasoning love or desire : INFATUATED — often used with *on* ⟨was real ~ on that man —Pete Martin⟩ **c** : PREGNANT ⟨she's six months ~⟩ **3 a** : DEAD **b** : LOST, RUINED ⟨unless you're prepared to scuffle . . . you're a ~ goose —Warren Burnett⟩ **c** : characterized by sinking or dropping ⟨the empty or ~ feeling in the abdomen so common in elevators —H. G. Armstrong⟩ **4** *slang* : GREAT ⟨a real ~ fashion reporter —Inez Robb⟩

gon·er \'gȯn-ər *also* 'gän-ər\ *n* : one whose case is hopeless ⟨if you fall behind . . . you're ~*s* —Kenneth Roberts⟩

gon·fa·lon \'gän-fə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [It *gonfalone*] **1** : the ensign of certain princes or states (as the medieval republics of Italy) **2** : a flag that hangs from a crosspiece or frame

gon·fa·lon·ier \ˌgän-fə-ˌlä-'ni(ə)r, -lə-\ *n* : one who bears a gonfalon

gong \'gäŋ, 'gȯŋ\ *n* [Malay & Jav, of imit. origin] **1** : a disk-shaped percussion instrument that produces a resounding tone when struck with a usu. padded hammer **2 a** : a flat saucer-shaped bell **b** : a wire rod wound in a flat spiral for sounding the time or chime or alarm (as in a clock) — **gong** *vi*

Gon·go·rism \'gäŋ-gə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* [Sp *gongorismo*, fr. Luis de *Góngora* y Argote †1627 Sp poet] : a literary style characterized by studied obscurity and by the use of various ornate devices — **gon·go·ris·tic** \ˌgäŋ-gə-'ris-tik\ *adj*

goni- *or* **gonio-** *comb form* [Gk *gōnia*] : corner : angle ⟨*gonio*meter⟩

go·nid·i·al \gō-'nid-ē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to a gonidium

go·nid·i·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *gon-* + *-idium*] **1** : an asexual reproductive cell or group of cells in or on a gametophyte **2** : a green chlorophyll-bearing cell within the thallus of a lichen

go·ni·om·e·ter \ˌgō-nē-'äm-ət-ər\ *n* **1** : an instrument for measuring angles **2** : DIRECTION FINDER — **go·nio·met·ric** \-nē-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **go·ni·om·e·try** \-nē-'äm-ə-trē\ *n*

gono·coc·cus \ˌgän-ə-'käk-əs\ *n, pl* **-coc·ci** \-'käk-ˌ(s)ī, -'käk-(ˌ)(s)ē\ [NL] : a pus-producing bacterium (*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*) that causes gonorrhea — **gono·coc·cal** \-'käk-əl\ *or* **gono·coc·cic** \-'käk-(s)ik\ *adj*

gono·cyte \'gän-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a cell that produces gametes; *esp* : GAMETOCYTE

gono·gen·e·sis \ˌgän-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : maturation of germ cells that includes oogenesis and spermatogenesis

gon·oph \'gän-əf\ *var of* GANEF

gono·phore \'gän-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a sporophyll-bearing prolongation of a plant axis **2** : an attached reproductive zooid of a hydroid colony — **gono·phor·ic** \ˌgän-ə-'fōr-ik, -'fȯr-\ *adj* — **go·noph·o·rous** \gə-'näf-ə-rəs, gä-\ *adj*

gono·pore \'gän-ə-ˌpō(ə)r, -ˌpȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a genital pore

gon·or·rhea \ˌgän-ə-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. LL, morbid loss of semen, fr. Gk *gonorrhoia*, fr. *gon-* + *-rrhoia* -rrhea] : a contagious inflammation of the genital mucous membrane caused by the gonococcus — called also *clap* — **gon·or·rhe·al** \-'rē-əl\ *adj*

-g·o·ny \g-ə-nē\ *n comb form* [L *-gonia*, fr. Gk, fr. *gonos*] : generation : reproduction : manner of coming into being ⟨sporo*gony*⟩

goo \'gü\ *n* [perh. alter. of *glue*] **1** : a viscid or sticky substance **2** : cloying sentimentality — **goo·ey** \-ē\ *adj*

goo·ber \'gü-bər, 'gu̇b-ər\ *n* [of African origin; akin to Kongo *nguba* peanut] *South & Midland* : PEANUT

¹good \'gu̇d\ *adj* **bet·ter** \'bet-ər\; **best** \'best\ [ME, fr. OE *gōd*; akin to OHG *guot* good, Skt *gadh* to hold fast] **1 a** (1) : of a favorable character or tendency ⟨~ news⟩ (2) : BOUNTIFUL, FERTILE ⟨~ land⟩ (3) : HANDSOME, ATTRACTIVE ⟨~ looks⟩ **b** (1) : SUITABLE, FIT ⟨~ to eat⟩ (2) : free from injury or disease : WHOLE ⟨one ~ arm⟩ (3) : not depreciated ⟨bad money drives out ~⟩ (4) : commercially sound ⟨a ~ risk⟩ (5) : certain to last or live ⟨~ for another year⟩ (6) : certain to pay or contribute ⟨~ for a hundred dollars⟩ (7) : certain to elicit a specified result ⟨always ~ for a laugh⟩ (8) : PROFITABLE, ADVANTAGEOUS ⟨made a very ~ deal⟩ **c** (1) : AGREEABLE, PLEASANT (2) : SALUTARY, WHOLESOME ⟨~ for a cold⟩ (3) : AMUSING, CLEVER ⟨a ~ joke⟩ **d** (1) : CONSIDERABLE, AMPLE ⟨a ~ margin⟩ (2) : FULL ⟨weighs a ~ 200 pounds —*Current Biog.*⟩ **e** (1) : WELL-FOUNDED, COGENT ⟨~ reasons⟩ (2) : TRUE ⟨holds ~ for society at large⟩ (3) : REAL, ACTUALIZED ⟨made ~ his promises⟩ (4) : deserving of respect : HONORABLE ⟨in ~ standing⟩ (5) : legally valid or effectual ⟨~ title⟩ **f** (1) : ADEQUATE, SATISFACTORY ⟨~ care⟩ (2) : conforming to a standard ⟨~ English⟩ (3) : CHOICE, DISCRIMINATING ⟨~ taste⟩ (4) : containing less fat and being less tender than higher grades — used of meat and esp. of beef **2 a** (1) : VIRTUOUS, JUST, COMMENDABLE ⟨a ~ man⟩ (2) : RIGHT ⟨~ conduct⟩ (3) : KIND, BENEVOLENT ⟨~ intentions⟩ **b** : UPPER-CLASS ⟨a ~ family⟩ **c** : COMPETENT, SKILLFUL ⟨a ~ doctor⟩ **d** : LOYAL ⟨a ~ party man⟩ ⟨a ~ Catholic⟩ — **good·ish** \'gu̇d-ish\ *adj* — **as good as** : in effect : VIRTUALLY ⟨*as good as* dead⟩ — **as good as gold** **1** : of the highest worth or reliability ⟨his promise is *as good as gold*⟩ **2** : well-behaved ⟨the child was *as good as gold*⟩ — **good and** \ˌgu̇d-ᵊn\ : VERY, ENTIRELY ⟨was *good and* mad⟩

²good *n* **1 a** : something that is good **b** (1) : something conforming to the moral order of the universe (2) : praiseworthy character : GOODNESS **c** : a good element or portion **2** : PROSPERITY, BENEFIT ⟨for the ~ of the community⟩ **3 a** : something that has economic utility or satisfies an economic want **b** *pl* : personal property having intrinsic value but usu. excluding money, securities, and negotiable instruments **c** *pl* : CLOTH **d** *pl* : WARES, COMMODITIES, MERCHANDISE ⟨canned ~*s* ⟩ **4** : good persons — used with *the* ⟨the ~ die young⟩ **5** *pl* : proof of wrongdoing ⟨didn't have the ~*s* on him —T. G. Cooke⟩ — **for good** : FOREVER, PERMANENTLY — **in good with** : in a favored or preferred position with — **to the good** **1** : for the best : BENEFICIAL ⟨the government's efforts to restrict credit were all *to the good* — *Time*⟩ **2** : in a position of net gain or profit ⟨he wound up the game $10 *to the good*⟩

³good *adv* : WELL ⟨he showed me how ~ I was doing —Herbert Gold⟩

good book *n, often cap G&B* : BIBLE

good–bye *or* **good–by** \gu̇d-'bī, gə(d)-\ *n* [alter. of *God be with you*] : a concluding remark or gesture at parting

good fellow *n* : an affable companionable person — **good–fellow·ship** \'gu̇d-'fel-ō-ˌship, -'fel-ə-\ *n*

¹good–for–noth·ing \'gu̇d-fər-ˌnəth-iŋ\ *adj* : of no value : USELESS, WORTHLESS ⟨he was fat, lazy, ~ —C. G. Norris⟩

²good–for–nothing *n* : an idle worthless person

Good Friday *n* [fr. its special sanctity] : the Friday before Easter observed in churches as the anniversary of the crucifixion of Christ and in some states of the U.S. as a legal holiday

good–heart·ed \'gu̇d-'härt-əd\ *adj* : having a kindly generous disposition — **good–heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **good–heart·ed·ness** *n*

good–hu·mored \-'(h)yü-mərd\ *adj* : GOOD-NATURED, CHEERFUL — **good–hu·mored·ly** *adv* — **good–hu·mored·ness** *n*

good life *n* **1** : a virtuous life **2** : a life marked by a high standard of living

good–look·ing \'gu̇d-'lu̇k-iŋ\ *adj* : having a pleasing or attractive appearance — **good–look·er** \-'lu̇k-ər\ *n*

good·ly \'gu̇d-lē\ *adj* **good·li·er; -est** **1** : pleasantly attractive : HANDSOME **2** : significantly large : CONSIDERABLE ⟨a ~ number⟩

good·man \'gu̇d-mən\ *n* **1** *archaic* : the master of a household **2** *archaic* : MR.

good–na·tured \-'nā-chərd\ *adj* : of a pleasant cheerful cooperative disposition *syn* see AMIABLE *ant* contrary — **good–na·tured·ly** *adv* — **good–na·tured·ness** *n*

good–neighbor *adj* : marked by principles of friendship, cooperation, and noninterference in the internal affairs of another country ⟨goodwill in advancing the ~ policy —Norman Cousins⟩

good·ness \'gu̇d-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being good **2** — used interjectionally to express mild surprise or shock **3** : the nutritious, flavorful, or beneficial portion or element of something ⟨boil all the ~ out of the coffee⟩

Good Sa·mar·i·tan \-sə-'mar-ət-ᵊn, -'mer-\ *n* : SAMARITAN 2

good–tem·pered \'gu̇d-'tem-pərd\ *adj* : not easily vexed — **good–tem·pered·ly** *adv* — **good–tem·pered·ness** *n*

good·wife \'gu̇d-ˌwīf\ *n* **1** *archaic* : the mistress of a household **2** *archaic* : MRS.

good·will \'gu̇d-'wil\ *n* **1 a** : a kindly feeling of approval and support : benevolent interest or concern **b** : the favor or prestige that a business has acquired beyond the mere value of what it sells **2 a** : cheerful consent **b** : willing effort *syn* see FAVOR — **good·willed** \-'wild\ *adj*

¹goody \'gu̇d-ē\ *n* [alter. of *goodwife*] *archaic* : a usu. married woman of lowly station — used as a title preceding a surname

²goody *n, pl* **good·ies** : something that is particularly attractive, pleasurable, good, or desirable ⟨such *goodies* as model trains, cameras, microscopes, and college educations —*Time*⟩

¹goody–goody \ˌgu̇d-ē-'gu̇d-ē\ *adj* : affectedly or ingratiatingly good or proper

²goody–goody *n* : a goody-goody person

¹goof \'güf\ *n* [prob. alter. of E dial. *goff* (simpleton)] **1** : a ridiculous stupid person **2** : BLUNDER

²goof *vi* **1** : to make a usu. foolish or careless mistake : BLUNDER **2** *slang* : to spend time idly or foolishly — often used with *off* ⟨somebody is ~*ing* off on the job —*Springfield (Mass.) Daily News*⟩ ~ *vt* : to make a mess of : BUNGLE — often used with *up*

goof·ball \'güf-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** *slang* : a barbiturate sleeping pill **2** *slang* : a mentally abnormal person

go off *vi* **1** : EXPLODE **2** : to burst forth or break out in a sudden or noisy manner **3** : to go forth or away : DEPART, LEAVE **4** : to undergo decline or deterioration **5** : to follow the expected or desired course : PROCEED ⟨the party *went off* well⟩ **6** : to make a characteristic noise : SOUND — **go off the deep end** **1** : to enter recklessly on a course **2** : to become very much excited

goof–off \'gü-ˌfȯf\ *n* : one who evades work or responsibility

goofy \'gü-fē\ *adj* **goof·i·er; -est** : CRAZY, SILLY — **goof·i·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **goof·i·ness** \-fē-nəs\ *n*

goo·gol \'gü-ˌgȯl\ *n* [coined by Milton Sirotta *b ab* 1929 nephew of Edward Kasner †1955 Am. mathematician] : the figure 1 followed by 100 zeroes equal to 10^{100}

goo·gol·plex \-ˌpleks\ *n* [*googol* + *-plex* (as in *duplex*)] : the figure 1 followed by a googol of zeroes equal to

$$10^{10^{100}}$$

¹goo–goo \'gü-(ˌ)gü\ *adj* [prob. alter. of *²goggle*] : LOVING, ENTICING — used chiefly in the phrase *goo-goo eyes* ⟨make ~ eyes at each other —*New Republic*⟩

²goo–goo \'gü-(ˌ)gü\ *n, pl* **goo–goos** [fr. *good government*] : a member or advocate of a political reform movement ⟨this group was . . . dismissed by machine politicians as ~*s* —*Fortune*⟩

¹gook \'gu̇k\ *n* [origin unknown] : a native belonging usu. to a brown or yellow race — usu. used disparagingly

²gook \'gu̇k, 'gük\ *n* [perh. alter. of *goo*] : GOO — **gooky** \-ē\ *adj*

goon \'gün\ *n* [prob. short for E dial. *gooney* (simpleton)] **1** : a stupid person **2** : a man hired to terrorize or eliminate opponents — **goony** \-ē\ *adj*

go on *vi* **1 a** : to continue with or as if with a journey **b** : to continue in or as if in a course of action **2 a** : to proceed by or as if by a logical step **b** *of time* : PASS **3** : to take place : HAPPEN **4** : to be capable of being put on ⟨her gloves wouldn't *go on*⟩ **5** : to talk esp. in an effusive manner ⟨the way people *go on* about their ancestors —Hamilton Basso⟩ **6 a** : to come into operation, action, or production ⟨the lights *went on* at sunset⟩ **b** : to appear on the stage ⟨an actor waiting to *go on*⟩

goo·ney *also* **goo·ny** *or* **goo·nie** \'gü-nē\ *n, pl* **gooneys** *or* **goonies** [prob. fr. E dial. *gooney* (simpleton)] : BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS

gooney bird *n* : BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS

goo·san·der \gü-'san-dər\ *n* [origin unknown] : the common merganser (*Mergus merganser*) of the northern hemisphere
¹goose \'güs\ *n, pl* **geese** \'gēs\ [ME *gos*, fr. OE *gōs;* akin to OHG *gans* goose, L *anser*] **1 a** : any of numerous large waterfowl (family Anatidae) that are intermediate between the swans and ducks and have long necks, feathered lores, and reticulate tarsi **b** : a female goose as distinguished from a gander **2** : SIMPLETON, DOLT **3** *pl* **goos·es** : a tailor's smoothing iron with a gooseneck handle **4** *pl* **goos·es** : a poke between the buttocks — **goos·ey** \'gü-sē\ *adj*
²goose *vt* **goosed; goos·ing** : to poke between the buttocks with an upward thrust
goose·ber·ry \'güs-ˌber-ē, 'güz-, -b(ə-)rē, *chiefly Brit* 'gu̇z-\ *n* **1 a** : the acid usu. prickly fruit of any of several shrubs (genus *Ribes*) of the saxifrage family **b** : a shrub bearing gooseberries **2** : CURRANT 2
goose bumps *n pl* : GOOSEFLESH
goose egg *n* : ZERO, NOTHING; *esp* : a score of zero in a game or contest
goose·flesh \'güs-ˌflesh\ *n* : a roughness of the skin produced by erection of its papillae usu. from cold or fear
goose·foot \-ˌfu̇t\ *n, pl* **goose·foots** : any of a genus (*Chenopodium*) or family (Chenopodiaceae, the goosefoot family) of glabrous herbs with utricular fruit
goose grass *n* **1** : CLEAVERS 1 **2** : YARD GRASS
goose·neck \'gü-ˌsnek\ *n, often attrib* : something (as a flexible jointed metal pipe) curved like the neck of a goose or U-shaped — **goose·necked** \-ˌsnekt\ *adj*
goose pimples *n pl* : GOOSEFLESH
goose step *n* : a straight-legged stiff-kneed step used by troops of some armies when passing in review — **goose–step·per** \'güs-ˌstep-ər\ *n*
go out *vi* **1 a** : to go forth, abroad, or outdoors; *specif* : to leave one's house **b** (1) : to take the field as a soldier (2) : to participate as a principal in a duel **c** : to travel as or as if a colonist or immigrant **d** : to work away from home **2 a** : to come to an end **b** : to become extinguished ⟨the hall light *went out*⟩ **c** : to give up office : RESIGN **d** : to become obsolete or unfashionable **e** (1) : to play the last card of one's hand (2) : to reach or exceed the total number of points required for game in cards **3** : to go on strike **4** : BREAK, COLLAPSE **5** : to become a candidate ⟨*went out* for the football team⟩
go over *vi* **1** : to go on a journey **2** : to become converted **3** : to receive approval : SUCCEED ⟨his plan *went over* well⟩
GOP *abbr* Grand Old Party (Republican)
go·pher \'gō-fər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a burrowing edible land tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) of the southern U.S.; *broadly* : any of several related land tortoises **2 a** : any of several burrowing rodents (family Geomyidae) of western No. America, Central America, and the southern U.S. that are the size of a large rat and have large cheek pouches opening beside the mouth **b** : any of numerous small ground squirrels (genus *Citellus*) of the prairie region of No. America closely related to the chipmunks **3** : GOPHER BALL


gopher 2a

gopher ball *n* : a pitched baseball hit for a home run
gopher snake *n* **1** : INDIGO SNAKE **2** : BULL SNAKE
Gor·di·an knot \ˌgȯrd-ē-ən-\ *n* **1** : a knot tied by Gordius, king of Phrygia, held to be capable of being untied only by the future ruler of Asia, and cut by Alexander the Great with his sword **2** : an intricate problem; *esp* : a problem insoluble in its own terms
Gor·don setter \ˌgȯrd-ᵊn-\ *n* [Alexander, 4th Duke of *Gordon* †1827 Sc sportsman] : any of a breed of large long-haired bird dogs that are deep black with tan, chestnut, or mahogany markings
¹gore \'gō(ə)r, 'gȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME, filth, fr. OE *gor;* akin to OE *wearm* warm] : BLOOD; *esp* : clotted blood
²gore *n* [ME, fr. OE *gāra;* akin to OE *gār* spear, Gk *chaios* shepherd's staff] **1** : a small usu. triangular piece of land **2** : a tapering or triangular piece (as of cloth in a skirt)
³gore *vt* **gored; gor·ing** **1** : to cut into a tapering triangular form **2** : to provide with a gore
⁴gore *vt* **gored; gor·ing** [ME *goren*] : to pierce or wound with a horn or tusk
¹gorge \'gȯ(ə)rj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *gurga*, alter. of *gurges*, fr. L, whirlpool — more at VORACIOUS] **1** : THROAT **2 a** : a hawk's crop **b** : STOMACH, BELLY **3** : the entrance into an outwork (as a bastion) of a fort **4** : a narrow passage through land; *esp* : a narrow steep-walled canyon or part of a canyon **5** : a primitive device used instead of a fishhook that consists of an object (as a piece of bone attached in the middle of a line) easy to swallow but difficult to eject **6** : a mass choking a passage ⟨a river dammed by an ice ~⟩
²gorge *vb* **gorged; gorg·ing** *vi* : to eat greedily or to repletion ~ *vt* **1 a** : to stuff to capacity : GLUT **b** : to fill completely or to the point of distension ⟨veins *gorged* with blood⟩ **2** : to swallow greedily ***syn*** see SATIATE — **gorg·er** *n*
gor·geous \'gȯr-jəs\ *adj* [ME *gorgayse*, fr. MF *gorgias* elegant, fr. *gorgias* wimple, fr. *gorge*] : splendidly or showily brilliant or magnificent ***syn*** see SPLENDID — **gor·geous·ly** *adv* — **gor·geous·ness** *n*
gor·get \'gȯr-jət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *gorge*] **1** : a piece of armor protecting the throat — see ARMOR illustration **2 a** : an ornamental collar **b** : a part of a wimple covering the throat and shoulders
gor·gon \'gȯr-gən\ *n* [L *Gorgon-, Gorgo*, fr. Gk *Gorgōn*] **1** *cap* : any of three snaky-haired sisters in Greek mythology whose glance turns the beholder to stone **2** : an ugly or repulsive woman — **Gor·go·ni·an** \gȯr-'gō-nē-ən\ *adj*
gor·go·ni·an \gȯr-'gō-nē-ən\ *n* [deriv. of L *gorgonia* coral, fr. *Gorgon-, Gorgo*] : any of an order (Gorgonacea) of colonial anthozoans with a usu. horny and branching axial skeleton — **gorgonian** *adj*
gor·gon·ize \'gȯr-gə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to have a paralyzing or mesmerizing effect on : STUPEFY, PETRIFY
Gor·gon·zo·la \ˌgȯr-gən-'zō-lə\ *n* [It, fr. *Gorgonzola*, Italy] : a blue cheese of Italian origin usu. made of cow's milk
go·ril·la \gə-'ril-ə\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *Gorillai*, believed to be the name of an alleged African tribe of hairy women] **1** : an anthropoid ape (*Gorilla gorilla*) of western equatorial Africa related to the chimpanzee but less erect and much larger **2 a** : an ugly or brutal man **b** : THUG, GOON


gorilla 1

gor·man·dize \'gȯr-mən-ˌdīz\ *vb* **-dized; -diz·ing** [*gormand*, alter. of *gourmand*] *vi* : to eat gluttonously or ravenously ~ *vt* : to eat greedily : DEVOUR — **gor·man·diz·er** *n*
gorm·less \'gȯrm-ləs\ *adj* [alter. of E dial. *gaumless*, fr. *gaum* attention, understanding (fr. ME *gome*, fr. ON *gaum, gaumr*) + *-less*] *chiefly Brit* : lacking intelligence : STUPID
go–round \'gō-ˌraund\ *n* : GO-AROUND
gorse \'gȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [ME *gorst*, fr. OE — more at HORROR] **1** : FURZE **2** : JUNIPER — **gorsy** \'gȯr-sē\ *adj*
gory \'gō(ə)r-ē, 'gȯ(ə)r-\ *adj* **gor·i·er; -est** **1** : covered with gore : BLOODSTAINED **2** : BLOODCURDLING, SENSATIONAL
gosh \'gäsh, 'gȯsh\ *interj* [euphemism for *God*] — used as a mild oath
gos·hawk \'gäs-ˌhȯk\ *n* [ME *goshawke*, fr. OE *gōshafoc*, fr. *gōs* goose + *hafoc* hawk] : any of several long-tailed accipitrine hawks with short rounded wings; *esp* : a hawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) of the northern parts of both the Old and the New World that is larger than a crow and has a white stripe above and behind the eye
gos·ling \'gäz-liŋ, 'gȯz-, -lən\ *n* [ME, fr. *gos* goose] **1** : a young goose **2** : a foolish or callow person
¹gos·pel \'gäs-pəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gōdspel, fr. gōd* good + *spell* tale — more at SPELL] **1 a** *often cap* : the message concerning Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation **b** *cap* : one of the first four New Testament books telling of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ; *also* : a similar apocryphal book **c** : an interpretation of the Christian message ⟨the social ~⟩ **2** *cap* : a lection from one of the New Testament Gospels **3** : the message or teachings of a religious teacher **4** : something accepted as infallible truth or as a guiding principle ⟨the ~ of conservation —R. M. Hodesh⟩
²gospel *adj* **1 a** : having a basis in or being in accordance with the gospel : EVANGELICAL ⟨ordained to the ~ ministry —*Christian Century*⟩ **b** : marked by special or fervid emphasis on the gospel ⟨a ~ meeting⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or being religious songs of American origin associated with evangelism and popular devotion and marked by simple melody and harmony and elements of folk songs, spirituals, and occas. jazz ⟨a ~ singer⟩
gos·pel·er *or* **gos·pel·ler** \'gäs-pə-lər\ *n* **1** : one who preaches or propounds a gospel **2** : one who reads or sings the liturgical Gospel
gospel side *n, often cap G* [fr. the custom of reading the Gospel from this side] : the left side of an altar or chancel as one faces it
Gos·plan \'gäs-ˌplan, 'gȯs-ˌplän\ *n* [Russ *Gosudarstvennaya Planovaya* (Komissiya) State Planning Commission] : a Soviet agency that makes long-term economic and social plans and generally supervises their execution
gos·port \'gäs-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [*Gosport*, England] : a flexible one-way speaking tube for communication between separate cockpits of an airplane
gos·sa·mer \'gäs-ə-mər *also* 'gäz(-ə)-mər\ *n* [ME *gossomer*, fr. *gos* goose + *somer* summer] **1** : a film of cobwebs floating in air in calm clear weather **2** : something light, delicate, insubstantial, or tenuous ⟨the ~ of youth's dreams —Andrea Parke⟩ — **gossamer** *adj* — **gos·sa·mery** \-mə-rē\ *adj*
gos·san \'gäs-ᵊn\ *n* [Corn *gossen*] : decomposed rock or vein material of reddish or rusty color that results from oxidized pyrites
¹gos·sip \'gäs-əp\ *n* [ME *gossib*, fr. OE *godsibb*, fr. *god* + *sibb* kinsman, fr. *sibb* related] **1 a** *dial Brit* : GODPARENT **b** : COMPANION, CRONY **c** : a person who habitually reveals personal or sensational facts **2 a** : rumor or report of an intimate nature **b** : a chatty talk **c** : the subject matter of gossip ⟨his infidelities were common ~⟩ ***syn*** see REPORT — **gos·sip·ry** \-ə-prē\ *n*
²gossip *vi* : to relate gossip — **gos·sip·er** *n*
gos·sipy \'gäs-ə-pē\ *adj* : full of or given to gossip ⟨a ~ letter⟩ ⟨~ neighbors⟩
gos·sy·pol \'gäs-ə-ˌpȯl, -ˌpōl\ *n* [ISV, deriv. of L *gossypion* cotton] : a toxic phenolic pigment $C_{30}H_{30}O_8$ in cottonseed
got *past of* GET
¹Goth \'gäth\ *n* [LL *Gothi*, pl.] : a member of a Germanic people that overran the Roman Empire in the early centuries of the Christian era
²Goth *abbr* Gothic
¹Goth·ic \'gäth-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or resembling the Goths, their civilization, or their language **b** : TEUTONIC, GERMANIC **c** (1) : MEDIEVAL (2) : UNCOUTH, BARBAROUS **2 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a style of architecture developed in northern France and spreading through western Europe from the middle of the 12th century to the early 16th century that is characterized by the converging of weights and strains at isolated points upon slender vertical piers and counterbalancing buttresses and by pointed arches and vaulting **b** : of or relating to

an architectural style reflecting the influence of the medieval Gothic **3** *often not cap* : of or relating to a style of fiction characterized by the use of desolate or remote settings and macabre, mysterious, or violent incidents — **goth·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **Goth·ic·ness** \-ik-nəs\ *n*

²Gothic *n* **1** : the East Germanic language of the Goths — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **2** : Gothic art style or decoration; *specif* : the Gothic architectural style **3 a** : BLACK LETTER **b** : SANS SERIF **4** : a work of fiction in the gothic style

Gothic arch *n* : a pointed arch; *esp* : one with a joint instead of a keystone at its apex

Goth·i·cism \'gäth-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : barbarous lack of taste or elegance **2** : conformity to or practice of Gothic style — **Goth·i·cist** \-səst\ *n*

goth·i·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** *often cap* : to make Gothic

gö·thite *var of* GOETHITE

go through *vi* **1** : to continue firmly or obstinately to the end ⟨I was *going through* with it if it killed me —A. W. Long⟩ **2 a** : to receive approval or sanction : PASS **b** : to come to a desired or satisfactory conclusion

gotten *past part of* GET

gouache \'gwäsh\ *n* [F, deriv. of L *aquatio* act of fetching water, fr. *aquatus*, pp. of *aquari* to fetch water, fr. *aqua* water — more at ISLAND] **1** : a method of painting with opaque watercolors **2 a** : a picture painted by gouache **b** : the pigment used in gouache

Gou·da \'gau̇d-ə, 'güd-\ *n* [*Gouda*, Netherlands] : a mild pressed cheese of Dutch origin that is similar to Edam but contains more fat

¹gouge \'gau̇j\ *n* [ME *gowge*, fr. MF *gouge*, fr. LL *gulbia*, of Celt origin; akin to OIr *gulban* sting] **1** : a chisel with a concavo-convex cross section **2 a** : the act of gouging **b** : a groove or cavity scooped out **3** : an excessive or improper exaction : EXTORTION

²gouge *vt* **gouged; goug·ing** **1** : to scoop out with or as if with a gouge **2 a** : to force out (an eye) with the thumb **b** : to thrust the thumb into the eye of **3** : to subject to extortion or undue exaction : OVERCHARGE — **goug·er** *n*

gou·lash \'gü-ˌläsh, -ˌlash\ *n* [Hung *gulyás* herdsman's stew] **1** : a beef stew made with assorted vegetables and paprika **2** : a round in bridge played with hands produced by a redistribution of previously dealt cards **3** : a mixture of heterogeneous elements : JUMBLE

go under *vi* : to be overwhelmed, destroyed, or defeated : FAIL

gourd \'gō(ə)rd, 'gȯ(ə)rd, 'gu̇(ə)rd\ *n* [ME *gourde*, fr. MF, fr. L *cucurbita*] **1** : any of a family (Cucurbitaceae, the gourd family) of chiefly herbaceous tendril-bearing vines including the cucumber, melon, squash, and pumpkin **2** : the fruit of a gourd : PEPO; *esp* : any of various hard-rinded inedible fruits of plants of two genera (*Lagenaria* and *Cucurbita*) often used for ornament or for vessels and utensils

gourde \'gu̇(ə)rd\ *n* [AmerF] — see MONEY table

gour·mand \'gu̇(ə)r-ˌmänd, -mənd\ *n* [MF *gourmant*] **1** : one who is excessively fond of eating and drinking **2** : one who is heartily interested in good food and drink ***syn*** see EPICURE — **gour·mand·ism** \'gu̇(ə)r-ˌmän-ˌdiz-əm, -mən-\ *n*

gour·met \'gu̇(ə)r-ˌmā, gu̇r-'\ *n* [F, fr. MF, alter. of *gromet* boy servant, vintner's assistant, fr. ME *grom* groom] : a connoisseur of food and drink ***syn*** see EPICURE — **gourmet** *adj*

gout \'gau̇t\ *n* [ME *goute*, fr. OF, gout, drop, fr. L *gutta* drop] **1** : a metabolic disease marked by a painful inflammation of the joints, deposits of urates in and around the joints, and usu. an excessive amount of uric acid in the blood **2** : a mass or aggregate of something fluid or sticky ⟨~s of lava⟩ — **gouty** \-ē\ *adj*

gov *abbr* **1** government **2** governor

gov·ern \'gəv-ərn\ *vb* [ME *governen*, fr. OF *governer*, fr. L *gubernare* to steer, govern, fr. Gk *kybernan*] *vt* **1 a** : to exercise continuous sovereign authority over; *esp* : to control and direct the making and administration of policy in **b** : to rule without sovereign power and usu. without having the authority to determine basic policy **2 a** *archaic* : MANIPULATE **b** : to control the speed of (as a machine) esp. by automatic means **3 a** : to control, direct, or strongly influence the actions and conduct of **b** : to exert a determining or guiding influence in or over ⟨income must ~ expenditure⟩ ⟨availability often ~s choice⟩ **c** : to hold in check : RESTRAIN **4** : to require (a word) to be in a certain case ⟨in English a transitive verb ~s a noun in the common case⟩ **5** : to serve as a precedent or deciding principle for ⟨habits and customs that ~ human decisions⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to prevail or have decisive influence : CONTROL **2** : to exercise authority — **gov·ern·able** \-ər-nə-bəl\ *adj*

syn GOVERN, RULE *shared meaning element* : to exercise power and authority in controlling. GOVERN implies a keeping in a straight course, under proper control, or in smooth operation for the good of the individual or the whole ⟨you must learn to *govern* your temper⟩ ⟨the rules that *govern* creative writing⟩ ⟨to *govern* is to organize the common activities of a society . . . power rests on organization; where there is no organization there is no government —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ RULE is likely to stress power to lay down laws which determine the action of others or to issue commands which must be obeyed, and it may suggest arbitrary or capricious exercise of power ⟨resolved to ruin or to *rule* the state —John Dryden⟩ ⟨ [testified] that . . . police stood idly by while white toughs *ruled* with bricks and clubs —*Springfield (Mass.) Union*⟩

gov·er·nance \'gəv-ər-nən(t)s\ *n* : GOVERNMENT

gov·ern·ess \'gəv-ər-nəs\ *n* **1** : a woman who governs **2** : a woman entrusted with the care and supervision of a child esp. in a private household **3** : the wife of a governor

gov·ern·essy \-nə-sē\ *adj* : having the characteristics of or suggesting a governess

gov·ern·ment \'gəv-ər(n)·mənt, 'gəv-ᵊm-ənt\ *n, often attrib* **1** *obs* : moral conduct or behavior : DISCRETION **2** : the act or process of governing; *specif* : authoritative direction or control **3 a** : the office, authority, or function of governing **b** *obs* : the term during which a governing official holds office **4 a** : the continuous exercise of authority over and the performance of functions for a political unit : RULE **b** : the political function of policy making as distinguished from the administration of policy decisions **5 a** : the organization, machinery, or agency through which a political unit exercises authority and performs functions and which is usu. classified according to the distribution of power within it **b** : the complex of political institutions, laws, and customs through which the function of governing is carried out in a specific political unit **6** : the body of persons that constitutes the governing authority of a political unit or organization: as **a** : the officials comprising the governing body of a political unit and constituting the organization as an active agency **b** *cap* : the executive branch of the U.S. federal government including the political officials and usu. the permanent civil service employees **c** *cap* : a small group of persons holding simultaneously the principal political executive offices of a nation or other political unit and being responsible for the direction and supervision of public affairs: (1) : such a group in a parliamentary system constituted by the cabinet or by the ministry (2) : ADMINISTRATION 4b **7** : POLITICAL SCIENCE — **gov·ern·men·tal** \ˌgəv-ər(n)-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* — **gov·ern·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

gov·ern·men·tal·ism \ˌgəv-ər(n)-'ment-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a theory advocating extension of the sphere and degree of government activity **2** : the tendency toward extension of the role of government — **gov·ern·men·tal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*

gov·ern·men·tal·ize \-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to subject to the regulation or control of a government

government note *n* : a currency note issued by a government

gov·er·nor \'gəv(-ə)-nər *also* 'gᵊv-ər-nər\ *n* **1** : one that governs: as **a** : one that exercises authority esp. over an area or group **b** : an official elected or appointed to act as ruler, chief executive, or nominal head of a political unit **c** : COMMANDANT **d** : the managing director and usu. the principal officer of an institution or organization **e** : a member of a group that directs or controls an institution or society **2** : TUTOR **3 a** *slang* : one (as a father, guardian, or employer) looked upon as governing **b** : MISTER, SIR — usu. used as a term of address **4 a** : an attachment to a machine (as a gasoline engine) for automatic control or limitation of speed **b** : a device giving automatic control (as of pressure or temperature) — **gov·er·nor·ate** \-ət, -ˌāt\ *n*

governor–general *n, pl* **governors–general** *or* **governor–generals** : a governor of high rank; *esp* : one who governs a large territory or has deputy governors under him — **governor–generalship** *n*

governor's council *n* : an executive or legislative council chosen to advise or assist a governor

gov·er·nor·ship \'gəv(-ə)-nər-ˌship *also* 'gəv-ər-\ *n* **1** : the office of governor **2** : the period of incumbency of a governor

govt *abbr* government

gow·an \'gau̇-ən\ *n* [prob. alter. of ME *gollan*] *chiefly Scot* : DAISY 1; *broadly* : a white or yellow field flower

gow·any \-ə-nē\ *adj, chiefly Scot* : abounding in gowans ⟨sweeter than ~ glens —Allan Ramsay †1758⟩

gown \'gau̇n\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *goune*, fr. LL *gunna*, a fur or leather garment] **1 a** : a loose flowing outer garment formerly worn by men **b** : a distinctive robe worn by a professional or academic person **c** : a woman's dress **d** (1) : DRESSING GOWN (2) : NIGHTGOWN **e** : a coverall worn in an operating room **2 a** : an office or profession symbolized by a distinctive robe **b** : the body of students and faculty of a college or university ⟨powerful rivalry in . . . society between town and ~ —Robertson Davies⟩

gowns·man \'gau̇nz-mən\ *n* : a professional or academic person

gox \'gäks\ *n* [gaseous *oxygen*] : gaseous oxygen

goy \'gȯi\ *n, pl* **goy·im** \'gȯi-əm\ *or* **goys** [Yiddish, fr. Heb *gōy* people, nation] : GENTILE 1 — **goy·ish** \'gȯi-ish\ *adj*

gp *abbr* group

GP *abbr* **1** general practice; general practitioner **2** geometric progression

GPA *abbr* grade-point average

GPD *abbr* gallons per day

GPM *abbr* gallons per minute

GPO *abbr* **1** general post office **2** Government Printing Office

GPS *abbr* gallons per second

GQ *abbr* general quarters

gr *abbr* **1** grade **2** grain **3** gram **4** gravity **5** gross

Gr *abbr* Greece; Greek

Graaf·ian follicle \ˌgräf-ē-ən-, ˌgraf-\ *n* [Regnier de *Graaf* †1673 D anatomist] : a vesicle in a mammal ovary enclosing a developing egg

¹grab \'grab\ *vb* **grabbed; grab·bing** [obs. D or LG *grabben*; akin to ME *graspen* to grasp, Skt *gṛbhṇāti* he seizes] *vt* **1** : to take or seize by a sudden motion or grasp **2** : to obtain unscrupulously **3** : to take hastily **4** : to forcefully engage the attention of ⟨the technique of *grabbing* an audience —Pauline Kael⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to make a grab : SNATCH **2** *of a horse* : OVERREACH ***syn*** see TAKE — **grab·ber** *n*

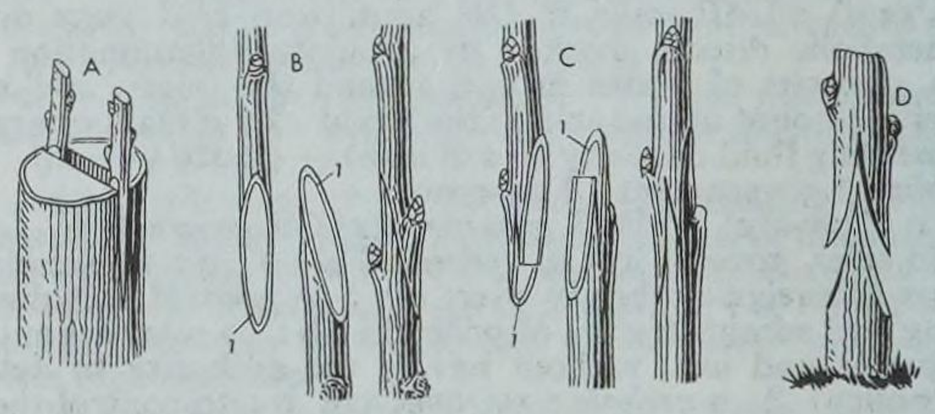
²grab *n* **1 a** : a sudden snatch **b** : an unlawful or unscrupulous seizure **c** : something grabbed **2 a** : a device for clutching an object **b** : CLAMSHELL — **up for grabs** : available for anyone to take or win

³grab *adj* **1** : intended to be grabbed ⟨a ~ rail⟩ **2** : taken at random ⟨~ samples of rocks⟩

⁴grab *n* [Ar *ghurāb*, lit., raven] : an oriental coasting ship of light draft and broad beam having lateen sails and usu. two masts

grab bag *n* **1** : a receptacle (as a bag) containing small articles which are to be drawn (as at a party or fair) without being seen **2**

: something resembling a grab bag (as in providing an assortment of items)
grab·ble \'grab-əl\ *vi* **grab·bled; grab·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [D *grabbelen*, fr. MD, freq. of *grabben*] **1** : to search with the hand : GROPE **2** : to lie or fall prone : SPRAWL — **grab·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
grab·by \'grab-ē\ *adj* **grab·bi·er; -est** : tending to grab : GRASPING, GREEDY
gra·ben \'gräb-ən\ *n* [G, ditch] : a depressed segment of the earth's crust bounded on at least two sides by faults
¹grace \'grās\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *gratia* favor, charm, thanks, fr. *gratus* pleasing, grateful; akin to OHG *queran* to sigh, Skt *gṛṇāti* he praises] **1 a** : unmerited divine assistance given man for his regeneration or sanctification **b** : a state of sanctification enjoyed through divine grace **c** : a virtue coming from God **2** : a short prayer at a meal asking a blessing or giving thanks **3 a** : disposition to or an act or instance of kindness or clemency **b** *archaic* : MERCY, PARDON **c** : a special favor : PRIVILEGE ⟨each in his place, by right, not ~, shall rule his heritage —Rudyard Kipling⟩ **d** : a temporary exemption : REPRIEVE **e** : APPROVAL, FAVOR ⟨stayed in his good ~*s*⟩ **4 a** : a charming trait or accomplishment **b** : a pleasingly graceful appearance or effect : CHARM **c** : ease and suppleness of movement or bearing **5** : a musical trill, turn, or appoggiatura **6** — used as a title of address or reference for a duke, a duchess, or an archbishop **7 a** : sense of propriety or right **b** : the quality or state of being considerate or thoughtful **8** *pl, cap* : three sister goddesses in Greek mythology who are the givers of charm and beauty ***syn*** see MERCY
²grace *vt* **graced; grac·ing** **1** : to confer dignity or honor on **2** : ADORN, EMBELLISH
grace cup *n* : a cup used in drinking a final health after the grace at the end of a meal; *also* : a health drunk from it
grace·ful \'grās-fəl\ *adj* : displaying grace in form or action : pleasing or attractive in line, proportion, or movement — **grace·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **grace·ful·ness** *n*
grace·less \'grā-sləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking in divine grace : IMMORAL, UNREGENERATE **2 a** : lacking a sense of propriety **b** : devoid of attractive qualities **3** : artistically inept or unbeautiful — **grace·less·ly** *adv* — **grace·less·ness** *n*
grace note *n* : a musical note added as an ornament; *esp* : APPOGGIATURA
grac·ile \'gras-əl, -ˌīl\ *adj* [L *gracilis*] **1** : SLENDER, SLIGHT **2** : GRACEFUL — **grac·ile·ness** *n* — **gra·cil·i·ty** \gra-'sil-ət-ē\ *n*
gra·ci·o·so \ˌgräs-ē-'ō-(ˌ)sō, -(ˌ)zō\ *n, pl* **-sos** [Sp, fr. *gracioso*, adj., agreeable, amusing, fr. L *gratiosus*] : a buffoon in Spanish comedy
gra·cious \'grā-shəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *gracieus*, fr. L *gratiosus* enjoying favor, agreeable, fr. *gratia*] **1 a** *obs* : GODLY **b** *archaic* : PLEASING, ACCEPTABLE **2 a** : marked by kindness and courtesy **b** : GRACEFUL **c** : marked by tact and delicacy : URBANE **d** : characterized by charm, good taste, and generosity of spirit **3** : MERCIFUL, COMPASSIONATE — used conventionally of royalty and high nobility — **gra·cious·ly** *adv* — **gra·cious·ness** *n*
syn GRACIOUS, CORDIAL, AFFABLE, GENIAL, SOCIABLE *shared meaning element* : markedly pleasant and easy in social contacts ***ant*** ungracious
grack·le \'grak-əl\ *n* [deriv. of L *graculus* jackdaw] **1** : any of various Old World starlings (as the hill mynas) **2** : any of several rather large American blackbirds (family Icteridae) having glossy iridescent black plumage
grad *abbr* graduate; graduated
gra·date \'grā-ˌdāt\ *vb* **gra·dat·ed; gra·dat·ing** [back-formation fr. *gradation*] *vi* : to shade into the next color, note, or stage ~ *vt* : to arrange in a progression, scale, or series
gra·da·tion \grā-'dā-shən, grə-\ *n* **1 a** : a series forming successive stages **b** : a step or place in an ordered scale **2** : an advance by regular degrees **3** : the act or process of grading **4** : a gradual passing from one tint or shade to another (as in a painting) **5** : ABLAUT — **gra·da·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **gra·da·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
¹grade \'grād\ *n* [F, fr. L *gradus* step, degree; akin to L *gradi* to step, go, Lith *gridyti* to go, wander] **1 a** (1) : a stage in a process (2) : a position in a scale of ranks or qualities **b** : a class organized for the work of a particular year of a school course **c** : a military or naval rank **d** : a degree of severity in illness ⟨~ III carcinoma⟩ **2 a** : a class of things of the same stage or degree **b** : a mark indicating a degree of accomplishment in school **c** : a standard of food quality ⟨the government has established ~*s* for meat⟩ **3 a** : the degree of inclination of a road or slope; *also* : a sloping road **b** : a datum or reference level; *esp* : ground level **c** : ELEVATION 1c **4** : a domestic animal with one parent purebred and the other of inferior breeding **5** *pl* : the elementary school system ⟨taught in the ~*s* for 19 years⟩ — **grade·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²grade *vb* **grad·ed; grad·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to arrange in grades : SORT **b** : to arrange in a scale or series **c** : to assign to a grade or assign a grade to **2** : to level off to a smooth horizontal or sloping surface **3** : to improve by breeding females to purebred males ~ *vi* **1 a** : to form a series **b** : BLEND **2** : to be of a particular grade — **grad·able** \'grād-ə-bəl\ *adj*
-grade \ˌgrād\ *adj comb form* [F, fr. L *-gradus*, fr. *gradi*] : walking ⟨planti*grade*⟩
grade crossing *n* : a crossing of highways, railroad tracks, or pedestrian walks or combinations of these on the same level
grade point *n* : QUALITY POINT
grade point average *n* : QUALITY POINT AVERAGE
grad·er \'grād-ər\ *n* **1** : one that grades **2** : a machine for leveling earth **3** : a pupil in an elementary or secondary school grade ⟨a fifth ~⟩
grade school *n* : ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
grade separation *n* : a highway or railroad crossing using an underpass or overpass
gra·di·ent \'grād-ē-ənt\ *n* [L *gradient-, gradiens*, prp. of *gradi*] **1 a** : the rate of regular or graded ascent or descent : INCLINATION **b** : a part sloping upward or downward **2** : change in the value of a quantity with change in a given variable and esp. per unit distance in a specified direction ⟨vertical temperature ~⟩ **3** : the vector sum of the partial derivatives with respect to the three coordinate variables *x*, *y*, and *z* of a scalar quantity whose value varies from point to point **4** : a graded difference in physiological activity along an axis (as of the body or an embryonic field) **5** : change in response with distance from the stimulus
gra·din \'grād-ᵊn\ *or* **gra·dine** \'grā-ˌdēn, grə-'\ *n* [F *gradin*] : one of a series of tiered steps or seats
gra·di·om·e·ter \ˌgrād-ē-'äm-ət-ər\ *n* [*gradient* + *-o-* + *-meter*] : an instrument for measuring the gradient of a physical quantity (as the earth's magnetic field)
¹grad·u·al \'graj-(ə-)wəl, 'graj-əl\ *n, often cap* [ML *graduale*, fr. L *gradus* step, fr. its being sung on the steps of the altar] **1** : a pair of verses (as from the Psalms) proper after the Epistle in the Mass **2** : a book containing the choral parts of the Mass
²gradual *adj* [ML *gradualis*, fr. L *gradus*] **1** : proceeding by steps or degrees **2** : moving, changing, or developing by fine, slight, or often imperceptible degrees — **grad·u·al·ly** *adv* — **grad·u·al·ness** *n*
grad·u·al·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the policy of approaching a desired end by gradual stages — **grad·u·al·ist** \-əst\ *n or adj*
grad·u·and \ˌgraj-ə-'wand\ *n* [ML *graduandus*, gerundive of *graduare*] *Brit* : one about to graduate : a candidate for a degree
¹grad·u·ate \'graj-(ə-)wət, -əˌwāt\ *n* **1** : a holder of an academic degree or diploma **2** : a graduated cup, cylinder, or flask for measuring
²graduate *adj* **1** : holding an academic degree or diploma **2** : of, relating to, or engaged in studies beyond the first or bachelor's degree ⟨~ school⟩ ⟨a ~ student⟩
³grad·u·ate \'graj-ə-ˌwāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *graduare*, fr. L *gradus* step, degree] *vt* **1** : to grant an academic degree or diploma to **2** : to admit to a particular standing or grade **3 a** : to mark with degrees of measurement **b** : to divide into grades or intervals ~ *vi* **1** : to receive an academic degree or diploma **2** : to pass from one stage of experience, proficiency, or prestige to a usu. higher one **3** : to change gradually — **grad·u·a·tor** \-ˌwāt-ər\ *n*
grad·u·a·tion \ˌgraj-ə-'wā-shən\ *n* **1** : a mark on an instrument or vessel indicating degrees or quantity; *also* : these marks **2 a** : the award or acceptance of an academic degree or diploma **b** : COMMENCEMENT **3** : arrangement in degrees or ranks
Graeco- — see GRECO-
graf·fi·to \gra-'fēt-(ˌ)ō, grə-, grä-\ *n, pl* **-ti** \-(ˌ)ē\ [It] : an inscription or drawing made on a rock or wall
¹graft \'graft\ *vb* [ME *graften*, alter. of *graffen*, fr. *graffe* graft, fr. MF *grafe*, fr. ML *graphium*, fr. L, stylus, fr. Gk *grapheion*, fr. *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] *vt* **1 a** : to cause (a scion) to unite with a stock; *also* : to unite (plants or scion and stock) to form a graft **b** : to propagate (a plant) by grafting **2 a** : to unite closely **b** : to attach (a chemical unit) to a main molecular chain **3** : to implant (living tissue) surgically **4** : to get (illicit gain) by graft ~ *vi* **1** : to become grafted **2** : to perform grafting **3** : to practice graft — **graft·er** *n*
²graft *n* **1 a** : a grafted plant **b** : SCION 1 **c** : the point of insertion of a scion upon a stock **2 a** : the act of grafting **b** : something grafted; *specif* : living tissue used in grafting **3** : the acquisition of gain (as money) in dishonest or questionable ways; *also* : illegal or unfair gain



graft 1c: *A* cleft, *B* splice, *C* whip, *D* saddle, *1* cambium

graft·age \'graf-tij\ *n* : the principles and practice of grafting
gra·ham cracker \ˌgrā-əm-, ˌgra(-ə)m-\ *n* [*graham flour*] a slightly sweet cracker made of whole wheat flour
graham flour *n* [Sylvester *Graham* †1851 Am dietary reformer] : whole wheat flour
grail \'grā(ə)l\ *n* [ME *graal*, fr. MF, bowl, grail, fr. ML *gradalis*] **1** *cap* : the cup or platter used according to medieval legend by Christ at the Last Supper and thereafter the object of knightly quests — called also *Holy Grail* **2** : the object of an extended or difficult quest ⟨the twin ~*s* of American life, Money and Success —Richard Pollak⟩
¹grain \'grān\ *n* [ME, partly fr. MF *grain* cereal grain, fr. L *granum*; partly fr. MF *graine* seed, kermes, fr. L *grana*, pl. of *granum* — more at CORN] **1 a** (1) *obs* : a single small hard seed (2) : a seed or fruit of a cereal grass : CARYOPSIS **b** : the seeds or fruits of various food plants including the cereal grasses and in commercial and statutory usage other plants (as the soybean) **c** : plants producing grain **2 a** : a small hard particle or crystal (as of sand or salt) **b** : a minute portion or particle **c** : the least amount possible ⟨not a ~ of truth in what he said⟩ **d** : fine crystallization (as of sugar) **3 a** : kermes or a scarlet dye made from it **b** : cochineal or a brilliant scarlet dye made from it **c** : a fast dye **d** *archaic* : COLOR, TINT **4 a** : a granulated surface or appearance **b** : the outer or hair side of a skin or hide **5** : a unit of weight based on the weight of a grain of wheat taken as an average of the weight of grains from the middle of the ear — see WEIGHT table **6 a** : the stratification of the wood fibers in a piece of wood **b** : a texture due to constituent particles or fibers ⟨the ~ of a rock⟩ **7** : tactile quality **8 a** : natural disposition : TEMPER **b** : a basic or characteristic quality ⟨anti-intellectual . . . doctrines are very much in the American ~ —R. W. Noland⟩ — **grained** \'grānd\

adj — **against the grain** : counter to one's inclination, disposition, or feeling — **with a grain of salt** : with a skeptical attitude ⟨take his predictions *with a grain of salt*⟩

²grain *vt* **1** : INGRAIN **2** : to form into grains : GRANULATE **3** : to paint in imitation of the grain of wood or stone ~ *vi* : to become granular : GRANULATE — **grain·er** *n*

grain alcohol *n* : ALCOHOL 1

grain elevator *n* : ELEVATOR 1c

grain·field \'grān-ˌfēld\ *n* : a field where grain is grown

grain rust *n* : a rust that attacks a cereal grass

grains of paradise : the pungent seeds of a West African plant (*Aframomum melegueta* of the family Zingiberaceae) that are used as a spice

grain sorghum *n* : any of several sorghums cultivated primarily for grain — compare SORGO

grainy \'grā-nē\ *adj* **grain·i·er; -est** **1** : consisting of or resembling grains : GRANULAR **2** : having or resembling the grain of wood — **grain·i·ness** *n*

¹gram \'gram\ *n* [obs. Pg (now *grão*), grain, fr. L *granum*] : any of several leguminous plants (as a chick-pea) grown esp. for their seed

²gram *or* **gramme** \'gram\ *n* [F *gramme*, fr. LL *gramma*, a small weight, fr. Gk *grammat-*, *gramma* letter, writing, a small weight, fr. *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] : a metric unit of mass and weight equal to $^1/_{1000}$ kilogram and nearly equal to one cubic centimeter of water at its maximum density — see METRIC SYSTEM table

³gram *n* [by shortening & alter.] : GRANDMOTHER

⁴gram *abbr* grammar; grammatical

-gram \ˌgram\ *n comb form* [L *-gramma*, fr. Gk, fr. *gramma*] : drawing : writing : record ⟨chrono*gram*⟩ ⟨tele*gram*⟩

grama \'gram-ə\ *n* [Sp] : a pasture grass (genus *Bouteloua*) of the western U.S. — called also *grama grass*

gram·a·rye \'gram-ə-rē\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *gramaire* grammar, grammar book, book of sorcery] : MAGIC

gram atom *n* : the atomic weight of an element in grams — called also *gram-atomic weight*

gram calorie *n* : CALORIE 1a

gram equivalent *n* : the quantity of an element, radical, or compound that has a weight in grams equal to the equivalent weight

gra·mer·cy \grə-'mər-sē\ *interj* [ME *grand mercy*, fr. MF *grand merci* great thanks] *archaic* — used to express gratitude or astonishment

gram·i·ci·din \ˌgram-ə-'sīd-ᵊn\ *n* [*gram*-positive + *-i-* + *-cide* + *-in*] : a toxic crystalline polypeptide antibiotic produced by a soil bacterium (*Bacillus brevis*) and used against gram-positive bacteria in local infections

gra·min·e·ous \grə-'min-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *gramineus*, fr. *gramin-*, *gramen* grass] : of or relating to a grass — **gra·min·e·ous·ness** *n*

gram·i·niv·o·rous \ˌgram-ə-'niv-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *gramin-*, *gramen*] : feeding on grass

gram·mar \'gram-ər\ *n* [ME *gramere*, fr. MF *gramaire*, modif. of L *grammatica*, fr. Gk *grammatikē*, fr. fem. of *grammatikos* of letters, fr. *grammat-*, *gramma*] **1 a** : the study of the classes of words, their inflections, and their functions and relations in the sentence **b** : a study of what is to be preferred and what avoided in inflection and syntax **2** : the characteristic system of inflections and syntax of a language **3 a** : a grammar textbook **b** : speech or writing evaluated according to its conformity to grammatical rules **4** : the principles or rules of an art, science, or technique ⟨a ~ of the theater⟩ — **gram·mar·i·an** \grə-'mer-ē-ən, -'mar-\ *n*

grammar school *n* **1 a** : a secondary school emphasizing Latin and Greek in preparation for college **b** : a British college preparatory school **2** : a school intermediate between primary school and high school **3** : ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

gram·mat·i·cal \grə-'mat-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to grammar **2** : conforming to the rules of grammar — **gram·mat·i·cal·i·ty** \-ˌmat-ə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **gram·mat·i·cal·ly** \-'mat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **gram·mat·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

grammatical meaning *n* : the part of meaning that varies from one inflectional form to another (as from *plays* to *played* to *playing*) — compare LEXICAL MEANING

gram molecule *n* : the quantity of a compound or element that has a weight in grams numerically equal to the molecular weight — called also *gram-molecular weight*

Gram·my \'gram-ē\ *service mark* — used for the annual presentation of a statuette for notable achievement in the recording industry

gram–neg·a·tive \'gram-'neg-ət-iv\ *adj* : not holding the purple dye when stained by Gram's method — used chiefly of bacteria

gram·o·phone \'gram-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* [fr. *Gramophone*, a trademark] : PHONOGRAPH

gramp \'gramp\ *or* **gramps** \'gram(p)s\ *n, pl* **gramps** [by shortening & alter.] : GRANDFATHER

gram–pos·i·tive \'gram-'päz-ət-iv, -'päz-tiv\ *adj* : holding the purple dye when stained by Gram's method — used chiefly of bacteria

gram·pus \'gram-pəs\ *n* [alter. of ME *graspey*, *grapay*, fr. MF *graspeis*, fr. *gras* fat (fr. L *crassus*) + *peis* fish, fr. L *piscis* — more at FISH] **1** : a cetacean (*Grampus griseus*) related to the blackfish; *broadly* : any of various small cetaceans (as the blackfish or killer whale) **2** : the giant whip scorpion (*Mastigoproctus giganteus*) of the southern U.S.

Gram's method \'gramz-\ *n* [Hans C. J. *Gram* †1938 Dan physician] : a method for the differential staining of bacteria by which some species remain colored and some are decolorized by treatment with Gram's solution after staining with gentian violet

Gram's solution *n* : a watery solution of iodine and the iodide of potassium used in staining bacteria by Gram's method

gram–vari·able \'gram-'ver-ē-ə-bəl, -'var-\ *adj* : staining irregularly or inconsistently by Gram's method

grana *pl of* GRANUM

gran·a·dil·la \ˌgran-ə-'dil-ə, -'dē-(y)ə\ *n* [Sp] : the oblong fruit of various passionflowers (esp. *Passiflora quadrangularis* of tropical America) widely used as a dessert

gra·na·ry \'grān-(ə-)rē, 'gran-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [L *granarium*, fr. *granum* grain] **1 a** : a storehouse for threshed grain **b** : a region producing grain in abundance **2** : a chief source or storehouse

¹grand \'grand\ *adj* [MF, large, great, grand, fr. L *grandis*] **1 a** : having more importance than others : FOREMOST **b** : having higher rank than others bearing the same general designation ⟨the ~ champion⟩ **2 a** : INCLUSIVE, COMPREHENSIVE ⟨the ~ total of all money paid out⟩ **b** : DEFINITIVE, INCONTROVERTIBLE ⟨~ example⟩ **3** : MAIN, PRINCIPAL **4** : large and striking in size, scope, extent, or conception **5 a** : LAVISH, SUMPTUOUS ⟨a ~ celebration⟩ **b** : marked by a regal form and dignity **c** : fine or imposing in appearance or impression **d** : LOFTY, SUBLIME ⟨writing in the ~ style⟩ **6 a** : pretending to social superiority : SUPERCILIOUS **b** : intended to impress ⟨a man of ~ gestures and pretentious statements⟩ **7** : very good : WONDERFUL ⟨a ~ time⟩ ⟨a ~ old man⟩ — **grand·ly** \'gran-(d)lē\ *adv* — **grand·ness** \'gran(d)-nəs\ *n*

syn GRAND, MAGNIFICENT, IMPOSING, STATELY, MAJESTIC, GRANDIOSE *shared meaning element* : large and impressive

²grand *n* **1** : GRAND PIANO **2** *slang* : a thousand dollars

gran·dam \'gran-ˌdam, -dəm\ *or* **gran·dame** \-ˌdām, -dəm\ *n* [ME *graundam*, fr. AF *graund dame*, lit., great lady] **1** : GRANDMOTHER **2** : an old woman

grand·aunt \'gran-'dant, -'dänt\ *n* : the aunt of one's father or mother — called also *great-aunt*

grand·ba·by \'gran(d)-ˌbā-bē\ *n* : an infant grandchild

grand·child \-ˌchīld\ *n* : the child of one's son or daughter

grand·dad *or* **gran·dad** \'gran-ˌdad\ *n* : GRANDFATHER

grand·dad·dy \-ˌdad-ē\ *also* **gran·dad·dy** *n* **1** : GRANDFATHER **2** : one that is the first, earliest, most ancient, or most venerable of its kind ⟨the ~ of . . . modern technical analysis —J. W. Schulz⟩

grand·daugh·ter \-ˌdȯt-ər\ *n* : the daughter of one's son or daughter

grand duchess *n* **1** : the wife or widow of a grand duke **2** : a woman who rules a grand duchy in her own right

grand duchy *n* : the territory or dominion of a grand duke or grand duchess

grand duke *n* **1** : the sovereign duke of any of various European states **2** : a son or male descendant of a Russian czar in the male line

grande dame \'grän-'däm, grän(d)-dȧm\ *n, pl* **grandes dames** \-'däm(z), -'dȧm(z)\ *also* **grande dames** *same*\ [F, lit., great lady] : a usu. elderly woman of great prestige or ability

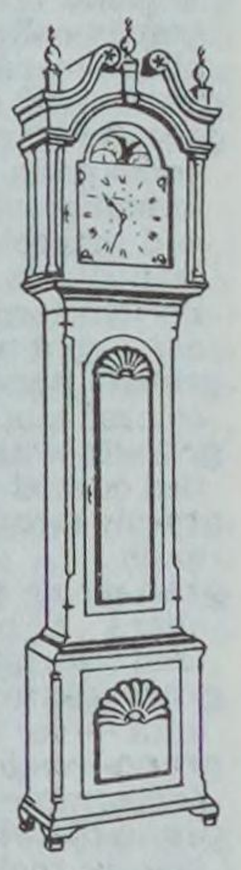
gran·dee \gran-'dē\ *n* [Sp *grande*, fr. *grande*, adj., large, great, fr. L *grandis*] : a man of elevated rank or station; *esp* : a Spanish or Portuguese nobleman of the first rank

gran·deur \'gran-jər, -ˌjůə(r), -ˌd(y)ůə(r), -d(y)ər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *grand*] **1** : the quality or state of being grand : MAGNIFICENCE ⟨the glory that was Greece and the ~ that was Rome —E. A. Poe⟩ **2** : an instance or example of grandeur

grand·fa·ther \'gran(d)-ˌfäth-ər\ *n* : the father of one's father or mother; *also* : ANCESTOR 1a — **grand·fa·ther·ly** \-lē\ *adj*

grandfather clause *n* : a clause creating an exemption based on circumstances previously existing; *esp* : a provision in several southern state constitutions designed to enfranchise poor whites and disfranchise Negroes by waiving high voting requirements for descendants of men voting before 1867

grandfather clock *n* [fr. the song *My Grandfather's Clock* (1876) by Henry C. Work] : a tall pendulum clock standing directly on the floor — called also *grandfather's clock*



grandfather clock

grand fir *n* : a lofty tree (*Abies grandis*) of the northwestern Pacific coastal region of No. America with cylindrical greenish cones and soft wood

Grand Gui·gnol \ˌgrän-gēn-'yȯl, -'yōl\ *n* [*Le Grand Guignol*, small theater in Montmartre, Paris, specializing in such performances] : dramatic entertainment featuring the gruesome or horrible — **Grand Guignol** *adj*

gran·di·flo·ra \ˌgran-də-'flōr-ə, -'flȯr-\ *n* [NL, fr. L *grandis* great + *flor-*, *flos* flower — more at BLOW] : a bush rose derived from crosses of floribunda and hybrid tea roses and characterized by production of blooms both singly and in clusters on the same plant

gran·dil·o·quence \gran-'dil-ə-kwən(t)s\ *n* [prob. fr. MF, fr. L *grandiloquus* using lofty language, fr. *grandis* + *loqui* to speak] : lofty or pompous eloquence : BOMBAST — **gran·dil·o·quent** \-kwənt\ *adj* — **gran·dil·o·quent·ly** *adv*

gran·di·ose \'gran-dē-ˌōs, ˌgran-dē-'\ *adj* [F, fr. It *grandioso*, fr. *grande* great, fr. L *grandis*] **1** : impressive because of uncommon largeness, scope, effect, or grandeur **2** : characterized by affectation of grandeur or splendor or by absurd exaggeration

syn see GRAND — **gran·di·ose·ly** *adv* — **gran·di·ose·ness** *n* — **gran·di·os·i·ty** \ˌgran-dē-'äs-ət-ē\ *n*

gran·di·o·so \ˌgrän-dē-'ō-(ˌ)sō, ˌgran-, -(ˌ)zō\ *adv or adj* [It] : in a broad and noble style — used as a direction in music

grand jury *n* : a jury that examines accusations against persons charged with crime and if the evidence warrants makes formal charges on which the accused persons are later tried

Grand Lama *n* : DALAI LAMA

grand larceny *n* : larceny of property of a value greater than that fixed as constituting petit larceny

grand·ma \'gran(d)-ˌmä, -ˌmȯ; 'gram-ˌä, -ˌȯ\ *n* : GRANDMOTHER

grand mal \'gränd-ˌmäl, 'grä ⁿ-ˌmäl, -ˌmal; 'gran(d)-ˌmal\ *n* [F, lit., great illness] : severe epilepsy

grand march *n* : an opening ceremony at a ball that consists of a march participated in by all the guests
grand master *n* : an expert player (as of chess) who has consistently scored high in international competition
grand·moth·er \'gran(d)-ˌməth-ər\ *n* : the mother of one's father or mother; *also* : a female ancestor — **grand·moth·er·ly** \-lē\ *adj*
grandmother clock *n* : a pendulum clock that is about two thirds the size of a grandfather clock
grand·neph·ew \'gran(d)-'nef-(ˌ)yü, *chiefly Brit* -'nev-\ *n* : a grandson of one's brother or sister
grand·niece \-'nēs\ *n* : a granddaughter of one's brother or sister
grand opera *n* : opera in which the plot is elaborated as in serious drama and the entire text set to music
grand·pa \'gran(d)-ˌpä, -ˌpȯ; 'gram-ˌpä, -ˌpȯ\ *n* : GRANDFATHER
grand·par·ent \'gran(d)-ˌpar-ənt, -ˌper-\ *n* : a parent of one's father or mother — **grand·pa·ren·tal** \ˌgran(d)-pə-'rent-ᵊl\ *adj* — **grand·par·ent·hood** \'gran(d)-'par-ent-ˌhůd, -'per-\ *n*
Grand Penitentiary *n* : PENITENTIARY 1b
grand piano *n* : a piano with horizontal frame and strings — compare UPRIGHT PIANO
grand prix \'grän-'prē\ *n, pl* **grand prix** \-'prē(z)\ *often cap G&P* [F *Grand Prix de Paris*, an international horse race established 1863, lit., grand prize of Paris] : a long-distance auto race usu. over a road course; *specif* : one of a series of international formula car races
grand·sire \'gran(d)-ˌsī(ə)r\ *or* **grand·sir** \'gran(t)-sər\ *n* **1** *dial* : GRANDFATHER **2** *archaic* : FOREFATHER **3** *archaic* : an aged man
grand–slam *adj* : being a home run made with the bases loaded
grand slam *n* **1** : the winning of all the tricks in one hand of a card game (as bridge) **2** : a clean sweep or total success; *specif* : the winning of all the major or specified tournaments on a tour ⟨he twice won the tennis *grand slam*⟩
grand·son \'gran(d)-ˌsən\ *n* : the son of one's son or daughter
¹grand·stand \-ˌstand\ *n* **1** : a usu. roofed stand for spectators at a racecourse or stadium **2** : AUDIENCE
²grandstand *vi* : to play or act so as to impress onlookers — **grand·stand·er** *n*
grand tour *n* **1** : an extended tour of the Continent that was formerly a usual part of the education of young British gentlemen **2** : an extensive and usu. educational tour ⟨making the *grand tour* of the markets, quais, and parks —E. G. Robinson *b*1933⟩
grand touring car *n* : a usu. 2-passenger coupe — called also *grand tourer*
grand·un·cle \'gran-'dəŋ-kəl\ *n* : an uncle of one's father or mother
grange \'grānj\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *granica*, fr. L *granum* grain] **1** *archaic* : GRANARY, BARN **2** : FARM; *esp* : a farmhouse with outbuildings **3** *cap* : one of the lodges of a national fraternal association of farmers; *also* : the association itself
grang·er \'grān-jər\ *n* **1** *cap* : a member of a Grange **2** *chiefly West* : FARMER, HOMESTEADER
¹gran·ger·ism \'grān-jə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : the practice of grangerizing
²grang·er·ism \'grān-jə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : the policy or methods of the grangers
gran·ger·ize \'grān-jə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** [James *Granger* †1776 E biographer; fr. his method of illustrating his *Biographical History of England* (1769)] : to illustrate by inserting engravings or photographs collected from other books; *also* : to mutilate (books) to obtain material for such illustrations — **gran·ger·iz·er** *n*
grani- *comb form* [L, fr. *granum*] : grain : seeds ⟨*granivorous*⟩
gran·ite \'gran-ət\ *n* [It *granito*, fr. pp. of *granire* to granulate, fr. *grano* grain, fr. L *granum*] **1** : a very hard natural igneous rock formation of visibly crystalline texture formed essentially of quartz and orthoclase or microcline and used esp. for building and for monuments **2** : unyielding firmness or endurance ⟨the cold ~ of Puritan formalism —V. L. Parrington⟩ — **gran·ite·like** \-ət-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **gra·nit·ic** \gra-'nit-ik\ *adj* — **gran·it·oid** \'gran-ət-ˌȯid\ *adj*
granite paper *n* : a paper containing a small proportion of deeply colored mottling fibers
gran·ite·ware \'gran-ət-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : ironware with mottled enamel usu. in two tones of gray
gra·niv·o·rous \grə-'niv-(ə-)rəs, grā-\ *adj* : feeding on seeds or grain
gran·ny *or* **gran·nie** \'gran-ē\ *n, pl* **grannies** [by shortening & alter.] **1 a** : GRANDMOTHER **b** : a fussy person **2** *South & Midland* : MIDWIFE
granny knot *n* : an insecure knot often made instead of a square knot — see KNOT illustration
grano- *comb form* [G, fr. *granit*, fr. It *granito*] : granite : granitic ⟨*granogabbro*⟩
grano·di·o·rite \ˌgran-ō-'dī-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* : a granular intrusive quartzose igneous rock intermediate between granite and quartz diorite with plagioclase predominant over orthoclase — **grano·di·o·rit·ic** \-ˌdī-ə-'rit-ik\ *adj*
grano·lith \'gran-ə-ˌlith\ *n* : an artificial stone of crushed granite and cement — **grano·lith·ic** \ˌgran-ə-'lith-ik\ *adj*
grano·phyre \'gran-ə-ˌfī(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a porphyritic igneous rock chiefly of feldspar and quartz with granular groundmass — **grano·phyr·ic** \ˌgran-ə-'fir-ik\ *adj*
¹grant \'grant\ *vt* [ME *granten*, fr. OF *creanter, graanter*, fr. (assumed) VL *credentare*, fr. L *credent-, credens*, prp. of *credere* to believe — more at CREED] **1 a** : to consent to carry out for a person : allow fulfillment of ⟨~ a child his wish⟩ ⟨~ a request⟩ **b** : to permit as a right, privilege, or favor ⟨luggage allowances ~*ed* to passengers⟩ **2** : to bestow or transfer formally ⟨~ a scholarship to a student⟩ ; *specif* : to give the possession or title of by a deed **3 a** : to be willing to concede **b** : to assume to be true ⟨~*ing* that you are correct, you may find it hard to prove your point⟩ — **grant·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **grant·er** \-ər\ *n* — **grant·or** \'grant-ər, -ˌȯ(ə)r; grant-'ȯ(ə)r\ *n*

syn GRANT, CONCEDE, VOUCHSAFE, ACCORD, AWARD *shared meaning element* : to give as a favor or a right. One GRANTS, usually to a claimant or petitioner and often a subordinate, something sought that could be withheld ⟨acceding to her pleas, he *granted* her another period of six months in which to make good —*Current Biog.*⟩ One CONCEDES something when one yields it reluctantly in response to a rightful or compelling claim ⟨even his harshest critics *concede* him a rocklike integrity —*Time*⟩ One VOUCHSAFES something as a courtesy or an act of gracious condescension ⟨occasionally a true poet is *vouchsafed* to the world —Rumer Godden⟩ As often used in supplications, the word implies humility in the suppliant ⟨*vouchsafe*, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin —*Bk. of Com. Prayer*⟩ One ACCORDS to another what is due or proper ⟨children easily appreciate justice, and will readily *accord* to others what others *accord* to them —Bertrand Russell⟩ One AWARDS what is deserved or merited; typically the word implies careful weighing of pertinent factors ⟨*award* a contract to build a new school⟩ ⟨*award* a prize for the best essay⟩

²grant *n* **1** : the act of granting **2** : something granted; *esp* : a gift for a particular purpose **3 a** : a transfer of property by deed or writing **b** : the instrument by which such a transfer is made; *also* : the property so transferred **4** : a minor territorial division of Maine, New Hampshire, or Vermont orig. granted by the state to an individual or institution
grant·ee \ˌgrant-'ē\ *n* : one to whom a grant is made
grant–in–aid \ˌgrant-ᵊn-'ād\ *n, pl* **grants–in–aid** \ˌgran(t)-sə-'nād\ **1** : a grant or subsidy for public funds paid by a central to a local government in aid of a public undertaking **2** : a grant or subsidy to a school or individual for an educational or artistic project
grants·man \'gran(t)-smən\ *n* : a specialist in grantsmanship
grants·man·ship \-ˌship\ *n* [*grants* + *-manship*] : the art of obtaining grants (as for research)
granul- *or* **granuli-** *or* **granulo-** *comb form* [LL *granulum*] : granule ⟨*granulose*⟩
gran·u·lar \'gran-yə-lər\ *adj* : consisting of or appearing to consist of granules : having a grainy texture — **gran·u·lar·i·ty** \ˌgran-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **gran·u·lar·ly** \'gran-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*
gran·u·late \'gran-yə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** *vt* : to form or crystallize into grains or granules ~ *vi* **1** : to collect into grains or granules **2** : to form granulations ⟨an open *granulating* wound⟩ — **gran·u·la·tive** \-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **gran·u·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
gran·u·la·tion \ˌgran-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of granulating : the condition of being granulated **2** : one of the minute red granules of new capillaries formed on the surface of a wound in healing **3** : GRANULE 2
granulation tissue *n* : tissue made up of granulations that temporarily replaces lost tissue in a wound
gran·ule \'gran-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [LL *granulum*, dim. of L *granum* grain] **1** : a small particle; *esp* : one of numerous particles forming a larger unit **2** : one of the small short-lived brilliant spots on the sun's seething photosphere
gran·u·lite \'gran-yə-ˌlīt\ *n* : a banded or laminated whitish granular rock consisting of feldspar, quartz, and small red garnets and occurring with crystalline schists — **gran·u·lit·ic** \ˌgran-yə-'lit-ik\ *adj*
gran·u·lo·cyte \'gran-yə-lō-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a cell with granule-containing cytoplasm — **gran·u·lo·cyt·ic** \ˌgran-yə-lō-'sit-ik\ *adj*
gran·u·lo·cy·to·poi·e·sis \'gran-yə-lō-ˌsīt-ə-pȯi-'ē-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation of blood granulocytes typically in the bone marrow
gran·u·lo·ma \ˌgran-yə-'lō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ : a mass or nodule of chronically inflamed tissue with granulations that is usu. associated with an infective process — **gran·u·lo·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*
granuloma in·gui·na·le \-ˌiŋ-gwə-'nal-ē, -'näl-, -'nāl-\ *n* [NL, lit., inguinal granuloma] : a venereal disease characterized by ulceration and formation of granulations beginning in the groin and spreading to the buttocks and genitals and caused by a bacterium (*Donovania granulomatis*)
granuloma ve·ne·re·um \-və-'nir-ē-əm\ *n* : GRANULOMA INGUINALE
gran·u·lose \'gran-yə-ˌlōs\ *adj* : GRANULAR; *esp* : having the surface roughened with granules
gran·u·lo·sis \ˌgran-yə-'lō-səs\ *n, pl* **-lo·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : a virus disease of insect larvae distinguished by the presence of minute granular inclusions in infected cells
gra·num \'grā-nəm\ *n, pl* **gra·na** \-nə\ [NL, fr. L, grain] : one of the lamellar stacks of chlorophyll-containing material in plant chloroplasts
grape \'grāp\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF *crape, grape* hook, grape stalk, bunch of grapes, grape, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *krāpfo* hook — more at CRAVE] **1** : a smooth-skinned juicy greenish white to deep red or purple berry eaten dried or fresh as a fruit or fermented to produce wine **2** : any of numerous woody vines (genus *Vitis* of the family Vitaceae, the grape family) that usu. climb by tendrils, produce clustered fruits that are grapes, and are nearly cosmopolitan in cultivation **3** : GRAPESHOT
grape·fruit \'grāp-ˌfrüt\ *n* **1** : a large citrus fruit with a bitter yellow rind and inner skin and a highly flavored somewhat acid juicy pulp **2** : a small roundheaded tree (*Citrus paradisi*) that produces grapefruit and is prob. derived from the shaddock
grape hyacinth *n* : any of several small bulbous spring-flowering herbs (genus *Muscari*) of the lily family with racemes of usu. blue flowers
grape·shot \'grāp-ˌshät\ *n* : a cluster of small iron balls used as a cannon charge
grape sugar *n* : DEXTROSE
grape·vine \'grāp-ˌvīn\ *n* **1** : GRAPE 2 **2 a** : an informal person-to-person means of circulating information or gossip ⟨heard about the meeting through the ~⟩ **b** : a secret source of information
¹graph \'graf\ *n* [short for *graphic formula*] **1** : a diagram (as a series of points, a line, a curve, or an area) that represents the variation of a variable in comparison with that of one or more other variables **2** : the collection of all points whose coordinates satisfy a given functional relation
²graph *vt* **1** : to represent by a graph **2** : to plot on a graph
³graph *n* [prob. fr. *-graph*] **1** : a spelling of a word **2** : a single occurrence of a letter of an alphabet in any of its various shapes (as D, d) **3** : a letter or combination of letters taken as a minimum

unit in determining the phonemes of a language from written records — compare GRAPHEME

-graph \ˌgraf\ *n comb form* [MF *-graphe*, fr. L *-graphum*, fr. Gk *-graphon*, fr. neut. of *-graphos* written, fr. *graphein* to write] **1** : something written ⟨mono*graph*⟩ **2** [F *-graphe*, fr. LL *-graphus*] : instrument for making or transmitting records ⟨chrono*graph*⟩

graph·eme \'graf-ˌēm\ *n* **1** : a unit (as a letter) of a writing system **2** : the set of units of a writing system (as letters and letter combinations) that represent a phoneme ⟨the *f* of *fin*, the *ph* of *phantom*, and the *gh* of *laugh* are members of one ~⟩ — **gra·phe·mic** \gra-'fē-mik\ *adj* — **gra·phe·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

gra·phe·mics \gra-'fē-miks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the study and analysis of a writing system in terms of graphemes

-g·ra·pher \g-rə-fər\ *n comb form* [LL *-graphus*, fr. Gk *-graphos*, fr. *graphein*] : one that writes about (specified) material or in a (specified) way ⟨craniog*rapher*⟩

¹graph·ic \'graf-ik\ *also* **graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [L *graphicus*, fr. Gk *graphikos*, fr. *graphein*] **1** : formed by writing, drawing, or engraving **2 a** : marked by or capable of clear and lively description or striking imaginative power **b** : sharply outlined or delineated **3 a** : of or relating to the pictorial arts **b** : of, relating to, or involving such reproductive methods as those of engraving, etching, lithography, photography, serigraphy, and woodcut **c** : of or relating to the art of printing **d** : relating or according to graphics **4** : having mineral crystals resembling written or printed characters **5** : of, relating to, or represented by a graph **6** : of or relating to the written or printed word or the symbols or devices used in writing or printing to represent sound or convey meaning — **graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **graph·ic·ness** \-ik-nəs\ *n*

syn GRAPHIC, VIVID, PICTURESQUE, PICTORIAL *shared meaning element* : giving a clear visual impression esp. in words

²graphic *n* **1 a** : a product of graphic art **b** *pl* : the graphic media **2** : a picture, map, or graph used for illustration or demonstration **3** : a graphic representation displayed by a computer (as on a CRT)

-graph·ic \'graf-ik\ *or* **-graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj comb form* [LL *-graphicus*, fr. Gk *-graphikos*, fr. *graphikos*] **1** : written or transmitted in a (specified) way ⟨stylo*graphic*⟩ **2** : of or relating to writing in a (specified) field or on a (specified) subject ⟨oro*graphic*⟩

graphic arts *n pl* : the fine and applied arts of representation, decoration, and writing or printing on flat surfaces together with the techniques and crafts associated with them

graph·ics \'graf-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : the art or science of drawing a representation of an object on a two-dimensional surface according to mathematical rules of projection **2** : the process whereby a computer displays graphics on a CRT and an operator can manipulate them (as with a light pen)

graph·ite \'graf-ˌīt\ *n* [G *graphit*, fr. Gk *graphein* to write] : a soft black lustrous carbon that conducts electricity and is used in lead pencils, crucibles, electrolytic anodes, as a lubricant, and as a moderator in atomic-energy plants — **gra·phit·ic** \gra-'fit-ik\ *adj*

graph·i·tize \'graf-ə-ˌtīz, -ˌīt-īz\ *vt* **-tized; -tizing** **1** : to convert into graphite **2** : to impregnate or coat with graphite — **graph·i·tiz·able** \-ˌtī-zə-bəl, -īz-\ *adj* — **graph·i·ti·za·tion** \ˌgraf-ət-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌīt-\ *n*

grapho- *comb form* [F, fr. MF, fr. Gk, fr. *graphē*, fr. *graphein* to write] : writing

gra·phol·o·gist \gra-'fäl-ə-jəst\ *n* : a specialist in graphology

gra·phol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* [F *graphologie*, fr. *grapho-* + *-logie* -logy] : the study of handwriting esp. for the purpose of character analysis — **graph·o·log·i·cal** \ˌgraf-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*

graph·o·phone \'graf-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* [fr. *Graphophone*, a trademark] : a phonograph using wax records

graph paper *n* : paper ruled for drawing graphs

-g·ra·phy \g-rə-fē\ *n comb form* [L *-graphia*, fr. Gk, fr. *graphein*] **1** : writing or representation in a (specified) manner or by a (specified) means or of a (specified) object ⟨phono*graphy*⟩ ⟨photo*graphy*⟩ ⟨steno*graphy*⟩ **2** : writing on a (specified) subject or in a (specified) field ⟨organo*graphy*⟩

grap·nel \'grap-nᵊl\ *n* [ME *grapenel*, fr. (assumed) MF *grapinel*, dim. of *grapin*, dim. of *grape* hook — more at GRAPE] : a small anchor with four or five flukes or claws used in dragging or grappling operations and for anchoring a dory or skiff

grap·pa \'gräp-ə\ *n* [It] : a dry colorless brandy distilled from fermented grape pomace

¹grap·ple \'grap-əl\ *n* [MF *grappelle*, dim. of *grape* hook — more at GRAPE] **1 a** : an instrument with iron claws used to fasten an enemy ship alongside before boarding **b** : GRAPNEL **2 a** : the act or an instance of grappling **b** : a hand-to-hand struggle **c** : a contest for superiority or mastery **3** : a bucket similar to a clamshell but usu. having more jaws

²grapple *vb* **grap·pled; grap·pling** \'grap-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to seize with or as if with a grapple **2** : to come to grips with : WRESTLE **3** : to bind closely ~ *vi* **1** : to make a ship fast with a grapple **2** : to come to grips : WRESTLE **3** : to use a grapple — **grap·pler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

grap·pling *n* **1** : GRAPPLE 1a **2** : GRAPNEL

grappling iron *n* : a hooked iron for anchoring a boat, grappling ships to each other, or recovering sunken objects — called also *grappling hook*

grap·to·lite \'grap-tə-ˌlīt\ *n* [Gk *graptos* painted (fr. *graphein* to write, paint) + E *-lite*] : any of numerous extinct fossil colonial Paleozoic animals (group Graptolitoidea) with zooids in cups along a chitinous support

grapy \'grā-pē\ *adj* **grap·i·er; -est** **1** : of or relating to grapes or the vine **2** : having a grape taste as well as a wine taste — used of wines

GRAS *abbr* generally recognized as safe

¹grasp \'grasp\ *vb* [ME *graspen* — more at GRAB] *vi* : to make the motion of seizing : CLUTCH ~ *vt* **1** : to take or seize eagerly **2** : to clasp or embrace with or as if with the fingers or arms **3** : to lay hold of with the mind : COMPREHEND ***syn*** see TAKE — **grasp·able** \'gras-pə-bəl\ *adj* — **grasp·er** *n*

²grasp *n* **1 a** : HANDLE **b** : the fluke of an anchor **c** : EMBRACE **2** : HOLD, CONTROL **3 a** : the reach of the arms **b** : the power of seizing and holding or attaining ⟨perfection always will elude our ~ —A. J. Celebrezze⟩ **4** : COMPREHENSION ⟨showed a firm ~ of her subject⟩

grasp·ing *adj* : desiring material possessions urgently and excessively and often to the point of ruthlessness ***syn*** see COVETOUS — **grasp·ing·ly** \'gras-piŋ-lē\ *adv* — **grasp·ing·ness** *n*

¹grass \'gras\ *n, often attrib* [ME *gras*, fr. OE *græs*; akin to OHG *gras* grass, OE *grōwan* to grow] **1** : herbage suitable or used for grazing animals **2** : any of a large family (Gramineae) of monocotyledonous mostly herbaceous plants with jointed stems, slender sheathing leaves, and flowers borne in spikelets of bracts **3** : land on which grass is grown ⟨keep off the ~⟩ **4** *pl* : a leaf or plant of grass **5** : a state or place of retirement ⟨an old horse put out to ~⟩ **6** : electronic noise on a radarscope that takes the form of vertical lines resembling lawn grass **7** : MARIJUANA — **grass·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²grass *vt* **1** : to feed (livestock) on grass sometimes without grain or other concentrates **2** : to cover with grass; *esp* : to seed to grass ~ *vi* : to produce grass

grass carp *n* : an herbivorous fish (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) of Russia and mainland China that has been introduced elsewhere to control aquatic weeds

grass court *n* : a tennis court with a grass surface

grass green *n* **1** : a moderate to strong yellowish green **2** : a moderate yellow green

grass·hop·per \'gras-ˌhäp-ər\ *n* **1** : any of numerous plant-eating orthopterous insects (suborder Saltatoria) having the hind legs adapted for leaping and sometimes engaging in migratory flights in which whole regions may be stripped of vegetation **2** : a light unarmed scouting and liaison airplane **3** : a cocktail made with crème de menthe, crème de cacao, and light cream

grass·land \-ˌland\ *n* **1** : farmland occupied chiefly by forage plants and esp. grasses **2 a** : land on which the natural dominant plant forms are grasses and forbs **b** : an ecological community in which the characteristic plants are grasses

grass roots *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : soil at or near the surface **2** : society at the local level esp. in rural areas as distinguished from the centers of political leadership ⟨cultural changes occurring at the *grass roots* —C. A. Buss⟩ **3** : the very foundation or source

grass tree *n* **1** : any of a genus (*Xanthorrhoea*) of Australian plants of the lily family with a thick woody trunk bearing a cluster of stiff linear leaves and a terminal spike of small flowers **2** : any of several Australasian trees (as a ti) with grasslike foilage

grass widow *n* **1** *chiefly dial* **a** : a discarded mistress **b** : a woman who has had an illegitimate child **2 a** : a woman divorced or separated from her husband **b** : a woman whose husband is temporarily away from her

grass widower *n* **1** : a man divorced or separated from his wife **2** : a man whose wife is temporarily away from him

grassy \'gras-ē\ *adj* **grass·i·er; -est** **1 a** : covered or abounding with grass ⟨~ lawns⟩ **b** : consisting of or having a flavor or odor of grass ⟨~ butter⟩ **2** : resembling grass esp. in color

grat *past of* GREET

¹grate \'grāt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *crata, grata* hurdle, modif. of L *cratis* — more at HURDLE] **1** *obs* : CAGE, PRISON **2** : a frame of parallel bars or a lattice of crossed ones blocking a passage **3 a** : a frame or bed of iron bars to hold a stove or furnace fire **b** : FIREPLACE **c** : a barred frame for cooking over a fire **4** : a screen or sieve for grading ore

²grate *vt* **grat·ed; grat·ing** : to furnish with a grate

³grate *vb* **grat·ed; grat·ing** [ME *graten*, fr. MF *grater* to scratch, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *krazzōn* to scratch] *vt* **1** *archaic* : ABRADE **2** : to pulverize by rubbing with something rough ⟨~ cheese⟩ **3** : FRET, IRRITATE **4 a** : to gnash or grind noisily **b** : to cause to make a rasping sound **c** : to utter in a harsh voice ~ *vi* **1** : to rub or rasp noisily **2** : to cause irritation : JAR ⟨dry, cerebral talk that tends to ~ on the nerves —Hollis Alpert⟩ — **grat·er** *n*

grate·ful \'grāt-fəl\ *adj* [obs. *grate* pleasing, thankful, fr. L *gratus* — more at GRACE] **1 a** : appreciative of benefits received **b** : expressing gratitude **2 a** : affording pleasure or contentment : PLEASING **b** : pleasing by reason of comfort supplied or discomfort alleviated — **grate·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **grate·ful·ness** *n*

syn **1** GRATEFUL, THANKFUL *shared meaning element* : feeling or expressing gratitude ***ant*** ungrateful
2 see PLEASANT ***ant*** obnoxious

grat·i·cule \'grat-ə-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *craticula* fine latticework, dim. of *cratis*] **1** : a scale on transparent material in the focal plane of an optical instrument for the location and measurement of objects **2** : the network of lines of latitude and longitude upon which a map is drawn

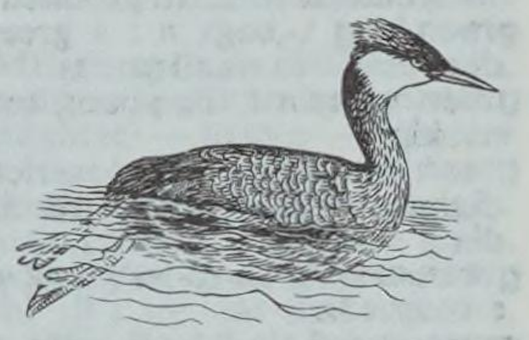
grat·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌgrat-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of gratifying : the state of being gratified **2** *archaic* : REWARD, RECOMPENSE; *esp* : GRATUITY **3** : a source of satisfaction or pleasure

grat·i·fy \'grat-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *gratifier*, fr. L *gratificari*, lit., to make oneself pleasing, fr. *gratus* + *-ificari*, pass. of *-ificare* -ify] **1** *archaic* : REMUNERATE **2** : to be a source of or give pleasure or satisfaction to ⟨it *gratified* him to have his wife wear jewels —Willa Cather⟩ **3** : to give in to : INDULGE, SATISFY ⟨~ a whim⟩

grat·i·fy·ing *adj* : giving pleasure esp. through satisfying hope, desire, conscience, or vanity ***syn*** see PLEASANT — **grat·i·fy·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

gra·tin \'grat-ᵊn, 'grät-\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *grater* to scratch] : a brown crust formed on food that has been cooked with a topping of buttered crumbs or grated cheese
grat·ing \'grāt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a partition, covering, or frame of parallel bars or crossbars : GRATE **2** : a wooden or metal lattice used to close or floor any of various openings **3** : a system of close equidistant and parallel lines or bars ruled on a polished surface to produce spectra by diffraction
gra·tis \'grat-əs, 'grāt-\ *adv or adj* [ME, fr. L *gratiis, gratis*, fr. abl. pl. of *gratia* favor — more at GRACE] : without charge or recompense : FREE
grat·i·tude \'grat-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or ML; MF, fr. ML *gratitudo*, fr. L *gratus* grateful] : the state of being grateful : THANKFULNESS
gra·tu·itous \grə-'t(y)ü-ət-əs\ *adj* [L *gratuitus*, fr. *gratus*] **1 a** : given unearned or without recompense **b** : costing nothing : FREE **c** : not involving a return benefit, compensation, or consideration **2** : not called for by the circumstances : UNWARRANTED ⟨~ insolence⟩ ⟨a ~ assumption⟩ ***syn*** see SUPEREROGATORY — **gra·tu·itous·ly** *adv* — **gra·tu·itous·ness** *n*
gra·tu·ity \grə-'t(y)ü-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ities** : something given voluntarily or beyond obligation usu. in return for or in anticipation of some service; *esp* : TIP
grat·u·late \'grach-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* [L *gratulatus*, pp. of *gratulari* — more at CONGRATULATE] *archaic* : CONGRATULATE — **grat·u·la·tion** \ˌgrach-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **grat·u·la·to·ry** \'grach-ə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
grau·pel \'graù-pəl\ *n* [G] : granular snow pellets — called also *soft hail*
Grau·stark \'graù-ˌstärk, 'grȯ-\ *n* [*Graustark*, imaginary country in the novel *Graustark* (1901) by George B. McCutcheon] : an imaginary land of high romance; *also* : a highly romantic piece of writing — **Grau·stark·ian** \graù-'stär-kē-ən, grȯ-\ *adj*
gra·va·men \grə-'vā-mən\ *n, pl* **-va·mens** *or* **-vam·i·na** \-'vam-ə-nə\ [LL, burden, fr. L *gravare* to burden, fr. *gravis*] : the material or significant part of a grievance or complaint
¹grave \'grāv\ *vt* **graved; grav·en** \'grā-vən\ *or* **graved; grav·ing** [ME *graven*, fr. OE *grafan;* akin to OHG *graban* to dig, OSlav *pogreti* to bury] **1** *archaic* : DIG, EXCAVATE **2 a** : to carve or shape with a chisel : SCULPTURE **b** : to carve or cut (as letters or figures) into a hard surface : ENGRAVE **3** : to impress or fix (as a thought) deeply
²grave *n* [ME, fr. OE *græf;* akin to OHG *grab* grave, OE *grafan* to dig] : an excavation for burial of a body; *broadly* : TOMB
³grave *vt* **graved; grav·ing** [ME *graven*] : to clean and pay with pitch (as a ship's bottom)
⁴grave \'grāv, *in sense 5 also* 'gräv\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *gravis* heavy, grave — more at GRIEVE] **1 a** *obs* : AUTHORITATIVE, WEIGHTY **b** : meriting serious consideration : IMPORTANT ⟨~ problems⟩ **c** : likely to produce great harm or danger ⟨a ~ mistake⟩ **2** : having a serious and dignified quality or demeanor ⟨a ~ man little given to laughter⟩ ⟨his manner was ~ and calm⟩ **3** : drab in color : SOMBER **4** : low-pitched in sound **5 a** *of an accent mark* : having the form ` **b** : marked with a grave accent **c** : of the variety indicated by a grave accent ***syn*** see SERIOUS ***ant*** gay — **grave·ly** *adv* — **grave·ness** *n*
⁵grave \'grāv, 'gräv\ *n* : a grave accent ` used to show that a vowel is pronounced with a fall of pitch (as in ancient Greek), that a vowel has a certain quality (as *e* in French), that a final *e* is stressed and close and that a final *o* is stressed and open (as in Italian), that a syllable has a degree of stress between maximum and minimum (as in phonetic transcription), or that the *e* of the English ending *-ed* is to be pronounced (as in "this cursèd day")
⁶gra·ve \'grä-v(ˌ)ā\ *adv or adj* [It, lit., grave, fr. L *gravis*] : slowly and solemnly — used as a direction in music
¹grav·el \'grav-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *gravele*, fr. OF, dim. of *grave, greve* pebbly ground, beach] **1** *obs* : SAND **2 a** : loose rounded fragments of rock **b** : a stratum or deposit of gravel; *also* : a surface covered with gravel ⟨a ~ road⟩ **3** : a deposit of small calculous concretions in the kidneys and urinary bladder
²gravel *adj* : GRAVELLY 2 — used of the human voice
³gravel *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \'grav-(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to cover or spread with gravel **2 a** : PERPLEX, CONFOUND **b** : IRRITATE, NETTLE
grav·el–blind \'grav-əl-ˌblīnd\ *adj* [suggested by *sand-blind*] : having very weak vision
grave·less \'grāv-ləs\ *adj* **1** : UNBURIED ⟨these ~ bones⟩ **2** : not requiring graves : DEATHLESS ⟨the ~ home of the blessed⟩
grav·el·ly \'grav-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **1** : of, containing, or covered with gravel **2** : having a harsh grating sound ⟨a ~ voice⟩
graven image *n* : an object of worship carved usu. from wood or stone : IDOL
grav·er \'grā-vər\ *n* **1** : SCULPTOR, ENGRAVER **2** : any of various cutting or shaving tools used in graving or in hand metal-turning
Graves' disease \'grāvz(-əz)-\ *n* [Robert J. *Graves* †1853 Ir physician] : HYPERTHYROIDISM; *specif* : exophthalmic goiter
grave·stone \'grāv-ˌstōn\ *n* : a burial monument
grave·yard \-ˌyärd\ *n* **1** : CEMETERY **2** : a storage place for disused, obsolete, or worn-out things ⟨go down to an auto ~ and build a makeshift car out of parts —*Harper's*⟩
graveyard shift *n* : a work shift beginning late at night (as 11 o'clock); *also* : the workers on such a shift
gravi- *comb form* [MF, fr. L, fr. *gravis*] : heavy
grav·id \'grav-əd\ *adj* [L *gravidus*, fr. *gravis* heavy] : PREGNANT — **gra·vid·i·ty** \gra-'vid-ət-ē\ *n* — **grav·id·ly** \'grav-əd-lē\ *adv* — **grav·id·ness** *n*
grav·i·da \'grav-əd-ə\ *n, pl* **-i·das** *or* **-i·dae** \-ə-ˌdē\ [L, fr. fem. of *gravidus*] : a pregnant woman — often used in combination with a number or figure to indicate the number of pregnancies a woman has had ⟨a 4-*gravida*⟩
gra·vi·me·ter \gra-'vim-ət-ər, 'grav-ə-ˌmēt-\ *n* [F *gravimètre*, fr. *gravi-* + *-mètre* -meter] **1** : a device similar to a hydrometer for determining specific gravity **2** : a sensitive weighing instrument for measuring variations in the gravitational field of the earth or moon
gravi·met·ric \ˌgrav-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to measurement by weight **2** : of or relating to variations in the gravitational field determined by means of a gravimeter — **gravi·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
gra·vim·e·try \gra-'vim-ə-trē\ *n* : the measurement of weight, a gravitational field, or density
graving dock *n* : DRY DOCK
grav·i·tate \'grav-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** *vi* **1** : to move under the influence of gravitation **2 a** : to move toward something **b** : to become attracted ⟨youngsters . . . ~ toward a strong leader — Rose Friedman⟩ ~ *vt* : to move by gravitation
grav·i·ta·tion \ˌgrav-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : a force manifested by acceleration toward each other of two free material particles or bodies or of radiant-energy quanta **b** : the action or process of gravitating **2** : an attraction to something — **grav·i·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **grav·i·ta·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **grav·i·ta·tive** \'grav-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj*
gravitational wave *n* : a hypothetical wave which travels at the speed of light and by means of which gravitational attraction effect is propagated — called also *gravity wave*
grav·i·ton \'grav-ə-ˌtän\ *n* [ISV *gravity* + ²*-on*] : a hypothetical particle with zero charge and rest mass that is held to be the quantum of the gravitational field
grav·i·ty \'grav-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [MF or L; MF *gravité*, fr. L *gravitat-, gravitas*, fr. *gravis*] **1 a** : dignity or sobriety of bearing **b** : IMPORTANCE, SIGNIFICANCE; *esp* : SERIOUSNESS **c** : a serious situation or problem **2** : the quality of having weight **3** : WEIGHT — used chiefly in the phrase *center of gravity* **4 a** : the gravitational attraction of the mass of the earth, the moon, or a planet for bodies at or near its surface; *broadly* : GRAVITATION **b** : ACCELERATION OF GRAVITY **c** : SPECIFIC GRAVITY — **gravity** *adj*
gra·vure \grə-'vyu̇(ə)r, grā-\ *n* [F, fr. *graver* to grave, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *graban* to dig, engrave — more at GRAVE] **1** : the process of printing from an intaglio plate **2** : PHOTOGRAVURE
gra·vy \'grā-vē\ *n, pl* **gravies** [ME *gravey*, fr. MF *gravé*] **1** : a sauce made from the thickened and seasoned juices of cooked meat **2 a** : something pleasing or valuable that occurs or is acquired over and above what would ordinarily be expected ⟨with expenses now paid, future money is pure ~ —K. Crossen⟩ **b** : unearned or illicit gain : GRAFT
gravy train *n* : a much exploited source of easy money ⟨has him a *gravy train* out there, with these cost-plus contracts and all — *Harper's*⟩; *also* : GRAVY 2a
¹gray \'grā\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *grǣg;* akin to OHG *grāo* gray, OSlav *zĭrĕti* to see] **1 a** : of the color gray **b** : tending toward gray ⟨blue-*gray* eyes⟩ **c** : dull in color **2** : having the hair gray : HOARY **3** : clothed in gray **4** : lacking cheer or brightness in mood, outlook, style, or flavor; *also* : DISMAL, GLOOMY ⟨a ~ day⟩ **5** : intermediate in position, condition, or character ⟨a large but indeterminate ~ zone . . . containing books that are relatively respectable but not wholly so —R. D. Altick⟩ **6** *slang* : of or relating to the Caucasian race — **gray·ly** *adv* — **gray·ness** *n*
²gray *n* **1** : something (as a horse, garment, cloth, or spot) of a gray color **2** : any of a series of neutral colors ranging between black and white **3** : one who wears a gray uniform: as **a** : a soldier in the Confederate army during the American Civil War **b** : the Confederate army **4** *slang* : a member of the Caucasian race
³gray *vt* : to make gray ~ *vi* : to become gray
gray·beard \'grā-ˌbi(ə)rd\ *n* : an old man
gray birch *n* **1** : a small coarse No. American birch (*Betula populifolia*) that has many lateral branches, grayish white bark, triangular leaves, and soft wood which is worthless as timber and that occurs esp. as a colonizer of old fields which are reverting to woodland **2** : YELLOW BIRCH
gray eminence *n* [trans. of F *Éminence Grise*, nickname of Père Joseph (François Joseph du Tremblay) †1638 F monk and diplomat who was confidant of Cardinal Richelieu, styled *Éminence Rouge* (red eminence); fr. the colors of their respective habits] : a person who exercises power behind the scenes
gray·fish \'grā-ˌfish\ *n* : DOGFISH
gray·ish \'grā-ish\ *adj* **1** : somewhat gray **2** *of a color* : low in saturation
gray·ling \'grā-liŋ\ *n, pl* **grayling** *also* **graylings** : any of several freshwater salmonoid fishes (genus *Thymallus*) valued as food and sport fishes
gray matter *n* **1** : neural tissue esp. of the brain and spinal cord that contains nerve-cell bodies as well as nerve fibers and has a brownish gray color **2** : BRAINS, INTELLECT
gray mullet *n* : MULLET 1
gray squirrel *n* : a common light gray to black squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) that is native to eastern No. America and has been introduced into England
gray trout *n* : WEAKFISH 1
gray·wacke \'grā-ˌwak(-ə)\ *n* [¹*gray* + *wacke* (graywacke), fr. G] : a coarse usu. dark gray sandstone or fine-grained conglomerate composed of firmly cemented rounded fragments (as of quartz and feldspars)
gray whale *n* : a rather large whalebone whale (*Rhachianectes glaucus*) of the northern Pacific
¹graze \'grāz\ *vb* **grazed; graz·ing** [ME *grasen*, fr. OE *grasian*, fr. *graes* grass] *vi* : to feed on growing herbage, attached algae, or phytoplankton ~ *vt* **1 a** : to crop and eat in the field **b** : to feed on the herbage of **2 a** : to put to graze ⟨*grazed* his cows on the meadow⟩ **b** : to put cattle to graze on **3** : to supply herbage for the grazing of — **graze·able** *or* **graz·able** \grā-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **graz·er** *n*
²graze *n* **1** : an act of grazing **2** : herbage for grazing
³graze *vb* **grazed; graz·ing** [perh. fr. ¹*graze*] *vt* **1** : to touch lightly in passing **2** : ABRADE, SCRATCH ⟨*grazed* her knee when she fell⟩ ~ *vi* : to touch or rub against something in passing ⟨our fenders just *grazed*⟩

⁴graze *n* : a scraping along a surface or an abrasion made by it; *esp* : a superficial abrasion of the skin
gra·zier \'grā-zhər\ *n* **1** : a person who grazes cattle; *broadly* : RANCHER **2** *Austral* : a sheep raiser
GRE *abbr* graduate record examination
¹grease \'grēs\ *n* [ME *grese*, fr. OF *craisse, graisse*, fr. (assumed) VL *crassia*, fr. L *crassus* fat] **1 a** : rendered animal fat **b** : oily matter **c** : a thick lubricant **2** : wool as it comes from the sheep retaining the natural oils or fats — **grease·less** \'grē-slәs\ *adj* — **grease·proof** \'grē-'prüf\ *adj* — **in the grease** *of wool or fur* : in the natural uncleaned condition
²grease \'grēs, 'grēz\ *vt* **greased; greas·ing** **1** : to smear or daub with grease **2** : to lubricate with grease **3** : to soil with grease **4** : to hasten the process or progress of : ACCELERATE ⟨this ~s the decline in department store sales —*Wall Street Jour.*⟩ — **greas·er** *n* — **grease the hand** *or* **grease the palm** : BRIBE
grease monkey *n* **1** : one that greases machinery **2** : an airplane mechanic
grease·paint \'grē-ˌspānt\ *n* **1** : a melted tallow or grease used in theater makeup **2** : theater makeup
greas·er \'grē-zər, -sər\ *n* [¹*grease*] : a native or inhabitant of Latin America; *esp* : MEXICAN — usu. taken to be offensive
grease·wood \'grē-ˌswu̇d\ *n* : a low stiff shrub (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*) of the goosefoot family common in alkaline soils in the western U.S.; *also* : any of various related or similar shrubs
greasy \'grē-sē, -zē\ *adj* **greas·i·er; -est** **1 a** : smeared or soiled with grease ⟨~ clothes⟩ **b** : oily in appearance, texture, or manner ⟨his ~ smile —Jack London⟩ **c** : SLIPPERY **2** : containing an unusual amount of grease ⟨~ food⟩ — **greas·i·ly** \-sə-lē, -zə-\ *adv* — **greas·i·ness** \-sē-nəs, -zē-\ *n*
greasy spoon *n, slang* : a small cheap usu. unsanitary restaurant
¹great \'grāt, *South also* 'gre(ə)t\ *adj* [ME *grete*, fr. OE *grēat;* akin to OHG *grōz* large] **1 a** : notably large in size : HUGE **b** : of a kind characterized by relative largeness — used in plant and animal names **c** : ELABORATE, AMPLE ⟨~ detail⟩ **2 a** : large in number : NUMEROUS ⟨~ multitudes⟩ **b** : PREDOMINANT ⟨the ~ majority⟩ **3** : remarkable in magnitude, degree, or effectiveness ⟨~ bloodshed⟩ **4** : full of emotion ⟨~ with anger⟩ **5 a** : EMINENT, DISTINGUISHED ⟨a ~ poet⟩ **b** : ARISTOCRATIC, GRAND ⟨~ ladies⟩ **6** : long continued ⟨~ while⟩ **7** : MAIN, PRINCIPAL ⟨a reception in the ~ hall⟩ **8** : more remote in a family relationship by a single generation than a specified relative ⟨*great*-grandfather⟩ **9** : markedly superior in character or quality; *esp* : NOBLE ⟨~ of soul⟩ **10 a** : remarkably skilled ⟨~ at tennis⟩ **b** : enthusiastic about ⟨~ on science fiction⟩ **11** — used as a generalized term of approval ⟨had a ~ time⟩ ⟨it was just ~⟩ ***syn*** see LARGE ***ant*** little — **great** *adv* — **great·ly** *adv* — **great·ness** *n*
²great *n, pl* **great** *or* **greats** : one that is great
great ape *n* : any of the recent anthropoid apes
great auk *n* : an extinct large flightless auk (*Pinguinus impennis*) formerly abundant along No. Atlantic coasts
great–aunt *n* : GRANDAUNT
Great Bear *n* : the constellation Ursa Major
great blue heron *n* : a large slaty-blue American heron (*Ardea herodias*) with a crested head
great circle *n* : a circle formed on the surface of a sphere by the intersection of a plane that passes through the center of the sphere; *specif* : such a circle on the surface of the earth an arc of which connecting two terrestrial points constitutes the shortest distance on the earth's surface between them
great·coat \'grāt-ˌkōt\ *n* : a heavy overcoat
Great Dane *n* : any of a breed of tall massive powerful smooth-coated dogs
great divide *n* [the *Great Divide*, No. American watershed] **1** : a watershed between major drainage systems **2** : a significant point of division; *esp* : DEATH ⟨he crossed the *great divide* bravely⟩
great·en \'grāt-ᵊn\ *vb* **great·ened; great·en·ing** \'grāt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make greater ~ *vi* : to become greater
great·er *adj, often cap* [compar. of GREAT] : consisting of a central city together with adjacent areas that are naturally or administratively connected with it ⟨*Greater* London⟩
greater yellowlegs *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a common No. American marsh and shore bird (*Tringa melanoleuca*) that is largely gray above and white below with black or dark gray flecks and yellow legs — compare LESSER YELLOWLEGS
greatest common divisor *n* : the largest integer or the polynomial of highest degree that is an exact divisor of each of two or more integers or polynomials — called also *greatest common factor*
great·heart·ed \'grāt-'härt-əd\ *adj* **1** : characterized by bravery : COURAGEOUS **2** : GENEROUS, MAGNANIMOUS — **great·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **great·heart·ed·ness** *n*
great horned owl *n* : a large No. American owl (*Bubo virginianus*) with conspicuous ear tufts
great laurel *n* : a large-leaved evergreen rhododendron (*Rhododendron maxima*) of eastern No. America that has rosy bell-shaped flowers more or less speckled with green
great–nephew *n* : GRANDNEPHEW
great–niece *n* : GRANDNIECE
great octave *n* : the musical octave that begins on the second C below middle C — see PITCH illustration
great power *n, often cap G&P* : one of the nations that figure most decisively in international affairs
Great Pyr·e·nees \-'pir-ə-ˌnēz\ *n* : any of a breed of large heavy-coated white dogs that resemble the Newfoundland
Great Russian *n* : a member of the Russian-speaking people of the central and northeastern U.S.S.R. — **Great Russian** *adj*
great seal *n* : a large seal that constitutes an emblem of sovereignty and is used esp. for the authentication of important documents
great skua *n* : a large stocky jaeger (*Catharacta skua*) that has dusky plumage and broad rounded wings, breeds chiefly along arctic and antarctic shores, and forages over most cold and temperate seas
great soil group *n* : a group of soils that is characterized by common characteristics usu. developed under the influence of environmental factors (as vegetation and climate) active over a considerable geographic range and that comprises one or more families of soil — called also *great group*
great–uncle *n* : GRANDUNCLE
great white shark *n* : WHITE SHARK
great year *n* : the period of about 25,800 years of one complete cycle of precession of the equinoxes
greave \'grēv\ *n* [ME *greve*, fr. MF] : armor for the leg below the knee — usu. used in pl.
grebe \'grēb\ *n* [F *grèbe*] : any of a family (Podicipitidae or Podicipedidae) of swimming and diving birds closely related to the loons but having lobate toes — compare DABCHICK


grebe

Gre·cian \'grē-shən\ *adj* [L *Graecia* Greece] : GREEK — **Grecian** *n* — **gre·cian·ize** \-shə-ˌnīz\ *vt, often cap*
Gre·cism \'grē-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a Greek idiom **2** : a quality or style imitative of Greek art or culture
gre·cize \-ˌsīz\ *vt* **gre·cized; gre·ciz·ing** *often cap* : to make Greek or Hellenistic in character
Gre·co- *or* **Grae·co-** \'grek-ō, 'grē-kō\ *comb form* [L *Graeco-*, fr. *Graecus*] **1** : Greece : Greeks ⟨*Greco*phile⟩ ⟨*Greco*mania⟩ **2** : Greek and ⟨*Graeco*-Roman⟩
¹gree \'grē\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *gré* step, degree, fr. L *gradus* — more at GRADE] *Scot* : MASTERY, SUPERIORITY
²gree *vb* **greed; gree·ing** [ME *green*, short for *agreen*] *dial* : AGREE
greed \'grēd\ *n* [back-formation fr. *greedy*] : excessive or reprehensible acquisitiveness : AVARICE
greedy \'grēd-ē\ *adj* **greed·i·er; -est** [ME *gredy*, fr. OE *grǣdig;* akin to OHG *grātag* greedy] **1** : having a strong desire for food or drink **2** : marked by greed **3** : EAGER, KEEN ⟨elated and ~ for the future — Frances G. Patton⟩ ***syn*** see COVETOUS — **greed·i·ly** \'grēd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **greed·i·ness** \'grēd-ē-nəs\ *n*
¹Greek \'grēk\ *n* [ME *Greke*, fr. OE *Grēca*, fr. L *Graecus*, fr. Gk *Graikos*] **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of ancient or modern Greece **b** : a person of Greek descent **2 a** : the language used by the Greeks from prehistoric times to the present constituting a branch of Indo-European — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **b** : ancient Greek as used from the time of the earliest records to the end of the 2d century A.D. — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **c** *not cap* [trans. of L *Graecum* (in the medieval phrase *Graecum est; non potest legi* It is Greek; it cannot be read)] : something unintelligible **3** : a member of a Greek-letter fraternity or sorority
²Greek *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Greece, the Greeks, or Greek ⟨~ architecture⟩ **2 a** : Eastern Orthodox **b** : of or relating to an Eastern church using the Byzantine rite in Greek **c** : of or relating to the established Orthodox church of Greece
Greek Catholic *n* **1** : a member of an Eastern church **2** : a member of an Eastern rite of the Roman Catholic Church
Greek cross *n* : a cross having an upright and a transverse shaft equal in length and intersecting at their middles —see CROSS illustration
Greek fire *n* : an incendiary composition used in warfare by the Byzantine Greeks and said to have burst into flame on wetting
Greek Orthodox *adj* : Eastern Orthodox; *specif* : GREEK 2c
¹green \'grēn\ *adj* [ME *grene*, fr. OE *grēne;* akin to OE *grōwan* to grow] **1** : of the color green **2 a** : covered by green growth or foliage ⟨~ fields⟩ **b** *of winter* : MILD, CLEMENT **c** : consisting of green plants and usu. edible herbage ⟨a ~ salad⟩ **3** : pleasantly alluring **4** : YOUTHFUL, VIGOROUS **5** : not ripened or matured : IMMATURE ⟨~ apples⟩ ⟨tender ~ grasses⟩ **6** : FRESH, NEW **7 a** : marked by a pale, sickly, or nauseated appearance ⟨he looks a little ~ around the gills⟩ **b** : affected by intense emotion — used esp. in the phrase *green with envy* **8 a** : not fully processed or treated: as (1) : not aged ⟨~ liquor⟩ (2) : not dressed or tanned ⟨~ hides⟩ (3) : freshly sawed : UNSEASONED **b** : not in condition for a particular use **c** (1) *of a female fish* : not ready to spawn (2) : not quite ready to shed ⟨~ crab⟩ **9 a** : deficient in training, knowledge, or experience **b** : deficient in sophistication and savoir faire : NAIVE **c** : not fully qualified for or experienced in a particular function ⟨~ horse⟩ **10** : indicating that everything is in order and to proceed according to plan ⟨all systems are ~⟩ ***syn*** see RUDE ***ant*** experienced — **green·ly** *adv* — **green·ness** \'grēn-nəs\ *n*
²green *vi* : to become green
³green *n* **1** : a color whose hue is somewhat less yellow than that of growing fresh grass or of the emerald or is that of the part of the spectrum lying between blue and yellow **2** : something of a green color **3** : green vegetation: as **a** *pl* : leafy parts of plants for use as decoration **b** *pl* (1) : leafy herbs (as spinach, dandelions, Swiss chard) that are boiled or steamed as a vegetable : POTHERB (2) : GREEN VEGETABLE **4** : a grassy plain or plot: as **a** : a common or park in the center of a town or village **b** : PUTTING GREEN — **greeny** \'grē-nē\ *adj*
green alga *n* : an alga in which the chlorophyll is not masked by other pigments; *specif* : such an alga of a division (Chlorophyta)
green·back \'grēn-ˌbak\ *n* : a legal-tender note issued by the U.S. government

green·back·er \-ər\ *n* **1** *cap* : a member of a post-Civil War American political party opposing reduction in the amount of paper money in circulation **2** : one who advocates a paper currency backed only by the U.S. government — **green·back·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
green bean *n* : a kidney bean that is used as a snap bean when the pods are colored green
green·belt \'grēn-ˌbelt\ *n* : a belt of parkways, parks, or farmlands that encircles a community
green·bri·er \-ˌbrī(-ə)r\ *n* : any of a genus (*Smilax*) of plants of the lily family; *esp* : a prickly vine (*S. rotundifolia*) of the eastern U.S. with umbels of small greenish flowers
green·bug \-ˌbəg\ *n* : a green aphid (*Schizaphis graminum*) very destructive to small grains
green corn *n* : the young tender ears of Indian corn suitable for cooking
green dragon *n* : an American arum (*Arisaema dracontium*) with digitate leaves, slender greenish yellow spathe, and elongated spadix
green·ery \'grēn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : green foliage or plants **2** : GREEN 3a
green–eyed \'grē-'nīd\ *adj* : JEALOUS ⟨the ~ locals who had spied on him —E. O. Schlunke⟩
green–eyed monster *n* : JEALOUSY
green·finch \'grēn-ˌfinch\ *n* : a very common European finch (*Chloris chloris*) having olive-green and yellow plumage
green fingers *n pl* : GREEN THUMB
green·fly \'grēn-ˌflī\ *n, Brit* : APHID; *esp* : GREEN PEACH APHID
green·gage \-ˌgāj\ *n* [*green* + Sir William *Gage* †1820 E botanist] : any of several rather small rounded greenish or greenish yellow cultivated plums
green gland *n* : one of a pair of large green glands in some crustaceans (as crayfishes) that have an excretory function and open at the bases of the larger antennae
green·gro·cer \'grēn-ˌgrō-sər\ *n, chiefly Brit* : a retailer of fresh vegetables and fruit — **green·gro·cery** \-ˌgrōs-(ə-)rē\ *n*
green·heart \-ˌhärt\ *n* : tropical So. American evergreen tree (*Nectandra rodioei*) with a hard somewhat greenish wood; *also* : its wood
green·horn \-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [obs. *greenhorn* (animal with young horns)] **1** : an inexperienced or unsophisticated person **2** : a newcomer (as to a country) unacquainted with local manners and customs
green·house \-ˌhaůs\ *n* **1** : a glassed enclosure used for the cultivation or protection of tender plants **2** : a clear plastic shell covering a section of an airplane
greenhouse effect *n* : warming of the earth's surface and the lower layers of atmosphere that tends to increase with increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide and that is caused by conversion of solar radiation into heat in a process involving selective transmission of short wave solar radiation by the atmosphere, its absorption by the earth's surface, and reradiation as infrared which is absorbed and partly reradiated back to the surface by carbon dioxide and water vapor in the air
green·ing \'grē-niŋ\ *n* : any of several green-skinned apples
green·ish \'grē-nish\ *adj* : somewhat green — **green·ish·ness** *n*
green·let \'grēn-lət\ *n* : VIREO
green light *n* [fr. the green traffic light which signals permission to proceed] : authority or permission to undertake a project
green·ling \'grēn-liŋ\ *n* **1** : any of several food fishes (family Hexagrammidae) of the rocky coasts of the northern Pacific; *esp* : a common food and sport fish (*Hexagrammos decagrammus*) **2** : LINGCOD
green–manure *vt* : to fertilize with green manure
green manure *n* : an herbaceous crop (as clover) plowed under while green to enrich the soil
green mold *n* : a green or green-spored mold (as of the genera *Penicillium* or *Aspergillus*)
green monkey *n* : a long-tailed monkey (*Cercopithecus sabaeus*) of West Africa that has greenish-appearing hair and is often used in medical research
gree·nock·ite \'grē-nə-ˌkīt\ *n* [Charles M. Cathcart, Lord *Greenock* †1859 E soldier] : a mineral CdS consisting of native cadmium sulfide occurring in yellow translucent hexagonal crystals or as an earthy incrustation
green onion *n* : a young onion pulled before the bulb has enlarged and used esp. in salads
green peach aphid *n* : a nearly cosmopolitan yellowish green aphid (*Myzus persicae*) that is frequently a vector of plant virus diseases and is destructive esp. to peaches — called also *greenfly*
green pepper *n* : SWEET PEPPER
green·room \'grēn-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : a room in a theater or concert hall where actors or musicians relax before, between, or after appearances
green·sand \-ˌsand\ *n* : a sedimentary deposit that consists largely of dark greenish grains of glauconite often mingled with clay or sand
greens fee \'grēnz-\ *n* : a fee paid for the privilege of playing on a golf course — called also *green fee*
green·shank \'grēn-ˌshaŋk\ *n* : an Old World sandpiper (*Tringa nebularia*) related to the yellowlegs of America
green·sick \-ˌsik\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *greensickness*] : affected with chlorosis
green·sick·ness *n* : CHLOROSIS
green snake *n* : either of two bright green harmless largely insectivorous No. American colubrid snakes (*Liopeltis vernalis* and *Ophiodrys aestivus*)
green soap *n* : a soft soap made from vegetable oils and used esp. in the treatment of skin diseases
green·stick fracture \'grēn-ˌstik-\ *n* : a bone fracture in a young individual in which the bone is partly broken and partly bent
green·stone \'grēn-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : any of numerous usu. altered dark green compact rocks (as diorite) **2** : NEPHRITE
green·stuff \-ˌstəf\ *n* : green vegetation used as foodstuff
green·sward \-ˌswȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : turf that is green with growing grass
green tea *n* : tea that is light in color from incomplete fermentation of the leaf before firing
green thumb *n* : an unusual ability to make plants grow — **green–thumbed** \'grēn-'thəmd\ *adj*
green turtle *n* : a large edible sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) with a smooth greenish or olive-colored shell and highly nutritious eggs
green vegetable *n* : a vegetable whose foilage or foilage-bearing stalks are the chief edible part
Green·wich time \'grin-ij-, 'gren-, -ich-\ *n* [*Greenwich*, England] : the mean solar time of the meridian of Greenwich used as the prime basis of standard time throughout the world — called also *Greenwich mean time*
green·wing \'grēn-ˌwiŋ\ *n* : GREEN-WINGED TEAL
green–winged teal \ˌgrēn-ˌwiŋ(d)-\ *n* : a small river duck (*Anas carolinensis*) the male of which has a chestnut head with a green eye patch and a metallic green area on the wing speculum
green·wood \'grēn-ˌwůd\ *n* : a forest green with foliage
¹greet \'grēt\ *vt* [ME *greten*, fr. OE *grētan*; akin to OE *grætan* to weep] **1** : to address with expression of kind wishes : HAIL **2** : to meet or react to in a specified manner ⟨the candidate was ~*ed* with catcalls⟩ **3** : to be perceived by ⟨a surprising sight ~*ed* her eyes⟩ — **greet·er** *n*
²greet *vi* **grat** \'grat\; **grut·ten** \'grət-ᵊn\ [ME *greten*, fr. OE *grætan*; akin to ON *grāta* to weep] *Scot* : WEEP, LAMENT
greet·ing *n* **1** : a salutation at meeting **2** : an expression of good wishes : REGARDS — usu. used in plural ⟨holiday ~*s*⟩
greeting card *n* : a card that bears a message of goodwill and is usu. sent or given on special occasions (as a birthday or a holiday)
greg·a·rine \'greg-ə-ˌrīn\ *n* [deriv. of L *gregarius*] : any of a large order (Gregarinida) of parasitic vermiform sporozoan protozoans that usu. occur in insects and other invertebrates — **gregarine** *or* **greg·a·rin·i·an** \ˌgreg-ə-'rin-ē-ən\ *adj*
gre·gar·i·ous \gri-'gar-ē-əs, -'ger-\ *adj* [L *gregarius* of a flock or herd, fr. *greg-, grex* flock, herd; akin to Gk *ageirein* to collect, *agora* assembly] **1 a** : tending to associate with others of one's kind : SOCIAL **b** : marked by or indicating a liking for companionship : SOCIABLE **c** : of or relating to a social group **2 a** *of a plant* : growing in a cluster or a colony **b** : living in contiguous nests but not forming a true colony — used esp. of wasps and bees — **gre·gar·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **gre·gar·i·ous·ness** *n*
¹Gre·go·ri·an \gri-'gōr-ē-ən, -'gȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to Pope Gregory XIII or the Gregorian calendar
²Gregorian *adj* **1** : of or relating to Pope Gregory I **2** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of Gregorian chant
³Gregorian *adj* [St. *Gregory* the Illuminator †332, apostle of Armenia] : of or relating to the Armenian national church
Gregorian calendar *n* : a calendar in general use introduced in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII as a revision of the Julian calendar, adopted in Great Britain and the American colonies in 1752, and marked by the suppression of 10 days or after 1700 11 days and the restriction that only those centesimal years divisible by 400 should be leap years — see MONTH table
Gregorian chant *n* : a monodic and rhythmically free liturgical chant of the Roman Catholic Church
greige \'grā(zh)\ *adj* [F *grège* raw (of silk), fr. It *greggio*] : being in an unbleached undyed state as taken from a loom — used of textiles
grei·sen \'grīz-ᵊn\ *n* [G] : a crystalline rock consisting of quartz and mica that is common in Cornwall and Saxony
grem·lin \'grem-lən\ *n* [perh. modif. of IrGael *gruaimīn* ill-humored little fellow] : a small gnome held to be responsible for malfunction of equipment esp. in an airplane
grem·mie *also* **grem·my** \'grem-ē\ *n, pl* **gremmies** [*grem*lin + *-ie*] : a young or inexperienced surfer; *esp* : one whose behavior is objectionable — called also *gremlin*
gre·nade \grə-'nād\ *n* [MF, pomegranate, fr. LL *granata*, fr. L, fem. of *granatus* seedy, fr. *granum* grain — more at CORN] **1** : a small missile that contains an explosive or a chemical agent (as tear gas, a flame producer, or a smoke producer) and that is thrown by hand or projected (as by a rifle or special launcher) **2** : a glass bottle or globe that contains volatile chemicals and can be burst by throwing (as for extinguishing a fire)
gren·a·dier \ˌgren-ə-'di(ə)r\ *n* **1 a** : a soldier who carries and throws grenades **b** : a member of a special regiment or corps formerly armed with grenades **2** : any of various deep-sea fishes (family Macruridae) that are related to the cods and have an elongate tapering body and compressed pointed tail — called also *rattail*
gren·a·dine \ˌgren-ə-'dēn, 'gren-ə-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. *grenade*] **1** : a plain or figured open-weave fabric of various fibers **2** : a moderate reddish orange **3** : a syrup flavored with pomegranates and used in mixed drinks
Gren·del \'gren-dᵊl\ *n* [OE] : a monstrous man-eating descendant of Cain slain by Beowulf in the Old English poem *Beowulf*
Gresh·am's law \ˌgresh-əmz-\ *n* [Sir Thomas *Gresham*] : an observation in economics: when two coins are equal in debt-paying value but unequal in intrinsic value, the one having the lesser intrinsic value tends to remain in circulation and the other to be hoarded or exported as bullion
Gret·na Green \ˌgret-nə-'grēn\ *n* [*Gretna Green*, Scotland] : a place where many eloping couples are married
grew *past of* GROW
grew·some *var of* GRUESOME
grey *var of* GRAY
grey friar *n, often cap G&F* : a Franciscan friar
grey·hound \'grā-ˌhaůnd\ *n* [ME *grehound*, fr. OE *grīghund*, fr. *grīg-* (akin to ON *grey* bitch) + *hund* hound] : a tall slender graceful smooth-coated dog of a breed characterized by swift-


greyhound

ness and keen sight and used for coursing game and racing; *also* : any of several related dogs

grey·lag \-ˌlag\ *n* : the common gray wild goose (*Anser anser* syn. *A. cinereus*) of Europe — called also *greylag goose*

grib·ble \'grib-əl\ *n* [prob. dim. of ²*grub*] : a small marine isopod crustacean (*Limnoria lignorum* or *L. terebrans*) that destroys submerged timber

grid \'grid\ *n* [back-formation fr. *gridiron*] **1** : GRATING **2 a** (1) : a perforated or ridged metal plate used as a conductor in a storage battery (2) : an electrode consisting of a mesh or a spiral of fine wire in an electron tube (3) : a network of conductors for distribution of electric power; *also* : a network of radio or television stations **b** : a network of uniformly spaced horizontal and perpendicular lines (as for locating points on a map); *also* : something remembling such a network ⟨a road ~⟩ **c** : GRIDIRON 2; *broadly* : FOOTBALL **3** : the starting positions of cars on a racecourse **4** : a device (as of glass) in a photocomposer on which are located the characters to be exposed on the film as the text is composed

grid·dle \'grid-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *gredil* gridiron, fr. ONF, fr. L *craticulum*, dim. of *cratis* wickerwork — more at HURDLE] : a flat metal surface or pan on which food is cooked by dry heat

griddle cake *n* : PANCAKE

grid·iron \'grid-ˌī(-ə)rn\ *n* [ME *gredire*] **1** : a grate for broiling food **2** : something consisting of or covered with a network; *esp* : a football field

grief \'grēf\ *n* [ME *gref*, fr. OF, heavy, grave, fr. (assumed) VL *grevis*, alter. of L *gravis*] **1** *obs* : GRIEVANCE 3 **2 a** : deep and poignant distress caused by or as if by bereavement **b** : a cause of such suffering **3 a** : MISHAP, MISADVENTURE **b** : TROUBLE, ANNOYANCE ⟨enough ~ for one day⟩ **c** : an unfortunate outcome : DISASTER — used chiefly in the phrase *come to grief* ***syn*** see SORROW — **grief·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

griev·ance \'grē-vən(t)s\ *n* **1** *obs* : SUFFERING, DISTRESS **2** : a cause of distress (as an unsatisfactory working condition) felt to afford reason for complaint or resistance **3** : the formal expression of a grievance : COMPLAINT ***syn*** see INJUSTICE

grievance committee *n* : a committee formed by a labor union or by employer and employees jointly to discuss and where possible to eliminate grievances

griev·ant \-vənt\ *n* : one who submits a grievance for arbitration

grieve \'grēv\ *vb* **grieved; griev·ing** [ME *greven*, fr. OF *grever*, fr. L *gravare* to burden, fr. *gravis* heavy, grave; akin to Goth *kaurjos*, pl., heavy, Gk *barys*, Skt *guru*] *vt* : to cause to suffer : DISTRESS ~ *vi* : to feel grief : SORROW — **griev·er** *n*

syn GRIEVE, MOURN, SORROW *shared meaning element* : to feel or express deep distress ***ant*** rejoice

griev·ous \'grē-vəs\ *adj* **1** : OPPRESSIVE, ONEROUS ⟨~ costs of war⟩ **2** : causing or characterized by severe pain, suffering, or sorrow ⟨a ~ wound⟩ ⟨a ~ loss⟩ **3** : SERIOUS, GRAVE ⟨~ fault⟩ — **griev·ous·ly** *adv* — **griev·ous·ness** *n*

grif·fin *or* **grif·fon** \'grif-ən\ *n* [ME *griffon*, fr. MF *grifon*, fr. *grif*, fr. L *gryphus*, fr. Gk *gryp-*, *gryps*, fr. *grypos* curved; akin to OE *cradol* cradle] : a fabulous animal typically having head, forepart, and wings like those of an eagle and body, hind legs, and tail like those of a lion



griffin

grif·fon \'grif-ən\ *n* [F, lit., griffin] **1** : BRUSSELS GRIFFON **2** : WIREHAIRED POINTING GRIFFON

grift \'grift\ *vt* [*grift*, n., perh. alter. of *graft*] *slang* : to obtain (money) illicitly (as in a confidence game) — **grift** *n*, *slang* — **grift·er** *n*, *slang*

grig \'grig\ *n* [ME *grege*] : a gay lively usu. small or young person

gri·gri *var of* GRIS-GRIS

¹grill \'gril\ *vt* **1** : to broil on a grill; *also* : to fry or toast on a griddle **2 a** : to torment as if by broiling ⟨the intense sun slowly ~*ed* them⟩ **b** : to question intensely ⟨the police ~*ed* the suspect⟩ — **grill·er** *n*

²grill *n* [F *gril*, fr. L *craticulum* — more at GRIDDLE] **1** : a cooking utensil of parallel bars on which food is exposed to heat (as from charcoal or electricity) **2** : food that is broiled usu. on a grill — compare MIXED GRILL **3** : a usu. informal restaurant or dining room esp. in a hotel

gril·lage \'gril-ij\ *n* **1** : a framework of timber or steel for support in marshy or treacherous soil **2** : a framework for supporting a load (as a column)

grille *or* **grill** \'gril\ *n* [F *grille*, alter. of OF *greille*, fr. L *craticula*, dim. of *cratis* wickerwork — more at HURDLE] **1** : a grating forming a barrier or screen; *specif* : an ornamental metal one at the front end of an automobile **2** : an opening covered with a grille

grill·room \'gril-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : GRILL 3

grill·work \'gril-ˌwərk\ *n* : work constituting or resembling a grille

grilse \'grils\ *n, pl* **grilse** [ME *grills*] : a young mature Atlantic salmon returning from the sea to spawn for the first time; *broadly* : any of various salmon at such a stage of development

grim \'grim\ *adj* **grim·mer; grim·mest** [ME, fr. OE *grimm*; akin to OHG *grimm* fierce, Gk *chromados* action of gnashing] **1** : fierce in disposition or action : SAVAGE **2** : stern or forbidding in action or appearance ⟨a ~ overcast winter day⟩ **3** : UNFLINCHING, UNYIELDING ⟨~ determination⟩ **4** : ghastly, repellent, or sinister in character ⟨a ~ tale⟩ — **grim·ly** *adv* — **grim·ness** *n*

gri·mace \'grim-əs, grim-'ās\ *n* [F, fr. MF, alter. of *grimache*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *grīma* mask] : a facial expression usu. of disgust or disapproval — **grimace** *vi* — **gri·mac·er** *n*

gri·mal·kin \grim-'ȯ(l)-kən, -'al-\ *n* [*gray* + *malkin*] : CAT 1a; *esp* : an old female cat

grime \'grīm\ *n* [Flem *grijm*, fr. MD *grime* soot, mask; akin to OE *grīma* mask, Gk *chriein* to anoint — more at CHRISM] : soot, smut, or dirt adhering to or embedded in a surface; *broadly* : accumulated dirtiness and disorder ⟨the ~ of the slums⟩ — **grime** *vt*

Grimm's law \'grimz-\ *n* [Jacob *Grimm* †1863 G philologist] : a statement in historical linguistics: Proto-Indo-European voiceless stops became Proto-Germanic voiceless fricatives (as in Greek *pyr*, *treis*, *kardia* compared with English *fire*, *three*, *heart*), Proto-Indo-European voiced stops became Proto-Germanic voiceless stops (as in Latin *duo*, *genus* compared with English *two*, *kin*), and Proto-Indo-European voiced aspirated stops became Proto-Germanic voiced fricatives (as in Sanskrit *nābhi*, *madhya* "mid" compared with English *navel*, Old Norse *mithr* "mid")

grimy \'grī-mē\ *adj* **grim·i·er; -est** : full of or covered with grime : DIRTY — **grim·i·ness**

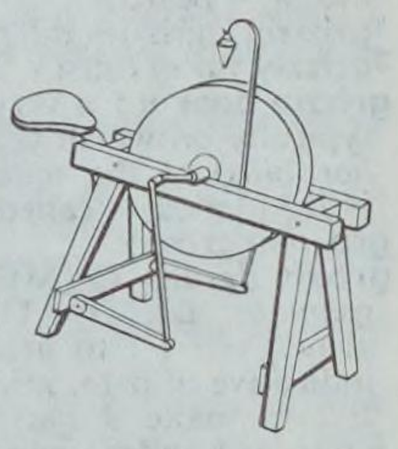
grin \'grin\ *vi* **grinned; grin·ning** [ME *grennen*, fr. OE *grennian*; akin to OHG *grennen* to snarl] : to draw back the lips so as to show the teeth (as in amusement or laughter) — **grin** *n* — **grin·ner** *n* — **grin·ning·ly** \'grin-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹grind \'grīnd\ *vb* **ground** \'graůnd\; **grind·ing** [ME *grinden*, fr. OE *grindan*; akin to L *frendere* to crush, grind, Gk *chondros* grain, OE *grēot* grit] *vt* **1** : to reduce to powder or small fragments by friction (as in a mill or with the teeth) **2** : to wear down, polish, or sharpen by friction : WHET ⟨~ an ax⟩ **3 a** : to rub or press harshly ⟨*ground* the cigarette out with his heel⟩ **b** : to press together with a rotating motion ⟨~ the teeth⟩ **4** : OPPRESS, HARASS ⟨the nobility *ground* down the peasants with a variety of exactions⟩ **5 a** : to operate or produce by turning a crank ⟨~ a hand organ⟩ **b** : to produce in a mechanical way ⟨~ out best-sellers⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to perform the operation of grinding **2** : to become pulverized, polished, or sharpened by friction **3** : to move with difficulty or friction esp. so as to make a grating noise ⟨~*ing* gears⟩ **4** : DRUDGE; *esp* : to study hard ⟨~ for an exam⟩ **5** : to rotate the hips in an erotic manner (as in a burlesque striptease) — **grind·ing·ly** \'grīn-diŋ-lē\ *adv*

²grind *n* **1 a** : an act of grinding **b** : the sound of grinding **2 a** : dreary monotonous labor or routine; *esp* : intensive study **b** : a student who studies excessively **3** : the result of grinding; *esp* : material obtained by grinding to a particular degree of fineness ⟨a percolator ~ of coffee⟩ **4** : the act of rotating the hips in an erotic manner ***syn*** see WORK

grind·er \'grīn-dər\ *n* **1 a** : MOLAR **b** *pl* : TEETH **2** : one that grinds **3** : a machine or device for grinding **4** : SUBMARINE 2

grind·stone \'grīn-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : MILLSTONE 1 **2** : a flat circular stone of natural sandstone that revolves on an axle and is used for grinding, shaping, or smoothing



grindstone 2

grin·go \'griŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **gringos** [Sp, alter. of *griego* Greek, stranger, fr. L *Graecus* Greek] : a foreigner in Spain or Latin America esp. when of English or American origin — often used disparagingly

¹grip \'grip\ *vt* **gripped; grip·ping** [ME *grippen*, fr. OE *grippan*; akin to OE *grīpan*] **1** : to seize or hold firmly **2** : to hold strongly the interest of ⟨a story that ~*s* the reader⟩ — **grip·per** *n* — **grip·ping·ly** \'grip-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

²grip *n* **1 a** : a strong or tenacious grasp **b** : strength in gripping **c** : manner or style of gripping **2 a** : a firm tenacious hold typically giving control, mastery, or understanding ⟨could not free himself from the ~ of these new ideas⟩ **b** : mental grasp : APPREHENSION **3** : a part or device for gripping **4** : a part by which something is grasped; *esp* : HANDLE **5** : TRAVELING BAG **6** : STAGEHAND ***syn*** see HOLD

¹gripe \'grīp\ *vb* **griped; grip·ing** [ME *gripen*, fr. OE *grīpan*; akin to OHG *grīfan* to grasp, Lith *griebti*] *vt* **1** : SEIZE, GRASP **2 a** : AFFLICT, DISTRESS **b** : IRRITATE, VEX ⟨*griped* by new income-tax provisions⟩ **3** : to cause pinching and spasmodic pain in the bowels of ~ *vi* **1** : to experience griping **2** : to complain with sustained grumbling — **grip·er** *n*

²gripe *n* **1** : CLUTCH, GRASP; *broadly* : CONTROL, MASTERY **2** : GRIEVANCE, COMPLAINT **3** : a pinching spasmodic intestinal pain — usu. used in pl. **4** : HANDLE, GRIP **5** : a device (as a brake) for grasping or holding

grippe \'grip\ *n* [F, lit., seizure] : an acute febrile contagious virus disease identical with or resembling influenza — **grippy** \'grip-ē\ *adj*

grip·sack \'grip-ˌsak\ *n* : TRAVELING BAG

gri·saille \gri-'zī, -'zā(ə)l\ *n* [F] : decoration in tones of a single color and esp. gray designed to produce a three-dimensional effect

Gri·sel·da \griz-'el-də\ *n* [It] : a woman of humble origins in medieval legend who endures tests of wifely patience laid on her by her wellborn husband

gris·eo·ful·vin \ˌgriz-ē-ō-'fůl-vən, ˌgris-, -'fəl-\ *n* [NL *griseofulvum*, specific epithet of *Penicillium griseofulvum*, mold from which it is obtained] : an antibiotic $C_{17}H_{17}ClO_6$ used esp. against fungi

gris·eous \'griz-ē-əs, 'gris-\ *adj* [ML *griseus*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *grīs* gray] : of a light color or white mottled with black or brown : GRIZZLED

gri·sette \gri-'zet\ *n* [F] **1** : a young French working-class woman **2** : a young woman combining part-time prostitution with some other occupation

gris–gris \'grē-(ˌ)grē\ *n, pl* **gris–gris** \-(ˌ)grēz\ [F, of African origin; akin to Balante *grigri* amulet] : an amulet or incantation used chiefly by people of African Negro ancestry

gris·ly \'griz-lē\ *adj* **gris·li·er; -est** [ME, fr. OE *grislic*, fr. *gris-* (akin to OE *āgrīsan* to fear); akin to OHG *grīsenlīh* terrible] **1** : inspiring horror or intense fear : FORBIDDING ⟨houses that were dark and ~ under the blank, cold sky —D. H. Lawrence⟩ **2** : inspiring disgust or distaste ⟨a ~ account of the fire⟩ — **gris·li·ness** *n*

grist \'grist\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *grīst;* akin to OE *grindan* to grind] **1 a** : grain or a batch of grain for grinding **b** : the product obtained from a grist of grain including the flour or meal and the grain offals **2** : a required or usual amount **3** : matter of interest or value forming the basis of a story or analysis **4** : something turned to advantage — used esp. in the phrase *grist for one's mill*

gris·tle \'gris-əl\ *n* [ME *gristil*, fr. OE *gristle;* akin to MLG *gristel* gristle] : CARTILAGE: *broadly* : tough cartilaginous, tendinous, or fibrous matter esp. in table meats

gris·tly \'gris-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **gris·tli·er; -est** : consisting of or containing gristle ⟨~ steak⟩ — **gris·tli·ness** *n*

grist·mill \'grist-ˌmil\ *n* : a mill for grinding grain

¹grit \'grit\ *n* [ME *grete*, fr. OE *grēot;* akin to OHG *grioz* sand, L *furfur* bran, Gk *chrōs* skin] **1 a** *obs* : SAND. GRAVEL **b** : a hard sharp granule (as of sand); *also* : material (as many abrasives) composed of such granules **2** : any of several sandstones **3** : the structure of a stone that adapts it to grinding **4** : firmness of mind or spirit : unyielding courage in the face of hardship or danger ***syn*** see FORTITUDE ***ant*** faintheartedness

²grit *vb* **grit·ted; grit·ting** *vi* : to give forth a grating sound ~ *vt* **1** : to cover or spread with grit; *esp* : to smooth (as marble) by means of a coarse abrasive **2** : to cause (as one's teeth) to grind or grate

grith \'grith\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. ON, security] : peace, security, or sanctuary imposed or guaranteed in early medieval England under various special conditions

grits \'grits\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ME *gryt*, fr. OE *grytt;* akin to OE *grēot*] : coarsely ground hulled grain; *specif* : HOMINY GRITS

grit·ty \'grit-ē\ *adj* **grit·ti·er; -est** **1** : containing or resembling grit **2** : courageously persistent : PLUCKY — **grit·ti·ly** \'grit-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **grit·ti·ness** \'grit-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹griz·zle \'griz-əl\ *n* [ME *grisel*, adj., gray, fr. MF, fr. *gris*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *gris* gray] **1** *archaic* : gray hair **2 a** : a roan coat pattern or color **b** : a gray or roan animal

²grizzle *vb* **griz·zled; griz·zling** \'griz-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* : to make grayish ~ *vi* : to become grayish

griz·zled \'griz-əld\ *adj* : sprinkled or streaked with gray : GRAYING ⟨a ~ beard⟩

¹griz·zly \'griz-lē\ *adj* **griz·zli·er; -est** : somewhat gray : GRIZZLED

²grizzly *var of* GRISLY

grizzly bear *n* : a very large powerful typically brownish yellow bear (*Ursus horribilis*) of the uplands of western No. America — called also *grizzly*



grizzly bear

gro *abbr* gross

groan \'grōn\ *vb* [ME *gronen*, fr. OE *grānian;* akin to OHG *grīnan* to growl] *vi* **1** : to utter a deep moan indicative of pain, grief, or annoyance **2** : to make a harsh sound (as of creaking) under sudden or prolonged strain ~ *vt* : to utter or express with groaning — **groan** *n* — **groan·er** *n*

¹groat \'grōt\ *n* [ME *grotes*, pl., fr. OE *grotan;* akin to OE *grēot*] **1** *usu pl but sing or pl in constr* : hulled grain broken into fragments larger than grits **2** : a grain (as of oats) exclusive of the hull

²groat *n* [ME *groot*, fr. MD] : an old British coin worth four pennies

gro·cer \'grō-sər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *grossier* wholesaler, fr. *gros* coarse, wholesale — more at GROSS] : a dealer in staple foodstuffs, household supplies, and usu. meats, produce, and dairy products

grocer's itch *n* : an itching dermatitis that results from prolonged contact with some mites (esp. family Acaridae), their products, or materials (as feeds) infested with them

gro·cery \'grōs-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-cer·ies** **1** *pl* : commodities sold by a grocer — usu. sing. in Brit. usage **2** : a grocer's store

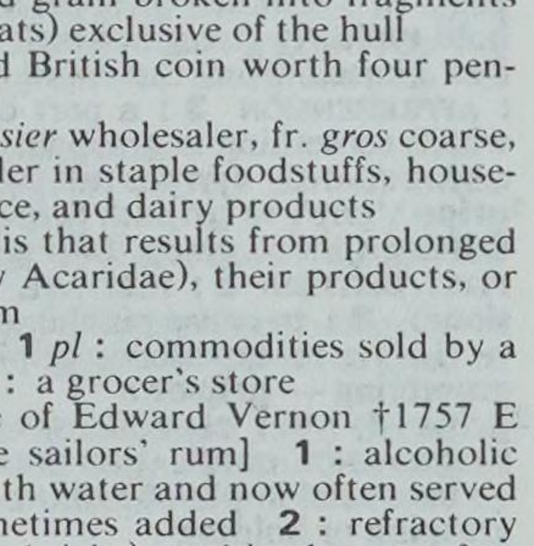
grog \'gräg\ *n* [*Old Grog*, nickname of Edward Vernon †1757 E admiral responsible for diluting the sailors' rum] **1** : alcoholic liquor; *specif* : liquor (as rum) cut with water and now often served hot with lemon juice and sugar sometimes added **2** : refractory materials (as crushed pottery and firebricks) used in the manufacture of refractory products (as crucibles) to reduce shrinkage in drying and firing

grog·gy \'gräg-ē\ *adj* **grog·gi·er; -est** [*grog*] : weak and unsteady on the feet or in action — **grog·gi·ly** \'gräg-ə-lē\ *adv* — **grog·gi·ness** \'gräg-ē-nəs\ *n*

gro·gram \'gräg-rəm, 'grōg-\ *n* [MF *gros grain* coarse texture] : a coarse loosely woven fabric of silk, silk and mohair, or silk and wool — compare GROSGRAIN

grog·shop \'gräg-ˌshäp\ *n, chiefly Brit* : a usu. low-class barroom

¹groin \'grȯin\ *n* [alter. of ME *grynde*, fr. OE, abyss; akin to OE *grund* ground] **1** : the fold or depression marking the juncture of the lower abdomen and the inner part of the thigh; *also* : the region of this line **2 a** : the projecting curved line along which two intersecting vaults meet **b** : a rib that covers this edge **3** : a rigid structure built out from a shore to protect the shore from erosion, to trap sand, or to direct a current for scouring a channel



groin 2a

²groin *vt* : to build or equip with groins

grom·met \'gräm-ət, 'grəm-\ *n* [perh. fr. obs. F *gormette* curb of a bridle] **1** : a flexible loop that serves as a fastening, support, or reinforcement **2** : an eyelet of firm material to strengthen or protect an opening or to insulate or protect something passed through it

grom·well \'gräm-ˌwel, -wəl\ *n* [ME *gromil*, fr. MF] : any of a genus (*Lithospermum*) of plants of the borage family having polished white stony nutlets

¹groom \'grüm, 'grům\ *n* [ME *grom*] **1** *archaic* : MAN, FELLOW **2 a** (1) *archaic* : MANSERVANT (2) : one of several officers of the English royal household **b** : a man or boy in charge of the feeding, conditioning, and stabling of horses **3** : BRIDEGROOM

²groom *vt* **1** : to clean and care for (as a horse) **2** : to make neat or attractive ⟨an impeccably ~*ed* woman⟩ **3** : to get into readiness for a specific objective : PREPARE ⟨was being ~*ed* as a presidential candidate⟩ ~ *vi* : to groom oneself

groom·er \'grü-mər\ *n* : one who grooms (as dogs)

grooms·man \'grümz-mən, 'grůmz-\ *n* : a male friend who attends a bridegroom at his wedding

¹groove \'grüv\ *n* [ME *groof;* akin to OE *grafan* to dig — more at GRAVE] **1 a** : a long narrow channel or depression **b** : the indentation on the bottom of a piece of type between the feet **2 a** : a fixed routine : RUT **b** : a situation suited to one's abilities or interests : NICHE **3** : top form ⟨a great talker when he is in the ~⟩ **4** : the line or course to follow for best results ⟨his every pitch was right in the ~⟩ **5** : an enjoyable or exciting experience

²groove *vb* **grooved; groov·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to make a groove in **b** : to join by a groove **2 a** : to enjoy appreciatively ⟨~*s* exciting experiences⟩ **b** : to excite pleasurably ⟨*grooving* their minds with cannabis —Stephen Nemo⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become joined or fitted by a groove **2** : to form a groove **3** : to enjoy oneself intensely **4** : to interact harmoniously ⟨contemporary minds and rock ~ together — Benjamin DeMott⟩ — **groov·er** *n*

groovy \'grü-vē\ *adj* **groov·i·er; -est** : MARVELOUS, WONDERFUL, EXCELLENT ⟨felt that this poetry was interesting, enjoyable, not to mention ~ —R. M. Muccigrosso⟩

grope \'grōp\ *vb* **groped; grop·ing** [ME *gropen*, fr. OE *grāpian;* akin to OE *grīpan* to seize] *vi* **1** : to feel about blindly or uncertainly in search ⟨*groped* for the light switch⟩ **2** : to look for something blindly or uncertainly ⟨*groping* for the right words⟩ **3** : to feel one's way ~ *vt* **1** : to pass the hands over (the person of another) for the sake of sexual pleasure **2** : to find (as one's way) by groping — **grope** *n* — **grop·er** *n*

gros·beak \'grōs-ˌbēk\ *n* [part trans. of F *grosbec*, fr. *gros* thick + *bec* beak] : any of several finches of Europe or America having large stout conical bills

gro·schen \'grō-shən, 'grȯ-\ *n, pl* **groschen** [G] — see *schilling* at MONEY table

gros·grain \'grō-ˌgrān\ *n* [F *gros grain* coarse texture] : a strong close-woven corded fabric usu. of silk or rayon and often with cotton filler — compare GROGRAM

¹gross \'grōs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *gros* thick, coarse, fr. L *grossus*] **1 a** *archaic* : immediately obvious **b** (1) : glaringly noticeable usu. because of inexcusable badness or objectionableness ⟨~ error⟩ (2) : OUT-AND-OUT, UTTER ⟨~ injustice⟩ **c** : visible without the aid of a microscope **2 a** : BIG, BULKY: *esp* : excessively fat **b** : growing or spreading with excessive luxuriance **3 a** : of, relating to, or dealing with general aspects or broad distinctions **b** : consisting of an overall total exclusive of deductions ⟨~ income⟩ — compare NET **4** : made up of material or perceptible elements : CORPORAL ⟨the ~*er* part of human nature⟩ **5** *archaic* : not fastidious in taste : UNDISCRIMINATING **6** : deficient in knowledge : IGNORANT, UNTUTORED **7 a** : coarse in nature or behavior : UNREFINED **b** : gravely deficient in civility or decency : crudely vulgar ⟨merely ~, a scatological rather than a pornographic impropriety —Aldous Huxley⟩ ***syn*** **1** see COARSE ***ant*** delicate, dainty, ethereal **2** see FLAGRANT — **gross·ly** *adv* — **gross·ness** *n*

²gross *n* **1** *obs* : AMOUNT, SUM **2** : an overall total exclusive of deductions

³gross *vt* : to earn or bring in (an overall total) exclusive of deductions (as for taxes or expenses) — **gross·er** *n*

⁴gross *n, pl* **gross** [ME *groce*, fr. MF *grosse*, fr. fem. of *gros*] : an aggregate of 12 dozen things ⟨~ of pencils⟩

gross anatomy *n* : a branch of anatomy that deals with the macroscopic structure of tissues and organs

gross national product *n* : the total value of the goods and services produced in a nation during a specified period (as a year)

gros·su·lar \'gräs(h)-ə-lər, 'gräs-yə-\ *n* [NL *Grossularia*, genus name of the gooseberry] : GROSSULARITE

gros·su·la·rite \-lə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *grossularit*, fr. NL *Grossularia*] : a colorless or green, yellow, brown, or red garnet $Ca_3Al_2(SiO_4)_3$

grosz \'grȯsh\ *n, pl* **gro·szy** \'grȯ-shē\ [Pol] — see *zloty* at MONEY table

grot \'grät\ *n* [MF *grotte*, fr. It *grotta*] : GROTTO

¹gro·tesque \grō-'tesk\ *n* [MF & OIt; MF, fr. OIt (*pittura*) *grottesca*, lit., cave painting, fem. of *grottesco* of a cave, fr. *grotta*] **1 a** : a style of decorative art characterized by fanciful or fantastic human and animal forms often interwoven with foliage or similar figures that may distort the natural into absurdity, ugliness, or caricature **b** : a piece of work in this style **2** : one that is grotesque **3** : SANS SERIF

²grotesque *adj* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of the grotesque: as **a** : FANCIFUL, BIZARRE **b** : absurdly incongruous **c** : departing markedly from the natural, the expected, or the typical ***syn*** see FANTASTIC — **gro·tesque·ly** *adv* — **gro·tesque·ness** *n*

gro·tes·que·rie *also* **gro·tes·que·ry** \grō-'tes-kə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [*grotesque* + *-erie* -ery] **1** : something that is grotesque **2** : the quality or state of being grotesque : GROTESQUENESS

grot·to \'grät-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **grottoes** *also* **grottos** [It *grotta, grotto*, fr. L *crypta* cavern, crypt] **1** : CAVE **2** : an artificial recess or structure made to resemble a natural cave

grouch \'grau̇ch\ *n* [prob. alter. of *grutch* (grudge)] **1 a** : a fit of bad temper **b** : GRUDGE, COMPLAINT ⟨never nursed a ~ five minutes —W. A. White⟩ **2** : an habitually irritable or complaining person : GRUMBLER — **grouch** *vi*

grouchy \'graù-chē\ *adj* **grouch·i·er; -est** : given to grumbling : PEEVISH — **grouch·i·ly** \-chə-lē\ *adv* — **grouch·i·ness** \-chē-nəs\ *n*

¹ground \'graùnd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *grund;* akin to OHG *grunt* ground, Gk *chrainein* to touch slightly] **1 a** : the bottom of a body of water **b** *pl* (1) : SEDIMENT 1 (2) : ground coffee beans after brewing **2 a** : a basis for belief, action, or argument ⟨~ for complaint⟩ — often used in pl. **b** (1) : a fundamental logical condition (2) : a basic metaphysical cause **3 a** : a surrounding area : BACKGROUND **b** : material that serves as a substratum **4 a** : the surface of the earth **b** : an area used for a particular purpose ⟨parade ~⟩ ⟨fishing ~s⟩ **c** *pl* : the area around and belonging to a house or other building **d** : an area to be won or defended in or as if in battle **e** : an area of knowledge or special interest ⟨covered a lot of ~ in his lecture⟩ **5 a** : SOIL, EARTH **b** : a special soil **c** : rock or formation through which mine workings are driven **6 a** : an object that makes an electrical connection with the earth **b** : a large conducting body (as the earth) used as a common return for an electric circuit and as an arbitrary zero of potential **c** : electric connection with a ground **7** : a football offense utilizing primarily running plays ***syn*** see BASE — **from the ground up** **1** : entirely new or afresh **2** : from top to bottom : THOROUGHLY — **into the ground** : beyond what is necessary or tolerable : to exhaustion ⟨labored an issue *into the ground* —*Newsweek*⟩ — **off the ground** : in or as if in flight : under way ⟨the program never got *off the ground*⟩

²ground *vt* **1** : to bring to or place on the ground **2 a** : to provide a reason or justification for ⟨our fears about technological change may be well ~*ed* —L. K. Williams⟩ **b** : to instruct in fundamentals **3** : to connect electrically with a ground **4** : to restrict to the ground ⟨~ a pilot⟩ **5** : to throw (a football) intentionally to the ground to avoid being tackled for a loss ~ *vi* **1** : to have a ground or basis : RELY **2** : to run aground **3** : to hit a grounder

³ground *past of* GRIND

ground ball *n* : a batted baseball that bounds or rolls along the ground

ground bass *n* : a short bass passage continually repeated below constantly changing melody and harmony

ground–cher·ry \'graùn(d)-'cher-ē\ *n* : a plant (genus *Physalis*) of the nightshade family with pulpy fruits in papery husks; *also* : the fruit of this plant

ground cloth *n* : a waterproof sheet placed on the ground for protection (as of a sleeping bag) against soil moisture

ground cover *n* **1** : the small plants in a forest except young trees **2 a** : a planting of low plants (as ivy) that covers the ground in place of turf **b** : a plant adapted for use as ground cover

ground crew *n* : the mechanics and technicians who maintain and service an airplane

ground–effect machine *n* [fr. the support provided by the cushion of air as if the vehicle rode on the ground] : a vehicle for traveling short distances that is supported above the surface of land or water by a cushion of air produced by downwardly directed fans

ground·er \'graùn-dər\ *n* : GROUND BALL

ground fir *n* : a club moss (as *Lycopodium sabaenifolium* or *L. alpinum*) having a stiff erect habit

ground floor *n* : the floor of a house most nearly on a level with the ground — compare FIRST FLOOR

ground glass *n* : glass with a light-diffusing surface produced by etching or abrading

ground·hog \'graùnd-ˌhȯg, -ˌhäg\ *n* : WOODCHUCK

Groundhog Day *n* [fr. the legend that the groundhog comes out and is frightened back into hibernation if he sees his shadow] : February 2 that traditionally indicates six more weeks of winter if sunny or an early spring if cloudy

ground·ing \'graùn-diŋ\ *n* : training or instruction in the fundamentals of a field of knowledge

ground itch *n* : an itching inflammation of the skin marking the point of entrance into the body of larval hookworms

ground ivy *n* : a trailing mint (*Nepeta hederacea*) with rounded leaves and blue-purple flowers

ground·less \'graùn-(d)ləs\ *adj* : having no ground or foundation ⟨~ fears⟩ — **ground·less·ly** *adv* — **ground·less·ness** *n*

ground·ling \'graùn-(d)liŋ\ *n* **1 a** : a spectator who stood in the pit of an Elizabethan theater **b** : a person of unsophisticated taste **2** : one that lives or works on or near the ground

ground loop *n* : a sharp uncontrollable turn made by an airplane on the ground in landing, taking off, or taxiing

ground·mass \'graùn(d)-ˌmas\ *n* : the fine-grained or glassy base of a porphyry in which the larger distinct crystals are embedded

ground meristem *n* : the part of a primary apical meristem remaining after differentiation of dermatogen and procambium

ground·nut \'graùn(d)-ˌnət\ *n* **1 a** : any of several plants having edible tuberous roots; *esp* : a No. American leguminous vine (*Apios tuberosa*) with pinnate leaves and clusters of brownish purple fragrant flowers **b** : the root of a groundnut **2** *chiefly Brit* : PEANUT

ground·out \'graùn-ˌdaùt\ *n* [*grounder*] : a play in baseball in which a batter is put out after hitting a grounder to an infielder

ground pine *n* **1** : a European bugle (*Ajuga chamaepitys*) with a resinous odor **2** : any of several club mosses (esp. *Lycopodium clavatum* and *L. complanatum*) with long creeping stems and erect branches : GROUND FIR

ground plan *n* **1** : a plan of a floor of a building as distinguished from an elevation **2** : a first or basic plan

ground rent *n* : the rent paid by a lessee for the use of land esp. for building

ground rule *n* **1** : a sports rule adopted to modify play on a particular field, court, or course **2** : a rule of procedure ⟨*ground rules* for selecting a superintendent —*Amer. School Board Jour.*⟩

¹ground·sel \'graùn(d)-səl\ *n* [ME *groundeswele*, fr. OE *grundeswelge*, fr. *grund* ground + *swelgan* to swallow — more at SWALLOW] : any of a large genus (*Senecio*) of composite plants with mostly yellow flower heads

²groundsel *n* [ME *ground sille*, fr. *ground* + *sille* sill] : a foundation timber

ground·sheet \'graùn(d)-ˌshēt\ *n* : GROUND CLOTH

ground speed *n* : the speed (as of an airplane) with relation to the ground — compare AIR SPEED

ground squirrel *n* : any of various burrowing rodents (as of the genus *Citellus*) that are related to the squirrels and that live in colonies esp. in open areas, often damage crops, and include vectors of plague — called also *spermophile*

ground state *n* : the energy level (as of a system of interacting elementary particles, an atomic nucleus, or an atom) having the least energy of all its possible states — called also *ground level*

ground stroke *n* : a stroke made (as in tennis) by hitting a ball that has rebounded from the ground — compare VOLLEY

ground substance *n* : a more or less homogeneous matrix that forms the background in which the specific differentiated elements of a system are suspended: **a** : the intercellular substance of tissues **b** : HYALOPLASM

ground swell *n* **1** : a broad deep undulation of the ocean caused by an often distant gale or seismic disturbance **2** : a rapid spontaneous growth (as of political opinion) ⟨public *ground swell* of support for broad and far-reaching change —A. H. Quie⟩

ground·wa·ter \'graùn-ˌdwȯt-ər, -ˌdwät-\ *n* : water within the earth that supplies wells and springs; *specif* : water in the part of the ground that is wholly saturated

ground wave *n* : a radio wave that is propagated along the surface of the earth

ground·work \'graùn-ˌdwərk\ *n* : FOUNDATION, BASIS ⟨a plan that provides the ~ for a bold new program⟩

¹group \'grüp\ *n, often attrib* [F *groupe*, fr. It *gruppo*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *kropf* craw — more at CROP] **1** : two or more figures forming a complete unit in a composition **2 a** : a number of individuals assembled together or having some unifying relationship **b** : an assemblage of objects regarded as a unit **c** (1) : a military unit consisting of a headquarters and attached battalions (2) : a unit of the U.S. Air Force higher than a squadron and lower than a wing **3 a** : an assemblage of related organisms — often used to avoid taxonomic connotations when the kind or degree of relationship is not clearly defined **b** (1) : an assemblage of atoms forming part of a molecule : RADICAL ⟨a methyl ~⟩ (2) : an assemblage of elements forming one of the vertical columns of the periodic table **c** : a stratigraphic division comprising rocks deposited during an era **4** : a mathematical set that is closed under a binary associative operation, has an identity element, and has an inverse for every element

syn GROUP, CLUSTER, BUNCH, PARCEL, LOT *shared meaning element* : a collection or assemblage of separate units

²group *vt* **1** : to combine in a group **2** : to assign to a group : CLASSIFY ~ *vi* **1** : to form a group **2** : to belong to a group **3** : to make well-defined groups of hits on a target ⟨the gun ~*ed* beautifully —R. C. Ruark⟩ — **group·able** \'grü-pə-bəl\ *adj*

group captain *n* : a commissioned officer in the British air force who ranks with a colonel in the army

group dynamics *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the interacting forces within a small human group; *also* : the sociological study of these forces

grou·per \'grü-pər\ *n, pl* **groupers** *also* **grouper** [Pg *garoupa*] **1** : any of numerous fishes (family Serranidae and esp. genera *Epinephelus* and *Mycteroperca*) that are typically large solitary bottom fishes of warm seas **2** : any of several rockfishes (family Scorpaenidae)

group·ie \'grü-pē\ *n* : a female fan of a rock group who usu. follows the group around on concert tours

group·ing \'grü-piŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of combining in groups **2** : a set of objects combined in a group ⟨a furniture ~⟩

group practice *n* : medicine practiced by a group of associated physicians (as specialists in different fields) working as partners or as partners and employees

group therapy *n* : therapy in the presence of a therapist in which several patients discuss and share their personal problems — called also *group psychotherapy* — **group therapist** *n*

group·think \'grüp-ˌthiŋk\ *n* [*¹group* + *-think* (as in *doublethink*)] : conformity to group values and ethics

¹grouse \'graùs\ *n, pl* **grouse** *or* **grouses** [origin unknown] : any of numerous birds (family Tetraonidae) that have a plump body, strong feathered legs, and plumage less brilliant than that of pheasants usu. with reddish brown or other protective color and that include many important game birds

²grouse *vi* **groused; grous·ing** [origin unknown] : COMPLAIN, GRUMBLE — **grous·er** *n*

³grouse *n* : COMPLAINT ⟨his main ~ . . . is over the inadequacy of the pay —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

¹grout \'graùt\ *n* [OE *grūt* coarse meal; akin to OE *grytt* grit] **1** : LEES **2 a** : thin mortar used for filling spaces (as the joints in masonry); *also* : any of various other materials (as a mixture of cement and water or chemicals that solidify) used for a similar purpose **b** : PLASTER

²grout *vt* **1** : to fill up or finish with grout **2** : to fix in place by means of grout ⟨~ a bolt into a wall⟩ — **grout·er** *n*

grove \'grōv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *grāf*] **1** : a small wood without underbrush ⟨a picnic ~⟩ **2** : a planting of fruit or nut trees

grov·el \'gräv-əl, 'grəv-\ *vi* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [back-formation fr. *groveling* prone, fr. *groveling*, adv., fr. ME, fr. *gruf*, adv., on the face (fr. ON *á grūfu*) + *-ling;* akin to OE *crēopan* to creep] **1** : to creep with the face to the ground : CRAWL **2 a** : to lie or creep with the body prostrate in token of subservi-

ence or abasement **b** : to abase oneself **3** : to give oneself over to what is base or unworthy : WALLOW ⟨~*ing* in sentimentality — James Stern⟩ — **grov·el·er** \-(ə-)lər\ *n* — **grov·el·ing·ly** \-(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv*

groves of academe [*the olive grove of Academe*, phrase applied to Plato's Academy in Milton's *Paradise Regained*] : the academic world

grow \'grō\ *vb* **grew** \'grü\; **grown** \'grōn\; **grow·ing** [ME *growen*, fr. OE *grōwan*; akin to OHG *gruowan* to grow] *vi* **1 a** : to spring up and develop to maturity **b** : to be able to grow in some place or situation ⟨trees that ~ only in the tropics⟩ **c** : to assume some relation through or as if through a process of natural growth ⟨a tree with limbs *grown* together⟩ ⟨ferns ~*ing* from the rocks⟩ **2 a** : to increase in size by addition of material either by assimilation into the living organism or by accretion in a nonbiological process (as crystallization) **b** : INCREASE, EXPAND ⟨~*s* in wisdom⟩ **3** : to develop from a parent source ⟨the book *grew* out of a series of lectures⟩ **4 a** : to pass into a condition : BECOME ⟨*grew* pale⟩ **b** : to have an increasing influence ⟨habit ~*s* on a man⟩ **c** : to become increasingly acceptable or attractive ⟨didn't like it at first, but it *grew* on him⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to grow : PRODUCE ⟨~ wheat⟩ **2** : DEVELOP 5 — **grow·er** \'grō(-ə)r\ *n* — **grow·ing·ly** \'grō-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

growing pains *n pl* **1** : pains in the legs of growing children having no demonstrable relation to growth **2** : the stresses and strains attending a new project or development

growing point *n* : the undifferentiated end of a plant shoot from which additional shoot tissues differentiate

¹growl \'graù(ə)l\ *vb* [prob. imit.] *vi* **1 a** : RUMBLE ⟨his stomach ~*ed*⟩ **b** : to utter a growl ⟨the dog ~*ed* at the stranger⟩ **2** : to complain angrily ~ *vt* : to utter with a growl

²growl *n* : a deep guttural inarticulate sound

growl·er \'graù-lər\ *n* **1** : one that growls **2** : a container (as a can or pitcher) for beer bought by the measure **3** : a small iceberg **4** : an electromagnetic device with two adjustable pole pieces used for finding short-circuited coils and for magnetizing and demagnetizing

growl·ing \'graù-liŋ\ *adj* : marked by a growl ⟨a low ~ voice⟩ ⟨listened to the ~ thunder⟩ — **growl·ing·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv*

growly \'graù-lē\ *adj* **growl·i·er; -est** : resembling a growl ⟨a ~ voice⟩ — **growl·i·ness** *n*

grown \'grōn\ *adj* **1** : fully grown : MATURE ⟨~ men⟩ **2** : covered or surrounded with vegetation ⟨land well ~ with trees⟩ **3 a** : cultivated or produced in a specified way or locality — used in combination ⟨shade-*grown* tobacco⟩ **b** : overgrown with — used in combination ⟨a weed-*grown* patio⟩

¹grown–up \'grō-ˌnəp\ *adj* : not childish or immature : ADULT ⟨men and women incapable of ~ behavior⟩ ***syn*** see MATURE ***ant*** childish, callow

²grown–up *n* : ADULT

growth \'grōth\ *n* **1 a** (1) : a stage in the process of growing : SIZE (2) : full growth **b** : the process of growing **c** : progressive development : EVOLUTION **d** : INCREASE, EXPANSION ⟨the ~ of the oil industry⟩ **2 a** : something that grows or has grown **b** : an abnormal proliferation of tissue (as a tumor) **c** : OUTGROWTH **d** : the result of growth : PRODUCT **3** : a producing esp. by growing ⟨fruits of his own ~⟩

growth company *n* : a company that grows at a greater rate than the economy as a whole and that usu. directs a relatively high proportion of income back into the business

growth factor *n* : a substance (as a vitamin) that promotes the growth of an organism

growth hormone *n* **1** : a vertebrate polypeptide hormone that is secreted by the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland and regulates growth **2** : any of various plant substances (as an auxin or gibberellin) that regulate growth

growth ring *n* : a layer of wood (as an annual ring) produced during a single period of growth

grow up *vi* : to grow toward or arrive at full stature or physical or mental maturity ⟨*growing up* intellectually, socially, and physically⟩

groyne \'grȯin\ *n* [by alter.] : GROIN 3

GR–S \ˌjē-ˌär-'es\ *n* [government *r*ubber + *s*tyrene] : a synthetic rubber made by copolymerizing emulsions of butadiene and styrene and used esp. in tires

¹grub \'grəb\ *vb* **grubbed; grub·bing** [ME *grubben*; akin to OE *grafan* to dig — more at GRAVE] *vt* **1** : to clear by digging up roots and stumps **2** : to dig up by or as if by the roots ~ *vi* **1 a** : to dig in the ground esp. for something that is difficult to find or extract **b** : to search about : RUMMAGE ⟨*grubbed* in the countryside for food and fuel —*Lamp*⟩ **2** : TOIL, DRUDGE ⟨folks who ~ for money —James Street⟩ — **grub·ber** *n*

²grub *n* [ME *grubbe*, fr. *grubben*] **1** : a soft thick wormlike larva of an insect **2 a** : one who does menial work : DRUDGE **b** : a slovenly person **3** : FOOD

grub·by \'grəb-ē\ *adj* **grub·bi·er; -est** **1** : infested with fly maggots **2 a** : DIRTY, GRIMY ⟨~ hands⟩ **b** : SLOVENLY, SLOPPY **3** : worthy of contempt : BASE ⟨~ political motives⟩ — **grub·bi·ly** \'grəb-ə-lē\ *adv* — **grub·bi·ness** \'grəb-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹grub·stake \'grəb-ˌstāk\ *n* **1** : supplies or funds furnished a mining prospector on promise of a share in his discoveries **2** : material assistance (as a loan) provided for launching an enterprise or for a person in difficult circumstances

²grubstake *vt* : to provide with a grubstake — **grub·stak·er** *n*

Grub Street \'grəb-\ *n* [*Grub Street*, London, formerly inhabited by literary hacks] : the world or category of needy literary hacks

¹grudge \'grəj\ *vt* **grudged; grudg·ing** [ME *grucchen*, *grudgen* to grumble, complain, fr. OF *groucier*, of Gmc origin; akin to MHG *grogezen* to howl] : to be unwilling to give or admit : give or allow with reluctance or resentment : BEGRUDGE ⟨*grudged* the money to pay taxes⟩ — **grudg·er** *n*

²grudge *n* : a feeling of deep-seated resentment or ill will ***syn*** see MALICE

grudg·ing \'grəj-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : UNWILLING, RELUCTANT **2** : given or allowed unwillingly or reluctantly ⟨~ compliance with the physical and mental demands —Caryl Chessman⟩ — **grudg·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

gru·el \'grü-əl\ *n* [ME *grewel*, fr. MF *gruel*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *grūt* grout] **1** : a thin porridge **2** *chiefly Brit* : PUNISHMENT

gru·el·ing *or* **gru·el·ling** \'grü-ə-liŋ\ *adj* [fr. prp. of obs. *gruel* (to exhaust)] : trying or taxing to the point of exhaustion : PUNISHING ⟨a ~ race⟩ — **gru·el·ing·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv*

grue·some \'grü-səm\ *adj* [alter. of earlier *growsome*, fr. E dial. *grow*, *grue* to shiver, fr. ME *gruen*, prob. fr. MD *grūwen*; akin to OHG in*grūēn* to shiver] : inspiring horror or repulsion : GRISLY ⟨~ scenes of battle and death —E. J. Fitzgerald⟩ — **grue·some·ly** *adv* — **grue·some·ness** *n*

¹gruff \'grəf\ *adj* [D *grof*; akin to OHG *grob* coarse, *hruf* scurf — more at DANDRUFF] **1** : rough, brusque, or stern in manner, speech, or aspect ⟨a ~ reply⟩ **2** : being deep and harsh : HOARSE ⟨a ~ voice⟩ ***syn*** see BLUFF — **gruff·ly** *adv* — **gruff·ness** *n*

²gruff *vt* : to utter in a gruff voice or manner

grum \'grəm\ *adj* **grum·mer; grum·mest** [prob. blend of *grim* and *glum*] : MOROSE, GLUM

grum·ble \'grəm-bəl\ *vb* **grum·bled; grum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. fr. MF *grommeler* deriv. of MD *grommen*; akin to OHG *grimm* grim] *vi* **1** : to mutter in discontent **2** : GROWL, RUMBLE ~ *vt* : to express with grumbling — **grumble** *n* — **grum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n* — **grum·bling·ly** \-b(ə-)liŋ-lē\ *adv* — **grum·bly** \-b(ə-)lē\ *adj*

grum·met \'grəm-ət\ *var of* GROMMET

¹grump \'grəmp\ *n* [obs. E *grumps* (snubs, slights)] **1** *pl* : a fit of ill humor or sulkiness **2** : a person given to complaining

²grump *vi* **1** : SULK **2** : GRUMBLE, COMPLAIN ~ *vt* : to utter in a grumpy manner

grumpy \'grəm-pē\ *adj* **grump·i·er; -est** : moodily cross : SURLY — **grump·i·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv* — **grump·i·ness** \-pē-nəs\ *n*

grun·ion \'grən-yən\ *n* [prob. fr. Sp. *gruñón* grunter] : a silversides (*Leuresthes tenuis*) of the California coast notable for the regularity with which it comes inshore to spawn at nearly full moon

¹grunt \'grənt\ *vb* [ME *grunten*, fr. OE *grunnettan*, freq. of *grunian*, of imit. origin] *vi* : to utter a grunt ~ *vt* : to utter with a grunt — **grunt·er** *n*

²grunt *n* **1 a** : the deep short sound characteristic of a hog **b** : a similar sound **2** [fr. the noise it makes when taken from the water] : any of numerous chiefly tropical marine percoid fishes (family Pomadasidae) related to the snappers **3** : a U.S. army or marine foot soldier esp. in the Vietnam war

grun·tle \'grənt-ᵊl\ *vt* **grun·tled; grun·tling** \'grənt-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [back-formation fr. *disgruntle*] : to put in a good humor ⟨were *gruntled* with a good meal and good conversation —W. P. Webb⟩

grutch \'grəch\ *vt* [ME *grucchen*] *obs* : BEGRUDGE

grutten *past part of* GREET

Gru·yère \grü-'ye(ə)r, grē-'(y)e(ə)r\ *n* [*Gruyère*, district in Switzerland] **1** : a pale yellow pressed cheese with smaller holes and somewhat sharper flavor than Swiss cheese **2** : a process cheese made from natural Gruyère

gr wt *abbr* gross weight

gryph·on *var of* GRIFFIN

GS *abbr* **1** general staff **2** ground speed

GSA *abbr* **1** General Services Administration **2** Girl Scouts of America

GSC *abbr* general staff corps

GSO *abbr* general staff officer

GST *abbr* Greenwich sidereal time

G–string \'jē-ˌstriŋ\ *n* [origin unknown] : a strip of cloth passed between the legs and supported by a waist cord that is worn esp. by striptease dancers

G suit *n* [*gravity suit*] : a suit designed to counteract the physiological effects of acceleration on an aviator or astronaut

GSV *abbr* guided space vehicle

gt *abbr* **1** gilt top **2** great **3** [L *gutta*] drop

¹GT \(')jē-'tē\ *n* [It *Gran Turismo*] : GRAND TOURING CAR

²GT *abbr* gross ton

Gt Brit *abbr* Great Britain

GTC *abbr* good till canceled

gtd *abbr* guaranteed

gtt *abbr* [L *guttae*] drops

GU *abbr* **1** genitourinary **2** Guam

gua·ca·mo·le \ˌgwäk-ə-'mō-lē\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Nahuatl *ahuacamolle*] : sieved or mashed avocado seasoned with condiments

gua·cha·ro \'gwäch-ə-ˌrō\ *n, pl* **-ros** *or* **-roes** [Sp *guácharo*] : OILBIRD

guai·ac \'g(w)ī-ˌak\ *n* [NL *Guaiacum*] : GUAIACUM 2

guai·a·cum \'g(w)ī-ə-kəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Sp *guayaco*, fr. Taino *guayacan*] **1** : any of a genus (*Guaiacum* of the family Zygophyllaceae) of tropical American trees and shrubs having pinnate leaves, mostly blue flowers, and capsular fruit **2 a** : the hard greenish brown wood of a guaiacum (esp. *Guaiacum officinale*) **b** : a resin with a faint balsamic odor obtained from the trunk of two guaiacums (*G. officinale* and *G. sanctum*)

guan \'gwän\ *n* [AmerSp] : any of various large tropical American lowland-forest birds (family Cracidae) that somewhat resemble turkeys

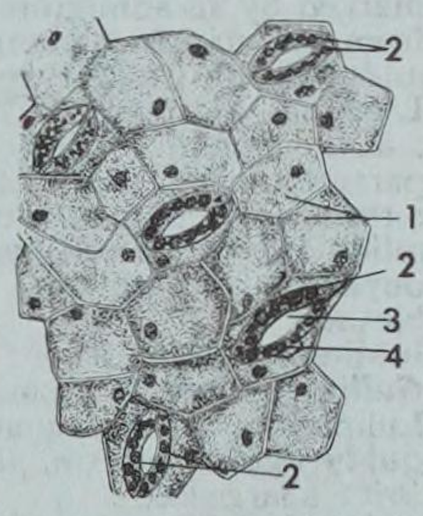
gua·na·co \gwə-'näk-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-cos** *also* **-co** [Sp, fr. Quechua *huanacu*] : a So. American mammal (*Lama guanicoe*) with a soft thick fawn-colored coat that is related to the camel but lacks a dorsal hump

gua·neth·i·dine \gwä-'neth-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [blend of *guanidine* and *eth-*] : a drug $C_{10}H_{22}N_4$ used esp. in treating severe high blood pressure

gua·ni·dine \'gwän-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. *guanine*] : a strong deliquescent crystalline base CH_5N_3 found esp. in young tissues and used in organic synthesis and medicine

gua·nine \'gwän-ˌēn\ *n* [*guano* + *-ine*; fr. its being found esp. in guano] : a purine base $C_5H_5N_5O$ that codes genetic information in the polynucleotide chain of DNA or RNA — compare ADENINE, CYTOSINE, THYMINE, URACIL

gua·no \'gwän-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [Sp, fr. Quechua *huanu* dung] : a substance composed chiefly of the excrement of seafowl and used as a fertilizer; *also* : a similar product (as of fish-cannery waste)
gua·no·sine \'gwän-ə-ˌsēn\ *n* [blend of *guanine* and *ribose*] : a nucleoside $C_{10}H_{13}N_5O_5$ that consists of guanine combined with ribose
guar \'gwär\ *n* [Hindi *guār*] : a drought-tolerant legume (*Cyanopsis psoralioides*) grown for forage and for its seeds which produce a gum used as a thickening agent and as a sizing material for paper and textiles
gua·ra·ni \ˌgwär-ə-'nē\ *n* [Sp *guaraní*] **1** *cap* **a** *pl* **guarani** *or* **guaranis** : a member of a Tupi-Guaranian people of Bolivia, Paraguay, and southern Brazil **b** : the language of this people **2** *pl* **guaranis** *or* **guaranies** — see MONEY table
¹guar·an·tee \ˌgar-ən-'tē, ˌgär-\ *n* [prob. alter. of ¹*guaranty*] **1** : GUARANTOR **2** : GUARANTY 1 **3** : an assurance for the fulfillment of a condition: as **a** : an agreement by which one person undertakes to secure another in the possession or enjoyment of something **b** : an assurance of the quality of or of the length of use to be expected from a product offered for sale often with a promise of reimbursement **4** : GUARANTY 3
²guarantee *vt* **-teed; -tee·ing** **1** : to undertake to answer for the debt, default, or miscarriage of **2** : to engage for the existence, permanence, or nature of : undertake to do or secure (something) ⟨~ the winning of three tricks⟩ **3** : to give security to
guar·an·tor \ˌgar-ən-'tȯ(ə)r, 'gar-ən-tər, ˌgär-, 'gär-\ *n* [*guaranty* + ¹*-or*] **1** : one that guarantees **2** : one that makes or gives a guaranty
¹guar·an·ty \'gar-ən-tē, 'gär-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [MF *garantie*, fr. OF, fr. *garantir* to guarantee, fr. *garant* warrant, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *werēnto* guarantor — more at WARRANT] **1** : an undertaking to answer for the payment of a debt or the performance of a duty of another in case of the other's default or miscarriage **2** : GUARANTEE 3 **3** : something given as security : PLEDGE **4** : GUARANTOR **5** : the protection of a right afforded by legal provision (as in a constitution)
²guaranty *vt* **-tied; -ty·ing** : GUARANTEE
¹guard \'gärd\ *n* [ME *garde*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *garder* to guard, defend, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *wartēn* to watch, take care — more at WARD] **1** : a defensive position (as in boxing) **2 a** : the act or duty of protecting or defending **b** : the state of being protected : PROTECTION **3** *archaic* : PRECAUTION **4 a** : a person or a body of men on sentinel duty **b** *pl* : troops attached to the person of the sovereign **c** (1) : BRAKEMAN (2) *Brit* : CONDUCTOR **5 a** : a position or player next to the center in a football line **b** : a player stationed in the backcourt in basketball **6** : a protective or safety device; *specif* : a device for protecting a machine part or the operator of a machine
²guard *vt* **1** : to protect an edge of with an ornamental border **2 a** : to protect from danger esp. by watchful attention : make secure ⟨policemen ~*ing* our cities⟩ ⟨a room ~*ed* by locked doors⟩ **b** : to stand at the entrance of as if on guard or as a barrier **c** : to protect (a card or man) in a game by safeguards or support ⟨the separated pawns could not both be ~*ed*⟩ **3** *archaic* : ESCORT **4 a** : to watch over so as to prevent escape, disclosure, or indiscretion **b** : to attempt to prevent (an opponent) from playing effectively or scoring ~ *vi* : to watch by way of caution or defense : stand guard ***syn*** see DEFEND — **guard·er** *n*
¹guar·dant \'gärd-ᵊnt\ *adj* [MF *gardant*, prp. of *garder* to guard, look at] : having the head turned toward the spectator — used of a heraldic animal whose body is seen from the side ⟨a lion passant ~⟩
²guardant *n, obs* : GUARDIAN
guard cell *n* : one of the two crescent-shaped epidermal cells that border and open and close a plant stoma
guard·ed \'gärd-əd\ *adj* : CAUTIOUS, CIRCUMSPECT — **guard·ed·ly** *adv* — **guard·ed·ness** *n*
guard hair *n* : one of the long coarse hairs forming a protective coating over the underfur of a mammal
guard·house \'gärd-ˌhaůs\ *n* **1** : a building occupied by a guard or used as a headquarters by soldiers on guard duty **2** : a military jail
guard·ian \'gärd-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : one that guards : CUSTODIAN **2** : a superior of a Franciscan monastery **3** : one who has the care of the person or property of another — **guard·ian·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
guard of honor : HONOR GUARD
guard·rail \'gär-ˌdrāl\ *n* : a railing for guarding against danger or trespass; *esp* : a barrier (as of steel cables) placed along the edge of a highway at dangerous points
guard·room \'gär-ˌdrüm, -ˌdrům\ *n* **1** : a room occupied by a military guard during its term of duty **2** : a room where military prisoners are confined
guards·man \'gärdz-mən\ *n* : a member of a military body called *guard* or *guards*
guar gum *n* : a gum that consists of the ground endosperm of guar seeds and is used esp. as a thickening agent and as a sizing material
Guar·ne·ri·us \gwär-'nir-ē-əs, -'ner-\ *n* [NL, fr. It *Guarneri*] : a violin made by one of the Italian Guarneri family in the 17th and 18th centuries
gua·va \'gwäv-ə\ *n* [modif. of Sp *guayaba*, of Arawakan origin; akin to Tupi *guayava* guava] **1** : any of several tropical American shrubs or small trees (genus *Psidium*) of the myrtle family; *esp* : a shrubby tree (*P. guajava*) widely cultivated for its sweet acid yellow fruit **2** : the fruit of a guava
gua·yu·le \(g)wī-'ü-lē\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Nahuatl *cuauhulī*] : a much-branched composite subshrub (*Parthenium argentatum*) of Mexico and the southwestern U.S. that has been cultivated as a source of rubber



guard cell: *1* epithelial cells, *2* guard cells *3* stoma, *4* chloroplasts

gu·ber·na·to·ri·al \ˌgüb-ə(r)-nə-'tōr-ē-əl, ˌgyüb-, ˌgůb-, -'tȯr-\ *adj* [L *gubernator* governor, fr. *gubernatus*, pp. of *gubernare* to govern — more at GOVERN] : of or relating to a governor
guck \'gək\ *n* [perh. fr. *goo* + *muck*] : OOZY sloppy dirt or debris : GOO, GUNK
¹gud·geon \'gəj-ən\ *n* [ME *gudyon*, fr. MF *goujon*] **1** : PIVOT, JOURNAL **2** : a socket for a rudder pintle
²gudgeon *n* [ME *gojune*, fr. MF *gouvion, gougon*, fr. L *gobion-, gobio*, alter. of *gobius* — more at GOBY] **1** : a small European freshwater fish (*Gobio gobio*) related to the carps and often used for food or bait **2** : any of several Australian fishes (family Eleotridae)
gudgeon pin *n* : WRIST PIN
Gud·run \'güd-ˌrün\ *n* [ON *Guthrūn*] : the wife of Sigurd and later of Atli in Norse mythology
guel·der rose \ˌgel-də(r)-\ *n* [*Guelderland, Gelderland*, Netherlands] : a bush of a cultivated variety of the cranberry bush with large globose heads of sterile flowers
Guelf *or* **Guelph** \'gwelf\ *n* [It *Guelfo*] : a member of a papal and popular political party in medieval Italy that opposed the authority of the German emperors in Italy — compare GHIBELLINE
gue·non \gə-nōⁿ\ *n* [F] : any of various long-tailed chiefly arboreal African monkeys (*Cercopithecus* and related genera)
guer·don \'gərd-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, modif. of OHG *widarlōn*, fr. *widar* back + *lōn* reward — more at WITH, LUCRE] : REWARD, RECOMPENSE — **guerdon** *vt*
guern·sey \'gərn-zē\ *n, pl* **guernseys** *often cap* [*Guernsey*, Channel islands] : any of a breed of fawn and white dairy cattle that are larger than the jersey and produce rich yellowish milk
guer·ril·la *or* **gue·ril·la** \gə-'ril-ə, ge-; g(y)ir-'il-\ *n* [Sp *guerrilla*, fr. dim. of *guerra* war, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *werra* strife — more at WAR] **1** *archaic* : irregular warfare by independent bands **2** : one who engages in irregular warfare esp. as a member of an independent unit carrying out harassment and sabotage
guerrilla theater *n* : drama dealing with controversial social and political issues that is usu. performed outdoors (as on streets or in parks) — called also *street theater*
¹guess \'ges\ *vb* [ME *gessen*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *geta* to get, guess — more at GET] *vt* **1** : to form an opinion of from little or no evidence **2** : to arrive at a correct conclusion about by conjecture, chance, or intuition ⟨~ the answer⟩ **3** : BELIEVE, SUPPOSE ⟨I ~ you're right⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a guess ***syn*** see CONJECTURE — **guess·er** *n*
²guess *n* : CONJECTURE, SURMISE
guess·ti·mate \'ges-tə-mət\ *n, slang* [blend of *guess* and *estimate*] : an estimate made without adequate information — **guess·timate** \-ˌmāt\ *vt, slang*
guess·work \'ges-ˌwərk\ *n* : work performed or results obtained by guess : CONJECTURE
¹guest \'gest\ *n* [ME *gest*, fr. ON *gestr*; akin to OE *gæst* guest, stranger, L *hostis* stranger, enemy] **1 a** : a person entertained in one's house **b** : a person to whom hospitality is extended **c** : a person who pays for the services of an establishment (as a hotel or restaurant) **2** : an organism (as an insect) sharing the dwelling of another; *esp* : INQUILINE **3** : a mineral or rock in a host mineral or rock; *also* : a substance that is incorporated in a host substance **4** : a person not a regular member of a cast who appears on a program
²guest *vt* : to receive as a guest ~ *vi* : to appear as a guest
guff \'gəf\ *n* [prob. imit.] : HUMBUG, NONSENSE
guf·faw \(ˌ)gə-'fȯ, 'gəf-ˌȯ\ *n* [imit.] : a loud or boisterous burst of laughter — **guf·faw** \(ˌ)gə-'fȯ\ *vi*
gug·gle \'gəg-əl\ *vi* **gug·gled; gug·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [imit.] : GURGLE — **guggle** *n*
guid·able \'gīd-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being guided
guid·ance \'gīd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act or process of guiding **2** : advice on vocational or educational problems given to students **3** : the process of controlling the course of a projectile by a built-in mechanism
¹guide \'gīd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OProv *guida*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *wītan* to look after, *witan* to know — more at WIT] **1 a** : one who leads or directs another in his way **b** : one who exhibits and explains points of interest **c** : something that provides a person with guiding information **d** : SIGNPOST **e** : one who directs a person in his conduct or course of life **2 a** : a device for steadying or directing the motion of something **b** : a ring or loop for holding the line of a fishing rod in position **c** : a sheet or a card with projecting tab for labeling inserted in a card index to facilitate reference **3** : a member of a unit upon whom the movements or alignments of a military command are regulated — used esp. in commands ⟨~ right⟩
²guide *vb* **guid·ed; guid·ing** *vt* **1** : to act as a guide to : direct in a way or course **2 a** : to direct or supervise usu. to a particular end **b** : to superintend the training or instruction of ~ *vi* : to act or work as a guide — **guid·er** *n*
syn GUIDE, LEAD, STEER, PILOT, ENGINEER *shared meaning element* : to direct in a course or show the way to be followed. GUIDE implies intimate knowledge of the way and of its dangers and difficulties ⟨some heavenly power *guide* us out of this fearful country — Shak.⟩ LEAD implies a keeping in advance to show the way and often exertion of a controlling influence ⟨*lead* a horse to pasture⟩ ⟨the law has to *lead* the people sometimes — Burke Marshall⟩ STEER implies ability to keep to a course and may stress a capacity for correct and effective maneuvering ⟨secure in the faith that his reasoned intelligence will *steer* him correctly at all times — H. N. Maclean⟩ PILOT emphasizes special skill or knowledge used in

guiding and imputes difficulty to the course ⟨*pilot* a ship through a narrow channel⟩ ⟨*pilot* a bill through the legislature⟩ ENGINEER, often pejorative in tone, implies facility in evading or overcoming obstacles often by dubious means ⟨*engineer* an elaborate fraud⟩ ***ant*** misguide

guide·book \'gīd-ˌbůk\ *n* : HANDBOOK 1; *esp* : a book of information for travelers

guided missile *n* : a missile whose course may be altered during flight (as by a target-seeking radar device)

guide·line \'gīd-ˌlīn\ *n* : a line by which one is guided: as **a** : a cord or rope to aid a passer over a difficult point or to permit retracing a course **b** : an indication or outline (as by a government) of policy or conduct

guide·post \-ˌpōst\ *n* **1** : INDICATION, SIGN **2** : GUIDELINE b

guide·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a channel or track for controlling the line of motion of something

guide word *n* : either of the terms at the head of a page of an alphabetical reference work (as a dictionary) indicating the alphabetically first and last words on the page

gui·don \'gīd-ˌän, -ᵊn\ *n* [MF] **1** : a small flag; *esp* : one borne by a military unit as a unit marker **2** : one who carries a guidon

guid·will·ie \gōēd-'wil-ē, gid-\ *adj* [Sc *guidwill* goodwill] *Scot* : CORDIAL, CHEERING

guild \'gild\ *n* [ME *gilde*, fr. ON *gildi* payment, guild; akin to OE *gield* tribute, guild — more at GELD] : an association of men with similar interests or pursuits; *esp* : a medieval association of merchants or craftsmen — **guild·ship** \'gil(d)-ˌship\ *n*

guil·der \'gil-dər\ *n* [modif. of D *gulden*] : GULDEN

guild·hall \'gild-ˌhȯl\ *n* : a hall where a guild or corporation usu. assembles : TOWN HALL

guilds·man \'gil(d)z-mən\ *n* **1** : a guild member **2** : an advocate of guild socialism

guild socialism *n* : an early 20th century English socialistic theory advocating state ownership of industry with control and management by guilds of workers

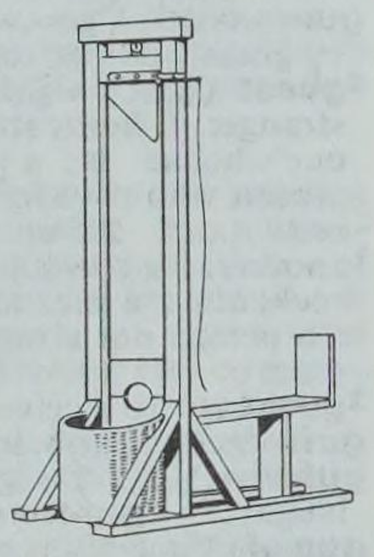
guile \'gī(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OF] **1** : deceitful cunning : DUPLICITY **2** *obs* : STRATAGEM, TRICK — **guile·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **guile·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **guile·ful·ness** *n*

guile·less \'gī(ə)l-ləs\ *adj* : INNOCENT, NAIVE — **guile·less·ly** *adv* — **guile·less·ness** *n*

guil·le·mot \'gil-ə-ˌmät\ *n* [F, fr. MF, dim. of *Guillaume* William] : any of several narrow-billed auks of northern seas constituting two genera (*Uria* and *Cepphus*)

guil·loche \gil-'ōsh, gē-'(y)ōsh\ *n* [F *guillochis*] : an architectural ornament formed of two or more interlaced bands with openings containing round devices

guil·lo·tine \'gil-ə-ˌtēn; ˌgē-(y)ə-', 'gē-(y)ə-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. Joseph *Guillotin* †1814 F physician] **1** : a machine for beheading by means of a heavy blade that slides down in vertical guides **2** : a shearing machine or instrument (as a paper cutter) that in action resembles a guillotine **3** : closure by the imposition of a predetermined time limit on the consideration of specific sections of a bill or portions of other legislative business — **guillotine** *vt*



guillotine 1

guilt \'gilt\ *n* [ME, delinquency, guilt, fr. OE *gylt* delinquency] **1** : the fact of having committed a breach of conduct esp. violating law and involving a penalty; *broadly* : guilty conduct **2** **a** : the state of one who has committed an offense esp. consciously **b** : feelings of culpability esp. for imagined offenses or from a sense of inadequacy **3** : a feeling of culpability for offenses

guilt·less \'gilt-ləs\ *adj* : INNOCENT — **guilt·less·ly** *adv* — **guilt·less·ness** *n*

guilty \'gil-tē\ *adj* **guilt·i·er; -est** **1** : justly chargeable with or responsible for a usu. grave breach of conduct **2** *obs* : justly liable to or deserving of a penalty **3** **a** : suggesting or involving guilt ⟨~ looks⟩ ⟨a ~ deed⟩ **b** : aware of or suffering from guilt ⟨their ~ consciences⟩ ***syn*** see BLAMEWORTHY ***ant*** innocent, guiltless — **guilt·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **guilt·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

guimpe \'gamp, 'gimp\ *n* [F, fr. OF *guimple*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *wimpel* wimple] **1** : a blouse worn under a jumper or pinafore **2** : a wide cloth used by some nuns to cover the neck and shoulders **3** [by alter.] : ¹GIMP

guin·ea \'gin-ē\ *n* [*Guinea*, Africa, supposed source of the gold from which it was made] **1** : an English gold coin issued from 1663 to 1813 and fixed in 1717 at 21 shillings **2** : a unit of value equal to one pound and one shilling

guinea fowl *n* : a West African bird (*Numida meleagris*) related to the pheasants, raised for food in most parts of the world, and marked by a bare neck and head and slaty plumage speckled with white; *broadly* : any of several related birds of continental Africa and Madagascar

guinea grass *n* : a tall African forage grass (*Panicum maximum*) introduced into tropical America and the southern U.S.

guinea hen *n* : a female guinea fowl; *broadly* : GUINEA FOWL

guinea pepper *n* : GRAINS OF PARADISE

guinea pig *n* **1** : a small stout-bodied short-eared nearly tailless domesticated rodent (*Cavia cobaya*) often kept as a pet and widely used in biological research — called also *cavy* **2** : a subject of scientific research, experimentation, or testing

guinea worm *n* : a slender nematode worm (*Dracunculus medinensis*) attaining a length of several feet and occurring as an adult in the subcutaneous tissues of various mammals including man in warm countries

Guin·e·vere \'gwin-ə-ˌvi(ə)r\ *n* : the wife of King Arthur and mistress of Lancelot according to Arthurian legend

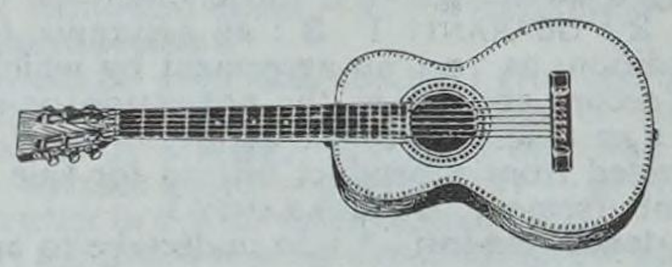
gui·pure \gi-'p(y)ù(ə)r\ *n* [F] : a heavy large-patterned decorative lace

gui·ro \'(g)wi(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [AmerSp *güiro*, calabash, guiro] : a percussion instrument of Latin-American origin made of a serrated gourd and played by scraping a stick along its surface

gui·sard \'gī-zərd\ *n* [obs. Sc *gyze* to disguise, fr. ME *gyzen* to dress, fr. *guise, gyze* guise] : MASKER, MUMMER

guise \'gīz\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *wīsa* manner — more at WISE] **1** : a form or style of dress : COSTUME **2** **a** *obs* : MANNER, FASHION **b** *archaic* : a customary way of speaking or behaving **3** : external appearance : SEMBLANCE

gui·tar \gə-'tär, gi-\ *n* [F *guitare*, fr. Sp *guitarra*, fr. Ar *qītār*, fr. Gk *kithara* cithara] : a flat-bodied stringed instrument with a long fretted neck and usu. six strings plucked with a pick or with the fingers — **gui·tar·ist** \-əst\ *n*



guitar

gui·tar·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several viviparous rays (family Rhinobatidae) somewhat resembling a guitar in outline when viewed from above

Gu·ja·ra·ti \ˌgü-jə-'rät-ē, ˌgůj-ə-\ *n, pl* **Gujarati** [Hindi *gujarātī*, fr. *Gujarāt* Gujarat] **1** *or* **Gujerati** : the language of Gujarat and neighboring regions in northwestern India **2** *or* **Guj·ra·ti** \güj-'rät-, gůj-'rät-\ : a member of a people chiefly of Gujarat speaking the Gujarati language

gul \'gül\ *n* [Per] : ROSE

gu·lar \'g(y)ü-lər\ *adj* [L *gula* throat — more at GLUTTON] : of, relating to, or situated on the throat

gulch \'gəlch\ *n* [perh. fr. E dial. *gulch* to gulp, fr. ME *gulchen*] : a deep or precipitous cleft : RAVINE; *esp* : one occupied by a torrent

gul·den \'gül-dən, 'gůl-\ *n, pl* **guldens** *or* **gulden** [ME (Sc), fr. MD *gulden florijn* golden florin] — see MONEY table

gules \'gyü(ə)lz\ *n, pl* **gules** [ME *goules*, fr. MF] : the heraldic color red

¹gulf \'gəlf\ *n* [ME *goulf*, fr. MF *golfe*, fr. It *golfo*, fr. LL *colpus*, fr. Gk *kolpos* bosom, gulf; akin to OE *hwealf* vault, OHG *walbo*] **1** : a part of an ocean or sea extending into the land **2** : a deep chasm : ABYSS **3** : WHIRLPOOL **4** : an unbridgeable gap ⟨the ~ between theory and practice⟩

²gulf *vt* : ENGULF

gulf·weed \'gəlf-ˌwēd\ *n* [*Gulf* of Mexico] : any of several sargassums; *esp* : a branching olive-brown seaweed (*Sargassum bacciferum*) of tropical American seas with numerous berrylike air vesicles

¹gull \'gəl\ *n* [ME, of Celt origin; akin to W *gwylan* gull] : any of numerous long-winged web-footed aquatic birds (family Laridae); *esp* : a largely white bird (as of the genus *Larus*) that differs from a tern in usu. larger size, stouter build, thicker bill somewhat hooked at the tip, less pointed wings, and short unforked tail

²gull *vt* [obs. *gull* gullet, fr. ME *golle*, fr. MF *goule*] : to take advantage of (one who is foolish or unwary) : DUPE

³gull *n* : a person who is easily deceived or cheated : DUPE

Gul·lah \'gəl-ə\ *n* **1** : a member of a group of Negroes inhabiting the sea islands and coastal districts of So. Carolina, Georgia, and northeastern Florida **2** : the English dialect of the Gullahs that is marked by an admixture of vocabulary and grammatical elements from various African languages

gul·let \'gəl-ət\ *n* [ME *golet*, fr. MF *goulet*, dim. of *goule* throat, fr. L *gula* — more at GLUTTON] **1** : ESOPHAGUS; *broadly* : THROAT **2** : an invagination of the protoplasm in various protozoans (as a paramecium) that sometimes functions in the intake of food **3** : the space between the tips of adjacent saw teeth

gull·ible *or* **gull·able** \'gəl-ə-bəl\ *adj* : easily deceived, cheated, or duped — **gull·ibil·i·ty** \ˌgəl-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **gull·ibly** \'gəl-ə-blē\ *adv*

Gul·li·ver \'gəl-ə-vər\ *n* : an Englishman in Jonathan Swift's satire *Gulliver's Travels* who makes voyages to the imaginary lands of the Lilliputians, Brobdingnagians, Laputans, and Houyhnhnms

¹gul·ly \'gül-ē, 'gəl-\ *n, pl* **gullies** [short for E dial. *gully knife*] *dial Brit* : a large knife

²gul·ly \'gəl-ē\ *n, pl* **gullies** [obs. E *gully* (gullet)] : a trench worn in the earth by running water after rains

³gul·ly \'gəl-ē\ *vb* **gul·lied; gul·ly·ing** *vt* : to make gullies in ~ *vi* : to undergo erosion : form gullies

gully erosion *n* : soil erosion produced by running water

gu·los·i·ty \g(y)ü-'läs-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *gulosite*, fr. LL *gulositas*, fr. L *gulosus* gluttonous, fr. *gula* gullet] : excessive appetite : GREEDINESS

gulp \'gəlp\ *vb* [ME *gulpen*, fr. a MD or MLG word akin to D & Fris *gulpen* to bubble forth, drink deep; akin to OE *gielpan* to boast — more at YELP] *vt* **1** : to swallow hurriedly or greedily or in one swallow **2** : to keep back as if by swallowing ⟨~ down a sob⟩ ~ *vi* : to catch the breath as if in taking a long drink — **gulp** *n* — **gulp·er** *n*

¹gum \'gəm\ *n* [ME *gome*, fr. OE *gōma* palate; akin to OHG *guomo* palate, Gk *chaos* abyss] : the tissue that surrounds the necks of teeth and covers the alveolar parts of the jaws; *broadly* : the alveolar portion of a jaw with its enveloping soft tissues

²gum *vt* **gummed; gum·ming** **1** : to enlarge gullets of (a saw) **2** : to chew with the gums

³gum *n* [ME *gomme*, fr. OF, fr. L *cummi, gummi*, fr. Gk *kommi*, fr. Egypt *qmy.t*] **1** **a** : any of numerous colloidal polysaccharide substances of plant origin that are gelatinous when moist but harden on drying and are salts of complex organic acids — compare MUCILAGE 1 **b** : any of various plant exudates (as a mucilage, oleoresin, or gum resin) **2** : a substance or deposit resembling a

plant gum (as in sticky or adhesive quality) **3 a** : a tree (as a sour gum or sapodilla) that yields gum **b** *Austral* : EUCALYPTUS **4** : the wood or lumber of a gum; *esp* : that of the sweet gum **5** : CHEWING GUM

[4]gum *vb* **gummed; gum·ming** *vt* : to smear, seal, or clog with or as if with gum ⟨~ up the works⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to exude or form gum **2** : to become gummy — **gum·mer** *n*

gum ammoniac *n* : AMMONIAC

gum arabic *n* : a water-soluble gum obtained from several acacias (esp. *Acacia senegal* and *A. arabica*) and used esp. in the manufacture of adhesives, in confectionery, and in pharmacy

gum·bo \'gəm-(,)bō\ *n* [AmerF *gombo*, of Bantu origin; akin to Umbundu *ochinggômbo* okra] **1** : OKRA 1 **2** : a soup thickened with okra pods and usu. containing vegetables with meat or seafoods **3 a** : any of various fine-grained silty soils esp. of the central U.S. that when wet become impervious and soapy or waxy and very sticky **b** : a heavy sticky mud **4** *often cap* [AmerF *gombo*, perh. fr. Kongo *nkômbô* runaway slave] : a patois used by Negroes and Creoles esp. in Louisiana **5** : MIXTURE, MÉLANGE — **gumbo** *adj*

gum·boil \'gəm-ˌbȯil\ *n* : an abscess in the gum

gum·bo-lim·bo \ˌgəm-bō-'lim-(ˌ)bō\ *n* [perh. fr. *gumbo* + *limbo*, of Bantu origin; akin to Kongo *edimbu* birdlime] : a tree (*Bursera simaruba*) of southern Florida and the American tropics that has a smooth coppery bark and supplies a reddish resin used locally in cements and varnishes

gum·drop \'gəm-ˌdräp\ *n* : a sugar-coated candy made usu. from corn syrup with gelatin or gum arabic

gum·ma \'gəm-ə\ *n, pl* **gummas** *also* **gum·ma·ta** \'gəm-ət-ə\ [NL *gummat-, gumma*, fr. LL, gum, alter. of L *gummi*] : a tumor of gummy or rubbery consistency that is characteristic of the tertiary stage of syphilis — **gum·ma·tous** \-ət-əs\ *adj*

gum·mite \'gəm-ˌīt\ *n* : a yellow to reddish brown mixture of hydrous oxides of uranium, thorium, and lead consisting perhaps largely of curite

gum·mo·sis \ˌgə-'mō-səs\ *n* : a pathological production of gummy exudate in a plant; *also* : a plant disease marked by gummosis

gum·mous \'gəm-əs\ *adj* : resembling or composed of gum

gum·my \'gəm-ē\ *adj* **gum·mi·er; -est** **1 a** : consisting of or containing gum **b** : covered with gum **2** : VISCOUS, STICKY — **gum·mi·ness** *n*

gump·tion \'gəm(p)-shən\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : shrewd practical common sense esp. as actively applied to the problems of life **2** : ENTERPRISE, INITIATIVE ***syn*** see SENSE

gum resin *n* : a product consisting essentially of a mixture of gum and resin usu. obtained by making an incision in a plant and allowing the juice which exudes to solidify

[1]gum·shoe \'gəm-ˌshü\ *n* : DETECTIVE

[2]gumshoe *vi* : to engage in detective work

gum tragacanth *n* : TRAGACANTH

gum tree *n* : [3]GUM 3

gum turpentine *n* : TURPENTINE 2a

gum·wood \'gəm-ˌwůd\ *n* : [3]GUM 4

[1]gun \'gən\ *n* [ME *gonne, gunne*] **1 a** : a piece of ordnance usu. with high muzzle velocity and comparatively flat trajectory **b** : a portable firearm (as a rifle or pistol) **c** : a device that throws a projectile **2 a** : a discharge of a gun in a salute or as a signal **b** : a signal marking a beginning or ending **3 a** : HUNTER **b** : one who is skilled with a gun **4** : something suggesting a gun in shape or function **5** : THROTTLE — **gunned** \'gənd\ *adj*

[2]gun *vb* **gunned; gun·ning** *vi* : to hunt with a gun ~ *vt* **1 a** : to fire on **b** : SHOOT **2** : to open up the throttle of so as to increase speed ⟨~ the engine⟩ — **gun for** : to aim at usu. with determination or effort

gun·boat \'gən-ˌbōt\ *n* : an armed ship of shallow draft

gun·cot·ton \-ˌkät-ᵊn\ *n* : CELLULOSE NITRATE; *esp* : an explosive highly nitrated product used chiefly in smokeless powder

gun·dog \-ˌdȯg\ *n* : a dog trained to accompany sportsmen when they hunt with guns

gun·fight \-ˌfīt\ *n* : a duel with guns — **gun·fight·er** \-ər\ *n*

gun·fire \-ˌfī(ə)r\ *n* : the firing of guns

gun·flint \-ˌflint\ *n* : a small sharp flint to ignite the priming in a flintlock

gung ho \'gəŋ-'hō\ *adj* [*Gung ho!*, motto (interpreted as meaning "work together") of certain U.S. marine raiders in World War II, fr. Chin (Pek) *kung*[1]*-ho*[2], short for *chung*[1]*-kuo*[2] *kung*[1]*-yeh*[4] *ho*[2]*-tso*[4] *she*[4] Chinese Industrial Cooperatives Society] : extremely or overly zealous or enthusiastic

gunk \'gəŋk\ *n* [prob. imit.] : filthy, sticky, or greasy matter

gun lap *n* : the final lap of a race in track signaled by the firing of a gun as the leader begins the lap

gun·lock \'gən-ˌläk\ *n* : a mechanism attached to or integral with a firearm by which the charge is ignited

gun·man \-mən\ *n* **1** : a man armed with a gun; *esp* : a professional killer **2** : a man noted for speed or skill in handling a gun

gun·met·al \'gən-ˌmet-ᵊl\ *n* **1** : a metal used for guns; *specif* : a bronze formerly much used as a material for cannon **2** : an alloy or metal treated to imitate nearly black tarnished copper-alloy gunmetal

gun moll \-ˌmäl\ *n, slang* : the girlfriend of a gangster

Gun·nar \'gün-ˌär, 'gün-, -ər\ *n* [ON *Gunnarr*] : the king of the Nibelungs and husband of Brynhild in the *Volsunga Saga*

gun·nel \'gən-ᵊl\ *n* [origin unknown] : a small slimy elongate north Atlantic blenny (*Pholis gunnellus*); *also* : a fish of the family (Pholidae) to which the gunnel belongs

gun·ner \'gən-ər\ *n* **1** : a soldier or airman who operates or aims a gun **2** : one who hunts with a gun **3** : a warrant officer who supervises ordnance and ordnance stores

gun·nery \'gən-(ə-)rē\ *n* : the use of guns; *specif* : the science of the flight of projectiles and of the effective use of guns

gunnery sergeant *n* : a noncommissioned officer in the marine corps ranking above a staff sergeant and below a master sergeant or first sergeant

gun·ny \'gən-ē\ *n* [Hindi *ganī*] : a coarse heavy fabric usu. of jute or hemp used esp. for bagging

gun·ny·sack \-ˌsak\ *n* : a sack made of gunny

gun·play \'gən-ˌplā\ *n* : the shooting of small arms with intent to scare or kill

gun·point \-ˌpȯint\ *n* : the point of a gun — **at gunpoint** : under a threat of death by being shot

gun·pow·der \-ˌpaůd-ər\ *n* : an explosive mixture of potassium nitrate, charcoal, and sulfur used in gunnery and blasting; *broadly* : any of various powders used in guns as propelling charges

gun room *n* : quarters on a British warship orig. used by the gunner and his mates but now by midshipmen and junior officers

gun·run·ner \'gən-ˌrən-ər\ *n* : one that traffics in contraband arms and ammunition — **gun·run·ning** \-ˌrən-iŋ\ *n*

gun·sel \'gən(t)-səl\ *n* [slang *gunsel* (stupid person, traitor)] *slang* : GUNMAN

gun·ship \'gən-ˌship\ *n* : an armed helicopter used esp. for protecting troop transport helicopters against ground fire

gun·shot \'gən-ˌshät\ *n* **1** : shot or a projectile fired from a gun **2** : the range of a gun **3** : the firing of a gun

gun-shy \-ˌshī\ *adj* **1** : afraid of loud noise (as that of a gun) **2** : markedly distrustful

gun·sling·er \-ˌsliŋ-ər\ *n* : GUNMAN

gun·sling·ing \-ˌsliŋ-iŋ\ *n* : the shooting of a gun esp. in a gunfight

gun·smith \-ˌsmith\ *n* : one whose occupation is the designing, making, or repairing of small firearms

Gun·ter's chain \ˌgənt-ərz-\ *n* [Edmund *Gunter* †1626 E mathematician] : a chain 66 feet long that is the unit of length for surveys of U.S. public lands

Gun·ther \'gůnt-ər\ *n* [G] : a Burgundian king and husband of Brunhild in Germanic legend

gun·wale *or* **gun·nel** \'gən-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *gonnewale*, fr. *gonne* gun + *wale*; fr. its former use as a support for guns] : the upper edge of a ship's or boat's side

gup·py \'gəp-ē\ *n, pl* **guppies** [R.J.L. *Guppy* †1916 Trinidadian naturalist] : a small topminnow (*Lebistes reticulatus* or *Poecilia reticulata*) of the Barbados, Trinidad, and Venezuela frequently kept as an aquarium fish

gur·gle \'gər-gəl\ *vi* **gur·gled; gur·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. imit.] **1** : to flow in a broken irregular current ⟨the brook *gurgling* over the rocks⟩ **2** : to make a sound like that of a gurgling liquid ⟨the baby *gurgling* in his crib⟩ — **gurgle** *n*

Gur·kha \'gů(ə)r-kə, 'gər-\ *n* [*Ghurka*, member of race dominant in Nepal] : a soldier from Nepal in the British or Indian army

gur·nard \'gər-nərd\ *n, pl* **gurnard** *or* **gurnards** [ME, fr. MF *gornart*, irreg. fr. *grognier* to grunt, fr. L *grunnire*, of imit. origin] : SEA ROBIN

gur·ney \'gər-nē\ *n, pl* **gurneys** [prob. fr. the name *Gurney*] : a wheeled cot or stretcher

gur·ry \'gər-ē, 'gə-rē\ *n* [origin unknown] : fishing offal

gu·ru \gə-'rü, 'gů(ə)r-(ˌ)ü\ *n, pl* **gurus** [Hindi *gurū*, fr. Skt *guru*, fr. *guru*, adj., heavy, venerable — more at GRIEVE] **1** : a personal religious teacher and spiritual guide in Hinduism **2 a** : a teacher and esp. intellectual guide in matters of fundamental concern **b** : one who is an acknowledged leader or chief proponent (as of a cult, movement, or idea) ⟨one of the New Left's most revered ~*s* — A. H. Raskin⟩ ⟨the ~ of modern jazz — Nat Hentoff⟩

[1]gush \'gəsh\ *vb* [ME *guschen*] *vi* **1** : to issue copiously or violently **2** : to emit a sudden copious flow **3** : to make an effusive display of affection or enthusiasm ⟨women ~*ing* over the baby⟩ ~ *vt* : to emit in a copious free flow ***syn*** see POUR

[2]gush *n* **1 a** : a sudden outpouring **b** : something emitted in a gushing forth **2** : an effusive display of sentiment or enthusiasm

gush·er \'gəsh-ər\ *n* : one that gushes; *specif* : an oil well with a copious natural flow

gushy \'gəsh-ē\ *adj* **gush·i·er; -est** : marked by effusive sentimentality — **gush·i·ly** \'gəsh-ə-lē\ *adv* — **gush·i·ness** \'gəsh-ē-nəs\ *n*

gus·set \'gəs-ət\ *n* [ME, piece of armor covering the joints in a suit of armor, fr. MF *gousset*] **1** : a usu. diamond-shaped or triangular insert in a seam (as of a sleeve, pocketbook, or shoe upper) to provide expansion or reinforcement **2** : a plate or bracket for strengthening an angle in framework (as in a building or bridge) — **gusset** *vt*

gus·sy up \ˌgəs-ē-\ *vt* [origin unknown] : to dress up ⟨most of the items are *gussied up* with gold plating — *Newsweek*⟩

[1]gust \'gəst\ *n* [ME *guste*, fr. L *gustus*; akin to L *gustare* to taste — more at CHOOSE] **1** *obs* **a** : the sensation of taste **b** : INCLINATION, LIKING **2** : keen delight

[2]gust *n* [prob. fr. ON *gustr*; akin to OHG *gussa* flood, OE *gēotan* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : a sudden brief rush of wind **2** : a sudden outburst : SURGE ⟨a ~ of emotion⟩ — **gust·i·ly** \'gəs-tə-lē\ *adv* — **gust·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n* — **gusty** \-tē\ *adj*

[3]gust *vi* : to blow in gusts ⟨winds ~*ing* up to 40 mph⟩

gus·ta·tion \ˌgəs-'tā-shən\ *n* [L *gustation-, gustatio*, fr. *gustatus*, pp. of *gustare*] : the act or sensation of tasting

gus·ta·tive \'gəs-tət-iv\ *adj* : GUSTATORY — **gus·ta·tive·ness** *n*

gus·ta·to·ri·al \ˌgəs-tə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : GUSTATORY — **gus·ta·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

gus·ta·to·ry \'gəs-tə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : relating to, associated with, or being the sense of taste — **gus·ta·to·ri·ly** \ˌgəs-tə-'tōr-ə-lē, -'tȯr-\ *adv*

gus·to \'gəs-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **gustoes** [Sp, fr. L *gustus*] **1 a** : an individual or special taste ⟨we must make allowance for different ~*es*⟩ **b** : enthusiastic and vigorous enjoyment or appreciation **c** : vitality marked by an overabundance of vigor and enthusiasm **2** *archaic* : artistic style ***syn*** see TASTE

[1]gut \'gət\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *guttas*, pl.; akin to OE *gēotan* to pour] **1 a** (1) : BOWELS, ENTRAILS — usu. used in pl. (2) : the basic visceral or emotional part of a person ⟨wishes to appeal to the ~ rather than the mind — Clive Barnes⟩ **b** : the alimentary canal or part of it (as the intestine or stomach) **c** : BELLY, ABDOMEN **d** : CATGUT **2** *pl* : the inner essential parts ⟨the ~*s* of a car⟩ **3** : a narrow passage; *also* : a narrow waterway or small creek **4** : the sac of silk taken from a silkworm ready to spin its cocoon and drawn out into a thread for use as a snell **5** *pl* : fortitude and stamina in coping with what alarms, repels, or discourages : COURAGE *syn* see FORTITUDE

[2]gut *vt* **gut·ted; gut·ting** **1** : EVISCERATE **2 a** : to destroy the inside of ⟨fire *gutted* the building⟩ **b** : to destroy the essential power or effectiveness of ⟨inflation *gutting* the economy of a country⟩

[3]gut *adj* **1** : arising from one's inmost self : VISCERAL ⟨a ~ reaction to the misery he has seen — J. A. Lukas⟩ **2** : having strong impact or immediate relevance ⟨~ issues⟩

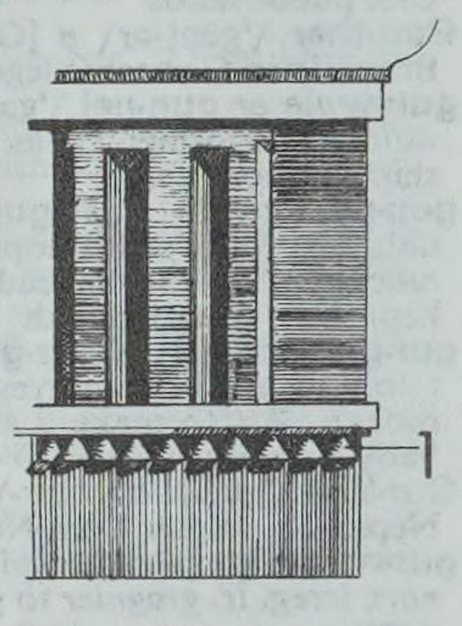
gut·buck·et \'gət-ˌbək-ət\ *n* **1** : BARRELHOUSE 2 **2** : a homemade bass fiddle consisting of a stick attached to an inverted washtub and having a single usu. catgut string

gut course *n* [origin unknown] : a course (as in college) that is easily passed

gut·less \'gət-ləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking courage : COWARDLY **2** : lacking significance or vitality — **gut·less·ness** *n*

gutsy *adj* **guts·i·er; -est** **1** : COURAGEOUS ⟨a ~ little fighter⟩ **2** : expressing or appealing strongly to the physical passions : LUSTY ⟨belting out ~ rock⟩ — **guts·i·ness** *n*

gut·ta \'gət-ə, 'gůt-ə\ *n, pl* **gut·tae** \'gə-ˌtē, 'gů-, -ˌtī\ [L, lit., drop — more at GOUT] : one of a series of ornaments in the Doric entablature that is usu. in the form of a frustum of a cone



1 guttas

gut·ta–per·cha \ˌgət-ə-'pər-chə\ *n* [Malay *gĕtah-pĕrcha*, fr. *gĕtah* sap, latex + *pĕrcha*, tree producing gutta-percha] : a tough plastic substance from the latex of several Malaysian trees (genera *Payena* and *Palaquium*) of the sapodilla family that resembles rubber but contains more resin and is used esp. as insulation and in dentistry

gut·tate \'gə-ˌtāt\ *adj* [L *guttatus*, fr. *gutta*] : having small usu. colored spots or drops ⟨~ skin lesions⟩

gut·ta·tion \ˌgə-'tā-shən\ *n* [L *gutta* drop] : the exudation of liquid water from the uninjured surface of a plant

[1]gut·ter \'gət-ər\ *n* [ME *goter*, fr. OF *goutiere*, fr. *goute* drop, fr. L *gutta*] **1 a** : a trough along the eaves to catch and carry off rainwater **b** : a low area (as at the edge of a street) to carry off surface water (as to a sewer) **c** : a trough or groove to catch and direct something ⟨the ~*s* of a bowling alley⟩ **2** : a white space formed by the adjoining inside margins of two facing pages (as of a book) **3** : the lowest or most vulgar level or condition of human life

[2]gutter *vt* **1** : to cut or wear gutters in **2** : to provide with a gutter ~ *vi* **1 a** : to flow in rivulets **b** *of a candle* : to melt away through a channel out of the side of the cup hollowed out by the burning wick **2** : to incline downward in a draft ⟨the candle flame ~*ing* in the breeze⟩

[3]gutter *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the gutter; *esp* : marked by extreme vulgarity, cheapness, or indecency ⟨~ journalism⟩ ⟨~ politics⟩

gutter out *vi* **1** : to become gradually weaker and then go out ⟨the candle *guttered out*⟩ **2** : to end feebly or undramatically ⟨his screen career had slowly *guttered out*⟩

gut·ter·snipe \'gət-ər-ˌsnīp\ *n* **1** : STREET ARAB **2** : a person of the lowest moral or economic station — **gut·ter·snip·ish** \-ˌsnī-pish\ *adj*

gut·tur·al \'gət-ə-rəl, 'gə-trəl\ *adj* [MF, prob. fr. ML *gutturalis*, fr. L *guttur* throat — more at COT] **1** : of or relating to the throat **2 a** : articulated in the throat ⟨~ sounds⟩ **b** : VELAR **c** : being or marked by utterance that is strange, unpleasant, or disagreeable — **guttural** *n* — **gut·tur·al·ism** \'gət-ə-rə-ˌliz-əm, 'gə-trə-\ *n* — **gut·tur·al·i·ty** \ˌgət-ə-'ral-ət-ē\ *n* — **gut·tur·al·ly** \'gət-ə-rə-lē, 'gə-trə-lē\ *adv* — **gut·tur·al·ness** *n*

gut·tur·al·iza·tion \ˌgət-ə-rə-lə-'zā-shən, ˌgə-trə-lə-\ *n* : the act or process of gutturalizing : the state of being gutturalized

gut·tur·al·ize \'gət-ə-rə-ˌlīz, 'gə-trə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to pronounce in a guttural manner **2** : VELARIZE

gut·ty \'gət-ē\ *adj* **gut·ti·er; -est** **1** : marked by courage or fortitude ⟨a ~ quarterback⟩ **2** : having a vigorous challenging quality ⟨~ realism⟩

[1]guy \'gī\ *n* [prob. fr. D *gei* brail] : a rope, chain, or rod attached to something as a brace or guide

[2]guy *vt* : to steady or reinforce with a guy

[3]guy *n* [*Guy* Fawkes] **1** *often cap* : a grotesque effigy of Guy Fawkes paraded and burned in England on Guy Fawkes Day **2** *chiefly Brit* : a person of grotesque appearance **3** : MAN, FELLOW

[4]guy *vt* : to make fun of : RIDICULE

Guy Fawkes Day \'gī-'fȯks-\ *n* : November 5 observed in England in commemoration of the seizure of Guy Fawkes in 1605 for an attempt to blow up the houses of parliament

guy·ot \'gē-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [Arnold H. *Guyot* †1884 Am geographer & geologist] : a flat-topped seamount

guz·zle \'gəz-əl\ *vb* **guz·zled; guz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vi* : to drink esp. liquor greedily, continually, or habitually ~ *vt* : to drink greedily or habitually ⟨~ beer⟩ — **guz·zler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

gwe·duc \'gü-ē-ˌdək\ *var of* GEODUCK

gybe \'jīb\ *var of* JIBE

gym \'jim\ *n* **1** : GYMNASIUM **2** : PHYSICAL EDUCATION **3** : a metal frame supporting an assortment of outdoor play equipment (as a swing, seesaw, and rings)

gym·kha·na \jim-'kän-ə, -'kan-\ *n* [prob. modif. of Hindi *gend-khāna* racket court] : a meet featuring sports contests or athletic skills; *specif* : a timed contest for automobiles featuring a series of events (as obstacle runs) designed to test driving skill

gymn- *or* **gymno-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *gymnos* — more at NAKED] : naked : bare ⟨*gymno*gynous⟩

gym·na·si·um *in sense 1* jim-'nā-zē-əm *also* -zhəm, *in sense 2* gim-'nä-zē-əm\ *n, pl* **-na·si·ums** *or* **-na·sia** \-'nā-zē-ə *also* -'nā-zhə; -'nä-zē-ə\ [L, exercise ground, school, fr. Gk *gymnasion*, fr. *gymnazein* to exercise naked, fr. *gymnos*] **1 a** : a large room used for various indoor sports (as basketball, boxing, or volleyball) and usu. equipped with gymnastic apparatus **b** : a building (as on a college campus) containing space and equipment for various indoor sports activities and usu. including spectator accommodations, locker and shower rooms, offices, classrooms, and a swimming pool **2** [G, fr. L, school] : a German secondary school that prepares students for the university

gym·nast \'jim-ˌnast, -nəst\ *n* [MF *gymnaste*, fr. Gk *gymnastēs* trainer, fr. *gymnazein*] : one trained in gymnastics

[1]gym·nas·tic \jim-'nas-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to gymnastics : ATHLETIC — **gym·nas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]gymnastic *n* **1** *pl but sing in constr* **a** : physical exercises designed to develop strength and coordination **b** : a competitive sport in which individuals perform optional and prescribed acrobatic feats mostly on special apparatus in order to demonstrate strength, balance, and body control **2** : an exercise in intellectual or artistic dexterity ⟨my earlier philosophic study had been an intellectual ~ —John Dewey⟩ ⟨mental ~*s*⟩ **3** : a physical feat or contortion ⟨the ~*s* necessary for the killer to have swung from the fire excape —E.D. Radin⟩

gym·nos·o·phist \jim-'näs-ə-fəst\ *n* [L *gymnosophista*, fr. Gk *gymnosophistēs*, fr. *gymn-* + *sophistēs* wise man, sophist] : one of a sect of naked ascetics of ancient India

gym·no·sperm \'jim-nə-ˌspərm\ *n* [deriv. of NL *gymn-* + Gk *sperma* seed — more at SPERM] : any of a class or subdivision (Gymnospermae) of woody vascular seed plants (as conifers) that produce naked seeds not enclosed in an ovary and that in some instances have motile spermatozoids — **gym·no·sper·mous** \ˌjim-nə-'spər-məs\ *adj* — **gym·no·sper·my** \'jim-nə-ˌspər-mē\ *n*

gyn *or* **gynecol** *abbr* gynecology

gyn- *or* **gyno-** *comb form* [Gk *gyn-*, fr. *gynē*— more at QUEEN] **1** : woman ⟨*gyn*iatrics⟩ ⟨*gyno*cracy⟩ **2** : female reproductive organ : ovary ⟨*gyno*phore⟩ : pistil ⟨*gyno*dioecious⟩

gyn·an·dro·morph \(')gīn-'an-drə-ˌmȯrf, (')jin-\ *n* [ISV] : an abnormal individual exhibiting characters of both sexes in various parts of the body : a sexual mosaic — **gyn·an·dro·mor·phic** \(ˌ)gīn-ˌan-drə-'mȯr-fik, (ˌ)jin-\ *adj* — **gyn·an·dro·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* — **gyn·an·dro·mor·phous** \-fəs\ *adj* — **gyn·an·dro·mor·phy** \(')gīn-'an-drə-ˌmȯr-fē, (')jin-\ *n*

gyn·an·drous \(')gīn-'an-drəs, (')jin-\ *adj* [Gk *gynandros* of doubtful sex, fr. *gynē* woman + *andr-*, *anēr* man — more at ANDR-] : having the androecium and gynoecium united in a column

-gyne \ˌjīn, -ˌgīn\ *n comb form* [Gk *gynē*] **1** : woman : female ⟨pseudo*gyne*⟩ **2** : female reproductive organ ⟨trichog*yne*⟩

gynec- *or* **gyneco-** *also* **gynaec-** *or* **gynaeco-** *comb form* [Gk *gynaik-*, *gynaiko-*, fr. *gynaik-*, *gynē* woman — more at QUEEN] : woman ⟨*gyneco*id⟩

gy·ne·coc·ra·cy \ˌgīn-i-'käk-rə-sē, ˌjin-\ *n, pl* **-cies** [Gk *gynaikokratia*, fr. *gynaik* + *-kratia* -cracy] : political supremacy of women — **gy·ne·co·crat** \'gīn-i-kō-ˌkrat, 'jin-\ *n* — **gy·ne·co·crat·ic** \ˌgīn-i-kō-'krat-ik, ˌjin-\ *adj*

gy·ne·coid \'gīn-i-ˌkȯid, 'jin-\ *adj* : having female characteristics; *also* : typical of a woman

gy·ne·col·o·gy \ˌgīn-ə-'käl-ə-jē, ˌjin-\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of medicine that deals with the diseases and hygiene of women — **gy·ne·co·log·ic** \ˌgīn-i-kə-'läj-ik, ˌjin-\ *or* **gy·ne·co·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **gy·ne·col·o·gist** \ˌgīn-ə-'käl-ə-jəst, ˌjin-\ *n*

gy·noe·ci·um \jin-'ē-s(h)ē-əm, gīn-\ *n, pl* **-cia** \-s(h)ē-ə\ [NL, alter. of L *gynaeceum* women's apartments, fr. Gk *gynaikeion*, fr. *gynaik-*, *gynē*] : the aggregate of carpels in a flower : PISTILS

gy·no·gen·e·sis \ˌgīn-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : development in which the embryo contains only maternal chromosomes due to activation of an egg by a sperm that degenerates without fusing with the egg nucleus — **gy·no·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj*

gy·no·phore \'gīn-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, 'jin-, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a prolongation of the receptacle (as in a caper flower) that bears the gynoecium at its apex — **gy·no·phor·ic** \ˌgīn-ə-'fȯr-ik, ˌjin-, -'fär-\ *adj*

-g·y·nous \j-ə-nəs\ *adj comb form* [NL *-gynus*, fr. Gk *-gynos*, fr. *gynē* woman — more at QUEEN] **1** : of, relating to, or having (such or so many) females ⟨hetero*gynous*⟩ **2 a** : having (such or so many) styles or pistils ⟨tetra*gynous*⟩ **b** : situated (in a specified place) in relation to a female organ of a plant ⟨hypo*gynous*⟩

-g·y·ny \j-ə-nē\ *n comb form* **1** : existence of or condition of having (such or so many) females ⟨poly*gyny*⟩ **2** : the condition of being situated (in a specified place) in relation to a female organ of a plant ⟨epi*gyny*⟩

[1]gyp \'jip\ *n* [prob. short for *gypsy*] **1** *Brit* : a college servant **2 a** : CHEAT, SWINDLER **b** : FRAUD, SWINDLE

[2]gyp *vb* **gypped; gyp·ping** : CHEAT

gyp·se·ous \'jip-sē-əs\ *adj* : resembling, containing, or consisting of gypsum ⟨~ clay loam⟩

gyp·sif·er·ous \jip-'sif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : bearing gypsum

gyp·soph·i·la \jip-'säf-ə-lə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *gypsum* + *-phila* -phil] : any of a large genus (*Gypsophila*) of Old World herbs of the pink family having small delicate paniculate flowers

gyp·sum \'jip-səm\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *gypsos*, of Sem origin; akin to Ar *jibs* plaster] **1** : a widely distributed mineral $CaSO_4.2H_2O$ consisting of hydrous calcium sulfate that is used esp. as a soil amendment and in making plaster of paris **2** : PLASTERBOARD

gypsy *vi* **gyp·sied; gyp·sy·ing** : to live or roam like a Gypsy

Gyp·sy \'jip-sē\ *n, pl* **Gypsies** [by shortening & alter. fr. *Egyptian*] **1** : one of a dark Caucasoid people coming orig. from India to Europe in the 14th or 15th century and living and maintaining a migratory way of life chiefly in Europe and the U.S. **2** : ROMANY

2 **3** *not cap* : one that resembles a Gypsy (as in appearance or mode of life); *esp* : WANDERER

gypsy moth *n* : an Old World tussock moth (*Porthetria dispar*) that was introduced about 1869 into the U.S. and has a grayish brown mottled hairy caterpillar which is a destructive defoliator of many trees

gyr- *or* **gyro-** *comb form* [prob. fr. MF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *gyros*] **1** : ring : circle : spiral ⟨*gyro*magnetic⟩ **2** : gyroscope ⟨*gyro*compass⟩

¹gy·rate \'jī-ˌrāt\ *adj* : winding or coiled around : CONVOLUTED ⟨~ branches of a tree⟩

²gyrate *vi* **gy·rat·ed; gy·rat·ing** **1** : to revolve around a point or axis **2** : to oscillate with or as if with a circular or spiral motion — **gy·ra·tor** \-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* — **gy·ra·to·ry** \'jī-rə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

gy·ra·tion \jī-'rā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of gyrating **2** : something (as a coil of a shell) that is gyrate — **gy·ra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹gyre \'jī(ə)r\ *vi* **gyred; gyr·ing** [ME *giren* fr. LL *gyrare*, fr. *gyrus*] : to move in a circle or spiral

²gyre *n* [L *gyrus*, fr. Gk *gyros* — more at COWER] : a circular or spiral motion or form — **gy·ral** \'jī-rəl\ *adj*

gy·rene \jī-'rēn\ *n* [prob. alter. of *marine*] *slang* : a U.S. marine

gyr·fal·con \'jər-ˌfal-kən *also* -ˌfȯl- *sometimes* -ˌfȯ-kən\ *n* [ME *gerfaucun*, fr. MF *girfaucon*] : an arctic falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) that occurs in several forms, is the largest of all falcons, and is more powerful though less active than the peregrine falcon



gyrfalcon

gy·ro \'jī-(ˌ)rō\ *n, pl* **gyros** **1** : GYROSCOPE **2** : GYROCOMPASS

Gy·ro \'jī-(ˌ)rō\ *n, pl* **Gyros** [*Gyro* International (association)] : a member of a major international service club

gy·ro·com·pass \'jī-rō-ˌkəm-pəs *also* -ˌkäm-\ *n* : a compass consisting of a continuously driven gyroscope whose spinning axis is confined to a horizontal plane so that the earth's rotation causes it to assume a position parallel to the earth's axis and thus point to the true north

gy·ro·fre·quen·cy \-ˌfrē-kwən-sē\ *n* : the frequency with which a charged particle (as an electron) executes spiral gyrations in moving obliquely across a magnetic field

gyro horizon *n* : ARTIFICIAL HORIZON 2

gy·ro·mag·net·ic \ˌjī-rō-mag-'net-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the magnetic properties of a rotating electrical particle

gyromagnetic ratio *n* : the ratio of the magnetic moment of a spinning charged particle to its angular momentum

gy·ron \'jī-rən\ *n* [MF *giron* gore, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *gēra* wedge-shaped object, OE *gāra* gore] : a heraldic charge of triangular form having one side at the edge of the field and the opposite angle usu. at the fess point

gy·ro·plane \'jī-rə-ˌplān\ *n* [ISV] : an airplane balanced and supported by the aerodynamic forces acting on rapidly rotating horizontal or slightly inclined airfoils

gy·ro·scope \'jī-rə-ˌskōp\ *n* [F, fr. *gyr-* + *-scope*; fr. its original use to illustrate the rotation of the earth] : a wheel or disk mounted to spin rapidly about an axis and also free to rotate about one or both of two axes perpendicular to each other and to the axis of spin so that a rotation of one of the two mutually perpendicular axes results from application of torque to the other when the wheel is spinning and so that the entire apparatus offers considerable opposition depending on the angular momentum to any torque that would change the direction of the axis of spin — **gy·ro·scop·ic** \ˌjī-rə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* — **gy·ro·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

gy·ro·sta·bi·liz·er \ˌji-rō-'stā-bə-ˌlī-zər\ *n* : a stabilizing device (as for a ship or airplane) that consists of a continuously driven gyro spinning about a vertical axis and pivoted so that its axis of spin may be tipped fore-and-aft in the vertical plane and that serves to oppose sideways motion

gy·ro·stat \'jī-rə-ˌstat\ *n* : GYROSTABILIZER

gy·rus \'jī-rəs\ *n, pl* **gy·ri** \'jī-ˌrī\ [NL, fr. L, circle — more at GYRE] : a convoluted ridge between anatomical grooves

Gy Sgt *abbr* gunnery sergeant

gyve \'jīv, 'gīv\ *n* [ME] : FETTER, SHACKLE — **gyve** *vt*



¹h \'āch\ *n, pl* **h's** *or* **hs** \'ā-chəz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 8th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *h* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *h* **3** : one designated *h* esp. as the 8th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter H

²h *abbr, often cap* **1** half **2** harbor **3** hard; hardness **4** height **5** heroin **6** high **7** hit **8** humidity **9** hundred **10** Hungary **11** husband

³h *symbol* Planck's constant

H *symbol* **1** enthalpy **2** Hamiltonian **3** hydrogen

¹ha \'hä\ *interj* [ME] — used esp. to express surprise or joy

²ha *abbr* hectare

HA *abbr* hour angle

Hab *abbr* Habakkuk

Ha·ba·cuc \'hab-ə-ˌkək, hə-'bak-ək\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Hăbhaqqūq*] : HABAKKUK

Ha·bak·kuk \'hab-ə-ˌkək, hə-'bak-ək\ *n* [Heb *Hăbhaqqūq*] **1** : a Hebrew prophet of 7th century B.C. Judah who prophesied an imminent Chaldean invasion **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

ha·ba·ne·ra \ˌ(h)äb-ə-'ner-ə\ *n* [Sp (*danza*) *habanera*, lit., Havanan dance] **1** : a Cuban dance in slow duple time **2** : the music for the habanera

hab corp *abbr* habeas corpus

hab·da·lah \ˌhäv-də-'lä, häv-'dȯ-lə\ *n, often cap* [Heb *habhdālāh* separation] : a Jewish ceremony marking the close of a Sabbath or holy day

ha·be·as cor·pus \ˌhā-bē-ə-'skȯr-pəs\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, lit., you should have the body (the opening words of the writ)] **1** : any of several common-law writs issued to bring a party before a court or judge; *esp* : HABEAS CORPUS AD SUBJICIENDUM **2** : the right of a citizen to obtain a writ of habeas corpus as a protection against illegal imprisonment

habeas corpus ad sub·ji·ci·en·dum \-pə-ˌsad-səb-ˌyik-ē-'en-dəm\ *n* [NL, lit., you should have the body for submitting] : a writ for inquiring into the lawfulness of the restraint of a person who is imprisoned or detained in another's custody

hab·er·dash·er \'hab-ə(r)-ˌdash-ər\ *n* [ME *haberdassher*, fr. modif. of AF *hapertas* petty merchandise] **1** *Brit* : a dealer in small wares or notions **2** : a dealer in men's furnishings

hab·er·dash·ery \-ˌdash-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : goods sold by a haberdasher **2** : a haberdasher's shop

ha·ber·geon \'hab-ər-jən, hə-'bər-j(ē-)ən\ *n* [ME *haubergeoun*, fr. MF *haubergeon*, dim. of *hauberc* hauberk] **1** : a medieval jacket of mail shorter than a hauberk **2** : HAUBERK

hab·ile \'hab-əl, -ˌīl\ *adj* [F, fr. L *habilis* — more at ABLE] : having general skill : ABLE, SKILLFUL

ha·bil·i·ment \hə-'bil-ə-mənt\ *n* [MF *habillement*, fr. *habiller* to dress a log, dress, fr. *bille* log — more at BILLET] **1** *pl* : characteristic apparatus : FITTINGS ⟨the ~*s* of civilization —W. P. Webb⟩ **2 a** : the dress characteristic of an occupation or occasion — usu. used in pl. **b** : CLOTHES — usu. used in pl.

ha·bil·i·tate \hə-'bil-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [LL *habilitatus*, pp. of *habilitare*, fr. L *habilitas* ability — more at ABILITY] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to make capable : QUALIFY **2** : CLOTHE, DRESS ~ *vi* : to qualify oneself ⟨*habilitated* as a privatdocent in the theological faculty — Jack Finegan⟩ — **ha·bil·i·ta·tion** \-ˌbil-ə-'tā-shən\ *n*

¹hab·it \'hab-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *habitus* condition, character, fr. *habitus*, pp. of *habēre* to have, hold — more at GIVE] **1** *archaic* : CLOTHING **2 a** : a costume characteristic of a calling, rank, or function **b** : a costume worn for horseback riding **3** : manner of conducting oneself : BEARING **4** : bodily appearance or makeup esp. as indicative of one's capacities and condition ⟨a man of fleshy ~⟩ **5** : the prevailing disposition or character of a person's thoughts and feelings : mental makeup **6** : a settled tendency or usual manner of behavior **7 a** : a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition or physiologic exposure that shows itself in regularity or increased facility of performance **b** : an acquired mode of behavior that has become nearly or completely involuntary **c** : ADDICTION **8** : characteristic mode of growth or occurrence **9** *of a crystal* : characteristic assemblage of forms at crystallization leading to a usual appearance

syn **1** HABIT, HABITUDE, PRACTICE, USAGE, CUSTOM, USE, WONT *shared meaning element* : a way of acting fixed through repetition. HABIT implies a doing unconsciously and often compulsively ⟨trying to break a bad *habit*⟩ HABITUDE suggests a fixed attitude or usual state of mind ⟨the sense of fitness and proportion that comes from years of *habitude* in the practice of an art —B. N. Cardozo⟩ PRACTICE describes a method followed regularly and usually through choice ⟨it was his *practice* to take a stroll each morning⟩ USAGE suggests a customary course so generally followed that it has become a social norm ⟨difficult . . . to earn a living in a business community without yielding to its *usages* —W. H. Hamilton⟩ CUSTOM implies such firm fixation in the behavior pattern of an individual or group as to have the force of unwritten law ⟨the universal tendency to resist change in long-established

custom〉〈the icy chains of *custom* —P. B. Shelley〉 USE stresses the fact of customary usage 〈more haste than is his *use* —Shak.〉 and often attributes a distinctive quality 〈conform to the *uses* of polite society〉 WONT, close to *use*, is often coupled with the latter as a term of equivalent content 〈this nice balance between sovereignty and liberty is maintained by use and *wont* —V. L. Parrington〉
2 see PHYSIQUE

²habit *vt* : CLOTHE, DRESS

hab·it·able \'hab-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being lived in : suitable for habitation — **hab·it·abil·i·ty** \ˌhab-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **hab·it·able·ness** \'hab-ət-ə-bəl-nes\ *n* — **hab·it·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

ha·bi·tant *n* **1** \'hab-ət-ənt\ : INHABITANT, RESIDENT **2** \ˌ(h)ab-i-'tänˀ\ *or* **ha·bi·tan** \-'tänˀ\ : a settler or descendant of a settler of French origin belonging to the farming class in Canada

hab·i·tat \'hab-ə-ˌtat\ *n* [L, it inhabits, fr. *habitare*] **1 a** : the place or type of site where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives and grows **b** : the typical place of residence of a person or a group **c** : a housing for a controlled physical environment in which people can live under surrounding inhospitable conditions (as under the sea) **2** : the place where something is commonly found

habitat group *n* : a museum exhibit showing plant and animal specimens in such attitudes and with their natural surroundings so reproduced as to picture their habits and habitat

hab·i·ta·tion \ˌhab-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* [ME *habitacioun*, fr. MF *habitation*, fr. L *habitation-*, *habitatio*, fr. *habitatus*, pp. of *habitare* to inhabit, fr. *habitus*, pp.] **1** : the act of inhabiting : OCCUPANCY **2** : a dwelling place : RESIDENCE **3** : SETTLEMENT, COLONY

hab·it–form·ing \'hab-ət-ˌfȯr-miŋ\ *adj* : inducing the formation of an addiction

ha·bit·u·al \hə-ˌbich-(ə-)wəl, ha-, -'bich-əl\ *adj* **1** : having the nature of a habit : being in accordance with habit : CUSTOMARY 〈~ smoking〉 **2** : doing, practicing, or acting in some manner by force of habit 〈~ drunkard〉 **3** : resorted to on a regular basis 〈his ~ diet〉 **4** : inherent in an individual 〈~ grace〉 ***syn*** see USUAL ***ant*** occasional — **ha·bit·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv* — **ha·bit·u·al·ness** *n*

ha·bit·u·ate \hə-'bich-ə-ˌwāt, ha-\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vt* **1** : to make used to : ACCUSTOM **2** *archaic* : FREQUENT ~ *vi* : to cause habituation 〈marijuana may be *habituating*〉

ha·bit·u·a·tion \-ˌbich-ə-'wā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of making habitual or accustomed **2 a** : tolerance to the effects of a drug acquired through continued use **b** : psychologic dependence on a drug after a period of use — compare ADDICTION

hab·i·tude \'hab-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* **1** *archaic* : native or essential character **2** *obs* : habitual association **3 a** : habitual disposition or mode of behavior or procedure **b** : CUSTOM ***syn*** see HABIT

ha·bi·tué \hə-'bich-ə-ˌwā, ha-\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *habituer* to frequent, fr. LL *habituare* to habituate, fr. L *habitus*] : one who frequents a place or numerous places of the same category 〈~*s* of Paris〉 〈~*s* of the theater〉

hab·i·tus \'hab-ət-əs\ *n, pl* **habitus** \-ət-əs, -ə-ˌtüs\ [NL, fr. L] : HABIT; *specif* : body build and constitution esp. as related to predisposition to disease

Habs·burg \'haps-, 'häps-\ *var of* HAPSBURG

ha·ček \'häch-ˌek\ *n* [Czech *háček*, lit., little hook] : a diacritic ˇ placed over a letter (as in č) to modify it : an inverted circumflex

ha·cen·da·do \ˌ(h)äs-ᵊn-'däd-(ˌ)ō\ *also* **ha·ci·en·da·do** \ˌhäs-ē-en-\ *n, pl* **-dos** [Sp *hacendado*, fr. *hacienda*] : the owner or proprietor of a hacienda

¹ha·chure \ha-'shu̇(ə)r\ *n* [F] : a short line used for shading and denoting surfaces in relief (as in map drawing) and drawn in the direction of slope

²hachure *vt* **ha·chured; ha·chur·ing** : to shade with or show by hachures

ha·ci·en·da \ˌ(h)äs-ē-'en-də\ *n* [Sp] **1** : a large estate esp. in a Spanish-speaking country : PLANTATION **2** : the main dwelling of a hacienda

¹hack \'hak\ *vb* [ME *hakken*, fr. OE *-haccian*; akin to OHG *hacchōn* to hack, OE *hōc* hook] *vt* **1 a** : to cut with repeated irregular or unskillful blows **b** : to sever with repeated blows **2** : to clear by cutting away vegetation 〈~*ed* his way through the brush〉 **3** : to manage successfully 〈he tried sales work, but he just couldn't ~ it〉 ~ *vi* **1** : to make cutting blows or rough cuts : CHOP **2** : to cough in a short dry manner — **hack·er** *n*

²hack *n* **1** : an implement for hacking **2** : NICK, NOTCH; *esp* : a blaze cut in a tree **3** : a short dry cough **4** : a hacking blow **5** : restriction to quarters as punishment for naval officers — usu. used in the phrase *under hack*

³hack *n* [short for *hackney*] **1 a** (1) : a horse let out for common hire (2) : a horse used in all kinds of work **b** : a horse worn out in service : JADE **c** : a light easy saddle horse; *esp* : a three-gaited saddle horse **2 a** : HACKNEY **b** (1) : TAXICAB (2) : CABDRIVER **3** : one who forfeits individual freedom of action or professional integrity in exchange for wages or other assured reward; *esp* : a writer who works mainly for hire

⁴hack *adj* **1** : working for hire esp. with loose or easy professional standards **2** : performed by, suited to, or characteristic of a hack 〈~ writing〉 **3** : HACKNEYED, TRITE

⁵hack *vt* **1** : to make trite and commonplace by frequent and indiscriminate use **2** : to use as a hack ~ *vi* **1** : to ride or drive at an ordinary pace or over the roads as distinguished from racing or riding across country **2** : to operate a taxicab — **hack·er** *n*

hack·a·more \'hak-ə-ˌmō(ə)r, -ˌmȯ(ə)r\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. Sp *jaquima*] : a bridle with a loop capable of being tightened about the nose in place of a bit or with a slip noose passed over the lower jaw

hack·ber·ry \'hak-ˌber-ē\ *n* [alter. of *hagberry* (a cherry resembling the chokecherry)] : any of a genus (*Celtis*) of trees and shrubs of the elm family with small often edible berries; *also* : its wood

hack·but \'hak-(ˌ)bət\ *or* **hag·but** \'hag-\ *n* [MF *haguebute*] : HARQUEBUS — **hack·but·eer** \ˌhak-bə-'ti(ə)r\ *or* **hack·but·ter** \'hak-(ˌ)bət-ər\ *n*

hack·ie \'hak-ē\ *n* : CABDRIVER

¹hack·le \'hak-əl\ *n* [ME *hakell*; akin to OHG *hāko* hook — more at HOOK] **1** : a comb or board with long metal teeth for dressing flax, hemp, or jute **2 a** : one of the long narrow feathers on the neck or saddle of a bird — see COCK illustration **b** : the neck plumage of the male domestic fowl **3** *pl* **a** : erectile hairs along the neck and back esp. of a dog **b** : TEMPER, DANDER **4 a** : an artificial fishing fly made chiefly of the filaments of a cock's neck feathers **b** : filaments of cock feather projecting downward from the head of an artificial fly

²hackle *vt* **hack·led; hack·ling** \'hak-(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to comb out with a hackle **2** : to furnish with a hackle — **hack·ler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

³hackle *vt* **hack·led; hack·ling** [freq. of ¹*hack*] : to cut or chop up : chop off roughly : HACK

⁴hackle *n* : a fracture resulting in hackly edges

hack·ly \'hak-(ə-)lē\ *adj* : having the appearance of something hacked : JAGGED

hack·man \'hak-mən\ *n* : CABDRIVER

hack·ma·tack \'hak-mə-ˌtak\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Abnaki *akemântak* snowshoe wood] **1** : TAMARACK **2** : BALSAM POPLAR

¹hack·ney \'hak-nē\ *n, pl* **hack·neys** [ME *hakeney*] **1 a** : a horse suitable for ordinary riding or driving **b** : a trotting horse used chiefly for driving **c** : any of a breed of rather compact usu. chestnut, bay, or brown English horses with a conspicuously high knee and hock flexion in stepping **2** *obs* : one that works for hire : DRUDGE **3** : a carriage or automobile kept for hire



hackney 1c

²hackney *adj* **1** : kept for public hire **2** : HACKNEYED **3** *archaic* : done or suitable for doing by a drudge

³hackney *vt* **hack·neyed; hack·ney·ing** **1 a** : to make common or frequent use of **b** : to make trite, vulgar, or commonplace **2** *archaic* : to make sophisticated or jaded

hackney coach *n* : a coach kept for hire; *esp* : a four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses and having seats for six persons

hack·neyed \'hak-nēd\ *adj* : lacking in freshness or originality

hack·saw \'hak-ˌsȯ\ *n* : a fine-tooth saw that has a blade under tension in a frame for cutting hard materials (as metal)

hack·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : literary, artistic, or professional work done on order usu. according to formula and in conformity with commercial standards

had *past of* HAVE

ha·dal \'hād-ᵊl\ *adj* [F, fr. *Hadès* Hades] : of, relating to, or being the parts of the ocean below 6000 meters

had·dock \'had-ək\ *n, pl* **haddock** *also* **haddocks** [ME *haddok*] : an important food fish (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) that is usu. smaller than the related common cod and that occurs on both sides of the Atlantic

hade \'hād\ *n* [*hade* (to incline from the vertical), of unknown origin] : the angle made by a rock fault plane or a vein with the vertical

Ha·des \'hād-(ˌ)ēz\ *n* [Gk *Haidēs*] **1** : PLUTO **2** : the underground abode of the dead in Greek mythology **3** : SHEOL **4** *often not cap* : HELL

hadj, hadji *var of* HAJJ, HAJJI

hadn't \'had-ᵊnt\ : had not

had·ron \'had-ˌrän\ *n* [ISV *hadr-* thick, heavy (fr. Gk. *hadros*) + ²*-on*] : any of a class of elementary particles consisting of the pion and all heavier particles that takes part in the strong interactions — **ha·dron·ic** \ha-'drän-ik\ *adj*

hadst \(')hadst, hədst, *or* t *for* d\ *archaic past 2d sing of* HAVE

hae \(')hā\ *chiefly Scot var of* HAVE

haem *var of* HEME

haem- *or* **haemo-** — see HEM-

haema- — see HEMA-

haemat- *or* **haemato-** — see HEMAT-

hae·ma·tox·y·lon \ˌhē-mə-'täk-sə-ˌlän\ *n* [NL, fr. *hemat-* + Gk *xylon* wood] : the wood or dye of logwood

-haemia — see -EMIA

haemoglobin *var of* HEMOGLOBIN

haet \'hāt\ *n* [contr. of Sc *hae it* (as in *Deil hae it!* Devil take it!)] *chiefly Scot* : a small quantity : WHIT, BIT

haf·fet *or* **haf·fit** \'haf-ət\ *n* [ME (Sc) *halfheid*, fr. ME *half* + *hed* head] *Scot* : CHEEK, TEMPLE

haf·ni·um \'haf-nē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *Hafnia* (Copenhagen), Denmark] : a metallic element resembling zirconium chemically, occurring in zirconium minerals, and being useful because of its ready emission of electrons — see ELEMENT table

¹haft \'haft\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hæft*; akin to OE *hebban* to lift — more at HEAVE] : the handle of a weapon or tool

²haft *vt* : to set in or furnish with a haft

haf·ta·rah *or* **haf·to·rah** \ˌhäf-tə-'rä, häf-'tȯ-rə\ *n* [Heb *haphṭārāh* conclusion] : one of the biblical selections from the Books of the Prophets read after the parashah at the conclusion of the Jewish synagogue service

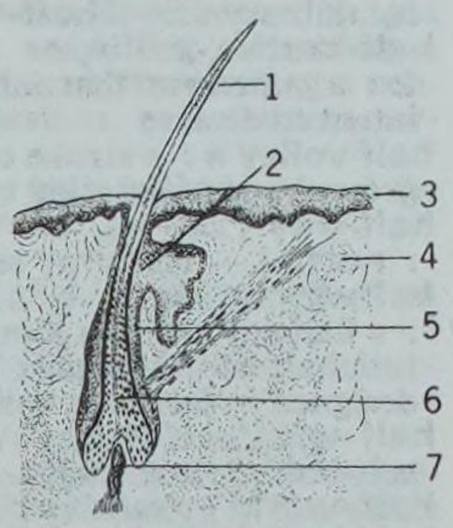
¹hag \'hag\ *n* [ME *hagge*] **1** *archaic* **a** : a female demon **b** : an evil or frightening spirit : HOBGOBLIN **2** : WITCH **3** : an ugly, slatternly, or evil-looking old woman — **hag·gish** \'hag-ish\ *adj*

²hag *n* [E dial., felled timber, of Scand origin; akin to ON *högg* stroke, blow; akin to OE *hēawan* to hew] **1** *Brit* : QUAGMIRE, BOG **2** *Brit* : a firm spot in a bog

Hag *abbr* Haggai

Ha·gar \'hā-ˌgär, -gər\ *n* [Heb *Hāghār*] : a concubine of Abraham driven into the desert with her son Ishmael because of Sarah's jealousy according to the account in Genesis

hag·fish \'hag-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several marine cyclostomes (order Hyperotreta) that are related to the lampreys and in general resemble eels but have a round mouth surrounded by eight tentacles and that feed upon fishes by boring into their bodies
Hag·ga·dah \hə-'gäd-ə, hä-, -'gȯd-\ *n, pl* **Hag·ga·doth** \-'gäd-ˌōt(h), -'gȯd-\ [Heb *haggādhāh*] **1** : ancient Jewish lore forming esp. the nonlegal part of the Talmud **2** : the Jewish ritual for the seder — **hag·ga·dic** \-'gad-ik, -'gäd-, -'gȯd-\ *adj, often cap*
hag·ga·dist \-'gäd-əst, -'gȯd-\ *n, often cap* **1** : a haggadic writer **2** : a student of the Haggadah — **hag·ga·dis·tic** \ˌhag-ə-'dis-tik, ˌhäg-\ *adj, often cap*
Hag·gai \'hag-ē-ˌī, 'hag-ˌī\ *n* [Heb *Haggaī*] **1** : a Hebrew prophet who flourished about 500 B.C. and who advocated that the Temple in Jerusalem be rebuilt **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scriptures — see BIBLE table
[1]hag·gard \'hag-ərd\ *adj* [MF *hagard*] **1** *of a hawk* : not tamed **2 a** : wild in appearance **b** : having a worn or emaciated appearance : GAUNT — **hag·gard·ly** *adv* — **hag·gard·ness** *n*
[2]haggard *n* **1** : an adult hawk caught wild **2** *obs* : an intractable person
hag·gis \'hag-əs\ *n* [ME *hagese*] : a pudding popular esp. in Scotland that is made of the heart, liver, and lungs of a sheep or a calf minced with suet, onions, oatmeal, and seasonings and boiled in the stomach of the animal
[1]hag·gle \'hag-əl\ *vb* **hag·gled; hag·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [freq. of *hag* (to hew)] *vt* **1** : to cut roughly or clumsily : HACK **2** *archaic* : to annoy or exhaust with wrangling ~ *vi* : BARGAIN, WRANGLE — **hag·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]haggle *n* : an act or instance of haggling
hagi- *or* **hagio-** *comb form* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *hagios*] **1** : holy ⟨*hagio*scope⟩ **2** : saints ⟨*hagio*graphy⟩
Ha·gi·og·ra·pha \ˌhag-ē-'äg-rə-fə, ˌhā-jē-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [LL, fr. LGk, fr. *hagio-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] : the third part of the Jewish scriptures — see BIBLE table
ha·gi·og·ra·pher \-fər\ *n* : a writer of hagiography
ha·gio·graph·ic \ˌhag-ē-ə-'graf-ik, 'hā-jē-\ *also* **ha·gio·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the Hagiographa **2** : of or relating to hagiography
ha·gi·og·ra·phy \ˌhag-ē-'äg-rə-fē, ˌhā-jē-\ *n* **1** : biography of saints or venerated persons **2** : idealizing or idolizing biography
ha·gi·ol·o·gy \-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : literature dealing with venerated persons or writings **2** : a list of venerated figures — **ha·gi·o·log·ic** \-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **ha·gi·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ha·gi·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ha·gio·scope \'hag-ē-ə-ˌskōp, 'hā-jē-\ *n* : an opening in the interior walls of a cruciform church so placed as to afford a view of the altar to those in the transept — **ha·gio·scop·ic** \ˌhag-ē-ə-'skäp-ik, ˌhā-jē-\ *adj*
hag·ride \'hag-ˌrīd\ *vt* **-rode** \-ˌrōd\; **-rid·den** \-ˌrid-ᵊn\ : HARASS, TORMENT
hah *var of* HA
[1]ha–ha \(')hä-'hä\ *interj* [ME, fr. OE *ha ha*] — used to express amusement or derision
[2]ha–ha \'hä-ˌhä\ *n* [F *haha*] : SUNK FENCE
haik \'hīk\ *n* [Ar *ḥā'ik*] : a voluminous piece of usu. white cloth worn as an outer garment in northern Africa
hai·ku \'hī-(ˌ)kü\ *n, pl* **haiku** [Jap] : an unrhymed Japanese verse form of three lines containing 5, 7, and 5 syllables respectively; *also* : a poem in this form — compare TANKA
[1]hail \'hā(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hægl;* akin to OHG *hagal* hail, Gk *kachlēx* pebble] **1** : precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps usu. consisting of concentric layers of clear ice and compact snow **2** : something that gives the effect of falling hail ⟨met a ~ of rifle fire from the ridge⟩
[2]hail *vi* **1** : to precipitate hail ⟨it was ~*ing* hard⟩ **2** : to pour down or strike like hail
[3]hail *interj* [ME, fr. ON *heill,* fr. *heill* healthy — more at WHOLE] **1** — used to express acclamation ⟨~ to the chief —Sir Walter Scott⟩ **2** *archaic* — used as a salutation
[4]hail *vt* **1 a** : SALUTE, GREET **b** : to greet with enthusiastic approval : ACCLAIM **2** : to greet or summon by calling ⟨~ a taxi⟩ ~ *vi* : to call out; *esp* : to call a greeting to a passing ship — **hail from** : to be or have been a native or resident of
[5]hail *n* **1** : an exclamation of greeting or acclamation **2** : a calling to attract attention **3** : hearing distance ⟨stayed within ~⟩
hail·er \'hā-lər\ *n* **1** : one that hails **2** : BULLHORN 1
hail–fel·low \'hāl-ˌfel-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *adj* : HAIL-FELLOW-WELL-MET — **hail–fellow** *n*
hail–fel·low–well–met \-ō-ˌwel-'met, -ə-ˌwel-\ *adj* [fr. the archaic salutation "Hail, fellow! Well met!"] : heartily informal : COMRADELY — **hail–fellow–well–met** *n*
Hail Mary *n* [trans. of ML *Ave, Maria*] : a Roman Catholic prayer to the Virgin Mary that consists of salutations and a plea for her intercession
hail·stone \'hā(ə)l-ˌstōn\ *n* : a pellet of hail
hail·storm \-ˌstȯ(ə)rm\ *n* : a storm accompanied by hail
hair \'ha(ə)r, 'he(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hǣr;* akin to OHG *hār* hair] **1 a** : a slender threadlike outgrowth of the epidermis of an animal; *esp* : one of the usu. pigmented filaments that form the characteristic coat of a mammal **b** : the hairy covering of an animal or a body part; *esp* : the coating of hairs on a human head **2** : HAIRCLOTH **3 a** : a minute distance or amount : TRIFLE ⟨won by a ~⟩ **b** : a precise degree : NICETY ⟨aligned to a ~⟩ **4** *obs* : NATURE, CHARACTER **5** : a filamentous structure that resembles hair ⟨leaf ~⟩ — **hair·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*



hair 1a: *1* shaft, *2* sebaceous gland, *3* epidermis, *4* dermis, *5* hair follicle, *6* bulb, *7* papilla

hair ball *n* : a compact mass of hair formed in the stomach esp. of a shedding animal (as a cat) that cleanses its coat by licking
[1]hair·breadth \'ha(ə)r-ˌbredth, 'he(ə)r-, -ˌbretth\ *or* **hairs·breadth** \'ha(ə)rz-, 'he(ə)rz-\ *n* : a very small distance or margin
[2]hairbreadth *adj* : very narrow : CLOSE ⟨a ~ escape⟩
hair·brush \'ha(ə)r-ˌbrəsh, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* : a brush for the hair
hair cell *n* : a cell with hairlike processes; *esp* : one of the sensory cells in the auditory epithelium of the organ of Corti
hair·cloth \'ha(ə)r-ˌklȯth, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* : any of various stiff wiry fabrics esp. of horsehair or camel's hair used for upholstery or for stiffening in garments
hair·cut \-ˌkət\ *n* : the act, process, or result of cutting and shaping the hair — **hair·cut·ter** \-ˌkət-ər\ *n* — **hair·cut·ting** \-ˌkət-iŋ\ *n*
hair·do \-ˌdü\ *n, pl* **hairdos** : a way of dressing a woman's hair : COIFFURE
hair·dress·er \-ˌdres-ər\ *n* **1** : one whose occupation is the dressing or cutting of hair **2** *Brit* : BARBER
hair·dress·ing \-ˌdres-iŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the action or process of washing, cutting, curling, or arranging the hair **b** : the occupation of a hairdresser **2** : a preparation (as a liquid or cream) used in grooming and styling the hair
haired \'ha(ə)rd, 'he(ə)rd\ *adj* : having hair esp. of a specified kind — usu. used in combination ⟨fair-*haired*⟩
hair follicle *n* : the tubular epithelial sheath that surrounds the lower part of the hair shaft and encloses at the bottom a vascular papilla supplying the growing basal part of the hair with nourishment
hair·less \'ha(ə)r-ləs, 'he(ə)r-\ *adj* : lacking hair — **hair·less·ness** *n*
hair·line \-'līn\ *n* **1** : a very slender line: as **a** : a tiny line or crack on a surface **b** : a fine line connecting thicker strokes in a printed letter **2 a** : a textile design consisting of lengthwise or crosswise lines usu. one thread wide **b** : a fabric with such a design **3 a** : the line at which the hair meets the scalp **b** : the way the hair frames the face — **hairline** *adj*
hair·piece \-ˌpēs\ *n* **1** : TOUPEE 2 **2** : supplementary hair (as a switch) used in some feminine coiffures
[1]hair·pin \-ˌpin\ *n* **1** : a pin to hold the hair in place; *specif* : a two-pronged U-shaped pin **2** : something shaped like a hairpin; *specif* : a sharp turn in a road
[2]hairpin *adj* : having the shape of a hairpin ⟨a ~ turn⟩; *also* : having hairpin turns ⟨a steep ~ road⟩
hair–rais·er \'ha(ə)r-ˌrā-zər, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* : THRILLER
hair–rais·ing \-ˌrā-ziŋ\ *adj* : causing terror, excitement, or astonishment — **hair–rais·ing·ly** \-ziŋ-lē\ *adv*
hair seal *n* **1** : EARLESS SEAL **2** : the fur of a hair seal
hair shirt *n* : a shirt made of rough animal hair worn next to the skin as a penance
hair space *n* : a very thin space used in printing
hair·split·ter \'ha(ə)r-ˌsplit-ər, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* : one that makes excessively fine distinctions in reasoning : QUIBBLER — **hair·split·ting** \-ˌsplit-iŋ\ *adj or n*
hair·spring \-ˌspriŋ\ *n* : a slender spiraled recoil spring that regulates the motion of the balance wheel of a timepiece
hair·streak \-ˌstrēk\ *n* : any of various small butterflies (*Strymon* or a related genus) usu. having striped markings on the underside of the wings and thin filamentous projections from the hind wings
hair stroke *n* : a delicate stroke in writing or printing
hair·style \'ha(ə)r-ˌstīl, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* : a way of wearing the hair : COIFFURE
hair·styl·ing \-ˌstī-liŋ\ *n* : the work of a hairstylist
hair·styl·ist \-ˌstī-ləst\ *n* : HAIRDRESSER; *esp* : one who does creative styling of coiffures
hair–trigger *adj* **1** : immediately responsive to the slightest stimulus ⟨a ~ temper⟩ **2** : delicately adjusted or easily disrupted ⟨a ~ balance⟩
hair trigger *n* : a gun trigger so adjusted as to permit the firearm to be fired by a very slight pressure
hair·worm \'ha(ə)r-ˌwərm, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : any of a genus (*Capillaria*) of nematode worms that include serious parasites of the alimentary tract of fowls and tissue and organ parasites of mammals **2** : any of a group (Gordiacea) of very slender elongated worms that are parasitic in arthropods as larvae and are free-living in water as adults
hairy \'ha(ə)r-ē, 'he(ə)r-\ *adj* **hair·i·er; -est** **1 a** : covered with hair or hairlike material **b** : having a downy fuzz on the stems and leaves **2** : made of or resembling hair **3** : presenting high risk or challenge : RUGGED 6b ⟨a ~ . . . scramble up a steep or tortuous mountain road —R. F. Jones⟩ ⟨a ~ adventure⟩ — **hair·i·ness** \'har-ē-nəs, 'her-\ *n*
hairy vetch *n* : a European vetch (*Vicia villosa*) extensively cultivated as a cover and early forage crop
hairy woodpecker *n* : a common No. American woodpecker (*Dendrocopos villosus*) closely resembling but larger than the downy woodpecker
Hai·tian \'hā-shən *also* 'hāt-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Haiti **2** : HAITIAN CREOLE — **Haitian** *adj*
Haitian Creole *n* : the language that is spoken by the great majority of Haitian inhabitants and that is based on French and various West African languages
hajj \'haj\ *n* [Ar *ḥajj*] : the pilgrimage to Mecca prescribed as a religious duty for Muslims
hajji \'haj-ē\ *n* [Ar *ḥajjī,* fr. *ḥajj*] : one who has made a pilgrimage to Mecca — often used as a title

hake \'hāk\ *n* [ME] : any of several marine food fishes (as of the genera *Merluccius* and *Urophycis*) that are related to the common Atlantic cod

ha·ken·kreuz \'häk-ən-ˌkrȯits\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *haken* hook + *kreuz* cross] : the swastika used as a symbol of German anti-Semitism or of Nazi Germany

1ha·kim \hə-'kēm\ *n* [Ar *ḥakīm*, lit., wise one] : a Muslim physician

2ha·kim \'häk-əm\ *n* [Ar *ḥākim*] : a Muslim ruler, governor, or judge

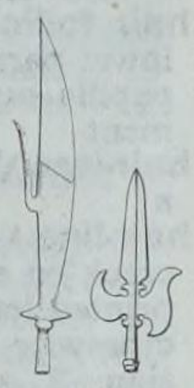
hal- *or* **halo-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk, fr. *hals* — more at SALT] **1** : salt ⟨*halo*phyte⟩ **2** [ISV, fr. *halogen*] : halogen ⟨*hal*ide⟩

ha·la·kah \hä-'läk-ə, ˌhä-lə-'kä\ *n, often cap* [Heb *halākhāh*, lit., way] : the body of Jewish law supplementing the scriptural law and forming esp. the legal part of the Talmud — **ha·lak·ic** \hə-'lak-ik, hä-'läk-\ *adj, often cap*

ha·la·la *also* **ha·la·lah** \hə-'läl-ə\ *n, pl* **halala** *or* **halalas** [Ar] — see *riyal* at MONEY table

ha·lation \hā-'lā-shən\ *n* [*halo* + *-ation*] **1** : the spreading of light beyond its proper boundaries in a developed photographic image **2** : a bright ring that sometimes surrounds a bright object on a television screen

hal·berd \'hal-bərd, 'hȯl-\ *or* **hal·bert** \-bərt\ *n* [ME *halberd*, fr. MF *hallebarde*] : a weapon esp. of the 15th and 16th centuries consisting typically of a battle-ax and pike mounted on a handle about six feet long — **hal·berd·ier** \ˌhal-bər-'di(ə)r, ˌhȯl-\ *n*



halberd heads

1hal·cy·on \'hal-sē-ən\ *n* [ME *alceon*, fr. L *halcyon*, fr. Gk *alkyōn, halkyōn*] **1** : a bird identified with the kingfisher and held in ancient legend to nest at sea about the time of the winter solstice and to calm the waves during incubation **2** : KINGFISHER

2halcyon *adj* **1** : of or relating to the halcyon or its nesting period **2 a** : CALM, PEACEFUL **b** : HAPPY, GOLDEN **c** : PROSPEROUS, AFFLUENT

Hal·cy·o·ne \hal-'sī-ə-(ˌ)nē\ *n* [L, modif. of Gk *Alkyonē*] : a daughter of Aeolus who drowns herself on learning of her husband's death and is with him turned into one of a pair of birds having power to calm the sea

1hale \'hā(ə)l\ *adj* [partly fr. ME (northern) *hale*, fr. OE *hāl;* partly fr. ME *hail*, fr. ON *heill* — more at WHOLE] : free from defect, disease, or infirmity : SOUND; *also* : retaining exceptional health and vigor ⟨a ~ and hearty old man⟩ ***syn*** see HEALTHY ***ant*** infirm

2hale *vt* **haled; hal·ing** [ME *halen*, fr. MF *haler* — more at HAUL] **1** : HAUL, PULL **2** : to compel to go

ha·ler \'häl-ər, -ˌe(ə)r\ *n, pl* **halers** *or* **ha·le·ru** \'häl-ə-ˌrü\ [Czech] — see *koruna* at MONEY table

1half \'haf, 'håf\ *n, pl* **halves** \'havz, 'håvz\ [ME, fr. OE *healf;* akin to L *scalpere* to cut, OE *sciell* shell] **1 a** : one of two equal parts into which a thing is divisible; *also* : a part of a thing approximately equal to the remainder **b** : half an hour — used in designation of time **2** : one of a pair: as **a** : PARTNER **b** : SEMESTER, TERM **3** : HALF-DOLLAR **4** : HALFBACK — **by half** : by a great deal — **by halves** : in part : HALF-HEARTEDLY — **half as much again** : one-and-a-half times as much — **in half** : into two equal or nearly equal parts

2half *adj* **1 a** : being one of two equal parts ⟨a ~ share⟩ ⟨a ~ sheet of paper⟩ **b** (1) : amounting to approximately half ⟨a ~ mile⟩ ⟨a ~ million⟩ (2) : falling short of the full or complete thing : PARTIAL ⟨~ measures⟩ ⟨a ~ smile⟩ **2** : extending over or covering only half ⟨a ~ window⟩ ⟨a ~ mask⟩ — **half·ness** *n*

3half *adv* **1 a** : in an equal part or degree ⟨the crowd was ~ jeering, ~ respectful⟩ **b** : only partially : not completely ⟨~ persuaded⟩ ⟨*half*-remembered legends from her childhood⟩ **2** — used with a negative to imply the opposite of what is expressed ⟨her singing isn't ~ bad⟩

half-and-half \ˌhaf-ən-'haf, ˌhåf-ən-'håf\ *n* : something that is approximately half one thing and half another: as **a** : a mixture of two malt beverages (as beer and stout) **b** : a mixture of cream and whole milk — **half-and-half** *adj* — **half-and-half** *adv*

half·back \'haf-ˌbak, 'håf-\ *n* **1** : one of the backs stationed near either flank in football **2** : a player stationed immediately behind the forward line (as in field hockey, soccer, or rugby)

half-baked \-'bākt\ *adj* **1** : imperfectly baked : UNDERDONE **2 a** : not well planned ⟨a ~ scheme for getting rich quick⟩ **b** : lacking judgment, intelligence, or common sense ⟨a ~ film critic⟩

half blood *n* **1 a** : the relation between persons having only one parent in common **b** : a person so related to another **2** : HALF-BREED **3** : GRADE 4

half-blood·ed \'haf-'blə-dəd, 'håf-\ *adj* : having half blood or being a half blood

half boot *n* : a boot with a top reaching above the ankle and ending below the knee

half-bound \'haf-'baůnd, 'håf-\ *adj, of a book* : bound in material of two qualities with the material of better quality on the spine and corners — **half binding** *n*

half-bred \-ˌbred\ *adj* : having one purebred parent — **half-bred** *n*

half-breed \-ˌbrēd\ *n* : the offspring of parents of different races; *esp* : the offspring of an American Indian and a Caucasian — **half-breed** *adj*

half brother *n* : a brother related through one parent only

half-caste \'haf-ˌkast, 'håf-\ *n* : one of mixed racial descent : HALF-BREED — **half-caste** *adj*

half cock *n* **1** : the position of the hammer of a firearm when about half retracted and held by the sear so that it cannot be operated by a pull on the trigger **2** : a state of inadequate preparation or mental confusion

half-cocked \'haf-'käkt, 'håf-\ *adj* **1** : being at half cock **2** : lacking adequate preparation or forethought

half crown *n* : a British coin worth two shillings and sixpence

half dime *n* : a silver 5-cent coin struck by the U.S. mint in 1792 and from 1794 to 1873

half disme *n* : a half dime struck in 1792

half-dol·lar \'haf-'däl-ər, 'håf-\ *n* **1** : a coin representing one half of a dollar **2** : the sum of 50 cents

half eagle *n* : a 5-dollar gold piece issued by the U.S. 1795–1916 and in 1929

half-evergreen *adj* **1** : having functional and persistent foliage during part of the winter or dry season **2** : tending to be evergreen in a mild climate but deciduous in a rigorous climate

half gainer *n* : a gainer in which the diver executes a half-backward somersault and enters the water headfirst and facing the board

half-hardy *adj, of a plant* : able to withstand a moderately low temperature but injured by severe freezing and surviving the winter in cold climates only if carefully protected

half·heart·ed \'haf-'härt-əd, 'håf-\ *adj* : lacking heart, spirit, or interest ⟨~ attempts to start a conversation⟩ — **half·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **half·heart·ed·ness** *n*

half hitch *n* : a simple knot so made as to be easily unfastened — see KNOT illustration

half hour *n* **1** : thirty minutes **2** : the middle point of an hour — **half-hour·ly** \'haf-'aů(ə)r-lē, 'håf-\ *adv or adj*

half-knot \'haf-ˌnät, 'håf-\ *n* : a knot joining the ends of two cords and used in tying other knots

half-length \'haf-'leŋ(k)th, 'håf-\ *n* : something (as a portrait) that is or represents only half the complete length

half-life \-ˌlīf\ *n* : the time required for half of something to undergo a process: as **a** : the time required for half of the atoms of a radioactive substance present to become disintegrated **b** : the time required for half the amount of a substance (as a drug or radioactive tracer) in or introduced into a living system to be eliminated by natural processes

half-light \-ˌlīt\ *n* : grayish light (as of a dim interior or evening)

half line *n* : a straight line extending from a point in one direction only

half-long \'haf-'lȯŋ, 'håf-\ *adj* : intermediate in duration between long and short

1half-mast \-'mast\ *n* : a point some distance but not necessarily halfway down below the top of a mast or staff or the peak of a gaff

2half-mast *vt* : to cause to hang at half-mast ⟨~ a flag⟩

half-moon \'haf-ˌmün, 'håf-\ *n* **1** : the moon when half its disk appears illuminated **2** : something shaped like a crescent **3** : LUNULE

half nelson *n* : a wrestling hold in which one arm is thrust under the corresponding arm of an opponent and the hand placed on the back of the opponent's neck — compare FULL NELSON

half note *n* : a musical note with the time value of ½ of a whole note — see NOTE illustration

half·pen·ny \'hāp-(ə-)nē, *US also* 'haf-ˌpen-ē, 'håf-\ *n* **1** *pl* **half-pence** \'hā-pən(t)s, *US also* 'haf-ˌpen(t)s, 'håf-\ *or* **halfpennies** : a British coin representing one half of a penny **2** : the sum of half a penny **3** : a small amount — **halfpenny** *adj*

1half-pint \'haf-ˌpīnt, 'håf-\ *n* **1** : half a pint **2** : a short, small, or inconsequential person

2half-pint *adj* : of less than average size : DIMINUTIVE

half plane *n* : the part of a plane on one side of an indefinitely extended straight line drawn in the plane

half rest *n* : a musical rest corresponding in time value to a half note

half sister *n* : a sister related through one parent only

half-slip \'haf-ˌslip, 'håf-\ *n* : a topless slip with an elasticized waistband

half-sole *vt* : to put half soles on

half sole *n* : a shoe sole extending from the shank forward

half sovereign *n* : a British gold coin worth 10 shillings

half-staff \'haf-'staf, 'håf-\ *n* : HALF-MAST

half step *n* **1** : a walking step of 15 inches or in double time of 18 inches **2** : the musical interval (as E–F or B–C) equivalent to the interval between any two adjacent keys on a keyboard instrument — called also *semitone*

half-timber *or* **half-tim·bered** \'haf-'tim-bərd, 'håf-\ *adj, of a building* : constructed of wood framing with spaces filled with masonry — **half-tim·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *n*

halftime \-ˌtīm\ *n* : an intermission marking the completion of half of a game or contest (as in football or basketball)

half title *n* : the title of a book standing alone on a right-hand page immediately preceding the title page

half·tone \'haf-ˌtōn, 'håf-\ *n* **1** : HALF STEP 2 **2 a** : any of the shades of gray between the darkest and the lightest parts of a photographic image **b** : a photoengraving made from an image photographed through a screen and then etched so that the details of the image are reproduced in dots — **halftone** *adj*

half-track \-ˌtrak\ *n* **1** : an endless chain-track drive system that propels a vehicle supported in front by a pair of wheels **2** : a motor vehicle propelled by half-tracks; *specif* : one lightly armored for military use — **half-track** *or* **half-tracked** \-ˌtrakt\ *adj*

half-truth \-ˌtrüth\ *n* **1** : a statement that is only partially true **2** : a statement that mingles truth and falsehood with deliberate intent to deceive

half volley *n* : a stroke of a ball at the instant it rebounds from the ground — **half-volley** *vb*

half·way \'haf-'wā, 'håf-\ *adj* **1** : midway between two points **2** : PARTIAL — **halfway** *adv*

halfway house *n* **1 a** : a place to stop midway on a journey **b** : a halfway place in a progression **2** : a center for formerly institutionalized individuals (as mental patients or drug addicts) that is designed to facilitate their readjustment to private life

half-wit \'haf-ˌwit, 'håf-\ *n* : a foolish or imbecilic person — **half-wit·ted** \-'wit-əd\ *adj* — **half-wit·ted·ness** *n*

half-world \-ˌwərld\ *n* : DEMIMONDE

hal·i·but \'hal-ə-bət, 'häl-\ *n, pl* **halibut** *also* **halibuts** [ME *halybutte*, fr. *haly, holy* holy + *butte* flatfish, fr. MD or MLG *but;* fr. its being eaten on holy days] : a marine food fish that is the largest flatfish and one of the largest teleost fishes, attains a weight of several hundred pounds in the female, and is now usu. classified as

an Atlantic species (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) and a Pacific one (*H. stenolepis*)

ha·lide \'hal-ˌīd, 'hā-ˌlīd\ *n* : a binary compound of a halogen with a more electropositive element or radical

hal·i·dom \'hal-əd-əm\ *or* **hal·i·dome** \-ə-ˌdōm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hāligdōm*, fr. *hālig* holy] *archaic* : something held sacred

ha·lite \'hal-ˌīt, 'hā-ˌlīt\ *n* : native salt : ROCK SALT

hal·i·to·sis \ˌhal-ə-'tō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. L *halitus* breath, fr. *halare* to breathe — more at EXHALE] : a condition of having fetid breath

hall \'hȯl\ *n* [ME *halle*, fr. OE *heall;* akin to L *cella* small room, *celare* to conceal — more at HELL] **1 a** : the castle or house of a medieval king or noble **b** : the chief living room in such a structure **2** : the manor house of a landed proprietor **3** : a large usu. imposing building for public or semipublic purposes **4 a** (1) : a building used by a college or university for some special purpose (2) : DORMITORY **b** : a college or a division of a college at some universities **c** (1) : the common dining room of an English college (2) : a meal served there **5 a** : the entrance room of a building : LOBBY **b** : a corridor or passage in a building **6** : a large room for assembly : AUDITORIUM **7** : a place used for public entertainment

Hal·lel \hä-'lā(ə)l\ *n* [Heb *hallēl* praise] : a selection comprising Psalms 113–118 chanted during Jewish feasts (as the Passover)

[1]hal·le·lu·jah \ˌhal-ə-'lü-yə\ *interj* [Heb *hallēlūyāh* praise (ye) the Lord] — used to express praise, joy, or thanks

[2]hallelujah *n* : a shout or song of praise or thanksgiving

hal·liard *var of* HALYARD

[1]hall·mark \'hȯl-ˌmärk\ *n* [Goldsmiths' *Hall*, London, England, where gold and silver articles were assayed and stamped] **1 a** : an official mark stamped on gold and silver articles in England to attest their purity **b** : a mark or device placed or stamped on an article of trade to indicate origin, purity, or genuineness **2** : a distinguishing characteristic, trait, or feature ⟨the dramatic flourishes which are the ~ of the trial lawyer —Marion K. Sanders⟩

[2]hallmark *vt* : to stamp with a hallmark

hal·lo \hə-'lō, ha-\ *or* **hal·loo** \-'lü\ *var of* HOLLO

Hall of Fame **1** : a structure housing memorials to famous or illustrious individuals usu. chosen by a group of electors **2** : a group of individuals in a particular category (as a sport) who have been selected as particularly illustrious —**Hall of Famer**

hal·low \'hal-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *vt* [ME *halowen*, fr. OE *hālgian*, fr. *hālig* holy — more at HOLY] **1** : to make holy or set apart for holy use **2** : to respect greatly : VENERATE ***syn*** see DEVOTE

hal·lowed \'hal-(ˌ)ōd, 'hal-əd, *in the Lord's Prayer also* 'hal-ə-wəd\ *adj* **1** : HOLY, CONSECRATED **2** : SACRED, REVERED ⟨the ~ traditions from the past⟩

Hal·low·een \ˌhal-ə-'wēn, ˌhäl-\ *n* [short for *All Hallow Even*] : October 31 observed with festivity and the playing of pranks by children during the evening

Hal·low·mas \'hal-ō-ˌmas, 'hal-ə-, -məs\ *n* [short for ME *Alholowmesse*, fr. OE *ealra halgena mæsse*, lit., all saints' mass] : ALL SAINTS' DAY

halls of ivy [fr. the traditional training of ivy on the walls of older college buildings] : an institution of higher education : UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE

Hall·statt *or* **Hall·stadt** \'hȯl-ˌstat, 'häl-ˌs(h)tät\ *adj* [*Hallstatt*, Austria] : of or relating to the earlier period of the Iron Age in Europe

hal·lu·ci·nate \hə-'lüs-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *hallucinatus*, pp. of *hallucinari* to prate, dream] *vt* **1** : to affect with visions or imaginary perceptions **2** : to perceive or experience as an hallucination ~ *vi* : to have hallucinations

hal·lu·ci·na·tion \hə-ˌlüs-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : perception of objects with no reality usu. arising from disorder of the nervous system or in response to drugs (as LSD) **b** : the object of an hallucinatory perception **2** : a completely unfounded or mistaken impression or notion : DELUSION ***syn*** see DELUSION — **hal·lu·ci·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **hal·lu·ci·na·tive** \-'lüs-ᵊn-ˌāt-iv\ *adj*

hal·lu·ci·na·to·ry \hə-'lüs-ᵊn-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -'lüs-nə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : tending to produce hallucination ⟨~ drugs⟩ **2** : resembling or being an hallucination ⟨~ dreams⟩ ⟨an ~ figure⟩ ⟨an ~ painting⟩

hal·lu·ci·no·gen \hə-'lüs-ᵊn-ə-jən\ *n* [*hallucin*ation + *-o-* + *-gen*] : a substance that induces hallucinations — **hal·lu·ci·no·gen·ic** \-ˌlüs-ᵊn-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj*

hal·lu·ci·no·sis \hə-ˌlüs-ᵊn-'ō-səs\ *n* : a pathological mental state characterized by hallucinations

hal·lux \'hal-əks\ *n, pl* **hal·lu·ces** \'hal-(y)ə-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. L *hallus, hallux*] : the first or preaxial digit of the hind limb

hall·way \'hȯl-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : an entrance hall **2** : CORRIDOR

[1]ha·lo \'hā-(ˌ)lō\ *n, pl* **halos** *or* **haloes** [L *halos*, fr. Gk *halōs* threshing floor, disk, halo] **1** : a circle of light appearing to surround the sun or moon and resulting from refraction or reflection of light by ice particles in the atmosphere **2** : something resembling a halo: as **a** : NIMBUS **b** : a differentiated zone surrounding a central object **3** : the aura of glory, veneration, or sentiment surrounding an idealized person or thing

[2]halo *vt* : to form into or surround with a halo ⟨rainbows ~*ed* the waterfalls —Michael Crawford⟩

halo- — see HAL-

halo·bi·ont \ˌhal-ō-'bī-ˌänt\ *n* [*hal-* + Gk *biount-, biōn*, prp. of *bioun* to live, fr. *bios* life — more at QUICK] : HALOPHILE

halo·car·bon \-'kär-bən\ *n* : any of various compounds (as fluorocarbon) of carbon and one or more halogens

halo·cline \'hal-ə-ˌklīn\ *n* : a usu. vertical gradient in salinity

halo effect *n* : generalization from the perception of one outstanding personality trait to an overly favorable evaluation of the whole personality

halo·gen \'hal-ə-jən\ *n* [Sw] : any of the five elements fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, and astatine that form part of group VII A of the periodic table and exist in the free state normally as diatomic molecules — **ha·log·e·nous** \ha-'läj-ə-nəs\ *adj*

ha·lo·ge·nate \'hal-ə-jə-ˌnāt, ha-'läj-ə-\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** : to treat or cause to combine with a halogen — **ha·lo·ge·na·tion** \ˌhal-ə-jə-'nā-shən, ha-ˌläj-ə-\ *n*

hal·o·ge·ton \ˌhal-ə-'jē-ˌtän\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *hal-* + Gk *geitōn* neighbor] : a coarse annual herb (*Halogeton glomeratus*) of the goosefoot family that is a noxious weed in western American ranges

halo·mor·phic \ˌhal-ə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj, of a soil* : developed in the presence of neutral or alkali salts or both — **halo·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n*

hal·o·per·i·dol \ˌhal-ō-'per-ə-ˌdȯl, -ˌdōl\ *n* [*hal-* + p*iperid*ine + *-ol*] : a depressant $C_{21}H_{23}ClFNO_2$ of the central nervous system used esp. as a tranquilizer

halo·phile \'hal-ə-ˌfīl\ *n* [ISV] : an organism that flourishes in a salty environment — **halo·phil·ic** \ˌhal-ə-'fil-ik\ *or* **ha·loph·i·lous** \ha-'läf-ə-ləs\ *adj*

halo·phyte \'hal-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : a plant (as saltbush or sea lavender) that grows in salty soil and usu. has a physiological resemblance to a true xerophyte — **halo·phyt·ic** \ˌhal-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

hal·o·thane \'hal-ə-ˌthān\ *n* [*halo-* + *ethane*] : a nonexplosive inhalational anesthetic $C_2HBrClF_3$

[1]halt \'hȯlt\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *healt;* akin to OHG *halz* lame, L *clades* destruction, Gk *klan* to break] : LAME

[2]halt *vi* **1** : to walk or proceed lamely : LIMP **2** : to stand in perplexity or doubt between alternate courses : WAVER **3** : to display weakness or imperfection : FALTER

[3]halt *n* [G, fr. MHG, fr. *halt*, imper. of *halten* to hold, fr. OHG *haltan* — more at HOLD] : STOP

[4]halt *vi* **1** : to cease marching or journeying **2** : DISCONTINUE, TERMINATE ⟨the project ~*ed* for lack of funds⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to bring to a stop ⟨the labor conflict has ~*ed* subways and buses⟩ **2** : to cause the discontinuance of : END

[1]hal·ter \'hȯl-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hælftre;* akin to OHG *halftra* halter, OE *hielfe* helve] **1 a** : a rope or strap for leading or tying an animal **b** : a headstall usu. with noseband and throatlatch to which a lead may be attached **2** : a rope for hanging criminals : NOOSE; *also* : death by hanging **3** : a woman's blouse that leaves the back, arms, and midriff bare and that is typically held in place by straps around the neck and across the back

[2]halter *vt* **hal·tered; hal·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to catch with or as if with a halter; *also* : to put a halter on **b** : HANG **2** : to put restraint upon : HAMPER

hal·ter-break \'hȯl-tər-ˌbrāk\ *vt* **-broke** \-ˌbrōk\; **-bro·ken** \-ˌbrō-kən\; **-break·ing** : to break (as a colt) to a halter

hal·tere \'hȯl-ˌti(ə)r, 'hal-\ *also* **hal·ter** \-tər\ *n, pl* **hal·teres** \'hȯl-ˌti(ə)rz, 'hal-; hȯl-'ti(ə)r-ēz, hal-\ [NL *halter*, fr. L, jumping weight, fr. Gk *haltēr*, fr. *hallesthai* to leap — more at SALLY] : one of a pair of club-shaped organs in a dipterous insect that are the modified second pair of wings and function as sensory flight instruments

halt·ing \'hȯl-tiŋ\ *adj* : marked by a lack of sureness or effectiveness ⟨the witness spoke in a ~ manner⟩ — **halt·ing·ly** \-tiŋ-lē\ *adv*

hal·vah *or* **hal·va** \häl-'vä; 'häl-(ˌ)vä, -və\ *n* [Yiddish *halva*, fr. Rum, fr. Turk *helva*, fr. Ar *ḥalwā* sweetmeat] : a flaky confection of crushed sesame seeds in a base of syrup (as of honey)

halve \'hav, 'hȧv\ *vt* **halved; halv·ing** [ME *halven*, fr. *half*] **1 a** : to divide into two equal parts **b** : to reduce to one half ⟨*halving* the present cost⟩ **c** : to share equally **2** : to play (as a hole in golf) in the same number of strokes as one's opponent

halv·ers \'hav-ərz, 'hȧv-\ *n pl* : half shares : HALVES

halves *pl of* HALF

hal·yard \'hal-yərd\ *n* [ME *halier*, fr. *halen* to pull — more at HALE] : a rope or tackle for hoisting and lowering

[1]ham \'ham\ *n* [ME *hamme*, fr. OE *hamm;* akin to OHG *hamma* ham, Gk *knēmē* shinbone] **1 a** : the hollow of the knee **b** : a buttock with its associated thigh — usu. used in pl. **2** : a cut of meat consisting of a thigh; *esp* : one from a hog — see PORK illustration **3** [short for *hamfatter*, fr. "The *Ham-fat* Man," Negro minstrel song] **a** : a showy performer; *esp* : an actor performing in an exaggerated theatrical style **b** : a licensed operator of an amateur radio station — **ham** *adj*

[2]ham *vb* **hammed; ham·ming** *vt* : to execute with exaggerated speech or gestures : OVERACT ~ *vi* : to overplay a part

Ham \'ham\ *n* : a son of Noah and progenitor of the Egyptians, Nubians, and Canaanites

hama·dry·ad \ˌham-ə-'drī-əd, -ˌad\ *n* [L *hamadryad-, hamadryas*, fr. Gk, fr. *hama* together with + *dryad-, dryas* dryad — more at SAME] **1** : WOOD NYMPH **2 a** : KING COBRA **b** : a baboon (*Papio hamadryas*) venerated by the ancient Egyptians — called also *sacred baboon*

ha·mal *also* **ham·mal** \hə-'mäl\ *n* [Ar *ḥammāl* porter] : a porter in eastern countries (as Turkey)

Ha·man \'hā-mən\ *n* [Heb *Hāmān*] : an enemy of the Jews hanged according to the book of Esther for plotting their destruction

ha·mar·tia \ˌhäm-ˌär-'tē-ə\ *n* [Gk, fr. *hamartanein* to miss the mark, err] : TRAGIC FLAW

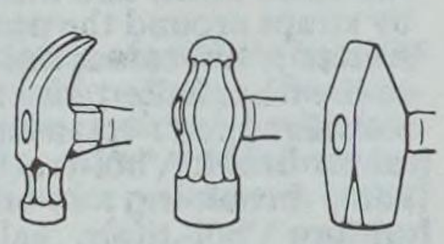
[1]ha·mate \'hā-ˌmāt\ *adj* [L *hamatus*, fr. *hamus* hook] : shaped like a hook

[2]hamate *n* : a bone on the inner side of the second row of the carpus in mammals — called also *unciform*

Ham·burg \'ham-ˌbərg\ *n* [*Hamburg*, Germany] : any of a European breed of rather small domestic fowls with rose combs and lead-blue legs

ham·burg·er \'ham-ˌbər-gər\ *or* **ham·burg** \-ˌbərg\ *n* [G *Hamburger* of Hamburg] **1 a** : ground beef **b** : a patty of ground beef **2** : a sandwich consisting of a patty of hamburger in a split round bun

[1]hame \'hām\ *n* [ME] : one of two curved projections which are attached to the collar of a draft horse and to which the traces are fastened
[2]hame *Scot var of* HOME
ham–fist·ed \'ham-'fis-təd\ *adj, chiefly Brit* : HAM-HANDED
ham–hand·ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* : lacking dexterity or grace : HEAVY-HANDED
[1]Ham·il·to·ni·an \ˌham-əl-'tō-nē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to Alexander Hamilton or to Hamiltonianism
[2]Hamiltonian *n* : a follower or advocate of the doctrines of Alexander Hamilton
[3]Hamiltonian *n* [Sir William *Hamilton* †1865 Irish mathematician] : a function that is used to describe a dynamic system (as the motion of a particle) in terms of components of momentum and coordinates of space and time and that is equal to the total energy of the system when time is not explicitly part of the function — compare LAGRANGIAN
Ham·il·to·ni·an·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the political principles and ideas held by or associated with Alexander Hamilton that center around a belief in a strong unitary central government, broad interpretation of the federal constitution, encouragement of an industrial and commercial economy, and a general distrust of the political capacity or wisdom of the common man
Ham·ite \'ham-ˌīt\ *n* [*Ham*] : a member of a group of chiefly northern African peoples that are mostly Muslims and are highly variable in appearance but mainly Caucasoid
[1]Ham·it·ic \ha-'mit-ik, hə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Hamites or one of the Hamitic languages
[2]Hamitic *n* : HAMITIC LANGUAGES
Hamitic languages *n pl* : the Berber, Cushitic, and sometimes Egyptian branches of the Afro-Asiatic languages
Ham·i·to–Se·mit·ic \ˌham-ə-(ˌ)tō-sə-'mit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the Afro-Asiatic languages — **Hamito–Semitic** *n*
Hamito–Semitic languages *n pl* : AFRO-ASIATIC LANGUAGES
ham·let \'ham-lət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *hamelet*, dim. of *ham* village, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *hām* village, home] : a small village
Ham·let \'ham-lət\ *n* : a legendary Danish prince and hero of Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*
[1]ham·mer \'ham-ər\ *n* [ME *hamer*, fr. OE *hamor*; akin to OHG *hamar* hammer, Gk *akmē* point, edge — more at EDGE] **1 a** : a hand tool consisting of a solid head set crosswise on a handle and used for pounding **b** : a power tool that often substitutes a metal block or a drill for the hammerhead **2** : something that resembles a hammer in form or action: as **a** : a lever with a striking head for ringing a bell or striking a gong **b** (1) : an arm that strikes the cap in a percussion lock to ignite the propelling charge (2) : a part of the action of a modern gun that strikes the primer of the cartridge in firing or that strikes the firing pin to ignite the cartridge **c** : MALLEUS **d** : GAVEL **e** (1) : a padded mallet in a piano action for striking a string (2) : a hand mallet for playing on various percussion instruments (as a xylophone) **3** : a metal sphere that usu. weighs 16 pounds and that is thrown for distance in the hammer throw — **under the hammer** : for sale at auction

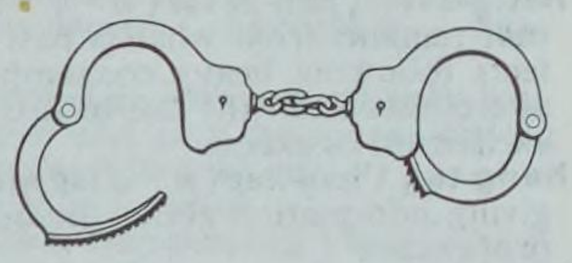

hammers 1a

[2]hammer *vb* **ham·mered; ham·mer·ing** \'ham-(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to strike blows esp. repeatedly with or as if with a hammer : POUND **2** : to make repeated efforts; *esp* : to reiterate an opinion or attitude ⟨the lectures all ~*ed* away at the same points⟩ ~ *vt* **1 a** : to beat, drive, or shape with repeated blows of a hammer **b** : to fasten or build with a hammer **2** : to strike or drive as if with a hammer ⟨~*ed* in three home runs in one game⟩ ⟨wanted to ~ him into submission⟩ **3** : to produce or bring about as if by repeated blows ⟨~ out a policy⟩ — **ham·mer·er** \'ham-ər-ər\ *n*
hammer and sickle *n* : an emblem consisting of a crossed hammer and sickle used chiefly as a symbol of Communism in the Soviet Union
hammer–and–tongs *adj* : characterized by great force, vigor, or violence ⟨has gone at his job in a ~ way that has annoyed . . . businessmen —*Newsweek*⟩
hammer and tongs *adv* : with great force, vigor, or violence ⟨went at each other *hammer and tongs*⟩
ham·mered *adj* : having surface indentations produced or appearing to have been produced by hammering ⟨~ copper⟩
ham·mer·head \'ham-ər-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : the striking part of a hammer **2** : BLOCKHEAD **3** : any of various active voracious medium-sized sharks that have the eyes at the ends of lateral extensions of the flattened head and that with the shovelheads constitute a family (Sphyrnidae)
ham·mer·less \-ləs\ *adj* : having the hammer concealed ⟨a ~ gun⟩
ham·mer·lock \-ˌläk\ *n* : a wrestling hold in which an opponent's arm is held bent behind his back
hammer throw *n* : a field event in which a metal sphere attached to a flexible handle is thrown for distance
ham·mer·toe \ˌham-ər-'tō\ *n* : a toe and usu. the second that is deformed by permanent angular flexion
[1]ham·mock \'ham-ək\ *n* [Sp *hamaca*, fr. Taino] : a swinging couch or bed usu. made of netting or canvas and slung by cords from supports at each end
[2]hammock *n* [origin unknown] **1** : HUMMOCK **2** : a fertile area in the southern U.S. and esp. Florida that is usu. higher than its surroundings and that is characterized by hardwood vegetation and deep humus-rich soil
ham·my \'ham-ē\ *adj* **ham·mi·er; -est** : marked by exaggerated and usu. self-conscious theatricality — **ham·mi·ly** \'ham-ə-lē\ *adv* — **ham·mi·ness** \'ham-ē-nəs\ *n*
[1]ham·per \'ham-pər\ *vt* **ham·pered; ham·per·ing** \-p(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *hamperen*] **1 a** : to restrict the movement of by bonds or obstacles : IMPEDE **b** : to interfere with the operation of : DISRUPT **2 a** : CURB, RESTRAIN **b** : to interfere with : ENCUMBER ***syn*** HAMPER, TRAMMEL, CLOG, FETTER, SHACKLE, MANACLE *shared meaning element* : to hinder or impede in moving, progressing, or acting ***ant*** assist (*as a person*), expedite (*as work*)
[2]hamper *n* **1** : something that impedes : OBSTRUCTION **2** : TOP-HAMPER 1
[3]hamper *n* [ME *hampere*, alter. of *hanaper*, lit., case to hold goblets, fr. MF *hanapier*, fr. *hanap* goblet, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *hnæpp* bowl] : a large basket usu. with a cover for packing, storing, or transporting articles (as food or laundry)
Hamp·shire \'ham(p)-ˌshi(ə)r, -shər\ *n* [*Hampshire*, England] **1** : any of an American breed of black white-belted swine with white forelegs, rather long head, and straight face **2** : any of a British breed of medium-wooled mutton-producing sheep that are large, thick-fleshed, and hornless — called also *Hampshire Down*
ham·ster \'ham(p)-stər\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *hamustro*, of Slavic origin; akin to OSlav *choměstorŭ* hamster] : any of numerous Old World rodents (*Cricetus* or a related genus) having very large cheek pouches


hamster

[1]ham·string \'ham-ˌstriŋ\ *n* **1 a** : either of two groups of tendons at the back of the human knee **b** : HAMSTRING MUSCLE **2** : a large tendon above and behind the hock of a quadruped
[2]hamstring *vt* **-strung** \-ˌstrəŋ\; **-string·ing** \-ˌstriŋ-iŋ\ **1** : to cripple by cutting the leg tendons **2** : to make ineffective or powerless : CRIPPLE ⟨teachers . . . *hamstrung* by excessive teaching schedules —N. M. Pusey⟩
hamstring muscle *n* : any of three muscles at the back of the thigh that function to extend the thigh when the leg is flexed
ham·u·lus \'ham-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-u·li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *hamus* hook] : a hook or hooked process
ham·za *or* **ham·zah** \'ham-zə\ *n* [Ar *hamzah*, lit., compression] : the sign for a glottal stop in Arabic orthography usu. represented in English by an apostrophe
Han \'hän\ *n* **1** : a Chinese dynasty dated 207B.C.–A.D.220 and marked by centralized control through an appointive bureaucracy, a revival of learning, and the penetration of Buddhism **2** : the Chinese peoples esp. as distinguished from Mongol, Manchu, or other non-Chinese elements in the population : the Chinese race
[1]hand \'hand\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *hant* hand] **1 a** (1) : the terminal part of the vertebrate forelimb when modified (as in man) as a grasping organ (2) : the segment of the forelimb of a vertebrate above the fishes that corresponds to the hand (as the pinion of a bird) irrespective of its form or functional specialization **b** : a part serving the function of or resembling a hand: as (1) : the hind foot of an ape (2) : the chela of a crustacean **c** : something resembling a hand: as (1) : an indicator or pointer on a dial (2) : a stylized figure of a hand with forefinger extended to point a direction or call attention to something; *specif* : INDEX 5 (3) : a cluster of bananas developed from a single flower group (4) : a branched rootstock of ginger (5) : a bunch of large leaves tied together usu. with another leaf **2 a** : personal possession — usu. used in pl. ⟨the documents fell into the ~*s* of the enemy⟩ **b** : CONTROL, SUPERVISION — usu. used in pl. ⟨the reception was in the ~*s* of the caterer⟩ **3 a** : SIDE, DIRECTION ⟨men fighting on either ~⟩ **b** : one of two sides or aspects of an issue or argument ⟨on the one ~ we can appeal for peace, or on the other declare war⟩ **4** : a pledge esp. of betrothal or bestowal in marriage **5 a** : style of penmanship : HANDWRITING **b** : SIGNATURE **6 a** : SKILL, ABILITY ⟨tried her ~ at sailing⟩ **b** : an instrumental part ⟨had a ~ in the crime⟩ **7** : a unit of measure equal to 4 inches used esp. for the height of horses **8 a** : assistance or aid esp. involving physical effort ⟨lend a ~⟩ **b** : PARTICIPATION, INTEREST **c** : a round of applause **9 a** (1) : a player in a card game or board game (2) : the cards or pieces held by a player **b** : a single round in a game **c** : the force or solidity of one's position (as in negotiations) **10 a** : one who performs or executes a particular work ⟨two portraits by the same ~⟩ **b** (1) : one employed at manual labor or general tasks ⟨a ranch ~⟩ (2) : WORKER, EMPLOYEE ⟨employed over a hundred ~*s*⟩ **c** : a member of a ship's crew ⟨all ~*s* on deck⟩ **d** : one skilled in a particular action or pursuit **e** : a specialist in a usu. designated activity or region ⟨an old China ~⟩ **11 a** : HANDIWORK **b** : style of execution : WORKMANSHIP ⟨the ~ of a master⟩ **c** : the feel of or tactile reaction to something (as silk or leather) — **at hand** : near in time or place — **at the hands of** *or* **at the hand of** : by the act or instrumentality of — **by hand** : with the hands — **in hand** **1 a** : in one's possession or control **b** : at one's disposal **2** : in preparation — **off one's hands** : out of one's care or charge — **on all hands** *or* **on every hand** : EVERYWHERE — **on hand** **1** : in present possession **2** : about to appear : PENDING **3** : in attendance : PRESENT — **on one's hands** : in one's possession, care, or management — **out of hand** **1** : without delay : FORTHWITH **2** : done with : FINISHED **3** : out of control — **to hand** **1** : into possession **2** : within reach **3** : into control or subjection — **with a heavy hand** **1** : with little mercy : STERNLY **2** : without grace : CLUMSILY
[2]hand *vt* **1 a** *obs* : to touch or manage with the hands; *also* : to deal with **b** : FURL **2** : to lead, guide, or assist with the hand ⟨~ a lady into a bus⟩ **3 a** : to give, pass, or transmit with the hand ⟨~ a letter to her⟩ **b** : PRESENT, PROVIDE ⟨~*ed* him a surprise⟩ — **hand it to** : to give credit to : concede the excellence of
hand and foot *adv* : TOTALLY, ASSIDUOUSLY
hand ax *n* **1** : a prehistoric stone tool having one end pointed for cutting and the other end rounded for holding in the hand **2** : a short-handled ax intended for use with one hand
hand·bag \'han(d)-ˌbag\ *n* **1** : TRAVELING BAG **2** : a woman's bag held in the hand or hung from a shoulder strap and used for carrying small personal articles and money
hand·ball \-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** : a small rubber ball used in the game of handball **2** : a game played in a walled court or against a single wall or board by two or four players who use their hands to strike the ball

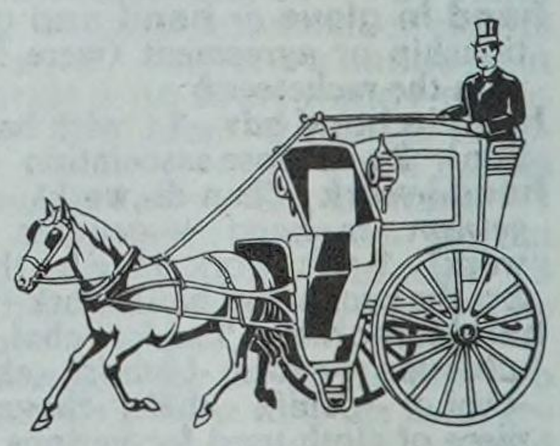
hand·bar·row \-ˌbar-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* : a flat rectangular frame with handles at both ends that is carried by two persons
hand·bill \-ˌbil\ *n* : a small printed sheet to be distributed (as for advertising) by hand
hand·book \-ˌbu̇k\ *n* **1 a** : a book capable of being conveniently carried as a ready reference : MANUAL **b** : a concise reference book covering a particular subject **2 a** : a bookmaker's book of bets **b** : a place where bookmaking is carried on
hand·breadth \-ˌbredth, -ˌbretth\ *n* : any of various units of length varying from about 2½ to 4 inches based on the breadth of a hand
hand·car \ˈhan(d)-ˌkär\ *n* : a small four-wheeled railroad car propelled by a hand-operated mechanism or by a small motor
hand·cart \-ˌkärt\ *n* : a cart drawn or pushed by hand
hand cheese *n* : a soft cheese that was orig. molded by hand and that has a sharp pungent odor and flavor
hand·clasp \ˈhan(d)-ˌklasp\ *n* : HANDSHAKE
¹hand·craft \-ˌkraft\ *n* : HANDICRAFT
²handcraft *vt* : to fashion by handicraft
hand·craft·man \-ˌkraf(t)-mən\ *or* **hand·crafts·man** \-ˌkraf(t)-smən\ *n* : one who is skilled in handicraft
¹hand·cuff \-ˌkəf\ *vt* **1** : to apply handcuffs to : MANACLE **2** : to hold in check : make ineffective or powerless
²handcuff *n* : a metal fastening that can be locked around a wrist and is usu. connected by a chain or bar with another such fastening



handcuffs

hand down *vt* **1** : to transmit in succession (as from father to son) **2** : to make official formulation of and express (the opinion of a court)
hand·ed \ˈhan-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having a hand or hands esp. of a specified kind or number — usu. used in combination ⟨a large-*handed* man⟩ **2** : using a specified hand or number of hands — used in combination ⟨right-*handed*⟩ ⟨a one-*handed* catch⟩
hand·ed·ness \-nəs\ *n* : a tendency to use one hand rather than the other
hand·fast \ˈhan(d)-ˌfast\ *n, archaic* : a contract or covenant esp. of betrothal or marriage
hand–feed \ˈhan(d)-ˈfēd\ *vt* **-fed** \-ˈfed\; **-feed·ing** : to provide and apportion rations to (animals) at regular intervals in quantities sufficient for a single feeding — compare SELF-FEED
hand·ful \ˈhan(d)-ˌfu̇l\ *n, pl* **handfuls** \-ˌfu̇lz\ *also* **hands·ful** \ˈhan(d)z-ˌfu̇l\ **1** : as much or as many as the hand will grasp **2** : a small quantity or number **3** : as much as one can manage
hand glass *n* : a small mirror with a handle
hand·grip \ˈhan(d)-ˌgrip\ *n* **1** : a grasping with the hand **2** : HANDLE **3** *pl* : hand-to-hand combat
hand·gun \-ˌgən\ *n* : a firearm held and fired with one hand
hand·hold \ˈhand-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : HOLD, GRIP **2** : something to hold on to (as in mountain climbing)
¹hand·i·cap \ˈhan-di-ˌkap\ *n* [obs. E *handicap* (a game in which forfeits were held in a cap), fr. *hand in cap*] **1 a** : a race or contest in which an artificial advantage is given or disadvantage imposed on a contestant to equalize chances of winning **b** : an advantage given or disadvantage imposed usu. in the form of points, strokes, weight to be carried, or distance from the target or goal **2** : a disadvantage that makes achievement unusually difficult; *esp* : a physical disability
²handicap *vt* **-capped; -cap·ping** **1 a** : to give a handicap to **b** : to assign handicaps to **2** : to put at a disadvantage
hand·i·cap·per \-ˌkap-ər\ *n* **1** : one who assigns handicaps **2** : one who predicts the winners in a horse race usu. for publication **3** : one who competes with a (specified) handicap — usu. used in combination ⟨a 5-*handicapper*⟩
hand·i·craft \ˈhan-di-ˌkraft\ *n* [ME *handi-crafte*, alter. of *handcraft*] **1 a** : manual skill **b** : an occupation requiring skill with the hands **2** : the articles fashioned by those engaged in handicraft — **hand·i·craft·er** \-ˌkraf-tər\ *n*
hand·i·crafts·man \-ˌkraf(t)-smən\ *n* : one who engages in a handicraft : ARTISAN
Hand·ie–Talk·ie \ˌhan-dē-ˈtȯ-kē\ *trademark* — used for a small portable radio transmitter-receiver
hand·i·ly \ˈhan-də-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a dexterous manner **2** : EASILY ⟨defeated the other candidate ~⟩ **3** : conveniently nearby ⟨kept the eraser ~ by him while he wrote⟩
hand in glove *or* **hand and glove** *adv* : in extremely close relationship or agreement ⟨were found to be working *hand in glove* with the racketeers⟩
hand in hand *adv* **1** : with hands clasped (as in intimacy or affection) **2** : in close association
hand·i·work \ˈhan-di-ˌwərk\ *n* [ME *handiwerk*, fr. OE *handgeweorc*, fr. *hand* + *geweorc*, fr. *ge-* (collective prefix) + *weorc* work] **1 a** : work done by the hands **b** : work done personally **2** : the product of handiwork
hand·ker·chief \ˈhaŋ-kər-chəf, -(ˌ)chif, -ˌchēf\ *n, pl* **-chiefs** *also* **-chieves** \-chəfs, -(ˌ)chifs, -ˌchēvz (*used by many who have sing.* -chəf *or* -(ˌ)chif), -ˌchēfs, -chəvz, -(ˌ)chivz\ **1** : a small usu. square piece of cloth used for various usu. personal purposes (as blowing the nose or wiping the eyes) or as an accessory on one's attire **2** : KERCHIEF 1
¹han·dle \ˈhan-dᵊl\ *n* [ME *handel*, fr. OE *handle;* akin to OE *hand*] **1** : a part that is designed esp. to be grasped by the hand **2** : something that resembles a handle **3** : NAME, TITLE **4** : the feel of a textile **5** : the total amount of money bet on a race, game, or event — **han·dled** \-dᵊld\ *adj* — **han·dle·less** \-dᵊl-(l)əs\ *adj* — **off the handle** : into a state of sudden and violent anger
²handle *vb* **han·dled; han·dling** \ˈhan-(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to try or examine (as by touching, feeling or moving) with the hand ⟨~ silk to judge its weight⟩ **b** : to manage with the hands ⟨~ a horse⟩ **2 a** : to deal with in writing or speaking or in the plastic arts **b** : MANAGE, DIRECT ⟨a lawyer ~*s* all my affairs⟩ **c** : to train and act as second for (a prizefighter) **3** : to deal with, act on, or dispose of ⟨~ the day's mail⟩ **4** : to engage in the buying, selling, or distributing of (a commodity) ~ *vi* : to act, behave, or feel in a certain way when handled or directed ⟨car that ~*s* well⟩ — **han·dle·able** \-dᵊl-ə-bəl\ *adj*
syn **1** HANDLE, MANIPULATE, WIELD *shared meaning element* : to manage dexterously or efficiently
2 see TREAT
3 see TOUCH
handlebar mustache *n* : a heavy mustache with long sections that curve upward at each end
han·dle·bars \ˈhan-dᵊl-ˌbärz\ *n pl* : a straight or bent bar with a handle at each end; *specif* : one used to steer a bicycle or similar vehicle
hand lens *n* : a magnifying glass to be held in the hand
han·dler \ˈhan-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n* **1** : one that handles something **2 a** : one in immediate physical charge of an animal; *esp* : one that holds and incites a dog, gamecock, or other animal in a match or hunt **b** : one that helps to train a prizefighter or acts as his second during a match
hand·less \ˈhan-(d)ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no hands **2** : inefficient in manual tasks : CLUMSY
han·dling \-(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-iŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the action of one that handles something **b** : a process by which something is handled in a commercial transaction; *esp* : the packaging and shipping of an object or material (as to a consumer) **2** : the manner in which something is treated (as in a musical, literary, or art work)
hand·list \ˈhan-ˌ(d)list\ *n* : a list (as of books) for purposes of reference or checking
hand·made \ˈhan(d)-ˈmād\ *adj* : made by hand or a hand process
hand·maid·en \-ˌmād-ᵊn\ *or* **hand·maid** \-ˌmād\ *n* **1** : a personal maid or female servant **2** : something whose essential function is to serve or assist ⟨good sense which . . . is the indispensable ~ of the critical art —Carlos Baker⟩
hand–me–down \ˈhan(d)-mē-ˌdau̇n\ *adj* **1** : ready-made and usu. cheap and shoddy **2** : put in use by one person or group after being used, discarded, or handed down by another ⟨~ clothes⟩ — **hand–me–down** *n*
hand mower *n* : a motorless lawn mower designed to be pushed by hand
hand off \(ˈ)han-ˈdȯf\ *vt* : to hand (a football) to a nearby teammate on a play ~ *vi* : to hand off a football — **hand·off** \ˈhanˌdȯf\ *n*
hand on *vt* : to hand down ⟨the father *handed on* his good reputation to his son⟩
hand organ *n* : a barrel organ operated by a hand crank
hand·out \ˈhan-ˌdau̇t\ *n* **1** : a portion of food, clothing, or money given to or as if to a beggar **2** : a folder or circular of information for free distribution **3 a** : a release by a news service **b** : a prepared statement released to the news media
hand out \(ˈ)han-ˈdau̇t\ *vt* **1 a** : to give without charge **b** : to give freely **2** : ADMINISTER ⟨*handed out* a severe punishment⟩
hand over *vt* : to yield control of
hand over fist *adv* : quickly and in large amounts
hand·pick \ˈhan(d)-ˈpik\ *vt* **1** : to pick by hand as opposed to a machine process **2** : to select personally or for personal ends
hand·press \-ˌpres\ *n* : a hand-operated press
hand·print \-ˌprint\ *n* : an impression of a hand on a surface
hand puppet *n* : PUPPET 1a
hand·rail \ˈhan-ˌrāl\ *n* : a narrow rail for grasping with the hand as a support
hand–ride \-ˌrīd\ *vb* **-rode** \-ˌrōd\; **-rid·den** \-ˌrid-ᵊn\; **-rid·ing** \-ˌrīd-iŋ\ *vt* : to ride (a horse) without using a whip or spurs during a race ~ *vi* : to hand-ride a racehorse
hand running *adv* : in unbroken succession : CONSECUTIVELY
hand·saw \ˈhan(d)-ˌsȯ\ *n* : a saw usu. operated with one hand
hands·breadth \ˈhan(d)z-ˌbredth, -ˌbretth\ *var of* HANDBREADTH
hands–down \ˌhan(d)z-ˌdau̇n\ *adj* **1** : achieved without much effort **2** : being unquestionable
hands down \ˈhan(d)z-ˈdau̇n\ *adv* **1** : without much effort : EASILY **2** : without question
¹hand·sel \ˈhan(t)-səl\ *n* [ME *hansell*] **1** : a gift made as a token of good wishes or luck esp. at the beginning of a new year **2** : something received first (as in a day of trading) and taken to be a token of good luck **3 a** : a first installment : earnest money **b** : EARNEST, FORETASTE
²handsel *vt* **-seled** *or* **-selled; -sel·ing** *or* **-sel·ling** \-s(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to give a handsel to **2** : to inaugurate with a token or gesture of luck or pleasure **3** : to use or do for the first time
hand·set \ˈhan(d)-ˌset\ *n* : a combined telephone transmitter and receiver mounted on a handle
hand·shake \-ˌshāk\ *n* : a clasping of right hands by two people (as in greeting or farewell)
hands–off \ˈhan(d)-ˈzȯf\ *adj* : characterized by noninterference ⟨a ~ policy toward the internal affairs of other nations⟩
hand·some \ˈhan(t)-səm\ *adj* [ME *handsom* easy to manipulate] **1** *chiefly dial* : APPROPRIATE, SUITABLE **2** : moderately large : SIZABLE ⟨a painting that commanded a ~ price⟩ **3** : marked by skill or cleverness : ADROIT **4** : marked by graciousness or generosity : LIBERAL ⟨~ contributions to charity⟩ **5** : having a pleasing and usu. impressive or dignified appearance ***syn*** see BEAUTIFUL — **hand·some·ly** *adv* — **hand·some·ness** *n*
hand·spike \ˈhan(d)-ˌspīk\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. D *handspaak*, fr. *hand* + *spaak* pole] : a bar used as a lever

hand·spring \-ˌspriŋ\ *n* : an acrobatic feat in which the body turns forward or backward in a full circle from a standing position and lands first on the hands and then on the feet
hand·stand \-ˌstand\ *n* : an act of supporting the body on the hands with the trunk and legs balanced in the air
hand–to–hand \ˌhan-tə-ˌhand, -də-\ *adj* : involving physical contact
hand to hand \-ˈhand\ *adv* : in a manner involving physical contact
hand–to–mouth \-ˌmau̇th\ *adj* : having or providing nothing to spare : PRECARIOUS ⟨a ~ existence⟩
hand truck *n* : a small hand-propelled truck; *esp* : TRUCK 3b
hand·wheel \ˈhan(d)-ˌhwēl, ˈhan-ˌdwēl\ *n* : a wheel worked by hand
hand·work \ˈhan-ˌdwərk\ *n* : work done with the hands and not by machines : HANDIWORK — **hand·work·er** \-ˌdwər-kər\ *n*
hand·wo·ven \-ˈdwō-vən\ *adj* **1** : produced on a hand-operated loom **2** : woven by hand ⟨~ baskets⟩
hand·write \-ˌdrīt\ *vt* **-wrote** \-ˌdrōt\; **-writ·ten** \-ˌdrit-ᵊn\; **-writ·ing** \-ˌdrīt-iŋ\ [back-formation fr. *handwriting*] : to write by hand
hand·writ·ing \ˈhan-ˌdrīt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : writing done by hand; *esp* : the form of writing peculiar to a particular person **2** : something written by hand : MANUSCRIPT — **handwriting on the wall** : an omen of one's unpleasant fate
hand·wrought \ˈhan-ˈdrȯt\ *adj* : fashioned by hand or chiefly by hand processes ⟨~ silver⟩
handy \ˈhan-dē\ *adj* **hand·i·er; -est** **1 a** : conveniently near **b** : convenient for use **c** *of a ship* : easily handled **2** : clever in using the hands esp. in a variety of useful ways ⟨a woman ~ with a gun as well as a needle⟩ — **hand·i·ness** *n*
handy·man \-dē-ˌman\ *n* **1** : one who does odd jobs **2** : one competent in a variety of small skills or inventive or ingenious in repair or maintenance work
¹hang \ˈhaŋ\ *vb* **hung** \ˈhəŋ\ *also* **hanged** \ˈhaŋd\; **hang·ing** \ˈhaŋ-iŋ\ [partly fr. ME *hon*, fr. OE *hōn*, v.t.; partly fr. ME *hangen*, fr. OE *hangian*, v.i. & v.t.; both akin to OHG *hāhan*, v.t., to hang, *hangēn*, v.i.] *vt* **1 a** : to fasten to some elevated point without support from below : SUSPEND **b** : to suspend by the neck until dead — often *hanged* in the past; often used as a mild oath ⟨I'll be ~*ed*⟩ **c** : to fasten so as to allow free motion within given limits upon a point of suspension ⟨~ a door⟩ **d** : to fit or fix in position or at a proper angle ⟨~ an ax to its helve⟩ **e** : to adjust the hem of (a skirt) so as to hang evenly and at a proper height **2** : to decorate or furnish by hanging (as flags or bunting) **3** : to hold or bear in a suspended or inclined manner ⟨*hung* his head in shame⟩ **4** : to fasten (as with paste) to a wall ⟨~ wallpaper⟩ **5** : to display (pictures) in a gallery **6** : to throw (as a curve) in such a way as to fail to break ~ *vi* **1 a** : to remain suspended or fastened to some point above without support from below : DANGLE **b** : to die by hanging — often *hanged* in the past ⟨he ~*ed* for his crimes⟩ **2** : to remain poised or stationary in the air ⟨clouds ~*ing* low overhead⟩ **3** : to stay with persistence **4** : to be imminent : IMPEND ⟨doom *hung* over the nation⟩ **5** : to fall or droop from a usu. tense or taut position **6** : DEPEND ⟨election ~*s* on one vote⟩ **7 a** (1) : to take hold for support : CLING ⟨she *hung* on his arm⟩ (2) : to keep persistent contact ⟨dogs *hung* to the trail⟩ **b** : to be burdensome or oppressive ⟨time ~*s* on his hands⟩ **8** : to be uncertain or in suspense ⟨the decision is still ~*ing*⟩ **9** : to lean, incline, or jut over or downward **10** : to be in a state of rapt attention ⟨*hung* on his every word⟩ **11** : to fit or fall from the figure in easy lines ⟨the coat ~*s* loosely⟩ **12** *of a thrown ball* : to fail to break or drop as intended — **hang·able** \ˈhaŋ-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **hang fire** **1** : to be slow in the explosion of a charge after its primer has been discharged **2** : DELAY, HESITATE — **hang five** : to ride a surfboard with the weight of the body forward and the toes of one foot turned over the front edge of the board — **hang one on** **1** : to inflict a blow on **2** *slang* : to get very drunk — **hang ten** : to ride a surfboard with the weight of the body forward and the toes of both feet turned over the edge of the board
²hang *n* **1** : the manner in which a thing hangs **2** : DECLIVITY, SLOPE; *also* : DROOP **3 a** : the peculiar and significant order or meaning **b** : the special method of doing, using, or dealing with something : KNACK **4** : a hesitation or slackening in motion or in a course — **give a hang** *or* **care a hang** : to be concerned or worried
¹han·gar \ˈhaŋ-ər, ˈhaŋ-gər\ *n* [F] : SHELTER, SHED; *esp* : a covered and usu. enclosed area for housing and repairing aircraft
²hangar *vt* : to place or store in a hangar
hang around *vi* **1** : to pass time or stay aimlessly : loiter idly **2** : to spend one's time in company
hang back *vi* **1** : to drag behind others **2** : to be reluctant
¹hang·dog \ˈhaŋ-ˌdȯg\ *adj* **1** : ASHAMED, GUILTY **2** : ABJECT, COWED
²hangdog *n* : a despicable or miserable person
hang·er \ˈhaŋ-ər\ *n* **1** : one that hangs or causes to be hung or hanged **2** : something that hangs, overhangs, or is suspended: as **a** : a decorative strip of cloth **b** : a small sword formerly used by seamen **c** *chiefly Brit* : a small wood on steeply sloping land **3** : a device by which or to which something is hung or hangs: as **a** : a strap on a sword belt by which a sword or dagger can be suspended **b** : a loop by which a garment is hung up **c** : a device that fits inside or around a garment for hanging from a hook or rod
hang·er–on \ˈhaŋ-ə-ˌrȯn, -ˌrän\ *n, pl* **hangers–on** [*hang on* + *-er*] : one that hangs around a person, place, or institution esp. for personal gain
hang glider *n* : a kite-like glider from which a harnessed rider hangs while gliding down from a cliff or hill — **hang gliding** *n*
hang in *vi* : to refuse to be discouraged or intimidated : show pluck : PERSIST
¹hang·ing \ˈhaŋ-iŋ\ *n* **1** : an execution by strangling or breaking the neck by a suspended noose **2** : something hung: as **a** : CURTAIN **b** : a covering (as a tapestry) for a wall **3** : a downward slope : DECLIVITY
²hanging *adj* **1** : situated or lying on steeply sloping ground **2 a** : jutting out : OVERHANGING ⟨a ~ rock⟩ **b** : supported only by the wall on one side ⟨a ~ staircase⟩ **3** *archaic* : downcast in appearance **4** : adapted for sustaining a hanging object **5** : deserving, likely to cause, or prone to inflict death by hanging
hanging indention *n* : indention of all the lines of a paragraph except the first
hang·man \ˈhaŋ-mən\ *n* : one who hangs a condemned person; *also* : a public executioner
hang·nail \-ˌnāl\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. *agnail*] : a bit of skin hanging loose at the side or root of a fingernail
hang off *vi* : to hang back
hang on *vi* **1** : to keep hold : hold onto something **2** : to persist tenaciously ⟨a cold that *hung on* all spring⟩ **3** : to keep a telephone connection open ⟨*hang on* a second while I look it up⟩ — **hang on to** : to hold, grip, or keep tenaciously ⟨learned to *hang on to* his money⟩
hang·out \ˈhaŋ-ˌau̇t\ *n* : a favorite or usual place of resort
hang out \(ˈ)haŋ-ˈau̇t\ *vi* **1** : to protrude in a downward direction **2 a** *slang* : LIVE, RESIDE **b** : to spend one's time idly or in loitering around ~ *vt* : to display outside as an announcement to the public
hang·over \ˈhaŋ-ˌō-vər\ *n* **1** : something (as a surviving custom) that remains from what is past **2 a** : disagreeable physical effects following heavy consumption of alcohol **b** : disagreeable aftereffects from the use of drugs **c** : a letdown following great excitement or excess
hang·tag \ˈhaŋ-ˌtag\ *n* : a tag attached to an article of merchandise giving information about the quality of its material and about its proper care
hang together *vi* **1** : to remain united : stand by one another **2** : to form a consistent or coherent whole
hang–up \ˈhaŋ-ˌəp\ *n* : a source of mental or emotional difficulty
hang up \(ˈ)haŋ-ˈəp\ *vt* **1 a** : to place on a hook or hanger designed for the purpose ⟨told the child to *hang up* his coat⟩ **b** : to replace (a telephone receiver) on the cradle so that the connection is broken **2** : to keep delayed, suspended, or held up ⟨the negotiations were *hung up* for a week⟩ **3** : to cause (a record) to be set : ACHIEVE ⟨*hung up* a new record for the 50-yard dash⟩ **4** : to cause to stick or snag immovably ⟨the ship was *hung up* on a sandbar⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to terminate a telephone conversation **2** : to become stuck or snagged so as to be immovable
hank \ˈhaŋk\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *hönk* hank; akin to OE *hangian* to hang] **1** : COIL, LOOP; *specif* : a coiled or looped bundle (as of yarn or rope) usu. containing a definite yardage **2** : a ring attached to the edge of a jib or staysail and running on a stay
han·ker \ˈhaŋ-kər\ *vi* **hankered; han·ker·ing** \-k(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. fr. Flem *hankeren*, freq. of *hangen* to hang; akin to OE *hangian*] : to desire strongly or persistently ***syn*** see LONG — **han·ker·er** \-kər-ər\ *n*
han·ker·ing *n* : a strong or persistent desire
han·kie *or* **han·ky** \ˈhaŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **hankies** [*hand*kerchief + *-ie*] : HANDKERCHIEF
han·ky–pan·ky \ˌhaŋ-kē-ˈpaŋ-kē\ *n* [alter. of *hocus-pocus*] : questionable or underhand activity : TRICKERY
¹Han·o·ve·ri·an \ˌhan-ə-ˈvir-ē-ən, -ˈver-\ *adj* [*Hanover*, Germany] **1** : of, relating to, or supporting the German ducal house of Hanover **2** : of or relating to the British royal house that ruled from 1714 to 1901
²Hanoverian *n* **1** : a member or supporter of the ducal or of the British royal Hanoverian house **2** : any of a breed of horses developed by crossing heavy German horses with Thoroughbreds
Han·sa \ˈhan(t)-sə, ˈhän-(ˌ)zä\ *or* **Hanse** \ˈhan(t)s, ˈhän-zə\ *n* [*Hansa* fr. ML, fr. MLG *hanse; Hanse* fr. ME, fr. MF, fr. MLG] **1** : a medieval merchant guild or trading association **2** : a league orig. constituted of merchants of various free German cities dealing abroad in the medieval period and later of the cities themselves and organized to secure greater safety and privileges in trading — **Han·se·at·ic** \ˌhan(t)-sē-ˈat-ik\ *n or adj*
Han·sard \ˈhan(t)-sərd, ˈhan-ˌsärd\ *n* [Luke *Hansard* †1828 E printer] : the official published verbatim report of proceedings in the British parliament
han·sel *var of* HANDSEL
Han·sen's disease \ˈhan(t)-sənz-\ *n* [Armauer *Hansen* †1912 Norw physician] : LEPROSY
han·som \ˈhan(t)-səm\ *n* [Joseph A. *Hansom* †1882 E architect] : a light 2-wheeled covered carriage with the driver's seat elevated behind — called also *hansom cab*


hansom

hant \ˈhant\ *dial var of* HAUNT
Ha·nuk·kah \ˈkän-ə-kə, ˈhän-\ *n* [Heb *ḥănukkāh* dedication] : an 8-day Jewish holiday beginning on the 25th of Kislev and commemorating the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem after its defilement by Antiochus of Syria
hao \ˈhau̇\ *n, pl* **hao** [Vietnamese *hào*] — see *dong* at MONEY table
hao·le \ˈhau̇-lē, -(ˌ)lā\ *n* [Hawaiian] : one who is not a member of the native race of Hawaii; *esp* : WHITE
¹hap \ˈhap\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *happ* good luck; akin to OE *gehæp* suitable, OSlav *kobĭ* augury] **1** : HAPPENING 1 **2** : CHANCE, FORTUNE
²hap *vi* **happed; hap·ping** : HAPPEN
³hap *vt* **happed; hap·ping** [ME *happen*] *dial* : CLOTHE, COVER
⁴hap *n, dial* : something (as a bed quilt or cloak) that serves as a covering or wrap
ha·pa hao·le \ˌhäp-ə-ˈhau̇-lē, -(ˌ)lā\ *adj* [Hawaiian, fr. *hapa* half (fr. E *half*) + *haole*] : of part-white ancestry or origin; *esp* : Hawaiian-Caucasian

ha·pax le·go·me·non \ˌhap-ˌak-sli-ˈgäm-ə-ˌnän, -nən\ *n, pl* **hapax le·go·me·na** \-nə\ [Gk, something said only once] : a word or form evidenced by a single occurrence
hap·chance \ˈhap-ˌchan(t)s\ *n* : a fortuitous or chance event or circumstance
ha'·pen·ny *n* : HALFPENNY
[1]hap·haz·ard \(ˈ)hap-ˈhaz-ərd\ *n* [*[1]hap* + *hazard*] : CHANCE
[2]haphazard *adj* : marked by lack of plan, order, or direction : AIMLESS *syn* see RANDOM — **haphazard** *adv* — **hap·haz·ard·ly** *adv* — **hap·haz·ard·ness** *n*
hap·haz·ard·ry \-ər-drē\ *n* : haphazard character or order : FORTUITY
hapl- *or* **haplo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *haploos*, fr. *ha-* one + *-ploos* multiplied by; akin to Gk *homos* same — more at SAME, DOUBLE] **1** : single : simple **2** [*haploid*] : of or relating to the haploid generation or condition ⟨*haplo*sis⟩
hap·less \ˈhap-ləs\ *adj* : having no luck : UNFORTUNATE — **hap·less·ly** *adv* — **hap·less·ness** *n*
hap·lo·bi·ont \ˌhap-lō-ˈbī-ˌänt\ *n* : a plant producing only sexual haploid individuals — **hap·lo·bi·on·tic** \-bī-ˈänt-ik\ *adj*
hap·loid \ˈhap-ˌlȯid\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *haploeidēs* single, fr. *haploos*] : having the gametic number of chromosomes or half the number characteristic of somatic cells : MONOPLOID — **haploid** *n* — **hap·loi·dy** \-ˌlȯid-ē\ *n*
hap·lont \ˈhap-ˌlänt\ *n* [ISV] : an organism with somatic cells having the haploid chromosome number and only the zygote diploid — compare DIPLONT — **hap·lon·tic** \ha-ˈplänt-ik\ *adj*
hap·ly \ˈhap-lē\ *adv* : by chance, luck, or accident
hap·pen \ˈhap-ən, -ᵊm\ *vi* **hap·pened; hap·pen·ing** \ˈhap-(ə-)niŋ\ [ME *happenen*, fr. *hap*] **1** : to occur by chance — often used with *it* ⟨it so ~*s* I'm going your way⟩ **2 a** : to come into being **b** : to take place : OCCUR **3** : to have the luck or fortune : do, encounter, or attain something by or as if by chance ⟨he ~*ed* to overhear the plotters⟩ **4 a** : to meet something by chance ⟨~*ed* upon a system that worked —Richard Corbin⟩ **b** : to come or go casually : make a chance appearance ⟨he ~*ed* into the room just as we were leaving⟩ **5** : to come esp. by way of injury or harm ⟨I promise nothing will ~ to you⟩
syn HAPPEN, CHANCE, OCCUR, TRANSPIRE *shared meaning element* : to come about
hap·pen·chance \ˈhap-ən-ˌchan(t)s, ˈhap-ᵊm-\ *n* : HAPPENSTANCE
hap·pen·ing *n* **1** : something that happens : OCCURRENCE **2** : an event or series of events designed to evoke a spontaneous reaction to sensory, emotional, or spiritual stimuli *syn* see OCCURRENCE
hap·pen·stance \ˈhap-ən-ˌstan(t)s, ˈhap-ᵊm-\ *n* [*happen* + circum*stance*] : a circumstance regarded as due to chance ⟨whether this is a definite trend or a ~ is uncertain —Fletcher Pratt⟩
hap·pi·ly \ˈhap-ə-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a fortunate manner : LUCKILY **2** *archaic* : by chance **3** : in a happy manner or state ⟨lived ~ ever after⟩ **4** : in an adequate or fitting manner : SUCCESSFULLY
hap·pi·ness \ˈhap-i-nəs\ *n* **1** *obs* : good fortune : PROSPERITY **2 a** : a state of well-being and contentment : JOY **b** : a pleasurable satisfaction **3** : FELICITY, APTNESS
hap·py \ˈhap-ē\ *adj* **hap·pi·er; -est** [ME, fr. *hap*] **1** : favored by luck or fortune : FORTUNATE **2** : notably well adapted or fitting : FELICITOUS ⟨a ~ choice⟩ **3 a** : enjoying well-being and contentment : JOYOUS **b** : expressing or suggestive of happiness : PLEASANT **c** : GLAD, PLEASED **4 a** : characterized by a dazed irresponsible state ⟨a punch-*happy* prizefighter⟩ **b** : impulsively or obsessively quick to use something ⟨trigger-*happy*⟩ **c** : enthusiastic to the point of obsession : OBSESSED ⟨a nation . . . education-conscious and statistic-*happy* —Helen Rowen⟩ **d** : having or marked by an atmosphere of good fellowship : FRIENDLY *syn* **1** see LUCKY *ant* unhappy **2** see FIT *ant* unhappy **3** see GLAD *ant* unhappy, disconsolate
hap·py–go–lucky \ˌhap-ē-gō-ˈlək-ē\ *adj* : blithely unconcerned : CAREFREE
happy hunting ground *n* **1** : the Amerindian paradise to which the souls of warriors and hunters pass after death to spend a happy hereafter in hunting and feasting **2** : a choice or profitable area of operation or exploitation ⟨junkyards . . . have become *happy hunting grounds* for the man in search of spare parts —G. H. Waltz⟩
[1]Haps·burg \ˈhaps-ˌbərg, ˈhäps-ˌbu̇(ə)rg\ *adj* [*Habsburg*, Aargau, Switzerland] : of or relating to the German royal house to which belong the rulers of Austria from 1278 to 1918, the rulers of Spain from 1516 to 1700, and many of the Holy Roman emperors
[2]Hapsburg *n* : a member of the Hapsburg family; *esp* : a Hapsburg monarch
hap·ten \ˈhap-ˌten\ *also* **hap·tene** \-ˌtēn\ *n* [G *hapten*] : a substance that does not stimulate antibody formation but reacts selectively in vitro with an antibody; *also* : one that in combination with a carrier antigen confers specificity or antigenicity or both — **hap·ten·ic** \hap-ˈten-ik\ *adj*
hap·tic \ˈhap-tik\ *or* **hap·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *haptesthai* to touch] **1** : relating to or based on the sense of touch **2** : characterized by a predilection for the sense of touch ⟨a ~ person⟩
hap·to·glo·bin \ˈhap-tə-ˌglō-bən\ *n* [Gk *haptein* to fasten, bind + E *-o-* + hemo*globin*] : a carbohydrate-containing serum alpha globulin that can combine with free hemoglobin in the plasma
hara–kiri \ˌhar-i-ˈkir-ē, -ˈkar-ē\ *n* [Jap *harakiri*] : suicide by disembowelment practiced by the Japanese samurai or formerly decreed by a court in lieu of the death penalty
[1]ha·rangue \hə-ˈraŋ\ *n* [ME *arang*, fr. MF *arenge*, fr. OIt *aringa*] **1** : a speech addressed to a public assembly **2** : a bombastic ranting speech or writing **3** : LECTURE
[2]harangue *vb* **ha·rangued; ha·rangu·ing** *vi* : to make a harangue : DECLAIM ~ *vt* : to address in a harangue ⟨that lady was still *haranguing* the girl —F. M. Ford⟩ — **ha·rangu·er** *n*
ha·rass \hə-ˈras, ˈhar-əs\ *vt* [F *harasser*, fr. MF, fr. *harer* to set a dog on, fr. OF *hare*, interj. used to incite dogs, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hier* here — more at HERE] **1** : to worry and impede by repeated raids ⟨~*ed* the enemy⟩ **2 a** : EXHAUST, FATIGUE **b** : to annoy persistently *syn* see WORRY — **ha·rass·er** *n* — **ha·rass·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
[1]har·bin·ger \ˈhär-bən-jər\ *n* [ME *herbergere*, fr. OF, host, fr. *herberge* hostelry, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *heriberga*] **1** *archaic* : a person sent ahead to provide lodgings **2 a** : one that pioneers in or initiates a major change : PRECURSOR **b** : something that presages or foreshadows what is to come *syn* see FORERUNNER
[2]harbinger *vt* : to be a harbinger of : PRESAGE
[1]har·bor \ˈhär-bər\ *n* [ME *herberge;* akin to OHG *heriberga* army encampment, hostelry; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc-NGmc compound whose components are akin respectively to OHG *heri* army and to OHG *bergan* to shelter — more at HARRY, BURY] **1** : a place of security and comfort : REFUGE **2** : a part of a body of water protected and deep enough to furnish anchorage; *esp* : one with port facilities — **har·bor·ful** \-ˌfu̇l\ *n* — **har·bor·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
[2]harbor *vb* **har·bored; har·bor·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to give shelter or refuge to (2) : to have (an animal) in one's keeping **b** : to be the home or habitat of : CONTAIN ⟨the ledges still ~ rattlesnakes⟩ **2** : to hold a thought or feeling of ⟨~*ed* a grudge⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to take shelter in or as if in a harbor **2 a** *of an animal* : to rest or hide away esp. habitually **b** : LIVE — **har·bor·er** \-bər-ər\ *n*
har·bor·age \-bə-rij\ *n* : SHELTER, HARBOR
harbor master *n* : an officer who executes the regulations respecting the use of a harbor
harbor seal *n* : a small seal (*Phoca vitulina*) that occurs along north Atlantic coasts and often ascends rivers; *also* : a similar seal (*P. richardii*) of the north Pacific coasts
har·bour *chiefly Brit var of* HARBOR
[1]hard \ˈhärd\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *heard;* akin to OHG *hart* hard, Gk *kratos* strength] **1 a** : not easily penetrated : not easily yielding to pressure **b** *of cheese* : not capable of being spread : very firm **2 a** *of liquor* (1) : having a harsh or acid taste (2) : strongly alcoholic; *specif* : having an alcoholic content of more than 22.5 percent **b** : characterized by the presence of salts (as of calcium or magnesium) that prevent lathering with soap ⟨~ water⟩ **3 a** : of or relating to radiation of relatively high penetrating power ⟨~ X rays⟩ **b** : having or producing relatively great photographic contrast ⟨a ~ negative⟩ **4 a** : metallic as distinct from paper ⟨~ money⟩ **b** *of currency* : convertible into gold : stable in value **c** : being high and firm ⟨~ prices⟩ **5 a** : firmly and closely twisted ⟨~ yarns⟩ **b** : having a smooth close napless finish ⟨a ~ worsted⟩ **6 a** : physically fit ⟨in good ~ condition⟩ **b** : resistant to stress (as disease) **c** : free of weakness or defects **7 a** (1) : FIRM, DEFINITE ⟨reached a ~ agreement⟩ (2) : not speculative or conjectural : FACTUAL ⟨~ evidence⟩ **b** : CLOSE, SEARCHING ⟨gave a ~ look⟩ **c** : free from sentimentality or illusion : REALISTIC ⟨good ~ sense⟩ **d** : lacking in responsiveness : OBDURATE, UNFEELING ⟨a ~ heart⟩ **8 a** (1) : difficult to bear or endure ⟨~ luck⟩ ⟨~ times⟩ (2) : OPPRESSIVE, INEQUITABLE ⟨sales taxes are ~ on the poor⟩ ⟨a ~ restriction⟩ **b** (1) : lacking consideration, compassion, or gentleness : CALLOUS ⟨a ~ greedy landlord⟩ (2) : INCORRIGIBLE, TOUGH ⟨a ~ gang⟩ **c** (1) : harsh, severe, or offensive in tendency or effect ⟨said some ~ things⟩ (2) : RESENTFUL ⟨~ feelings⟩ (3) : STRICT, UNRELENTING ⟨drives a ~ bargain⟩ **d** : INCLEMENT ⟨~ winter⟩ **e** (1) : intense in force, manner, or degree ⟨~ blows⟩ (2) : demanding the exertion of energy : calling for stamina and endurance ⟨~ work⟩ (3) : performing or carrying on with great energy, intensity, or persistence ⟨a ~ worker⟩ **9 a** : characterized by sharp or harsh outline, rigid execution, and stiff drawing **b** : sharply defined : STARK ⟨~ shadows⟩ **c** : lacking in shading, delicacy, or resonance ⟨~ singing tones⟩ **d** : sounding as in *arcing* and *geese* respectively — used of *c* and *g* **10 a** (1) : difficult to accomplish or resolve : TROUBLESOME ⟨~ problems⟩ (2) : difficult to comprehend or explain ⟨a ~ concept⟩ **b** : having difficulty in doing something ⟨~ of hearing⟩ **c** : difficult to magnetize or demagnetize **11** : being at once addictive and gravely detrimental to health ⟨such ~ drugs as heroin⟩ **12** : resistant to biodegradation ⟨~ detergents⟩ ⟨~ pesticides like DDT⟩
syn **1** see FIRM *ant* soft
2 HARD, DIFFICULT, ARDUOUS *shared meaning element* : demanding toil and effort *ant* easy
— **hard up** **1** : short of money **2** : poorly provided ⟨he was *hard up* for friends⟩
[2]hard *adv* **1 a** : with great or utmost effort or energy : STRENUOUSLY ⟨were ~ at work⟩ **b** : in a violent manner : FIERCELY **c** : to the full extent — used in nautical directions ⟨steer ~ aport⟩ **d** : in a searching, close, or concentrated manner ⟨stared ~ at him⟩ **2 a** : in such a manner as to cause hardship, difficulty, or pain : SEVERELY **b** : with rancor, bitterness, or grief ⟨took his defeat ~⟩ **3** : in a firm manner : TIGHTLY **4** : to the point of hardness ⟨the water froze ~⟩ **5** : close in time or space ⟨the house stood ~ by the river⟩
hard–and–fast \ˌhärd-ᵊn-ˈfast\ *adj* : not to be modified or evaded : STRICT ⟨a ~ rule⟩
hard·back \ˈhärd-ˌbak\ *n* : a book bound in hard covers
hard·ball \-ˌbȯl\ *n* : BASEBALL
hard–bill \-ˌbil\ *n* : any of numerous birds (as a finch) with a hard strong bill adapted to cracking seeds and nuts — compare SOFT-BILL
hard–bit·ten \-ˈbit-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : inclined to bite hard **2** : seasoned or steeled by difficult experience : TOUGH

hard·board \'härd-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : composition board made by compressing shredded wood chips often with a binder at high temperatures
hard–boil \-'bȯi(ə)l\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *hard-boiled*] : to cook (an egg) in the shell until both white and yolk have solidified
hard–boiled \-'bȯi(ə)ld\ *adj* **1** : devoid of sentimentality : TOUGH ⟨a ~ drill sergeant⟩ **2** : HARDHEADED, PRACTICAL ⟨handle aid programs on a friendly but ~ business basis —*N.Y. Times*⟩
hard·boot \-ˌbüt\ *n* : HORSEMAN ⟨Kentucky ~*s* . . . had picked the right horse —*Time*⟩
hard·bound \-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : having rigid boards on the sides covered in cloth or paper ⟨a ~ book⟩ — **hardbound** *n*
hard candy *n* : a candy made of sugar and corn syrup boiled without crystallizing and usu. fruit-flavored
hard·case \'härd-'kās\ *adj* : HARD-BITTEN, TOUGH ⟨the keen, eye=puckered, ~ seamen, silent, lean —John Masefield⟩
hard case \-ˌkās\ *n* : a tough or hardened person
hard cider *n* : fermented apple juice containing usu. less than 10 percent alcohol
hard clam *n* : a clam with a thick hard shell; *specif* : QUAHOG
hard coal *n* : ANTHRACITE
hard–coat·ed \'härd-'kōt-əd\ *adj, of a dog* : having a crisp harsh=textured coat
hard copy *n* : copy (as produced in connection with a computer or produced from microfilm) that is readable without the use of a special device
hard–core \-'kō(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being persons whose economic position and educational background are substandard and who experience chronic unemployment ⟨the ~ unemployed⟩ **2** *of pornography* : being extremely graphic in presentation
hard·cov·er \'härd-'kəv-ər\ *adj* : HARDBOUND
hard–edge \'härd-'ej\ *adj* : of or relating to abstract painting characterized by geometric forms with clearly defined boundaries
hard·en \'härd-ᵊn\ *vb* **hard·ened; hard·en·ing** \'härd-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make hard or harder : INDURATE **2** : to confirm in disposition, feelings, or action; *esp* : to make callous ⟨~*ed* his heart⟩ **3 a** : INURE, TOUGHEN ⟨~ troops⟩ **b** : to inure to cold or other unfavorable environmental conditions — often used with *off* ⟨*harden* off half-hardy annual plants⟩ **4** : to protect from possible danger from blast or heat with concrete or earth or by situating underground ⟨~ a missile emplacement⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become hard or harder **2 a** : to become confirmed or strengthened ⟨opposition began to ~⟩ **b** : to assume an appearance of harshness or severity ⟨her face ~*ed* at the word⟩ **3** : to become higher or less subject to fluctuations downward ⟨prices ~*ed* quickly⟩
hard·en·er \'härd-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* : one that hardens; *esp* : a substance added (as to a paint or varnish) to harden the film
hard·en·ing *n* **1** : something that hardens **2** : SCLEROSIS ⟨~ of the arteries⟩
hard·fist·ed \'härd-'fis-təd\ *adj* **1** : HARDHANDED **2** : STINGY, CLOSEFISTED
hard goods *n pl* : DURABLES
hard·hack \'härd-ˌhak\ *n* : a shrubby American spirea (*Spiraea tomentosa*) with rusty hairy leaves and dense terminal panicles of pink or occas. white flowers
hard·hand·ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having hands made hard by labor **2** : STRICT, OPPRESSIVE — **hard·hand·ed·ness** *n*
hard hat *usu* -'hat *for 1 and* -ˌhat *for 2 & 3*\ *n* **1** : a protective hat made of rigid material (as metal or fiberglass) and worn esp. by construction workers **2** : a construction worker **3** : SUPERPATRIOT
hard·head \'härd-ˌhed\ *n* **1 a** : a hardheaded person **b** : BLOCKHEAD **2 a** : any of several fishes esp. with a spiny or bony head; *esp* : ATLANTIC CROAKER **b** : any of several ducks **3** : any of several knapweeds (esp. *Centaurea nigra*) — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr.
hard·head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* **1** : STUBBORN, WILLFUL **2** : SOBER, REALISTIC ⟨~ common sense⟩ — **hard·head·ed·ly** *adv* — **hard·head·ed·ness** *n*
hardhead sponge *n* : any of several commercial sponges of the West Indies and Central America with a harsh but elastic fiber
hard·heart·ed \'härd-'härt-əd\ *adj* : lacking in sympathetic understanding : UNFEELING, PITILESS — **hard·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **hard·heart·ed·ness** *n*
hard–hit·ting \-'hit-iŋ\ *adj* : VIGOROUS, EFFECTIVE ⟨a ~ series of articles⟩
har·di·hood \'härd-ē-ˌhu̇d\ *n* **1 a** : resolute courage and fortitude **b** : resolute and self-assured audacity often carried to the point of impudent insolence **2** : VIGOR, ROBUSTNESS ***syn*** see TEMERITY
har·di·ment \-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *hardi* bold, hardy] **1** *archaic* : HARDIHOOD **2** *obs* : a bold deed
har·ding·grass \'härd-iŋ-ˌgras\ *n, often cap* [prob. fr. the name *Harding*] : a perennial grass (*Phalaris tuberosa stenoptera*) of Australia and southern Africa introduced into No. America as a forage grass
hard labor *n* : compulsory labor of imprisoned criminals as a part of the prison discipline
hard–line \'härd-'līn\ *adj* : advocating or involving a persistently firm course of action : UNYIELDING ⟨a ~ policy toward polluters⟩ — **hard–lin·er** \-'lī-nər\ *n*
hard lines *n pl, chiefly Brit* : hard luck
hard·ly \'härd-lē\ *adv* **1** : with force : VIGOROUSLY **2** : in a severe manner : HARSHLY **3** : with difficulty : PAINFULLY **4** : only just : BARELY ⟨I ~ knew her⟩ **5** : certainly not ⟨that news is ~ surprising⟩
hardly ever *adv* : almost never : very seldom ⟨we *hardly ever* see them anymore⟩
hard maple *n* : SUGAR MAPLE
hard·mouthed \'härd-'mau̇thd, -'mau̇tht\ *adj* **1** *of an animal* : not responding satisfactorily to pressure (as of a bit) on the mouth **2** : OBSTINATE, STUBBORN ⟨~ women who laid down the law —John Galsworthy⟩
hard·ness *n* **1** : the quality or state of being hard **2** : the cohesion of the particles on the surface of a mineral as determined by its capacity to scratch another or be itself scratched — compare MOHS' SCALE
hard–nosed \'härd-'nōzd\ *adj* **1** : HARD-BITTEN, STUBBORN **2** : HARDHEADED 2 ⟨~ budgeting⟩
hard–of–hear·ing \ˌhärd-ə(v)-'hi(ə)r-iŋ\ *adj* : of or relating to a defective but functional sense of hearing
hard–on \'härd-ˌȯn, -ˌän\ *n, pl* **hard–ons** : an erection of the penis — usu. considered vulgar
hard palate *n* : the bony anterior part of the palate forming the roof of the mouth
hard·pan \'härd-ˌpan\ *n* **1** : a cemented or compacted and often clayey layer in soil that is impenetrable by roots **2** : a fundamental part : BEDROCK
hard pine *n* : a pine (as longleaf pine or pitch pine) that has hard wood and leaves usu. in groups of two or three; *also* : the wood of a hard pine
hard put *adj* : barely able : faced with difficulty or perplexity ⟨was *hard put* to find an explanation⟩
hard rock *n* : basic rock music played in its original style
hard rubber *n* : a firm rubber or rubber product; *esp* : a normally black horny substance made by vulcanizing natural rubber with high percentages of sulfur
hard sauce *n* : a creamed mixture of butter and powdered sugar often with added cream and flavoring (as vanilla or rum)
hard·scrab·ble \'härd-ˌskrab-əl\ *adj* : yielding or gaining a meager living by great labor ⟨~ farms⟩
hard sell *n* : aggressive high-pressure salesmanship — compare SOFT SELL
hard–set \'härd-'set\ *adj* : RIGID, FIXED
hard–shell \-ˌshel\ *adj* : UNCOMPROMISING, CONFIRMED ⟨a ~ conservative⟩
hard–shell clam \ˌhärd-ˌshel-\ *n* : QUAHOG —called also *hard=shelled clam*
hard–shell crab *n* : a crab that has not recently shed its shell — called also *hard-shelled crab*
hard·ship \'härd-ˌship\ *n* **1** : SUFFERING, PRIVATION **2** : something that causes or entails suffering or privation ***syn*** see DIFFICULTY
hard·stand \-ˌstand\ *n* : a hard-surfaced area for parking an airplane
hard·stand·ing \-ˌstan-diŋ\ *n* : HARDSTAND
hard–sur·face \-'sər-fəs\ *vt* : to provide with a paved surface
hard·tack \-ˌtak\ *n* **1** : a saltless hard biscuit or bread made of flour and water **2** : any of several mountain mahoganies
hard·top \-ˌtäp\ *n* : an automobile styled to resemble a convertible in lacking a center post between front and rear windows but having a permanent rigid top
hard·ware \'här-ˌdwa(ə)r, -ˌdwe(ə)r\ *n* **1** : ware (as fittings, cutlery, tools, utensils, or parts of machines) made of metal **2** : major items of military or police equipment or their components **3** : the physical components (as electronic and electrical devices) of a vehicle (as a spacecraft) or an apparatus (as a computer) **4** : devices (as tape recorders, phonographs, or closed-circuit television) used as instructional equipment ⟨educational ~⟩
hard wheat *n* : a wheat with hard flinty kernels that are high in gluten and that yield a strong flour esp. suitable for bread and macaroni
¹hard·wood \'här-ˌdwu̇d\ *n* **1** : the wood of an angiospermous tree as distinguished from that of a coniferous tree **2** : a tree that yields hardwood
²hardwood *adj* **1** : having or made of hardwood ⟨~ floors⟩ **2** : consisting of mature woody tissue ⟨~ cuttings⟩
hard–wood·ed \'här-'dwu̇d-əd\ *adj* **1** : having hard wood that is difficult to work or finish **2** : HARDWOOD 1
hard·work·ing \'här-'dwər-kiŋ\ *adj* : INDUSTRIOUS
har·dy \'härd-ē\ *adj* **har·di·er; -est** [ME *hardi*, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) OF *hardir* to make hard, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *heard* hard] **1** : BOLD, BRAVE **2** : AUDACIOUS, BRAZEN **3 a** : inured to fatigue or hardships : ROBUST **b** : capable of living outdoors over winter without artificial protection or of withstanding other adverse conditions ⟨~ plants⟩ ⟨~ cattle⟩ — **har·di·ly** \'härd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **har·di·ness** \'härd-ē-nəs\ *n*
Har·dy–Wein·berg law \ˌhärd-ē-'wīn-ˌbərg-\ *n* [G. H. *Hardy* †1947 E mathematician and W. *Weinberg*, 20th cent. G scientist] : a fundamental principle of population genetics: population gene frequencies remain constant from generation to generation if mating is random and if mutation, selection, immigration, and emigration do not occur — called also *Hardy-Weinberg principle*
¹hare \'ha(ə)r, 'he(ə)r\ *n, pl* **hare** *or* **hares** [ME, fr. OE *hara;* akin to OHG *haso* hare, L *canus* hoary, gray] : any of various swift timid long-eared mammals (order Lagomorpha and esp. genus *Lepus*) having a divided upper lip, long hind legs, a short cocked tail, and the young open-eyed and furred at birth
²hare *vi* **hared; har·ing** : RUN
hare and hounds *n* : a game in which some of the players scatter bits of paper for a trail and others try to find and catch them
hare·bell \'ha(ə)r-ˌbel, 'he(ə)r-\ *n* **1** : a slender blue-flowered herb (*Campanula rotundifolia*) with linear leaves on the stem **2** : WOOD HYACINTH
hare·brained \-'brānd\ *adj* : FLIGHTY, FOOLISH
hare·lip \-'lip\ *n* : a congenital deformity in which the upper lip is split like that of a hare — **hare·lipped** \-'lipt\ *adj*
har·em \'har-əm, 'her-\ *n* [Ar *ḥarīm*, lit., something forbidden & *ḥaram*, lit., sanctuary] **1 a** : a usu. secluded house or part of a house allotted to women in a Muslim household **b** : the wives, concubines, female relatives, and servants occupying a harem **2** : a group of women associated with one man **3** : a group of females associated with one male — used of polygamous animals
ha·ri·a·na \ˌhar-ē-'an-ə, ˌhär-ē-'än-ə\ *n, often cap* [*Hariana*, India] : any of an Indian breed of large rugged milk and draft cattle included among the Brahmans in American studbooks

har·i·cot \'(h)ar-i-ˌkō\ *n* [F] : the ripe seed or the unripe pod of any of several beans (genus *Phaseolus* and esp. *P. vulgaris*)
ha·ri·jan \ˌhär-i-'jän\ *n, often cap* [Skt *harijana* one belonging to the god Vishnu, fr. *Hari* Vishnu + *jana* person] : a member of the outcaste group in India : UNTOUCHABLE
hari–kari \ˌhar-i-'kar-ē, -'kir-\ *var of* HARA-KIRI
hark \'härk\ *vi* [ME *herken;* akin to OHG *hōrechen* to listen] : to pay close attention : LISTEN
hark back *vi* : to turn back to an earlier topic or circumstance
harken *var of* HEARKEN
har·le·quin \'här-li-k(w)ən\ *n* [It *arlecchino*, fr. MF *Helquin*, a demon] **1 a** *cap* : a character in comedy and pantomime with a shaved head, masked face, variegated tights, and wooden sword **b** : BUFFOON **2 a** : a variegated pattern (as of a textile) **b** : a combination of colors in patches on a solid ground (as in the coats of some dogs)


Harlequin

har·le·quin·ade \ˌhär-li-k(w)ə-'nād\ *n* : a play or pantomime in which Harlequin has a leading role
har·lot \'här-lət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *herlot* rogue] : PROSTITUTE
har·lot·ry \-lə-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : sexual profligacy : PROSTITUTION **2** : an unprincipled or immoral woman ⟨he sups tonight with a ~ —Shak.⟩
[1]harm \'härm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hearm;* akin to OHG *harm* injury, OSlav *sramŭ* shame] **1** : physical or mental damage : INJURY **2** : MISCHIEF, HURT
[2]harm *vt* : to cause harm to ***syn*** see INJURE ***ant*** benefit — **harm·er** *n*
har·ma·line \'här-mə-ˌlēn\ *n* [NL *harmala* (specific epithet of *Peganum harmala*), fr. Gk, rue] : a hallucinogenic alkaloid $C_{13}H_{14}N_2O$ found in several plants (*Peganum harmala* of the family Zygophyllaceae and *Banisteriopsis* spp. of the family Malpighiaceae) and used in medicine as a stimulant of the central nervous system
har·mat·tan \ˌhär-mə-'tan, här-'mat-ᵊn\ *n* [Twi *haramata*] : a dust-laden wind on the Atlantic coast of Africa in some seasons
harm·ful \'härm-fəl\ *adj* : of a kind likely to be damaging : INJURIOUS — **harm·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **harm·ful·ness** *n*
har·mine \'här-ˌmēn\ *n* [NL *harmala* + E *-ine*] : a hallucinogenic alkaloid $C_{13}H_{12}N_2O$ whose distribution in plants and use in medicine is similar to harmaline
harm·less \'härm-ləs\ *adj* **1** : free from harm, liability, or loss **2** : lacking capacity or intent to injure : INNOCUOUS — **harm·less·ly** *adv* — **harm·less·ness** *n*
[1]har·mon·ic \här-'män-ik\ *adj* **1** : MUSICAL **2** : of or relating to musical harmony, a harmonic, or harmonics **3** : pleasing to the ear : HARMONIOUS **4** : expressible in terms of sine or cosine functions ⟨~ function⟩ **5** : of an integrated nature : CONGRUOUS — **har·mon·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **har·mon·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **har·mon·i·cal·ness** \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n*
[2]harmonic *n* **1 a** : OVERTONE; *esp* : one whose vibration frequency is an integral multiple of that of the fundamental **b** : a flutelike tone produced on a stringed instrument by touching a vibrating string at a nodal point **2** : a component frequency of a harmonic motion (as of an electromagnetic wave) that is an integral multiple of the fundamental frequency
har·mon·i·ca \här-'män-i-kə\ *n* [It *armonica*, fem. of *armonico* harmonious] **1** : a musical instrument consisting of a series of hemispherical glasses played by touching the edges with a dampened finger **2** : a small rectangular wind instrument with free reeds recessed in air slots from which tones are sounded by exhaling and inhaling
harmonic analysis *n* : the expression of a periodic function as a sum of sines and cosines and specif. by means of a Fourier series
harmonic mean *n* : the reciprocal of the arithmetic mean of the reciprocals of a finite set of numbers
harmonic motion *n* : a periodic motion (as of a sounding violin string or swinging pendulum) that has a single frequency or amplitude or a periodic motion that is composed of two or more such simple periodic motions
harmonic progression *n* : a progression the reciprocals of whose terms form an arithmetic progression
har·mon·ics \här-'män-iks\ *n* : the study of the physical characteristics of musical sounds
harmonic series *n* : a series of the form $1 + \frac{1}{2^\alpha} + \frac{1}{3^\alpha} + \frac{1}{4^\alpha} \ldots$ which diverges for $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ and converges for $\alpha > 1$
har·mo·ni·ous \här-'mō-nē-əs\ *adj* **1** : musically concordant **2** : having the parts agreeably related : CONGRUOUS ⟨the flowers blended into a ~ whole⟩ **3** : marked by accord in sentiment or action — **har·mo·ni·ous·ly** *adv* — **har·mo·ni·ous·ness** *n*
har·mo·nist \'här-mə-nəst\ *n* : one who harmonizes or is skilled in musical harmony; *esp* : one who composes or performs music — **har·mo·nis·tic** \ˌhär-mə-'nis-tik\ *adj* — **har·mo·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
har·mo·ni·um \här-'mō-nē-əm\ *n* [F, fr. MF *harmonie, armonie*] : REED ORGAN
har·mo·nize \'här-mə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *vi* **1** : to play or sing in harmony **2** : to be in harmony ~ *vt* **1** : to bring into consonance or accord **2** : to provide or accompany with harmony ***syn*** see AGREE ***ant*** clash, conflict — **har·mo·ni·za·tion** \ˌhär-mə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **har·mo·niz·er** \'här-mə-ˌnī-zər\ *n*
har·mo·ny \'här-mə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME *armony*, fr. MF *armonie*, fr. L *harmonia*, fr. Gk, joint, harmony, fr. *harmos* joint — more at ARM] **1** *archaic* : tuneful sound : MELODY **2 a** : the combination of simultaneous musical notes in a chord **b** : the structure of music with respect to the composition and progression of chords **c** : the science of the structure, relation, and progression of chords **3 a** : pleasing or congruent arrangement of parts ⟨a painting exhibiting ~ of color and line⟩ **b** : CORRESPONDENCE, ACCORD ⟨lives in ~ with her neighbors⟩ **c** : internal calm : TRANQUILLITY **4 a** : an interweaving of different accounts into a single narrative **b** : a systematic arrangement of parallel literary passages (as of the Gospels) for the purpose of showing agreement or harmony
har·mo·tome \'här-mə-ˌtōm\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *harmos* + *tomē* section, fr. *temnein* to cut — more at TOME] : a mineral $(Ba,K)(Al,Si)_2Si_6O_{16}.6H_2O$ consisting of a hydrous silicate of aluminum, barium, and potassium
[1]har·ness \'här-nəs\ *n* [ME *herneis* baggage, gear, fr. OF] **1 a** : the gear other than a yoke of a draft animal **b** : GEAR, EQUIPMENT; *esp* : military equipment for a horse or man **2 a** : occupational surroundings or routine ⟨get back into ~ after a vacation⟩ **b** : close association ⟨ability to work in ~ with others —R. P. Brooks⟩ **3 a** : something that resembles a harness (as in holding or fastening something) ⟨a parachute ~⟩ ⟨an automobile rider's shoulder ~⟩ **b** : prefabricated wiring with insulation and terminals ready to be attached **4** : a part of a loom which holds and controls the heddles
[2]harness *vt* **1 a** : to put a harness on **b** : to attach by means of a harness **2** : to tie together : YOKE **3** : UTILIZE ⟨~ nuclear energy⟩
harness horse *n* : a horse for racing or working in harness
harness racing *n* : the sport of racing standardbred horses harnessed to 2-wheeled sulkies
[1]harp \'härp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hearpe;* akin to OHG *harpha* harp, Gk *karphos* dry stalk] **1** : a musical instrument having many strings of graded length stretched across an open triangular frame with a curving top and played by plucking with the fingers **2** : something that resembles a harp **3** : HARMONICA 2 — **harp·ist** \'här-pəst\ *n*


harps: *1* modern orchestra harp, *2* medieval harp

[2]harp *vi* **1** : to play on a harp **2** : to dwell on or recur to a subject tiresomely or monotonously
harp·er \'här-pər\ *n* **1** : a harp player **2** : one that harps
har·poon \här-'pün\ *n* [prob. fr. D *harpoen*, fr. OF *harpon* brooch, fr. *harper* to grapple] : a barbed spear or javelin used esp. in hunting large fish or whales — **harpoon** *vt* — **har·poon·er** *n*
harp·si·chord \'härp-si-ˌkȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [modif. of It *arpicordo*, fr. *arpa* harp + *corda* string] : a stringed instrument resembling a grand piano but usu. having two keyboards and two or more strings for each note and producing tones by the plucking of strings with quills or leather points — **harp·si·chord·ist** \-ˌkȯrd-əst\ *n*
har·py \'här-pē\ *n, pl* **harpies** [L *Harpyia*, fr. Gk] **1** *cap* : a foul malign creature of Greek mythology that is part woman and part bird **2 a** : a predatory person : LEECH **b** : a shrewish woman
har·que·bus \'här-kwi-(ˌ)bəs, -kə-bəs\ *n* [MF *harquebuse, arquebuse*] : a matchlock gun invented in the 15th century which was portable but heavy and was usu. fired from a support — **har·que·bus·ier** \ˌhär-kwi-(ˌ)bə-'si(ə)r, -kə-bə-\ *n*
har·ri·dan \'har-əd-ᵊn\ *n* [perh. modif. of F *haridelle* old horse, gaunt woman] : SHREW 2
har·ried \'har-ēd\ *adj* : beset by disturbing problems : HARASSED ⟨a . . . ~ journalist trying to produce a maximum of copy —Edmund Wilson⟩
[1]har·ri·er \'har-ē-ər\ *n* [irreg. fr. [1]*hare*] **1** : a hunting dog that resembles a small foxhound and is used esp. for hunting rabbits **2** : a runner on a cross-country team
[2]harrier *n* **1** : one that harries **2** [alter. of *harrower*, fr. [1]*harrow*] : any of various slender hawks (genus *Circus*) with long angled wings and long legs that feed chiefly on small mammals, reptiles, and insects
[1]har·row \'har-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *vt* [ME *harwen*, fr. OE *hergian*] *archaic* : PILLAGE, PLUNDER
[2]harrow *n* [ME *harwe*] : a cultivating implement set with spikes, spring teeth, or disks and used primarily for pulverizing and smoothing the soil
[3]harrow *vt* **1** : to cultivate with a harrow **2** : TORMENT, VEX — **har·row·er** \'har-ə-wər\ *n*
har·ry \'har-ē\ *vt* **har·ried; har·ry·ing** [ME *harien*, fr. OE *hergian;* akin to OHG *heriōn* to lay waste, *heri* army, Gk *koiranos* commander] **1** : to make a pillaging or destructive raid on : ASSAULT **2** : to force (a person) to move along ⟨saga of migratory laborers *harried* across the continent —J. D. Hart⟩ **3** : to torment by or as if by constant attack ***syn*** see WORRY
harsh \'härsh\ *adj* [ME *harsk*, of Scand origin; akin to Norw *harsk* harsh] **1** : having a coarse uneven surface that is rough to the touch **2** : causing a disagreeable or painful sensory reaction : IRRITATING **3** : unduly exacting : SEVERE **4** : lacking in aesthetic appeal or refinement : CRUDE ***syn*** see ROUGH — **harsh·ly** *adv* — **harsh·ness** *n*
harsh·en \'här-shən\ *vb* **harsh·ened; harsh·en·ing** \-sh(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make (as a voice) harsh ~ *vi* : to become harsh ⟨saw the grain of his skin ~*ing* over face bones —Elizabeth Bowen⟩

hart \'härt\ *n* [ME *hert*, fr. OE *heort;* akin to L *cervus* hart, Gk *keras* horn — more at HORN] *chiefly Brit* : the male of the red deer esp. when over five years old : STAG — compare HIND

harte·beest \'härt-(ə-),bēst\ *n* [obs. Afrik (now *hartbees*), fr. D, fr. *hart* deer + *beest* beast] : a large African antelope (*Alcelaphus caama*) with annulate divergent horns



hartebeest

harts·horn \'härts-,hȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [fr. the earlier use of hart's horns as the chief source of ammonia] : a preparation of ammonia used as smelling salts

har·um–scar·um \,har-əm-'skar-əm, ,her-əm-'sker-\ *adj* [perh. alter. of *helter-skelter*] : RECKLESS, IRRESPONSIBLE — **harum–scarum** *adv*

ha·rus·pex \hə-'rəs-,peks, 'har-əs-\ *n, pl* **ha·rus·pi·ces** \hə-'rəs-pə-,sēz\ [L] : a diviner in ancient Rome basing his predictions on inspection of the entrails of sacrificial animals

[1]har·vest \'här-vəst\ *n, often attrib* [ME *hervest*, fr. OE *hærfest;* akin to L *carpere* to pluck, gather, Gk *karpos* fruit, *keirein* to cut — more at SHEAR] **1** : the season for gathering in agricultural crops **2** : the act or process of gathering in a crop **3 a** : a mature crop (as of grain or fruit) : YIELD **b** : the quantity of a natural product gathered in a single season **4** : the product or reward of exertion

[2]harvest *vt* **1 a** : to gather in (a crop) : REAP **b** : to gather (a natural product) as if by harvesting **2** : to win by achievement ⟨the team ~*ed* several awards⟩ ~ *vi* : to gather in a food crop — **har·vest·able** \-və-stə-bəl\ *adj* — **har·vest·er** *n*

harvest fly *n* : CICADA

harvest home *n* **1** : the gathering or the time of harvest **2** : a feast at the close of harvest **3** : a song sung by the reapers at the close of the harvest

har·vest·man \'här-vəs(t)-mən\ *n* : an arachnid (order Phalangida) that superficially resembles a true spider but has a small rounded body and very long slender legs — called also *daddy longlegs*

harvest mite *n* : CHIGGER 2

harvest moon *n* : the full moon nearest the time of the September equinox

har·vest·time \'här-vəs(t)-,tīm\ *n* : the time during which an annual crop (as wheat) is harvested

has *pres 3d sing of* HAVE

has–been \'haz-,bin, *chiefly Brit* -,bēn\ *n* : one that has passed the peak of effectiveness or popularity ⟨a seedy ~ of an actor traveling a comeback trail —Gordon Allison⟩

ha·sen·pfef·fer \'häz-ᵊn-,(p)fef-ər\ *n* [G, fr. *hase* hare + *pfeffer* pepper] : a highly seasoned stew made of marinated rabbit meat

[1]hash \'hash\ *vt* [F *hacher*, fr. OF *hachier*, fr. *hache* battle-ax, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hāppa* sickle; akin to Gk *koptein* to cut — more at CAPON] **1 a** : to chop (as meat and potatoes) into small pieces **b** : CONFUSE, MUDDLE **2** : to talk about : REVIEW

[2]hash *n* **1** : chopped food; *specif* : chopped meat mixed with potatoes and browned **2** : a restatement of something that is already known **3** : HODGEPODGE, JUMBLE

[3]hash *n* : HASHISH

Hash·em·ite *or* **Hash·im·ite** \'hash-ə-,mīt\ *n* [*Hashim*, greatgrandfather of Muhammad] : a member of an Arab family having common ancestry with Muhammad and founding dynasties in countries of the eastern Mediterranean

hash·ish \'hash-,ēsh, -(,)ish\ *n* [Ar *ḥashīsh*] : the unadulterated resin from the flowering tops of the female hemp plant (*Cannabis sativa*) that is smoked, chewed, or drunk for its intoxicating effect — called also *charas;* compare BHANG, MARIJUANA

hash mark *n* **1** : SERVICE STRIPE **2** : INBOUNDS LINE

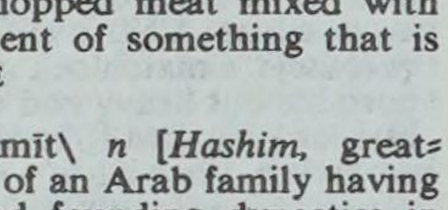
Ha·sid \'has-əd, 'k̲äs-\ *n, pl* **Ha·si·dim** \'has-əd-əm, k̲ä-'sēd-\ [Heb *ḥāsīdh* pious] **1** : a member of a Jewish sect of the second century B.C. opposed to Hellenism and devoted to the strict observance of the ritual law **2** *also* **Has·sid** : a member of a Jewish mystical sect founded in Poland about 1750 in opposition to rationalism and ritual laxity — **Ha·sid·ic** \ha-'sid-ik, hä-, k̲ä-\ *adj*

Ha·si·dism \'has-ə-,diz-əm, 'häs-, 'k̲äs-\ *n* **1** : the practices and beliefs of the Hasidim **2** : the Hasidic movement

Has·mo·nae·an *or* **Has·mo·ne·an** \,haz-mə-'nē-ən\ *n* [LL *Asmonaeus* Hasmon, ancestor of the Maccabees, fr. Gk *Asamōnaios*] : a member of the Maccabees — **Hasmonaean** *or* **Hasmonean** *adj*

hasn't \'haz-ᵊnt\ : has not

hasp \'hasp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hæsp;* akin to MHG *haspe* hasp] : any of several devices for fastening; *esp* : a fastener esp. for a door or lid consisting of a hinged metal strap that fits over a staple and is secured by a pin or padlock — **hasp** *vt*



hasp

[1]has·sle \'has-əl\ *n* [perh. fr. [2]*haggle* + [2]*tussle*] **1** : a heated often protracted argument : WRANGLE **2** : a violent skirmish : FIGHT **3 a** : a state of confusion : TURMOIL **b** : a strenuous effort : STRUGGLE

[2]hassle *vb* **has·sled; has·sling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* : ARGUE, FIGHT ⟨*hassled* with the umpire⟩ ~ *vt* : BOTHER, CHALLENGE ⟨he gets *hassled* in the street because he dresses funny —William Kloman⟩

has·sock \'has-ək\ *n* [ME, sedge, fr. OE *hassuc*] **1** : TUSSOCK **2 a** : a cushion for kneeling ⟨a church ~⟩ **b** : a padded cushion or low stool that serves as a seat or leg rest

hast \(')hast, (h)əst\ *archaic pres 2d sing of* HAVE

has·tate \'has-,tāt\ *adj* [NL *hastatus*, fr. L *hasta* spear — more at YARD] **1** : triangular with sharp basal lobes spreading away from the base of the petiole ⟨~ leaves⟩ **2** : shaped like a spear or the head of a spear ⟨a ~ spot of a bird⟩ — **has·tate·ly** *adv*

[1]haste \'hāst\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *hǣst* violence] **1** : rapidity of motion : SWIFTNESS **2** : rash or headlong action : PRECIPITATENESS ⟨the beauty of speed uncontaminated by ~ —*Harper's*⟩ **3** : undue eagerness to act

syn HASTE, HURRY, SPEED, EXPEDITION, DISPATCH *shared meaning element* : quickness in movement or action. HASTE implies urgency or precipitancy in persons ⟨out of breath from *haste* —Jane Austen⟩ and may suggest rashness or carelessness ⟨*haste* makes waste⟩ HURRY, often interchangeable with *haste*, can carry a stronger implication of agitated bustle or confusion ⟨in the *hurry* of departure she forgot her toothbrush⟩ SPEED suggests swift efficiency in movement or action ⟨the more haste, the less *speed* —*Old Proverb*⟩ *Expedition* and *dispatch* are close to speed especially in application to business or affairs, but EXPEDITION is likely to stress efficiency in performance, and DISPATCH promptness in bringing matters to a conclusion ⟨put her things on with remarkable *expedition* — Arnold Bennett⟩ ⟨there was no task in all the household . . . which her mistress could not do far better and with more *dispatch* than she —Thomas Wolfe⟩ ***ant*** deliberation

[2]haste *vb* **hast·ed; hast·ing** *vt, archaic* : to urge on : HASTEN ~ *vi* : to move or act swiftly

has·ten \'hās-ᵊn\ *vb* **has·tened; has·ten·ing** \'hās-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to urge on ⟨~*ed* her to the door —A. J. Cronin⟩ **2** : ACCELERATE ⟨~ the coming of a new order —D. W. Brogan⟩ ~ *vi* : to move or act quickly — **has·ten·er** \'hās-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

hast·i·ly \'hā-stə-lē\ *adv* : in haste : HURRIEDLY

hasty \'hā-stē\ *adj* **hast·i·er; -est** **1 a** *archaic* : rapid in action or movement : SPEEDY **b** : done or made in a hurry **c** : fast and typically superficial ⟨made a ~ examination of the wound⟩ **2** : EAGER, IMPATIENT **3** : PRECIPITATE, RASH **4** : prone to anger : IRRITABLE ***syn*** see FAST — **hast·i·ness** *n*

hasty pudding *n* **1** *Brit* : a porridge of oatmeal or flour boiled in water **2** *NewEng* : cornmeal mush

[1]hat \'hat\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hæt;* akin to OHG *huot* head covering — more at HOOD] **1** : a covering for the head usu. having a shaped crown and brim **2 a** : a distinctive head covering worn as a symbol of office **b** : OFFICE, POSITION — **hat·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

[2]hat *vb* **hat·ted; hat·ting** *vt* : to furnish or provide with a hat ~ *vi* : to make or supply hats

hat·band \'hat-,band\ *n* : a band (as of fabric, leather, or cord) around the crown of a hat just above the brim

hat·box \-,bäks\ *n* **1** : a box for holding or storing a hat **2** : a usu. round piece of luggage designed esp. for carrying hats

[1]hatch \'hach\ *n* [ME *hache*, fr. OE *hæc;* akin to MD *hecke* trapdoor] **1** : a small door or opening (as in an airplane) ⟨an escape ~⟩ **2 a** : an opening in the deck of a ship or in the floor or roof of a building **b** : the covering for such an opening **c** : HATCHWAY **d** : COMPARTMENT **3** : FLOODGATE

[2]hatch *vb* [ME *hacchen;* akin to MHG *hecken* to mate] *vi* **1** : to produce young by incubation **2 a** : to emerge from an egg, chrysalis, or pupa **b** : to give forth young or imagoes **3** : to incubate eggs : BROOD ~ *vt* **1 a** : to produce (young) from an egg by applying natural or artificial heat **b** : INCUBATE 1 **2** : to bring into being : ORIGINATE; *esp* : to concoct in secret — **hatch·abil·i·ty** \,hach-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **hatch·able** \'hach-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **hatch·er** *n*

[3]hatch *n* **1** : an act or instance of hatching **2** : a brood of hatched young

[4]hatch *vt* [ME *hachen*, fr. MF *hacher* to inlay, chop up] **1** : to inlay with narrow bands of distinguishable material ⟨a silver handle ~*ed* with gold⟩ **2** : to mark (as a drawing or engraving) with fine closely spaced lines

[5]hatch *n* : LINE; *esp* : one used to give the effect of shading

hatch·back \'hach-,bak\ *n* **1** : a back on a closed passenger automobile (as a coupe) having an upward-opening hatch **2** : an automobile having a hatchback

hat·check \'hat-,chek\ *adj* **1** : being one that checks hats and other articles of outdoor clothing ⟨a ~ girl⟩ **2** : used in the checking of hats ⟨a ~ stand⟩

hatch·ery \'hach-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : a place for hatching eggs **2** : a place for the large-scale production of weanling feeder pigs

hatch·et \'hach-ət\ *n* [ME *hachet*, fr. MF *hachette*, dim. of *hache* battle-ax — more at HASH] **1** : a short-handled ax with a hammerhead to be used with one hand **2** : TOMAHAWK

hatchet face *n* : a thin sharp face — **hatch·et–faced** \,hach-ət-'fāst\ *adj*

hatchet man *n* **1** : one hired for murder, coercion, or attack **2** : a writer specializing in invective without regard to personal scruples and often on orders from an employer

hatch·ing *n* : the engraving or drawing of fine lines in close proximity chiefly to give an effect of shading; *also* : the pattern so created

hatch·ling \'hach-liŋ\ *n* : a recently hatched animal

hatch·ment \'hach-mənt\ *n* [perh. alter. of *achievement*] : a panel on which a coat of arms of a deceased person is temporarily displayed

hatch·way \'hach-,wā\ *n* : a passage giving access usu. by a ladder or stairs to an enclosed space (as a cellar); *also* : HATCH 2a

[1]hate \'hāt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hete;* akin to OHG *haz* hate, Gk *kēdos* grief] **1 a** : intense hostility and aversion usu. deriving from fear, anger, or sense of injury **b** : extreme dislike or antipathy : LOATHING ⟨had a great ~ of hard work⟩ **2** : an object of hatred ⟨a generation whose finest ~ had been big business —F. L. Paxson⟩

[2]hate *vb* **hat·ed; hat·ing** *vt* **1** : to feel extreme enmity toward ⟨~s his country's enemies⟩ **2** : to have a strong aversion to : find very distasteful ⟨*hated* to have to meet strangers⟩ ⟨~ hypocrisy⟩ ~ *vi* : to express or feel extreme enmity or active hostility — **hat·er** *n*

syn HATE, DETEST, ABHOR, ABOMINATE, LOATHE *shared meaning element* : to feel strong aversion or intense dislike for ***ant*** love

— **hate one's guts** : to hate someone with great intensity

hate·ful \'hāt-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of hate : MALICIOUS **2** : deserving of or arousing hate — **hate·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **hate·ful·ness** *n*

hath \(')hath, (h)əth\ *archaic pres 3d sing of* HAVE

hat in hand *adv* : in an attitude of respectful humility ⟨have to apologize *hat in hand*⟩
hat·mak·er \'hat-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one who makes hats
ha·tred \'hā-trəd\ *n* [ME, fr. *hate* + OE *rædden* condition — more at KINDRED] **1** : HATE **2** : prejudiced hostility or animosity ⟨old racial prejudices and national ~*s* —Peter Thomson⟩
hat·ter \'hat-ər\ *n* : one that makes, sells, or cleans and repairs hats
hat trick *n* [prob. fr. the former practice of rewarding the feat with the gift of a hat] **1** : the retiring of three batsmen with three consecutive balls by a bowler in cricket **2** : the scoring of three goals in one game (as of hockey or soccer) by a single player
hau·berk \'hȯ-(ˌ)bərk\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *hauberc*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *healsbeorg* neck armor] : a tunic of chain mail worn as defensive armor from the 12th to the 14th century


1 hauberk

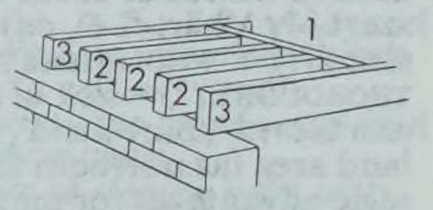
haugh \'hȯ(k)\ *n* [ME (Sc) *holch*, fr. OE *heolh* corner of land; akin to OE *holh* hole] *Scot* : a low-lying meadow by the side of a river
haugh·ty \'hȯt-ē, 'hät-\ *adj* **haugh·ti·er; -est** [obs. *haught*, fr. ME *haute*, fr. MF *haut*, lit., high, fr. L *altus* — more at OLD] : blatantly and disdainfully proud ***syn*** see PROUD ***ant*** lowly — **haugh·ti·ly** \'hȯt-ᵊl-ē, 'hät-\ *adv* — **haugh·ti·ness** \'hȯt-ē-nəs, 'hät-\ *n*
¹haul \'hȯl\ *vb* [ME *halen* to pull, fr. OF *haler*, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *halen* to pull; akin to OE *geholian* to obtain] *vt* **1** : to change the course of (a ship) esp. so as to sail closer to the wind **2 a** : to exert traction on : DRAW ⟨~ a wagon⟩ **b** : to obtain or move by or as if by hauling ⟨was ~*ed* to parties night after night by his wife⟩ **c** : to transport in a vehicle : CART **3** : to bring before an authority for interrogation or judgment : HALE ⟨~ traffic violators into court⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to exert traction : PULL **2** : to furnish transportation **3** *of the wind* : SHIFT ***syn*** see PULL
²haul *n* **1 a** : the act or process of hauling : PULL **b** : a device for hauling **2 a** : the result of an effort to collect : TAKE ⟨the burglar's ~⟩ **b** : the fish taken in a single draft of a net **3 a** : transportation by hauling **b** : the distance or route over which a load is transported ⟨a long ~⟩ **c** : a quantity transported : LOAD
haul·age \'hȯ-lij\ *n* **1** : the act or process of hauling **2** : a charge made for hauling
haul·age·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : a passage in a coal mine along which coal is transported
haul·er \'hȯ-lər\ *n* : one that hauls; *esp* : a commercial establishment whose business is hauling or one of its automotive vehicles
haul·ier \'hȯl-yər\ *Brit var of* HAULER
haulm \'hȯm\ *n* [ME *halm*, fr. OE *healm;* akin to OHG *halm* stem, L *culmus* stalk, Gk *kalamos* reed] **1** : the stems or tops of cultivated plants (as peas, beans, or potatoes) esp. after the crop has been gathered **2** : a plant stem (as the culm of a grass)
haunch \'hȯnch, 'hänch\ *n* [ME *haunche*, fr. OF *hanche*, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *hanke* haunch] **1 a** : HIP 1a **b** : HINDQUARTER 2 — usu. used in pl. **2** : HINDQUARTER 1 **3** : either side of an arch between the springing and the crown — **on one's haunches** : in a squatting position
¹haunt \'hȯnt, 'hänt\ *vb* [ME *haunten*, fr. OF *hanter*] *vt* **1 a** : to visit often : FREQUENT **b** : to continually seek the company of (a person) **2 a** : to recur constantly and spontaneously to ⟨the tune ~*ed* her all day⟩ **b** : to reappear continually in ⟨a sense of tension that ~*s* his writing⟩ **3** : to visit or inhabit as a ghost ~ *vi* **1** : to stay around or persist : LINGER **2** : to appear habitually as a ghost — **haunt·er** *n* — **haunt·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
²haunt \'hȯnt, 'hänt, *2 is usu* 'hant\ *n* **1** : a place habitually frequented **2** *chiefly dial* : GHOST
Hau·sa \'haù-sə, -zə\ *n, pl* **Hausa** *or* **Hausas** **1** : a member of a Negroid people of the Sudan between Lake Chad and the Niger **2** : the language of the Hausa people widely used in west Africa as a trade language
haus·frau \'haùs-ˌfraù\ *n* [G, fr. *haus* house + *frau* woman, wife] : HOUSEWIFE
haus·tel·late \hȯ-'stel-ət, 'hȯ-stə-ˌlāt\ *adj* : having a haustellum
haus·tel·lum \hȯ-'stel-əm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-ə\ [NL, fr. L *haustus*, pp. of *haurire* to drink, draw — more at EXHAUST] : a proboscis (as of an insect) adapted to suck blood or juices of plants
haus·to·ri·al \hȯ-'stōr-ē-əl, -'stȯr-\ *adj* : having a haustorium
haus·to·ri·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L *haustus*] : a food-absorbing outgrowth of a hypha, stem, or other plant organ
haut·bois *or* **haut·boy** \'(h)ō-ˌbȯi\ *n, pl* **hautbois** \-ˌbȯiz\ *or* **haut·boys** [MF *hautbois*, fr. *haut* high + *bois* wood] : OBOE
haute cou·ture \ˌōt-kù-'tù(ə)r\ *n* [F, lit., high sewing] : the houses or designers that create exclusive and often trend-setting fashions for women; *also* : the fashions created
haute cui·sine \-kwi-'zēn\ *n* [F, lit., high cooking] : artful or elaborate cuisine
haute école \-ā-'kȯl, -'kəl\ *n* [F, lit., high school] : a highly stylized form of classical riding : advanced dressage
hau·teur \hȯ-'tər, (h)ō-\ *n* [F, fr. *haut* high — more at HAUGHTY] : ARROGANCE, HAUGHTINESS
haut monde \ō-'mänd, ō-mōⁿd\ *n* [F] : high society
Ha·vana \hə-'van-ə\ *n* [prob. fr. Sp *habano*, fr. *habano* of Havana, fr. La *Habana* (Havana), Cuba] **1** : a cigar made from Cuban tobacco **2** : tobacco raised in Cuba
havdalah *var of* HABDALAH
¹have \(')hav, (h)əv, v; *in sense 2 before "to" usu* 'haf\ *vb* **had** \(')had, (h)əd, d\; **hav·ing** \'hav-iŋ\; **has** \(')haz, (h)əz, z, s; *in sense 2 before "to" usu* 'has\ [ME *haven*, fr. OE *habban;* akin to OHG *habēn* to have, *hevan* to lift — more at HEAVE] *vt* **1 a** : to hold in possession as property **b** : to hold in one's use, service, or affection or at one's disposal ⟨~ your cake and eat it too⟩ **c** : to consist of : CONTAIN **2** : to feel obligation or necessity in regard to ⟨~ to go⟩ ⟨learn to get along better, as people ~ to in . . . society —H. J. Muller⟩ **3** : to stand in relationship to ⟨~ enemies⟩ **4 a** : to acquire or get possession of : OBTAIN ⟨these shoes are the best to be *had*⟩ **b** : RECEIVE ⟨*had* news⟩ **c** : ACCEPT; *specif* : to accept in marriage **d** : to copulate with **5 a** : to be marked or characterized by ⟨~ red hair⟩ **b** : EXHIBIT, SHOW ⟨*had* the gall to refuse⟩ **c** : USE, EXERCISE ⟨~ mercy on us⟩ **6 a** : to experience esp. by submitting to, undergoing, or suffering ⟨~ a cold⟩ **b** : to carry on : PERFORM, TAKE ⟨~ a look at that cut⟩ ⟨~ a fight⟩ **c** : to entertain in the mind ⟨~ an opinion⟩ **7 a** : to cause to by persuasive or forceful means — used with the infinitive without *to* ⟨~ the children stay⟩ **b** : to cause to be ⟨*has* people around at all times⟩ **8** : ALLOW ⟨we'll ~ no more of that⟩ **9** : to be competent in ⟨*has* only a little French⟩ **10 a** : to hold in a position of disadvantage or certain defeat ⟨we ~ him now⟩ **b** : to take advantage of : TRICK, FOOL ⟨been *had* by a partner⟩ **11** : to be able to exercise : be entitled to ⟨I ~ my rights⟩ **12** : BEGET, BEAR ⟨~ a baby⟩ **13** : to partake of ⟨~ dinner⟩ **14** : BRIBE, SUBORN ⟨can be *had* for a price⟩ ~ *verbal auxiliary* — used with the past participle to form the present perfect, past perfect, or future perfect ⟨*has* gone home⟩ ⟨*had* already eaten⟩ ⟨will ~ finished dinner by then⟩
syn HAVE, HOLD, OWN, POSSESS, ENJOY *shared meaning element* : to keep, control, retain, or experience as one's own
— **have at** \ha-'vat\ : to go at or deal with : ATTACK — **have coming** : to deserve or merit what one gets, benefits by, or suffers ⟨he *had* that *coming*⟩ — **have done** : FINISH, STOP — **have done with** : to bring to an end : have no further concern with ⟨let us *have done with* name-calling⟩ — **have had it** **1** : to have had or have done all one is going to be allowed to **2** : to have experienced, endured, or suffered all one can — **have it in for** \ˌhav-ət-'in-fər, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ : to intend to do harm to — **have it out** : to settle a matter of contention by discussion or a fight — **have one's eye on** **1 a** : to look at **b** : to watch constantly and attentively **2** : to have as an objective — **have to do with** **1** : to deal with ⟨the story *has to do with* real people —Alice M. Jordan⟩ **2** : to have a specified relationship with or effect on ⟨refused to *have* anything *to do with* his own relatives —Roald Dahl⟩ ⟨the size of the brain *has* nothing *to do with* intelligence —Ruth Benedict⟩
²have \'hav\ *n* : one that is well-endowed esp. in material wealth
have·lock \'hav-ˌläk, -lək\ *n* [Sir Henry *Havelock*] : a covering attached to a cap to protect the neck from the sun or bad weather
ha·ven \'hā-vən\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hæfen;* akin to MHG *habene* harbor, OE *hebban* to lift — more at HEAVE] **1** : HARBOR, PORT **2** : a place of safety : ASYLUM — **haven** *vt*
have-not \'hav-ˌnät, -'nät\ *n* : one that is poor esp. in material wealth
haven't \'hav-ənt\ : have not
have on *vt* **1** : WEAR ⟨*has on* a new suit⟩ **2** : to have plans for ⟨what do you *have on* for tomorrow⟩
ha·ver \'hā-vər\ *vi* [origin unknown] *chiefly Brit* : to hem and haw
ha·vers \'hā-vərz\ *n pl* [*haver*] *chiefly Scot* : NONSENSE, POPPYCOCK
hav·er·sack \'hav-ər-ˌsak\ *n* [F *havresac*, fr. G *habersack* bag for oats, fr. *haber* oats + *sack* bag] : a bag similar to a knapsack but worn over one shoulder
ha·ver·sian canal \hə-ˌvər-zhən-\ *n, often cap H* [Clopton *Havers* †1702 E physician & anatomist] : any of the small canals through which the blood vessels ramify in bone
haversian system *n, often cap H* : a haversian canal with the concentrically arranged laminae of bone that surround it
¹hav·oc \'hav-ək, -ik\ *n* [ME *havok*, fr. AF, modif. of OF *havot* plunder] **1** : wide and general destruction : DEVASTATION **2** : great confusion and disorder ⟨several small children can create ~ in a house⟩ ***syn*** see RUIN
²havoc *vt* **hav·ocked; hav·ock·ing** : to lay waste : DESTROY
¹haw \'hȯ\ *n* [ME *hawe*, fr. OE *haga* — more at HEDGE] **1** : a hawthorn berry **2** : HAWTHORN
²haw *n* [origin unknown] : NICTITATING MEMBRANE; *esp* : an inflamed nictitating membrane of a domesticated mammal
³haw *vi* [imit.] **1** : to utter the sound represented by *haw* ⟨hemmed and ~*ed* before answering⟩ **2** : EQUIVOCATE ⟨the administration hemmed and ~*ed* over the students' demands⟩
⁴haw *interj* — often used to indicate a vocalized pause in speaking
⁵haw \'hȯ\ *vb imper* [origin unknown] — used as a direction to turn to the left; compare GEE ~ *vi* : to turn to the near or left side
Ha·wai·ian \hə-'wä-yən, -'wī-(y)ən, -'wȯ-yən\ *n* **1** : a native or resident of Hawaii; *esp* : one of Polynesian ancestry **2** : the Polynesian language of the Hawaiians — **Hawaiian** *adj*
Hawaiian guitar *n* : a usu. electric stringed instrument consisting of a long soundboard and six to eight steel strings that are plucked while being pressed with a movable steel bar
Hawaii time *n* : the time of the 10th time zone west of Greenwich that includes the Hawaiian islands
haw·finch \'hȯ-ˌfinch\ *n* [¹*haw*] : a Eurasian finch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*) with a large heavy bill and short thick neck and the male marked with black, white, and brown
¹hawk \'hȯk\ *n* [ME *hauk*, fr. OE *hafoc;* akin to OHG *habuh* hawk, Russ *kobets*, a falcon] **1** : any of numerous diurnal birds of prey belonging to a suborder (Falcones of the order Falconiformes) and including all the smaller members of this group; *esp* : ACCIPITER — compare OWL **2** : a small board or metal sheet with a handle on the underside used to hold mortar **3** : an individual who takes a militant attitude (as in a dispute) and advocates immediate vigorous action; *esp* : a supporter of a war or warlike policy — compare DOVE — **hawk·ish** \'hȯ-kish\ *adj* — **hawk·ish·ly** *adv* — **hawk·ish·ness** *n*
²hawk *vi* **1** : to hunt birds by means of a trained hawk **2** : to soar and strike like a hawk ~ *vt* : to hunt on the wing like a hawk
³hawk *vt* [back-formation fr. ²*hawker*] : to offer for sale by calling out in the street ⟨~*ing* newspapers⟩

4hawk *vb* [imit.] *vi* : to utter a harsh guttural sound in or as if in trying to clear the throat ~ *vt* : to raise by hawking ⟨~ up phlegm⟩
5hawk *n* : an audible effort to force up phlegm from the throat
1hawk·er \'hȯ-kər\ *n* : FALCONER
2hawker *n* [by folk etymology fr. LG *höker*, fr. MLG *hōker*, fr. *hōken* to peddle; akin to OE *hēah* high] : one that hawks wares
Hawk-eye \'hȯ-ˌkī\ *n* : a native or resident of Iowa — used as a nickname
hawk·moth \'hȯk-ˌmȯth\ *n* : any of numerous rather large stout-bodied moths (family Sphingidae) with a long proboscis which at rest is kept coiled, long strong narrow fore wings more or less pointed at the ends, and small hind wings — called also *sphinx*
hawks·bill \'hȯks-ˌbil\ *n* : a carnivorous sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) whose shell yields a valuable tortoiseshell
hawk·weed \'hȯ-ˌkwēd\ *n* : any of several composite plants (as of the genera *Hieracium*, *Picris*, and *Erechtites*) usu. having flower heads with red or orange rays
hawse \'hȯz\ *n* [ME *halse*, fr. ON *hals* neck, hawse — more at COLLAR] **1 a** : HAWSEHOLE **b** : the part of a ship's bow that contains the hawseholes **2** : the arrangement of the anchor cables of a ship when both a port and starboard anchor are used **3** : the distance between a ship's bow and her anchor
hawse·hole \-ˌhōl\ *n* : a hole in the bow of a ship through which a cable passes
haw·ser \'hȯ-zər\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *hauceour*, fr. MF *haucier* to hoist, fr. (assumed) VL *altiare*, fr. L *altus* high — more at OLD] : a large rope for towing, mooring, or securing a ship
hawser bend *n* : a method of joining the ends of two heavy ropes by means of seizings
haw·ser-laid \ˌhȯ-zər-'lād\ *adj* : CABLE-LAID
haw·thorn \'hȯ-ˌthȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [ME *hawethorn*, fr. OE *hagathorn*, fr. *haga* hawthorn + *thorn* — more at HEDGE] : any of a genus (*Crataegus*) of spring-flowering spiny shrubs (as the European *C. oxyacantha* and the American *C. coccinea*) of the rose family with glossy and often lobed leaves, white or pink fragrant flowers, and small red fruits
Haw·thorne effect \'hȯˌthȯrn-\ *n* [fr. the *Hawthorne* Works of the Western Electric Co., Cicero, Ill., where its existence was established by experiment] : the stimulation to output or accomplishment (as in an industrial or educational methods study) that results from the mere fact of being under concerned observation
1hay \'hā\ *n* [ME *hey*, fr. OE *hīeg;* akin to OHG *hewi* hay, OE *hēawan* to hew] **1** : herbage and esp. grass mowed and cured for fodder **2** : REWARD **3** *slang* : BED **4** : a small sum of money ⟨a saving of . . . $14 million is not ~ —H.C. Schonberg⟩
2hay *vi* : to cut, cure, and store for hay ~ *vt* : to feed with hay
hay·cock \'hā-ˌkäk\ *n* : a somewhat rounded conical pile of hay
hay·er \'hā-ər, 'he(-ə)r\ *n* : one that hays
hay fever *n* : an acute allergic nasal catarrh and conjunctivitis; *esp* : POLLINOSIS
hay·fork \'hā-ˌfȯ(ə)rk\ *n* : a fork that is mechanically operated or held in the hand and that is used for loading or unloading hay
hay·lage \'hā-lij\ *n* [*hay* + si*lage*] : a stored forage that is essentially a grass silage wilted to 35 to 50 percent moisture
hay·loft \'hā-ˌlȯft\ *n* : a loft esp. for storing hay
hay·mak·er \-ˌmā-kər\ *n* **1** : HAYER **2** : a powerful blow
hay·mow \-ˌmaù\ *n* : a mow esp. of or for hay
hay·rack \-ˌrak\ *n* **1** : a frame mounted on the running gear of a wagon and used esp. in hauling hay or straw; *also* : a wagon equipped with a hayrack **2** : a feeding rack that holds hay for livestock
hay·rick \-ˌrik\ *n* : a relatively large sometimes thatched outdoor pile of hay : HAYSTACK
hay·ride \-ˌrīd\ *n* : a pleasure ride usu. at night by a group in a wagon, sleigh, or open truck partly filled with straw or hay
hay·seed \'hā-ˌsēd\ *n, pl* **hayseed** *or* **hayseeds** **1 a** : seed shattered from hay **b** : clinging bits of straw or chaff from hay **2** *pl* *hayseeds* : BUMPKIN, YOKEL
hay·stack \-ˌstak\ *n* : a stack of hay
hay·wire \-ˌwī(ə)r\ *adj* [fr. the use of baling wire for makeshift repairs] **1** : hastily or shoddily made **2** : being out of order — often used with *go* ⟨the radio went ~⟩ **3** : emotionally or mentally upset : CRAZY — often used with *go* ⟨went completely ~ after the accident⟩
ha·zan \kə-'zän, 'käz-ᵊn\ *n, pl* **ha·za·nim** \kə-'zän-əm\ [LHeb *ḥazzān*] **1** : an official of a Jewish synagogue or community of the talmudic period **2** : CANTOR 2
1haz·ard \'haz-ərd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *hasard*, fr. Ar *az-zahr* the die] **1** : a game of chance like craps played with two dice **2** : a source of danger **3 a** : CHANCE **b** : a chance event : ACCIDENT **4** *obs* : STAKE 3a **5** : a golf-course obstacle — **at hazard** : at stake
2hazard *vt* : VENTURE, RISK ⟨~ a guess⟩
haz·ard·ous \'haz-ərd-əs\ *adj* **1** : depending on hazard or chance **2** : involving or exposing one to risk (as of loss or harm) ⟨a ~ occupation⟩ ⟨handling ~ materials⟩ ***syn*** see DANGEROUS — **haz·ard·ous·ly** *adv* —**haz·ard·ous·ness** *n*
1haze \'hāz\ *vb* **hazed; haz·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *hazy*] *vi* : to become hazy or cloudy ~ *vt* : to make hazy, dull, or cloudy
2haze *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *hazy*] **1 a** : fine dust, smoke, or light vapor causing lack of transparency of the air **b** : a cloudy appearance in a transparent liquid or solid; *also* : a dullness of finish (as on furniture) **2** : vagueness of mind or mental perception

syn HAZE, FOG, MIST, SMOG *shared meaning element* : an atmospheric condition that deprives the air of its transparency

3haze *vt* **hazed; haz·ing** [origin unknown] **1 a** : to harass by exacting unnecessary or disagreeable work **b** : to harass by banter, ridicule, or criticism **2** : to haze by way of initiation ⟨~ the fraternity pledges⟩ **3** *West* : to drive (as cattle or horses) from horseback — **haz·er** *n* — **haz·ing** *n*
1ha·zel \'hā-zəl\ *n* [ME *hasel*, fr. OE *hæsel;* akin to OHG *hasal* hazel, L *corulus*] **1** : any of a genus (*Corylus*) of shrubs or small trees of the birch family (esp. the American *C. americana* and the European *C. cornuta*) bearing nuts enclosed in a leafy involucre **2** : a light brown to strong yellowish brown
2hazel *adj* **1** : consisting of hazels or of the wood of the hazel **2** : of the color hazel
hazel hen *n* : a European woodland grouse (*Tetrastes bonasia*) related to the American ruffed grouse
ha·zel·nut \'hā-zəl-ˌnət\ *n* : the nut of a hazel
hazy \'hā-zē\ *adj* **haz·i·er; -est** [origin unknown] **1** : obscured or made dim or cloudy by or as if by haze ⟨a ~ view of the mountains⟩ ⟨a mirror ~ with steam⟩ **2** : VAGUE, INDEFINITE ⟨had only a ~ recollection of what happened⟩ — **haz·i·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **haz·i·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*
Hb *symbol* hemoglobin
HBM *abbr* Her Britannic Majesty; His Britannic Majesty
H-bomb \'āch-ˌbäm\ *n* : HYDROGEN BOMB
h.c. *abbr* [L *honoris causa*] for the sake of honor
HC *abbr* **1** Holy Communion **2** House of Commons
HCF *abbr* highest common factor
HCL *abbr* high cost of living
hd *abbr* head
HD *abbr* heavy-duty
hdbk *abbr* handbook
hdkf *abbr* handkerchief
hdwe *abbr* hardware
1he \(')hē, ē\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *hē;* akin to OE *hēo* she, *hit* it, OHG *hē* he, L *cis, citra* on this side, Gk *ekei*nos that person] **1** : that male one who is neither speaker nor hearer ⟨~ is my father⟩ — compare HIM, HIS, IT, SHE, THEY **2** — used in a generic sense or when the sex of the person is unspecified ⟨~ that hath ears to hear, let him hear —Mt 11:15 (AV)⟩ ⟨one should do the best ~ can⟩
2he \'hē\ *n* **1** : a male person or animal **2** : one that is strongly masculine or virile — usu. used in combination ⟨a real *he*-man⟩
3he \'hā\ *n* [Heb *hē'*] : the 5th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
He *symbol* helium
HE *abbr* **1** high explosive **2** his eminence **3** his excellency
1head \'hed\ *n* [ME *hed*, fr. OE *hēafod;* akin to OHG *houbit* head, L *caput*] **1** : the upper or anterior division of the body (as of a man or an insect) that contains the brain, the chief sense organs, and the mouth **2 a** : the seat of the intellect : MIND ⟨two ~s are better than one⟩ **b** : natural aptitude or talent ⟨a good ~ for figures⟩ **c** : mental or emotional control : POISE ⟨a level ~⟩ **d** : HEADACHE **3** : the obverse of a coin — usu. used in pl. ⟨~s, I win⟩ **4 a** : PERSON, INDIVIDUAL ⟨count ~s⟩ **b** *pl* **head** : one of a number (as of domestic animals) **5 a** : the end that is upper or higher or opposite the foot ⟨the ~ of the table⟩ **b** : the source of a stream **c** : either end of something (as a drum) whose two ends need not be distinguished **d** : a horizontal passage in a coal mine **6** : DIRECTOR, LEADER: as **a** : HEADMASTER **b** : one in charge of a division or department in an office or institution ⟨the ~ of the English department⟩ **7 a** : CAPITULUM 2 **b** : the foliaged part of a plant esp. when consisting of a compact mass of leaves or close fructification **8 a** : the leading element of a military column or a procession **b** : HEADWAY **9 a** : the uppermost extremity or projecting part of an object : TOP **b** : the striking part of a weapon, tool, or implement **c** : the oval part of a printed musical note **10 a** : a body of water kept in reserve at a height; *also* : the containing bank, dam, or wall **b** : a mass of water in motion **11 a** : the difference in elevation between two points in a body of fluid **b** : the resulting pressure of the fluid at the lower point expressible as this height; *broadly* : pressure of a fluid **12 a** : the bow and adjacent parts of a ship **b** : a ship's toilet; *broadly* : TOILET **13** : the approximate length of the head of a horse ⟨won by a ~⟩ **14** : the place of leadership, honor, or command ⟨at the ~ of his class⟩ **15 a** (1) : a word often in larger letters placed above a passage in order to introduce or categorize (2) : a separate part or topic **b** : a portion of a page or sheet that is above the first line of printing **16 a** : the topmost edge of a book **b** : the upper edge of a sail **17** : the foam or scum that rises on a fermenting or effervescing liquid (as beer) **18 a** : the part of a boil, pimple, or abscess at which it is likely to break **b** : culminating point of action : CRISIS ⟨events came to a ~⟩ **19 a** : a part or attachment of a machine or machine tool containing a device (as a cutter or drill); *also* : the part of an apparatus that performs the chief function or a particular function **b** : MAGNETIC HEAD **20** : an immediate constituent of a construction that has the same grammatical function as the whole (as *man* in "an old man", "a very old man", or "the man in the street") **21** : one who uses a drug (as LSD or marijuana) — **by the head** : drawing the greater depth of water forward — **off one's head** : CRAZY, DISTRACTED — **out of one's head** : DELIRIOUS — **over one's head** **1** : beyond one's comprehension ⟨liked pictures but art criticism was *over his head*⟩ **2** : so as to pass over one's superior standing or authority ⟨went *over his* supervisor's *head* to complain⟩
2head *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or intended for the head **2** : PRINCIPAL, CHIEF ⟨~ cook⟩ **3** : situated at the head **4** : coming from in front ⟨~ sea⟩
3head *vt* **1** : BEHEAD **2 a** : to cut back the upper or terminal growth of (a plant or plant part) — often used with *back* **b** : to harvest (a cereal grass) by cutting off the heads **3 a** : to put a head on : fit a head to ⟨~ an arrow⟩ **b** : to form the head or top of ⟨tower ~*ed* by a spire⟩ **4** : to put oneself at the head of : act as leader to ⟨~ a revolt⟩ **5 a** : to face or oppose head on ⟨~ the waves⟩ **b** : to get in front of so as to hinder, stop, or turn back **c** : to take a lead over (as in a race) : SURPASS **d** : to pass (a stream) by going round above the source **6 a** : to put something at the head of (as a list) **b** : to stand as the first or leading member of ⟨~*s* the list of heroes⟩ **7** : to set the course of ⟨~ a ship northward⟩ **8** : to drive (as a soccer ball) with the head ~ *vi* **1** : to form a head ⟨this cabbage ~*s* early⟩ **2** : to point or proceed in a certain direction ⟨the fleet was ~*ing* out⟩ **3** : to have a source : ORIGINATE
head·ache \'hed-ˌāk\ *n* **1** : pain in the head **2** : a vexatious or baffling situation or problem — **head·achy** \-ˌā-kē\ *adj*

head and shoulders *adv* : beyond comparison : by far ⟨stood *head and shoulders* above the rest in character and ability⟩
head·band \'hed-ˌband\ *n* **1** : a band worn on or around the head **2** : a plain or decorative band printed or engraved at the head of a page or a chapter **3** : a narrow strip of cloth sewn or glued by hand to a book at the extreme ends of the backbone
head·board \-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a board forming the head (as of a bed)
head·cheese \-ˌchēz\ *n* : a jellied loaf or sausage made from edible parts of the head, feet, and sometimes the tongue and heart esp. of a pig
head cold *n* : a common cold centered in the nasal passages and adjacent mucous tissues
head·dress \'hed-ˌdres\ *n* : an often elaborate covering for the head
head·ed \'hed-əd\ *adj* **1** : having a head or a heading **2** : having a head or heads of a specified kind or number — used in combination ⟨a cool-*headed* businessman⟩ ⟨a round*headed* screw⟩
head·er \'hed-ər\ *n* **1** : one that removes heads; *esp* : a grain-harvesting machine that cuts off the grain heads and elevates them to a wagon **2 a** : a brick or stone laid in a wall with its end toward the face of the wall **b** : a beam fitted at one side of an opening to support free ends of floor joists, studs, or rafters **c** : a horizontal structural or finish piece over an opening : LINTEL **d** : a conduit (as the exhaust manifold of a many-cylindered engine) into which smaller conduits open **e** : a mounting plate through which electrical terminals pass from a sealed device (as a transistor) **3** : a fall or dive head foremost **4** : a shot or pass in soccer made by heading the ball



header 2b: *1* header, *2* tail beams, *3* trimmers

head·first \'hed-'fərst\ *adv* : with the head foremost : HEADLONG ⟨dove ~ into the waves⟩ — **headfirst** *adj*
head·fore·most \-'fō(ə)r-ˌmōst, -'fȯ(ə)r-\ *adv* : HEADFIRST, HEADLONG
head·gate \'hed-ˌgāt\ *n* : a gate for controlling the water flowing into a channel (as an irrigation ditch)
head·gear \-ˌgi(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a covering or protective device for the head **2** : a harness for a horse's head
head·hunt·er \-ˌhənt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that engages in head-hunting **2** : a recruiter of personnel esp. at the executive level
head–hunt·ing \-ˌhənt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or custom of seeking out, decapitating, and preserving the heads of enemies as trophies **2** : a seeking to deprive usu. political enemies of position or influence
head·ing \'hed-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the compass direction in which the longitudinal axis of a ship or aircraft points; *broadly* : DIRECTION **2 a** : something that forms or serves as a head; *esp* : an inscription, headline, or title standing at the top or beginning (as of a letter or chapter) **b** : the address and date at the beginning of a letter showing its place and time of origin **3** : DRIFT 6
head·lamp \-ˌlamp\ *n* : HEADLIGHT
head·land \'hed-lənd, -ˌland\ *n* **1** : unplowed land at the ends of furrows or near a fence **2** : a point of usu. high land jutting out into a body of water : PROMONTORY
head·less \-ləs\ *adj* **1 a** : having no head **b** : having the head cut off : BEHEADED **2** : having no chief **3** : lacking good sense or prudence : FOOLISH — **head·less·ness** *n*
head·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : a light with a reflector and special lens mounted on the front of an automotive vehicle; *also* : the beam cast by a headlight **2** : a light worn on the forehead (as of a miner or physician)
¹head·line \-ˌlīn\ *n* **1** : a head of a newspaper story or article usu. printed in large type and devised to summarize the story or article that follows **2** : words set at the head of a passage or page to introduce or categorize
²headline *vt* **1** : to provide with a headline **2** : to publicize highly **3** : to be engaged as a leading performer in (a show)
head·lin·er \'hed-ˌlī-nər\ *n* : a performer whose name is given prominent billing : STAR
head linesman *n* : a football linesman
head·lock \'hed-ˌläk\ *n* : a wrestling hold in which one encircles his opponent's head with one arm
¹head·long \-'lȯŋ\ *adv* [ME *hedlong*, alter. of *hedling*, fr. *hed* head] **1** : HEADFIRST **2** : without deliberation : RECKLESSLY **3** : without pause or delay
²head·long \-ˌlȯŋ\ *adj* **1** : lacking in calmness or restraint : PRECIPITATE ⟨releasing the ~ torrent of her emotion in tears⟩ **2** : plunging headforemost **3** *archaic* : STEEP, PRECIPITOUS ***syn*** see PRECIPITATE
head louse *n* : one of a variety (*Pediculus humanus capitis*) of the common louse that lives on the scalp of man
head·man *n* **1 a** \'hed-'man\ : OVERSEER, FOREMAN **b** \-'man, -ˌman\ : a lesser chief of a primitive community **2** \-mən\ : HEADSMAN
head·mas·ter \'hed-ˌmas-tər, -'mas-\ *n* : a man heading the staff of a private school : PRINCIPAL — **head·mas·ter·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
head·mis·tress \-ˌmis-trəs, -'mis-\ *n* : a woman heading the staff of a private school
head·most \'hed-ˌmōst\ *adj* : most advanced : LEADING
head·note \-ˌnōt\ *n* **1** : a prefixed note of comment or explanation **2** : a note prefixed to the report of a decided legal case
head off *vt* : to turn back or turn aside : BLOCK, PREVENT ⟨*head* them *off* at the pass⟩ ⟨attempts to *head off* the imminent crisis⟩
¹head–on \'hed-'ȯn, -'än\ *adv* **1** : with the head or front making the initial contact ⟨the cars collided ~⟩ **2** : in direct opposition or contradiction ⟨what happens to the savage when he meets civilization ~ —J. F. McComas⟩
²head–on *adj* **1** : having the front facing in the direction of initial contact or line of sight ⟨a ~ collision⟩ **2** : FRONTAL
head over heels *adv* **1 a** : in or as if in a somersault : HELTER-SKELTER **b** : upside down **2** : very much : HOPELESSLY, DEEPLY ⟨*head over heels* in love⟩
head·phone \'hed-ˌfōn\ *n* : an earphone held over the ear by a band worn on the head
head·piece \-ˌpēs\ *n* **1** : a protective or defensive covering for the head **2** : BRAINS, INTELLIGENCE **3** : an ornament esp. at the beginning of a chapter
head·pin \-ˌpin\ *n* : a bowling pin that stands foremost in the arrangement of pins
head·quar·ter \'hed-ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər, (')hed-'\ *vi* : to make one's headquarters ~ *vt* : to place in headquarters
head·quar·ters \-ərz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a place from which a commander performs the functions of command **2** : the administrative center of an enterprise
head·rest \-ˌrest\ *n* **1** : a support for the head **2** : a resilient pad at the top of the back of an automobile seat esp. for preventing whiplash injury
head rhyme *n* : BEGINNING RHYME
head·room \'hed-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : vertical space in which to stand or move
head·sail \-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* : a sail set forward of the foremast
head·set \-ˌset\ *n* **1** : an attachment for holding an earphone and transmitter at one's head **2** : a pair of headphones
head·ship \-ˌship\ *n* : the position, office, or dignity of a head
head·shrink·er \-ˌshriŋ-kər, *esp South* -ˌsriŋ-\ *n* **1** : a headhunter who shrinks the heads of his victims **2** : a physician who specializes in psychiatry and esp. psychoanalysis
heads·man \'hedz-mən\ *n* : one that beheads : EXECUTIONER
head·spring \'hed-ˌspriŋ\ *n* : FOUNTAINHEAD, SOURCE
head·stall \-ˌstȯl\ *n* : a part of a bridle or halter that encircles the head
head start *n* **1** : an advantage granted or achieved at the beginning of a race, a chase, or a competition ⟨a 10-minute *head start*⟩ **2** : a favorable or promising beginning
head·stock \'hed-ˌstäk\ *n* : a bearing or pedestal for a revolving or moving part; *specif* : a part of a lathe that holds the revolving spindle and its attachments
head·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* : a memorial stone placed at the head of a grave
head·stream \-ˌstrēm\ *n* : a stream that is the source of a river
head·strong \-ˌstrȯŋ\ *adj* **1** : not easily restrained : impatient of control, advice, or suggestions **2** : directed by ungovernable will ⟨violent ~ actions⟩ ***syn*** see UNRULY
heads–up \ˌhed-ˌzəp\ *adj* : ALERT, RESOURCEFUL ⟨fast, aggressive, ~ football⟩
heads up \(')hed-'zəp\ *interj* — used as a warning to look out for danger overhead or to clear a passageway
head·wait·er \'hed-'wāt-ər\ *n* : the head of the dining-room staff of a restaurant or hotel
head·wa·ter \-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : the source of a stream — usu. used in pl.
head·way \-ˌwā\ *n* **1 a** : motion or rate of motion in a forward direction **b** : ADVANCE, PROGRESS **2** : headroom (as under an arch) sufficient to allow passage **3** : the time interval between two vehicles traveling in the same direction on the same route
head wind *n* : a wind blowing in a direction opposite to a course esp. of a ship or aircraft
head·word \'hed-ˌwərd\ *n* **1** : a word or term placed at the beginning (as of a chapter or an entry in an encyclopedia) **2** : HEAD 20
head·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : mental labor; *esp* : clever thinking
heady \'hed-ē\ *adj* **head·i·er; -est** **1 a** : WILLFUL, RASH ⟨~ opinions⟩ **b** : VIOLENT, IMPETUOUS **2 a** : tending to make giddy : INTOXICATING ⟨~ wine⟩ ⟨a ~ triumph⟩ **b** : GIDDY, EXHILARATED ⟨~ with his success⟩ **3** : SHREWD — **head·i·ly** \'hed-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **head·i·ness** \'hed-ē-nəs\ *n*
heal \'hē(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *helen*, fr. OE *hælan*; akin to OHG *heilen* to heal, OE *hāl* whole — more at WHOLE] *vt* **1 a** : to make sound or whole ⟨~ a wound⟩ **b** : to restore to health **2 a** : to cause (an undesirable condition) to be overcome : MEND ⟨the troubles . . . had not been forgotten, but they had been ~*ed* — William Power⟩ **b** : to patch up (a breach or division) ⟨~ a breach between friends⟩ **3** : to restore to original purity or integrity ⟨~*ed* of sin⟩ ~ *vi* : to return to a sound state ***syn*** see CURE
heal·er \'hē-lər\ *n* **1** : one that heals **2** : a Christian Science practitioner
health \'helth\ *n, often attrib* [ME *helthe*, fr. OE *hælth*, fr. *hāl*] **1 a** : the condition of being sound in body, mind, or spirit; *esp* : freedom from physical disease or pain **b** : the general condition of the body ⟨in poor ~⟩ ⟨enjoys good ~⟩ **2** : flourishing condition : WELL-BEING ⟨the economic ~ of a country⟩ **3** : a toast to someone's health or prosperity
health·ful \'helth-fəl\ *adj* **1** : beneficial to health of body or mind **2** : HEALTHY ⟨he felt incapable of looking into the girl's pretty, ~ face —Saul Bellow⟩
health insurance *n* : insurance against loss through illness of the insured
health officer *n* : an officer charged with the enforcement of health and sanitation laws
healthy \'hel-thē\ *adj* **health·i·er; -est** **1** : enjoying health and vigor of body, mind, or spirit : WELL **2** : evincing health ⟨a ~ complexion⟩ **3** : conducive to health ⟨walk three miles every day . . . a beastly bore, but ~ — G. S. Patton⟩ **4 a** : PROSPEROUS, FLOURISHING **b** : not small or feeble : CONSIDERABLE — **health·i·ly** \-thə-lē\ *adv* — **health·i·ness** \-thē-nəs\ *n*
syn HEALTHY, SOUND, WHOLESOME, ROBUST, HALE, WELL *shared meaning element* : enjoying or indicative of good health ***ant*** unhealthy

[1]heap \'hēp\ *n* [ME *heep*, fr. OE *hēap;* akin to OE *hēah* high] **1 :** a collection of things thrown one on another : PILE **2 :** a great number or large quantity : LOT

[2]heap *vt* **1 a :** to throw or lay in a heap : pile or collect in great quantity ⟨his sole object was to ~ up riches⟩ **b :** to form or round into a heap ⟨~*ed* the dirt into a mound⟩ **2 :** to accord or bestow lavishly or in large quantities ⟨~*ed* the plates with food⟩ ⟨~*ed* honors upon him⟩

hear \'hi(ə)r\ *vb* **heard** \'hərd\; **hear·ing** \'hi(ə)r-iŋ\ [ME *heren*, fr. OE *hīeran;* akin to OHG *hōren* to hear, L *cavēre* to be on guard, Gk *akouein* to hear] *vt* **1 :** to perceive or apprehend by the ear **2 :** to gain knowledge of by hearing **3 a :** to listen to with attention : HEED **b :** ATTEND ⟨~ mass⟩ **4 a :** to give a legal hearing to **b :** to take testimony from ⟨~ witnesses⟩ ~ *vi* **1 :** to have the capacity of apprehending sound **2 :** to gain information : LEARN **3 :** to entertain the idea — used in the negative ⟨wouldn't ~ of it⟩ **4** — often used in the expression *Hear! Hear!* to express approval (as during a speech) — **hear·er** \'hir-ər\ *n*

hear·ing *n* **1 a :** the process, function, or power of perceiving sound; *specif* : the special sense by which noises and tones are received as stimuli **b :** EARSHOT **2 a :** opportunity to be heard, to present one's side of a case, or to be generally known or appreciated **b** (1) : a listening to arguments (2) : a preliminary examination in criminal procedure **c :** a session (as of a legislative committee) in which witnesses are heard and testimony is taken **3** *chiefly dial* : a piece of news : RUMOR

hearing aid *n* : an electronic device usu. worn by a person for amplifying sound before it reaches the receptor organs

hear·ken \'här-kən\ *vb* **hear·kened; hear·ken·ing** \'härk-(ə-)niŋ\ [ME *herknen*, fr. OE *heorcnian;* akin to OHG *hōrechen* to listen — more at HARK] *vi* **1 :** LISTEN **2 :** to give respectful attention ~ *vt, archaic* : to give heed to : HEAR

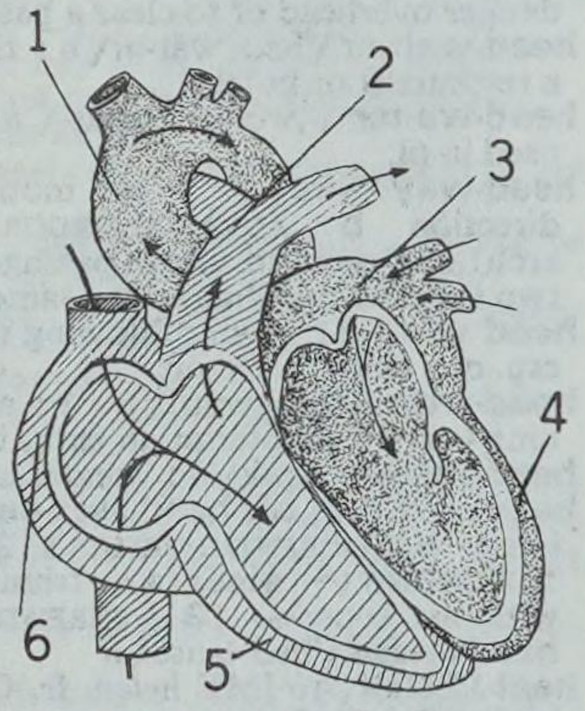
hear·say \'hi(ə)r-ˌsā\ *n* : something heard from another : RUMOR *syn* see REPORT

hearsay evidence *n* : evidence based not on a witness's personal knowledge but on matters told him by another

[1]hearse \'hərs\ *n* [ME *herse*, fr. MF *herce* harrow, frame for holding candles, fr. L *hirpic-, hirpex* harrow] **1 a :** a triangular candelabrum for 15 candles used esp. at Tenebrae **b :** an elaborate framework erected over a coffin or tomb to which memorial verses or epitaphs are attached **2 a** *archaic* : COFFIN **b** *obs* : BIER 2 **3** : a vehicle for conveying the dead to the grave

[2]hearse *vt* **hearsed; hears·ing** **1 a** *archaic* : to place on or in a hearse **b :** to convey in a hearse **2 :** BURY

[1]heart \'härt\ *n* [ME *hert*, fr. OE *heorte;* akin to OHG *herza* heart, L *cord-, cor*, Gk *kardia*] **1 a :** a hollow muscular organ of vertebrate animals that by its rhythmic contraction acts as a force pump maintaining the circulation of the blood **b :** a structure in an invertebrate animal functionally analogous to the vertebrate heart **c** : BREAST, BOSOM **d :** something resembling a heart in shape; *specif* : a conventionalized representation of a heart **2 a** : a playing card marked with a conventionalized figure of a heart **b** *pl* : the suit comprising cards so marked **c** *pl but sing in constr* : a game in which the object is to avoid taking tricks containing hearts **3 a** : the whole personality including intellectual as well as emotional functions or traits **b** *obs* : INTELLECT **4 :** the emotional or moral as distinguished from the intellectual nature: as **a :** generous disposition : COMPASSION **b** : LOVE, AFFECTIONS **c** : COURAGE, ARDOR **5 :** one's innermost character, feelings, or inclinations ⟨a man after my own ~⟩ **6 a** : the central or innermost part : CENTER **b :** the essential or most vital part of something — **by heart** : by rote or from memory — **to heart** : with deep concern



heart 1a: *1* aorta, *2* pulmonary artery, *3* left auricle, *4* left ventricle, *5* right ventricle, *6* right auricle

[2]heart *vt* **1** *archaic* : HEARTEN **2** *archaic* : to fix in the heart

heart·ache \'härt-ˌāk\ *n* : anguish of mind : SORROW

heart attack *n* : an acute episode of heart disease (as myocardial infarction) esp. when caused by a coronary thrombosis or a coronary occlusion

heart·beat \'härt-ˌbēt\ *n* **1 :** one complete pulsation of the heart **2 :** the vital center or driving impulse

heart block *n* : incoordination of the heartbeat in which the auricles and ventricles beat independently and which is marked by decreased cardiac output

heart·break \'härt-ˌbrāk\ *n* : crushing grief

heart·break·ing \-ˌbrā-kiŋ\ *adj* **1 a :** causing intense sorrow or distress ⟨the ~ waste of heightened human consciousness —Richard Poirier⟩ **b :** extremely trying or difficult **2 :** producing an intense emotional reaction or response ⟨~ beauty⟩ — **heart·break·ing·ly** \-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*

heart·bro·ken \-ˌbrō-kən\ *adj* : overcome by sorrow

heart·burn \-ˌbərn\ *n* : a burning discomfort behind the lower part of the sternum usu. related to spasm of the lower end of the esophagus or of the upper part of the stomach

heart·burn·ing \-ˌbər-niŋ\ *n* : intense or rancorous jealousy or resentment

heart disease *n* : an abnormal organic condition of the heart or of the heart and circulation

heart·ed \'härt-əd\ *adj* **1 :** having a heart esp. of a specified kind — usu. used in combination ⟨a faint-*hearted* leader⟩ ⟨a light*hearted* wanderer⟩ **2 :** seated in the heart

heart·en \'härt-ᵊn\ *vt* **heart·ened; heart·en·ing** \'härt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ : to give heart to : ENCOURAGE — **heart·en·ing·ly** \-niŋ-lē, -ᵊn-iŋ-\ *adv*

heart failure *n* **1 :** a condition in which the heart is unable to pump blood at an adequate rate or in adequate volume **2 :** cessation of heartbeat : DEATH

heart·felt \'härt-ˌfelt\ *adj* : deeply felt : EARNEST *syn* see SINCERE

heart–free \'härt -ˌfrē\ *adj* : not in love

hearth \'härth\ *n* [ME *herth*, fr. OE *heorth;* akin to OHG *herd* hearth, Skt *kūḍayāti* he singes] **1 a :** a brick, stone, or cement area in front of a fireplace **b :** the floor of a fireplace **c** (1) : the lowest section of a blast furnace (2) : the bottom of a refinery, reverberatory, or open-hearth furnace on which the ore or metal is exposed to the flame (3) : the inside bottom of a foundry cupola **2 :** HOME **3 :** a vital or creative center ⟨the central ~ of occidental civilization —A. L. Kroeber⟩

hearth·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* **1 a :** stone forming a hearth **b :** HOME **2 :** a soft stone or composition of powdered stone and pipe clay used to whiten or scour hearths and doorsteps

heart·i·ly \'härt-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* **1 :** in a hearty manner **2 a :** with all sincerity : WHOLEHEARTEDLY **b :** with zest or gusto **3 :** QUITE, THOROUGHLY ⟨~ sick of all this talk⟩

heart·land \'härt-ˌland\ *n* : a central and vital area; *esp* : a central land area (as northern Eurasia) held by geopoliticians to have strategic advantages for mastery of the world

heart·less \-ləs\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : SPIRITLESS **2 :** lacking feeling : CRUEL — **heart·less·ly** *adv* — **heart·less·ness** *n*

heart–lung machine *n* : a mechanical pump that shunts the body's blood away from the heart and maintains the circulation during heart surgery

heart·rend·ing \'härt-ˌren-diŋ\ *adj* : HEARTBREAKING la — **heart·rend·ing·ly** \-diŋ-lē\ *adv*

hearts·ease \'härt-ˌsēz\ *n* **1 :** peace of mind : TRANQUILLITY **2** : any of various violas; *esp* : WILD PANSY

heart·sick \'härt-ˌsik\ *adj* : very despondent : DEPRESSED — **heart·sick·ness** *n*

heart·some \'hert-səm\ *adj, chiefly Scot* : giving spirit or vigor : ANIMATING, ENLIVENING — **heart·some·ly** *adv, chiefly Scot*

heart·sore \'härt-ˌsō(ə)r, -ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *adj* : HEARTSICK

heart·string \-ˌstriŋ\ *n* **1** *obs* : a nerve once believed to sustain the heart **2 :** the deepest emotions or affections ⟨pulled at his ~*s*⟩

heart·throb \-ˌthräb\ *n* **1 :** the throb of a heart **2 a :** sentimental emotion : PASSION **b :** SWEETHEART

heart–to–heart \ˌhärt-tə-ˌhärt\ *adj* : SINCERE, FRANK ⟨a ~ talk⟩

heart·warm·ing \'härt-ˌwȯr-miŋ\ *adj* : inspiring sympathetic feeling : CHEERING

heart–whole \-ˌhōl\ *adj* **1 :** HEART-FREE **2 :** SINCERE, GENUINE

heart·wood \-ˌwu̇d\ *n* : the older harder nonliving central portion of wood that is usu. darker, denser, less permeable, and more durable than the surrounding sapwood — called also *duramen*

[1]hearty \'härt-ē\ *adj* **heart·i·er; -est** **1 a :** giving unqualified support : THOROUGHGOING **b :** enthusiastically or exuberantly cordial : JOVIAL **c :** expressed unrestrainedly **2 a :** exhibiting vigorous good health **b :** ABUNDANT ⟨a ~ meal⟩ **c :** NOURISHING ⟨a ~ beef stew⟩ **3 :** VIGOROUS, VEHEMENT *syn* see SINCERE *ant* hollow — **heart·i·ness** *n*

[2]hearty *n, pl* **heart·ies** : a bold brave fellow : COMRADE; *also* : SAILOR

[1]heat \'hēt\ *vb* [ME *heten*, fr. OE *hǣtan;* akin to OE *hāt* hot] *vi* **1** : to become warm or hot **2 :** to become hot and start to spoil ~ *vt* **1 :** to make warm or hot **2 :** EXCITE — **heat·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **heat·ed·ly** *adv*

[2]heat *n* **1 a** (1) : a condition of being hot : WARMTH (2) : a marked or notable degree of hotness **b :** pathological excessive bodily temperature **c :** a hot place or situation **d** (1) : a period of heat (2) : a single complete operation of heating; *also* : the quantity of material so heated **e** (1) : added energy that causes substances to rise in temperature, fuse, evaporate, expand, or undergo any of various other related changes, that flows to a body by contact with or radiation from bodies at higher temperatures, and that can be produced in a body (as by compression) (2) : the energy associated with the random motions of the molecules, atoms, or smaller structural units of which matter is composed **f** : appearance, condition, or color of a body as indicating its temperature **g :** one of a series of intensities of heating **2 a :** intensity of feeling or reaction **b :** the height or stress of an action or condition ⟨in the ~ of battle⟩ **c :** sexual excitement esp. in a female mammal; *specif* : ESTRUS **3 :** pungency of flavor **4 :** a single continuous effort: as **a :** a single round of a contest (as a race) having two or more rounds for each contestant **b :** one of several preliminary contests held to eliminate less competent contenders **5 a** (1) *slang* : the intensification of law-enforcement activity or investigation (2) *slang* : POLICE **b :** PRESSURE, COERCION — **heat·less** \'hēt-ləs\ *adj*

heat cramps *n pl* : a condition that is marked by sudden development of cramps in skeletal muscles and that results from prolonged work in high temperatures accompanied by profuse perspiration with loss of sodium chloride from the body

heat·ed \'hēt-əd\ *adj* : marked by anger ⟨a ~ argument⟩

heat engine *n* : a mechanism (as an internal-combustion engine) for converting heat energy into mechanical energy

heat·er \'hēt-ər\ *n* **1 :** a device that imparts heat or holds something to be heated **2 :** one whose work is to heat something

heat exhaustion *n* : a condition marked by weakness, nausea, dizziness, and profuse sweating that results from physical exertion in a hot environment — called also *heat prostration;* compare HEATSTROKE

heath \'hēth\ *n* [ME *heth*, fr. OE *hǣth;* akin to OHG *heida* heather, OW *coit* forest] **1 a :** any of a family (Ericaceae, the heath family) of shrubby dicotyledonous and often evergreen plants that thrive on open barren usu. acid and ill-drained soil; *esp* : an evergreen subshrub of either of two genera (*Erica* and *Calluna*) with whorls of needlelike leaves and clusters of small flowers **b :** any of various plants that resemble true heaths **2 a :** a tract of

wasteland **b** : an extensive area of rather level open uncultivated land usu. with poor coarse soil, inferior drainage, and a surface rich in peat or peaty humus — **heath·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **heath·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **heathy** \ˈhē-thē\ *adj*

¹hea·then \ˈhē-t͟hən\ *adj* [ME *hethen*, fr. OE *hǣthen;* akin to OHG *heidan* heathen] **1** : of or relating to heathens, their religions, or their customs **2** : STRANGE, UNCIVILIZED

²heathen *n, pl* **heathens** *or* **heathen** **1** : an unconverted member of a people or nation that does not acknowledge the God of the Bible **2** : an uncivilized or irreligious person — **hea·then·dom** \-dəm\ *n* — **hea·then·ism** \-t͟hə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **hea·then·ize** \-t͟hə-ˌnīz\ *vt*

hea·then·ish \ˈhē-t͟hə-nish\ *adj* : resembling or characteristic of heathens : BARBAROUS — **hea·then·ish·ly** *adv*

¹heath·er \ˈheth-ər\ *n* [ME (northern) *hather*] : HEATH 1a; *esp* : a common heath (*Calluna vulgaris*) of northern and alpine regions that has small crowded sessile leaves and racemes of tiny usu. purplish pink flowers

²heather *adj* : HEATHERY

heath·ery \ˈheth-(ə-)rē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling heather **2** : having flecks of various colors ⟨a soft ~ tweed⟩

heath hen *n* : a now extinct grouse (*Tympanuchus cupido cupido*) of the northeastern U.S. — compare PRAIRIE CHICKEN

heat lightning *n* : vivid and extensive flashes of electric light without thunder seen near the horizon esp. at the close of a hot day and ascribed to far-off lightning reflected by high clouds

heat prostration *n* : HEAT EXHAUSTION

heat pump *n* : an apparatus for heating or cooling a building by transferring heat by mechanical means from or to a reservoir (as the ground, water, or air) outside the building

heat rash *n* : PRICKLY HEAT

heat sink *n* : a substance or device for the absorption or dissipation of unwanted heat (as from a process or an electronic device)

heat·stroke \ˈhēt-ˌstrōk\ *n* : a condition marked esp. by cessation of sweating, extremely high body temperature, and collapse that results from prolonged exposure to high temperature — compare HEAT EXHAUSTION

heat–treat \ˈhēt-ˌtrēt\ *vt* : to subject to heat; *esp* : to treat (as metals) by heating and cooling in a way that will produce desired properties — **heat treater** *n* — **heat treatment** *n*

heat wave *n* : a period of unusually hot weather

¹heave \ˈhēv\ *vb* **heaved** *or* **hove** \ˈhōv\; **heav·ing** [ME *heven*, fr. OE *hebban;* akin to OHG *hevan* to lift, L *capere* to take] *vt* **1** *obs* : ELEVATE **2** : to cause to be lifted upward or onward **3** : THROW, CAST **4** : to utter with obvious effort **5** **a** : to cause to swell or rise **b** : to displace (as a rock stratum) esp. by a fault **6** : HAUL, DRAW ~ *vi* **1** : to rise or become thrown or raised up **2** : to strain to do something : LABOR **3** **a** : to rise and fall rhythmically **b** : PANT **4** : RETCH **5** **a** : PULL, PUSH **b** : to move a ship in a specified direction or manner **c** *of a ship* : to move in an indicated way ***syn*** see LIFT — **heav·er** *n*

²heave *n* **1** **a** : an effort to heave or raise **b** : HURL, CAST **2** : an upward motion : RISING; *esp* : a rhythmical rising **3** : the horizontal displacement by the faulting of a rock **4** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : chronic pulmonary emphysema of the horse resulting in difficult expiration, heaving of the flanks, and a persistent cough

heav·en \ˈhev-ən\ *n* [ME *heven*, fr. OE *heofon;* akin to OHG *himil* heaven] **1** : the expanse of space that seems to be over the earth like a dome : FIRMAMENT — usu. used in pl. **2** **a** *often cap* : the dwelling place of the Deity and the joyful abode of the blessed dead **b** : a spiritual state of everlasting communion with God **3** *cap* : GOD 1 **4** : a place or condition of utmost happiness **5** *Christian Science* : a state of immortality in which sin is absent and all manifestations of Mind are harmoniously ordered under the divine Principle

heav·en·ly \-lē\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to heaven or the heavens : CELESTIAL ⟨the ~ choirs⟩ **2** **a** : suggesting the blessed state of heaven : BEATIFIC ⟨~ peace⟩ **b** : DELIGHTFUL — **heav·en·li·ness** *n*

heav·en–sent \-ˌsent\ *adj* : PROVIDENTIAL

heav·en·ward \-wərd\ *adv or adj* : toward heaven

heav·en·wards \-wərdz\ *adv* : HEAVENWARD

heavier–than–air *adj* : having greater weight than displacement

heavi·ly \ˈhev-ə-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a heavy manner **2** : slowly and laboriously : DULLY **3** *archaic* : with sorrow : GRIEVOUSLY **4** : to a great degree : SEVERELY

Heav·i·side layer \ˌhev-i-ˌsīd-\ *n* [Oliver *Heaviside*] : IONOSPHERE

¹heavy \ˈhev-ē\ *adj* **heavi·er; -est** [ME *hevy*, fr. OE *hefig;* akin to OHG *hebīc* heavy, OE *hebban* to lift — more at HEAVE] **1** **a** : having great weight **b** : having a high specific gravity : having great weight in proportion to bulk **c** (1) *of an isotope* : having or being atoms of greater than normal mass (2) *of a compound* : containing heavy isotopes **2** : hard to bear; *specif* : GRIEVOUS, AFFLICTIVE ⟨a ~ sorrow⟩ **3** : of weighty import : SERIOUS **4** : DEEP, PROFOUND **5** **a** : borne down by something oppressive : BURDENED **b** : PREGNANT; *esp* : approaching parturition **6** **a** : slow or dull from loss of vitality or resiliency : SLUGGISH **b** : lacking sparkle or vivacity : DRAB **c** : lacking mirth or gaiety : DOLEFUL **d** : characterized by declining prices **7** : dulled with weariness : DROWSY **8** : greater in quantity or quality than the average of its kind or class: as **a** : unusually large ⟨~ traffic⟩ **b** : of great force ⟨~ seas⟩ **c** : OVERCAST **d** (1) : impeding motion (2) : full of clay and inclined to hold water **e** : coming as if from a depth : LOUD **f** : THICK, COARSE **g** : OPPRESSIVE ⟨~ odor⟩ **h** : STEEP, ACUTE **i** : LABORIOUS, DIFFICULT **j** : of large capacity or output **9** **a** : digested with difficulty because of excessive richness or seasoning ⟨~ fruitcake⟩ **b** : not properly raised or leavened ⟨~ bread⟩ **10** : producing goods (as coal, steel, or chemicals) used in the production of other goods ⟨~ industry⟩ **11** **a** : armed with guns of large caliber **b** : heavily armored **12** **a** : having stress ⟨~ rhythm⟩ — used esp. of syllables in accentual verse **b** : being the strongest degree of stress in speech **13** : relating to theatrical parts of a grave or somber nature — **heaviness** *n*

syn HEAVY, WEIGHTY, PONDEROUS, CUMBROUS, CUMBERSOME *shared meaning element* : having great weight ***ant*** light

²heavy *adv* : in a heavy manner : HEAVILY

³heavy *n, pl* **heav·ies** **1** *pl* : heavy cavalry **2** : HEAVYWEIGHT 2 **3** **a** : a theatrical role of a dignified or somber character; *also* : an actor playing such a role **b** : VILLAIN 4 **c** : a person of importance or significance

heavy chain *n* : either of the two larger of the four polypeptide chains comprising antibodies — compare LIGHT CHAIN

heavy–du·ty \ˌhev-ē-ˈd(y)üt-ē\ *adj* : able or designed to withstand unusual strain

heavy–foot·ed \-ˈfüt-əd\ *adj* : heavy and slow in movement : DULL ⟨~ literary style⟩

heavy–hand·ed \-ˈhan-dəd\ *adj* **1** : CLUMSY, UNGRACEFUL **2** : OPPRESSIVE, HARSH — **heavy–hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **heavy–hand·ed·ness** *n*

heavy·heart·ed \-ˈhärt-əd\ *adj* : DESPONDENT, SADDENED — **heavy·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **heavy·heart·ed·ness** *n*

heavy hydrogen *n* : an isotope of hydrogen having a mass number greater than 1; *esp* : DEUTERIUM

heavy·set \ˌhev-ē-ˈset\ *adj* : stocky and compact and sometimes tending to stoutness in build

heavy spar *n* : BARITE

heavy water *n* : water containing more than the usual proportion of heavy isotopes; *esp* : water enriched in deuterium

heavy·weight \ˈhev-ē-ˌwāt\ *n* **1** : one that is above average in weight **2** : one in the usu. heaviest class of contestants: as **a** : a boxer weighing over 175 pounds **b** : a wrestler weighing over 175 pounds or 191 pounds **c** : a weight lifter weighing over 181 pounds

Heb *abbr* **1** Hebrew **2** Hebrews

heb·do·mad \ˈheb-də-ˌmad\ *n* [L *hebdomad-, hebdomas*, fr. Gk, fr. *hebdomos* seventh, fr. *hepta* seven — more at SEVEN] **1** : a group of seven **2** : a period of seven days : WEEK

heb·dom·a·dal \heb-ˈdäm-əd-ᵊl\ *adj* : WEEKLY — **heb·dom·a·dal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

He·be \ˈhē-bē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hēbē*] : the Greek goddess of youth and a cupbearer to the gods

he·be·phre·nia \ˌhē-bə-ˈfrē-nē-ə, -ˈfren-ē-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *hēbē* youth; fr. the childish behavior which is often found with it] : a schizophrenic reaction characterized by silliness, delusions, hallucinations, and regression — **he·be·phre·nic** \-ˈfren-ik, -ˈfrē-nik\ *adj*

heb·e·tate \ˈheb-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *hebetatus*, pp. of *hebetare*, fr. *hebet-, hebes* dull] : to make dull or obtuse — **heb·e·ta·tion** \ˌheb-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n*

heb·e·tude \ˈheb-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* : LETHARGY, DULLNESS — **heb·e·tu·di·nous** \ˌheb-ə-ˈt(y)üd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj*

He·bra·ic \hi-ˈbrā-ik\ *adj* [ME *Ebrayke*, fr. LL *Hebraicus*, fr. Gk *Hebraikos*, fr. *Hebraios*] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Hebrews or their language or culture — **He·bra·i·cal·ly** \-ˈbrā-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

He·bra·ism \ˈhē(ˌ)brā-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a characteristic feature of Hebrew occurring in another language **2** : the thought, spirit, or practice characteristic of the Hebrews **3** : a moral theory or emphasis attributed to the Hebrews

He·bra·ist \-ˌbrā-əst\ *n* : a specialist in Hebrew and Hebraic studies

He·bra·is·tic \ˌhē-brā-ˈis-tik\ *adj* **1** : HEBRAIC **2** : marked by Hebraisms

he·bra·ize \ˈhē-brā-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap, vi* : to use Hebraisms ~ *vt* : to make Hebraic in character or form — **he·bra·iza·tion** \ˌhē-ˌbrā-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n, often cap*

He·brew \ˈhē-(ˌ)brü\ *n* [ME *Ebreu*, fr. OF, fr. LL *Hebraeus*, fr. L, adj., fr. Gk *Hebraios*, fr. Aram *'Ebraī*] **1** : a member of or descendant from one of a group of northern Semitic peoples including the Israelites; *esp* : ISRAELITE **2** **a** : the Semitic language of the ancient Hebrews **b** : any of various later forms of this language — **Hebrew** *adj*

He·brews \-(ˌ)brüz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a theological treatise addressed to early Christians and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table

Hec·ate \ˈhek-ət-ē, *archaic* -āt\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hekatē*] : a Greek goddess associated esp. with the underworld, night, and witchcraft

hec·a·tomb \ˈhek-ə-ˌtōm\ *n* [L *hecatombe*, fr. Gk *hekatombē*, fr. *hekaton* hundred + *bous* cow — more at HUNDRED, COW] **1** : an ancient Greek and Roman sacrifice of 100 oxen or cattle **2** : the sacrifice or slaughter of many victims

heck \ˈhek\ *n* [euphemism] : HELL 2a ⟨a ~ of a lot of money⟩

heck·le \ˈhek-əl\ *vt* **heck·led; heck·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *hekelen*, fr. *heckele* hackle; akin to OHG *hāko* hook — more at HOOK] : to harass and try to disconcert with questions, challenges, or gibes : BADGER ***syn*** see BAIT — **heck·ler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

hect- *or* **hecto-** *comb form* [F, irreg. fr. Gk *hekaton*] : hundred ⟨*hecto*graph⟩

hect·are \ˈhek-ˌta(ə)r, -ˌte(ə)r, -ˌtär\ *n* [F, fr. *hect-* + *are*] — see METRIC SYSTEM table

hec·tic \ˈhek-tik\ *adj* [ME *etyk*, fr. MF *etique*, fr. LL *hecticus*, fr. Gk *hektikos* habitual, consumptive, fr. *echein* to have — more at SCHEME] **1** : of, relating to, or being a fluctuating but persistent fever (as in tuberculosis) **2** : having a hectic fever **3** : RED, FLUSHED **4** : filled with excitement or confusion ⟨the ~ days before Christmas⟩ — **hec·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hec·to·gram \ˈhek-tə-ˌgram\ *n* [F *hectogramme*, fr. *hect-* + *gramme* gram] — see METRIC SYSTEM table

hec·to·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [G *hektograph*, fr. *hekto-* hect- + *-graph*] : a machine for making copies of a writing or drawing produced on a

gelatin surface — **hectograph** *vt* — **hec·to·graph·ic** \ˌhek-tə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj*

hec·to·li·ter \ˈhek-tə-ˌlēt-ər\ *n* [F *hectolitre*, fr. *hect-* + *litre* liter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table

hec·to·me·ter \ˈhek-tə-ˌmēt-ər, hek-ˈtäm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *hectomètre*, fr. *hect-* + *mètre* meter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table

[1]hec·tor \ˈhek-tər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hektōr*] **1** *cap* : a son of Priam, husband of Andromache, and Trojan champion slain by Achilles **2** : BULLY, BRAGGART

[2]hector *vb* **hec·tored; hec·tor·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* : to play the bully : SWAGGER ~ *vt* : to intimidate by bluster or personal pressure *syn* see BAIT — **hec·tor·ing·ly** \-t(ə-)riŋ-lē\ *adv*

Hec·u·ba \ˈhek-yə-bə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hekabē*] : the wife of Priam in Homer's *Iliad*

he'd \(ˌ)hēd, ēd\ : he had : he would

hed·dle \ˈhed-ᵊl\ *n* [prob. alter. of ME *helde*, fr. OE *hefeld;* akin to ON *hafald* heddle, OE *hebban* to lift — more at HEAVE] : one of the sets of parallel cords or wires that with their mounting compose the harness used to guide warp threads in a loom

he·der \ˈkād-ər, ˈked-\ *n* [Yiddish *kheyder*, fr. Heb *ḥedher* room] : an elementary Jewish school in which children are taught to read the Pentateuch, the Prayer Book, and other books in Hebrew

[1]hedge \ˈhej\ *n* [ME *hegge*, fr. OE *hecg;* akin to OE *haga* hedge, hawthorn, L *colum* sieve] **1 a** : a fence or boundary formed by a dense row of shrubs or low trees **b** : BARRIER, LIMIT **2** : a means of protection or defense (as against financial loss) **3** : a calculatedly noncommittal or evasive statement

[2]hedge *vb* **hedged; hedg·ing** *vt* **1** : to enclose or protect with or as if with a hedge : ENCIRCLE **2** : to hem in or obstruct with or as if with a barrier : HINDER ⟨*hedged* about by special regulations and statutes —Sandi Rosenbloom⟩ **3** : to protect oneself from losing by a counterbalancing transaction ⟨~ a bet⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to plant, form, or trim a hedge **2** : to evade the risk of commitment esp. by leaving open a way of retreat : TRIM **3** : to protect oneself financially: as **a** : to buy or sell commodity futures as a protection against loss due to price fluctuation **b** : to minimize the risk of a bet — **hedg·er** *n* — **hedg·ing·ly** \ˈhej-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

[3]hedge *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or designed for a hedge **2** : born, living, or made near or as if near hedges : ROADSIDE **3** : INFERIOR

hedge fund *n* : an investing group usu. in the form of a limited partnership that employs speculative techniques in the hope of obtaining large capital gains

hedge·hog \ˈhej-ˌhȯg, -ˌhäg\ *n* **1 a** : any of a genus (*Erinaceus*) of Old World nocturnal insectivorous mammals having both hair and spines that they present outwardly by rolling themselves up **b** : any of several spiny mammals (as a porcupine) **2 a** : a military defensive obstacle (as of barbed wire) **b** : a well-fortified military stronghold



hedgehog 1a

hedge·hop \-ˌhäp\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *hedgehopper*] : to fly an airplane close to the ground and rise over obstacles as they appear — **hedge·hop·per** *n*

hedge·pig \-ˈpig\ *n* : HEDGEHOG

hedge·row \-ˌrō\ *n* : a row of shrubs or trees enclosing or separating fields

he·don·ic \hi-ˈdän-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by pleasure **2** : HEDONISTIC — **he·don·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hedonic calculus *n* : FELICIFIC CALCULUS

he·do·nism \ˈhēd-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [Gk *hēdonē* pleasure; akin to Gk *hēdys* sweet — more at SWEET] **1** : the doctrine that pleasure or happiness is the sole or chief good in life — compare PSYCHOLOGICAL HEDONISM **2** : a way of life based on or suggesting the principles of hedonism — **he·do·nist** \-ᵊn-əst\ *n* — **he·do·nis·tic** \ˌhēd-ᵊn-ˈis-tik\ *adj* — **he·do·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

-he·dral \ˈhē-drəl\ *adj comb form* [NL *-hedron*] : having (such) a surface or (such or so many) surfaces ⟨di*hedral*⟩

-he·dron \ˈhē-drən\ *n comb form, pl* **-hedrons** *or* **-he·dra** \-drə\ [NL, fr. Gk *-edron*, fr. *hedra* seat — more at SIT] : crystal or geometrical figure having a (specified) form or number of surfaces ⟨penta*hedron*⟩ ⟨trapezo*hedron*⟩

hee·bie–jee·bies \ˌhē-bē-ˈjē-bēz\ *n pl* [coined by Billy DeBeck †1942 Am cartoonist] : JITTERS, WILLIES

[1]heed \ˈhēd\ *vb* [ME *heeden*, fr. OE *hēdan;* akin to OHG *huota* guard] *vi* : to pay attention ~ *vt* : to take notice of : pay attention to ⟨the individual's right to ~ his conscience —Mary J. White⟩

[2]heed *n* : ATTENTION, NOTICE

heed·ful \ˈhēd-fəl\ *adj* : taking heed : ATTENTIVE ⟨~ of what they were doing⟩ — **heed·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **heed·ful·ness** *n*

heed·less \-ləs\ *adj* : not taking heed : INCONSIDERATE, THOUGHTLESS ⟨~ follies of unbridled youth —John DeBruyn⟩ — **heed·less·ly** *adv* — **heed·less·ness** *n*

hee–haw \ˈhē-ˌhȯ, -ˈhȯ\ *n* [imit.] **1** : the bray of a donkey **2** : a loud rude laugh : GUFFAW — **hee–haw** *vi*

[1]heel \ˈhē(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hēla;* akin to ON *hæll* heel, OE *hōh* — more at HOCK] **1 a** : the back of the human foot below the ankle and behind the arch **b** : the back of the hind limb of other vertebrates homologous with the human heel **2** : an anatomical structure suggestive of the human heel **3 a** : one of the crusty ends of a loaf of bread **b** : one of the rind ends of a cheese **4 a** : the part (as of a shoe) that covers the human heel **b** : a solid attachment of a shoe or boot forming the back of the sole under the heel of the foot **5** : a rear, low, or bottom part: as **a** : the after end of a ship's keel or the lower end of a mast **b** : the base of a tuber or cutting of a plant used for propagation **c** : the base of a ladder **6** : a contemptible person — **heeled** \ˈhē(ə)ld\ *adj* — **heel·less** \ˈhē(ə)l-ləs\ *adj* — **by the heels** : in a tight grip — **down at heel** *or* **down at the heel** : in or into a run-down or shabby condition — **on the heels of** : immediately following — **to heel** **1** : close behind **2** : into agreement or line ⟨a vast world brought *to heel* at man's command —R. C. Buck⟩ — **under heel** : under control or subjection

[2]heel *vt* **1 a** : to furnish with a heel **b** : to supply esp. with money **2** : to exert pressure on, propel, or strike with the heel ⟨~*ed* her horse⟩ ~ *vi* : to move along at the heels of someone ⟨a dog that ~*s* well⟩

[3]heel *vb* [alter. of ME *heelden*, fr. OE *hieldan;* akin to OHG *hald* inclined, Lith *šalis* side, region] *vi* : to tilt to one side : TIP, LIST ~ *vt* : to cause (a boat) to list

[4]heel *n* : a tilt (as of a boat) to one side : LIST; *also* : the extent of a list

heel–and–toe \ˌhē-lən-ˈtō\ *adj* : marked by a stride in which the heel of one foot touches the ground before the toe of the other foot leaves it ⟨~ walking⟩

heel·ball \ˈhē(ə)l-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a composition of wax and lampblack used by shoemakers for polishing and by antiquarians for making rubbings of inscriptions

heel·er \ˈhē-lər\ *n* **1** : one that heels **2 a** : a henchman of a local political boss **b** : a worker for a local party organization; *esp* : WARD HEELER

heel fly *n* : any of several warble flies (genus *Hypoderma*) that attack cattle; *esp* : COMMON CATTLE GRUB

heel·piece \ˈhē(ə)l-ˌpēs\ *n* : a piece designed for or forming the heel (as of a shoe)

heel·tap \-ˌtap\ *n* : a small quantity of liquor remaining (as in a glass after drinking)

HEFA *abbr* Higher Education Facilities Act

[1]heft \ˈheft\ *n* [irreg. fr. *heave*] **1 a** : WEIGHT, HEAVINESS **b** : IMPORTANCE, INFLUENCE **2** *archaic* : the greater part of something : BULK

[2]heft *vt* **1** : to heave up : HOIST **2** : to test the weight of by lifting ⟨~*ing* the rod . . . to get the feel of it —*Consumer Reports*⟩

hefty \ˈhef-tē\ *adj* **heft·i·er; -est** **1** : quite heavy **2 a** : marked by bigness, bulk, and usu. strength ⟨a ~ football player⟩ **b** : POWERFUL, MIGHTY **c** : impressively large ⟨~ servings of steaks — *Boston Spectator*⟩ — **heft·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **heft·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

he·gari \hi-ˈga(ə)r-ē, -ˈga(ə)r-ə, -ˈge(ə)r-; ˈhī-ˌgi(ə)r\ *n* [Ar (Sudan) *hegirī*] : any of several Sudanese grain sorghums having chalky white seeds including one grown in the southwestern U.S.

He·ge·li·an \hā-ˈgā-lē-ən, hig-ˈā-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Hegel, his philosophy, or his dialectic method

[2]Hegelian *n* : a follower of Hegel : an adherent of Hegelianism

He·ge·li·an·ism \-lē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the philosophy of Hegel that equates the rational and the real and that uses dialectic to comprehend an absolute idea of which phenomena are partial representations

he·ge·mo·ny \hi-ˈjem-ə-nē, -ˈgem-; ˈhej-ə-ˌmō-nē\ *n* [Gk *hēgemonia*, fr. *hēgemōn* leader, fr. *hēgeisthai* to lead — more at SEEK] : preponderant influence or authority esp. of one nation over others — **he·ge·mon·ic** \ˌhej-ə-ˈmän-ik, ˌheg-\ *adj*

he·gi·ra *also* **he·ji·ra** \hi-ˈjī-rə, ˈhej-(ə-)rə\ *n* [the *Hegira*, flight of Muhammad from Mecca in A.D. 622, fr. ML, fr. Ar *hijrah*, lit., flight] : a journey esp. when undertaken to escape from a dangerous or undesirable situation : EXODUS

Hei·del·berg man \ˌhīd-ᵊl-ˌbərg-, -ˌbe(ə)rg-\ *n* [*Heidelberg*, Germany] : an early Pleistocene man known from a massive fossilized jaw with distinctly human dentition

heif·er \ˈhef-ər\ *n* [ME *hayfare*, fr. OE *hēahfore*] : a young cow; *esp* : one that has not had a calf

heigh–ho \ˈhī-ˈhō, ˈhā-\ *interj* — used typically to express boredom, weariness, or sadness or sometimes as a cry of encouragement

height \ˈhīt, ˈhītth\ *n* [ME *heighthe*, fr. OE *hīehthu;* akin to OHG *hōhida* height, OE *hēah* high] **1 a** : the highest part : SUMMIT **b** : the highest or most advanced point : ZENITH ⟨at the ~ of his powers⟩ **2 a** : the distance from the bottom to the top of something standing upright **b** : the extent of elevation above a level **3** : the condition of being tall or high **4 a** : an extent of land rising to a considerable degree above the surrounding country **b** : a high point or position **5** *obs* : an advanced social rank **6** : degree of geographical latitude

syn HEIGHT, ALTITUDE, ELEVATION *shared meaning element* : vertical distance either between the top and bottom of something or between a base and something above it

height·en \ˈhīt-ᵊn\ *vb* **height·ened; height·en·ing** \ˈhīt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1 a** : to increase the amount or degree of : AUGMENT **b** : to make brighter or more intense : DEEPEN **c** : to bring out more strongly : point up **d** : to make more acute : SHARPEN **2 a** : to raise high or higher : ELEVATE **b** : to raise above the ordinary or trite **3** *obs* : ELATE ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : GROW, RISE **2 a** : to become great or greater in amount, degree, or extent **b** : to become brighter or more intense *syn* see INTENSIFY

height to paper : the height of printing type measured from foot to face and standardized at 0.9186 inch in English-speaking countries

hei·nous \ˈhā-nəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *haineus*, fr. *haine* hate, fr. *hair* to hate, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *haz* hate — more at HATE] : hatefully or shockingly evil : ABOMINABLE *syn* see OUTRAGEOUS — **hei·nous·ly** *adv* — **hei·nous·ness** *n*

[1]heir \ˈa(ə)r, ˈe(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *hered-, heres;* akin to Gk *chēros* bereaved, OE *gān* to go] **1** : one who inherits or is entitled to inherit property: as **a** : HEIR AT LAW **b** : one who receives the property of a deceased person esp. by operation of law or by virtue of a will **2** : one who inherits or is entitled to succeed to a hereditary rank, title, or office **3** : one who receives or is entitled to receive some endowment or quality from a parent or predecessor — **heir·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **heir·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

[2]heir *vt, chiefly dial* : INHERIT ⟨the loveliest maid . . . that ever ~*ed* a crown —Sir Walter Scott⟩

heir apparent *n, pl* **heirs apparent** **1** : an heir whose right to an inheritance is indefeasible in law if he survives the legal ancestor **2** : HEIR PRESUMPTIVE **3** : one whose succession esp. to a position or role appears certain under existing circumstances

heir at law : an heir in whom an intestate's real property is vested by operation of law
heir·ess \'ar-əs, 'er-\ *n* : a female heir; *esp* : a female heir to great wealth
heir·loom \'a(ə)r-ˌlüm, 'e(ə)r-\ *n* [ME *heirlome*, fr. *heir* + *lome* implement — more at LOOM] **1** : a piece of property that descends to the heir as an inseparable part of an inheritance **2** : something of special value handed on from one generation to another
heir presumptive *n, pl* **heirs presumptive** : an heir whose legal right to an inheritance may be defeated (as by the birth of a nearer relative)
[1]heist \'hīst\ *vt* [alter. of [1]*hoist*] **1** *chiefly dial* : HOIST **2** *slang* **a** : to commit armed robbery on **b** : to take unlawfully and usu. with violence : STEAL
[2]heist *n, slang* : armed robbery : HOLDUP; *also* : THEFT
Hel \'hel\ *n* [ON] : the Norse goddess of the dead and queen of the underworld
held *past of* HOLD
hel·den·te·nor \'hel-dən-tā-ˌnȯ(ə)r, -ˌnō(ə)r, -ˌten-ər\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *held* hero + *tenor*] : a tenor with a dramatic voice well suited to heroic (as Wagnerian) roles
Helen of Troy \ˌhel-ə-nəv-'trȯi\ : the wife of Menelaus whose abduction by Paris brought about the Trojan War
heli- *or* **helio-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk *hēli-, hēlio-*, fr. *hēlios* — more at SOLAR] : sun ⟨*helio*centric⟩
he·li·a·cal \hi-'lī-ə-kəl\ *adj* [LL *heliacus*, fr. Gk *hēliakos*, fr. *hēlios*] : relating to or near the sun — used esp. of the last setting of a star before and its first rising after invisibility due to conjunction with the sun — **he·li·a·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
helic- *or* **helico-** *comb form* [Gk *helik-, heliko-*, fr. *helik-, helix* spiral — more at HELIX] : helix : spiral ⟨*helic*al⟩
he·li·cal \'hel-i-kəl, 'hē-li-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the form of a helix; *broadly* : SPIRAL 1a — **he·li·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
he·li·coid \'hel-ə-ˌkȯid, 'hē-lə-\ *or* **he·li·coi·dal** \ˌhel-ə-'kȯid-ᵊl, ˌhē-lə-\ *adj* **1** : forming or arranged in a spiral **2** : having the form of a flat coil or flattened spiral ⟨~ snail shell⟩
hel·i·con \'hel-ə-ˌkän, -i-kən\ *n* [prob. fr. Gk *helik-, helix* + E *-on* (as in *bombardon*); from its tube's forming a spiral encircling the player's body] : a large circular tuba similar to a sousaphone but lacking an adjustable bell
he·li·copt \'hel-ə-ˌkäpt, 'hē-lə-\ *vb* [back-formation fr. [1]*helicopter*] : HELICOPTER
[1]he·li·cop·ter \'hel-ə-ˌkäp-tər, 'hē-lə-\ *n* [F *hélicoptère*, fr. Gk *heliko-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : an aircraft whose support in the air is derived chiefly from the aerodynamic forces acting on one or more rotors turning about substantially vertical axes
[2]helicopter *vi* : to travel by helicopter ~ *vt* : to transport by helicopter
he·lio·cen·tric \ˌhē-lē-ō-'sen-trik\ *adj* **1** : referred to or measured from the sun's center or appearing as if seen from it **2** : having or relating to the sun as a center — compare GEOCENTRIC
he·lio·chrome \'hē-lē-ə-ˌkrōm\ *n* : a photograph in natural colors
he·lio·gram \-ˌgram\ *n* : a message transmitted by a heliograph
[1]he·lio·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] **1 a** : PHOTOENGRAVING 2b **b** : PHOTOHELIOGRAPH **2** : an apparatus for telegraphing by means of the sun's rays thrown from a mirror



heliograph 2

[2]heliograph *vt* : to signal by means of a heliograph — **he·lio·gra·pher** \ˌhē-lē-'äg-rə-fər, 'hē-lē-ə-ˌgraf-ər\ *n*
he·lio·graph·ic \ˌhē-lē-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to heliography or a heliograph **2** : SOLAR 1 ⟨~ latitude⟩
he·li·og·ra·phy \ˌhē-lē-'äg-rə-fē, 'hē-lē-əˌgraf-ē\ *n* **1** : an early photographic process producing a photoengraving on a metal plate; *broadly* : PHOTOGRAPHY **2** : the system or practice of signaling with a heliograph
he·lio·gra·vure \ˌhē-lē-ō-grə-'vyu̇(ə)r\ *n* [F *héliogravure*, fr. *hélio-* heli- + *gravure*] : PHOTOGRAVURE
he·li·ol·a·try \ˌhē-lē-'äl-ə-trē\ *n* : sun worship — **he·li·ol·a·trous** \-trəs\ *adj*
he·li·om·e·ter \ˌhē-lē-'äm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *héliomètre*, fr. *hélio-* heli- + *-mètre* -meter] : a visual telescope that has a divided objective designed for measuring the apparent diameter of the sun but later used for measuring angles between celestial bodies or between points on the moon — **he·lio·met·ric** \ˌhē-lē-ō-'me-trik\ *adj* — **he·lio·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
he·lio·phyte \'hē-lē-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* : a plant thriving in or tolerating full sunlight
he·lio·stat \'hē-lē-ə-ˌstat\ *n* [NL *heliostata*, fr. *heli-* + Gk *-statēs* -stat] : an instrument consisting of a mirror mounted on an axis moved by clockwork by which a sunbeam is steadily reflected in one direction
he·lio·tax·is \ˌhē-lē-ō-'tak-səs\ *n* [NL] : phototaxis in which sunlight is the stimulus
he·lio·trope \'hēl-yə-ˌtrōp, *Brit usu* 'hel-\ *n* [L *heliotropium*, fr. Gk *hēliotropion*, fr. *hēlio-* heli- + *tropos* turn; fr. its flowers' turning toward the sun — more at TROPE] **1** : any of a genus (*Heliotropium*) of herbs or shrubs of the borage family — compare GARDEN HELIOTROPE **2** : BLOODSTONE **3 a** : a variable color averaging a moderate purple **b** : a moderate reddish purple
he·li·ot·ro·pism \ˌhē-lē-'ä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n* : phototropism in which sunlight is the orienting stimulus — **he·lio·tro·pic** \-lē-ə-'trōp-ik, -'träp-\ *adj* — **he·lio·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
he·lio·zo·an \ˌhē-lē-ə-'zō-ən\ *n* [NL *Heliozoa*, order name, fr. *heli-* + *-zoa*] : any of an order (Heliozoa) of free-living holozoic usu. freshwater rhizopod protozoans that reproduce by binary fission or budding — **heliozoan** *adj* — **he·lio·zo·ic** \-'zō-ik\ *adj*
he·li·pad \'hel-ə-ˌpad, 'hē-lə-\ *n* : HELIPORT
he·li·port \-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [*heli*copter + *port*] : a landing and takeoff place for a helicopter
he·li·stop \-ˌstäp\ *n* : HELIPORT
he·li·um \'hē-lē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *hēlios*] : a light colorless nonflammable gaseous element found esp. in natural gases and used chiefly for inflating airships and balloons, for filling incandescent lamps, and for cryogenic research — see ELEMENT table
he·lix \'hē-liks\ *n, pl* **he·li·ces** \'hel-ə-ˌsēz, 'hē-lə-\ *also* **he·lix·es** \'hē-lik-səz\ [L, fr. Gk; akin to Gk *eilyein* to roll, wrap — more at VOLUBLE] **1** : something spiral in form: as **a** : an ornamental volute **b** : a coil formed by winding wire around a uniform tube **2** : the incurved rim of the external ear **3** : a curve traced on a cylinder by the rotation of a point crossing its right sections at a constant oblique angle; *broadly* : SPIRAL 1b
hell \'hel\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *helan* to conceal, OHG *helan*, L *celare*, Gk *kalyptein*] **1 a** (1) : a nether world in which the dead continue to exist : HADES (2) : the nether realm of the devil and the demons in which the damned suffer everlasting punishment **b** *Christian Science* : ERROR 2b, SIN **2 a** : a place or state of torment or wickedness — often used as an interjection, an intensive, or a generalized term of abuse ⟨war is ~ —W. T. Sherman⟩ ⟨a ~ of a nice guy⟩ ⟨go to ~⟩ **b** : a place or state of turmoil or destruction ⟨all ~ broke loose⟩ **c** : a severe scolding ⟨got ~ for coming in late⟩ **d** : unrestrained fun or sportiveness ⟨the kids were full of ~⟩ **3 a** *archaic* : a tailor's receptacle **b** : HELLBOX — **hell or high water** : difficulties of whatever kind or size ⟨will stand by his convictions come *hell or high water*⟩ — **hell to pay** : serious trouble ⟨if he's late there'll be *hell to pay*⟩
he'll \(ˌ)hē(ə)l, hil, ēl, il\ : he will : he shall
hell·ben·der \'hel-ˌben-dər\ *n* : a large aquatic usu. gray salamander (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*) of the Ohio valley
hell-bent \-ˌbent\ *adj* **1** : stubbornly and often recklessly determined ⟨~ to cut taxes again before election —*New Republic*⟩ **2** : moving at full speed : RECKLESS ⟨drivers . . . on a ~ mission of self-destruction —Jerome Beatty, Jr.⟩
hell·box \-ˌbäks\ *n* : a receptacle into which a printer throws damaged or discarded type
hell·broth \-ˌbrȯth\ *n* : a brew for working black magic
hell·cat \-ˌkat\ *n* **1** : WITCH 2 **2** : one given to tormenting others; *esp* : SHREW
hel·le·bore \'hel-ə-ˌbō(ə)r, -ˌbȯ(ə)r\ *n* [L *helleborus*, fr. Gk *helleboros*] **1** : any of a genus (*Helleborus*) of herbs of the buttercup family having showy flowers with petaloid sepals; *also* : the dried rhizome or an extract or powder of this formerly used in medicine **2** : a poisonous herb (genus *Veratrum*) of the lily family; *also* : the dried rhizome of a hellebore (*Veratrum album* or *V. viride*) or a powder or extract of this containing alkaloids used as a cardiac and respiratory depressant and as an insecticide
Hel·lene \'hel-ˌēn\ *n* [Gk *Hellēn*] : GREEK
[1]Hel·len·ic \he-'len-ik, hə-\ *adj* : of or relating to Greece, its people, or its language
[2]Hellenic *n* : GREEK 2a
Hel·le·nism \'hel-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : GRECISM 1 **2** : devotion to or imitation of ancient Greek thought, customs, or styles **3** : Greek civilization esp. as modified in the Hellenistic period by oriental influences **4** : a body of humanistic and classical ideals associated with ancient Greece and including reason, the pursuit of knowledge and the arts, moderation, civic responsibility, and bodily development
Hel·le·nist \-nəst\ *n* **1** : a person living in Hellenistic times who was Greek in language, outlook, and way of life but was not Greek in ancestry; *esp* : a hellenized Jew **2** : a specialist in the language or culture of ancient Greece
Hel·le·nis·tic \ˌhel-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Greek history, culture, or art after Alexander the Great **2** : of or relating to the Hellenists — **Hel·le·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hel·le·nize \'hel-ə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *often cap, vi* : to become Greek or Hellenistic ~ *vt* : to make Greek or Hellenistic in form or culture — **hel·le·ni·za·tion** \ˌhel-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n, often cap*
hell·er \'hel-ər\ *n* : HELLION
hel·leri \'hel-ə-ˌrī, -(ˌ)rē\ *n* [NL (specific epithet of *Xiphophorus helleri*), fr. C. *Heller*, 20th cent. tropical fish collector] **1** : SWORDTAIL **2** : any of various brightly colored topminnows developed by hybridization of swordtails and platys
[1]hell-for-leather *adv* : in a hell-for-leather manner : at full speed ⟨rode ~ down the trail⟩
[2]hell-for-leather *adj* : marked by determined recklessness or great speed or force ⟨a cocky, ~ fighting man —H. H. Martin⟩
hell·gram·mite \'hel-grə-ˌmīt\ *n* [origin unknown] : a carnivorous aquatic No. American insect larva that is the young form of a dobsonfly (esp. *Corydalis cornutus*) and is used for fish bait
hell·hole \'hel-ˌhōl\ *n* **1** : the pit of hell **2** : a place of extreme discomfort or squalor
hell·hound \-ˌhau̇nd\ *n* **1** : a dog represented in mythology as a guardian of the underworld **2** : a fiendish person
hel·lion \'hel-yən\ *n* [prob. alter. of *hallion* (scamp)] : a troublesome or mischievous person
hell·ish \'hel-ish\ *adj* : of, resembling, or befitting hell : DEVILISH ⟨nothing more ~ than warfare within the soul —Frank Yerby⟩ — **hell·ish·ly** *adv* — **hell·ish·ness** *n*
hel·lo \hə-'lō, he-\ *n, pl* **hellos** [alter. of *hollo*] : an expression or gesture of greeting — used interjectionally in greeting, in answering the telephone, or to express surprise
[1]helm \'helm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE] : HELMET 1
[2]helm *vt* : to cover or furnish with a helmet
[3]helm *n* [ME *helme*, fr. OE *helma*; akin to OHG *helmo* tiller] **1 a** : a lever or wheel controlling the rudder of a ship for steering; *broadly* : the entire apparatus for steering a ship **b** : deviation of

the position of the helm from the amidships position **2** : a position of control : HEAD ⟨a new dean is at the ~ of the medical school⟩

⁴helm *vt* : to direct with or as if with a helm : STEER

hel·met \'hel-mət\ *n* [MF, dim. of *helme* helmet, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *helm* helmet, OHG *helan* to conceal — more at HELL] **1** : a covering or enclosing headpiece of ancient or medieval armor **2** : any of various protective head coverings usu. made of a hard material to resist impact **3** : something resembling a helmet; *specif* : a hood-shaped upper sepal or petal of some flowers — **hel·met·ed** \-mət-əd\ *adj* — **hel·met·like** \-mət-ˌlīk\ *adj*

hel·minth \'hel-ˌmin(t)th\ *n* [Gk *helminth-, helmis;* akin to Gk *eilyein* to roll — more at VOLUBLE] : WORM; *esp* : an intestinal worm — used esp. by parasitologists — **hel·min·thic** \hel-'min(t)-thik\ *adj*

helminth- *or* **helmintho-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *helminth-, helmis*] : helminth ⟨*helminth*iasis⟩ ⟨*helmintho*logy⟩

hel·min·thi·a·sis \ˌhel-mən-'thī-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : infestation with or disease caused by parasitic worms

hel·min·thol·o·gy \-'thäl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of zoology concerned with helminths; *esp* : the study of parasitic worms

helms·man \'helmz-mən\ *n* : the person at the helm : STEERSMAN — **helms·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

hel·ot \'hel-ət\ *n* [L *Helotes*, pl., fr. Gk *Heilōtes*] **1** *cap* : a member of a class of serfs in ancient Sparta **2** : SERF, SLAVE — **hel·ot·ry** \'hel-ə-trē\ *n*

hel·ot·ism \'hel-ət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : SERFDOM **2** : a symbiotic relation (as in a lichen) in which one member (as an alga) functions as the slave of the other (as a fungus)

¹help \'help, *South also* 'hep\ *vb* [ME *helpen*, fr. OE *helpan;* akin to OHG *helfan* to help, Lith *šelpti*] *vt* **1** : to give assistance or support to ⟨~ a child to understand his lesson⟩ **2 a** : to make more pleasant or bearable : RELIEVE ⟨bright curtains will ~ the room⟩ ⟨took an aspirin to ~ her headache⟩ **b** *archaic* : RESCUE, SAVE **c** : to get (oneself) out of a difficulty **3 a** : to be of use to : BENEFIT **b** : to further the advancement of : PROMOTE **4 a** : to change for the better **b** : to refrain from ⟨couldn't ~ laughing⟩ **c** : to keep from occurring : PREVENT ⟨they couldn't ~ the accident⟩ **5** : to serve with food or drink esp. at a meal **6** : to appropriate for the use of (oneself) ~ *vi* : to be of use or benefit

syn **1** HELP, AID, ASSIST *shared meaning element* : to supply what is needed to accomplish an end. HELP carries a strong implication of advance toward an objective ⟨every little bit *helps*⟩ ⟨how games can *help* children to learn —*Johns Hopkins Mag.*⟩ AID strongly suggests the need of help or relief and often imputes weakness to the one aided ⟨the fund was *aided* by a series of sales⟩ ⟨saints will *aid* if men will call —S. T. Coleridge⟩ ASSIST distinctively imputes a secondary role to the assistant or a secondary character to the assistance; thus, a deputy *assists* rather than *aids* his superior; a good light *assists* (not *aids*) the eyes in reading ***ant*** hinder **2** see IMPROVE

— **cannot help but** : cannot but ⟨*could not help but* smile at the answer⟩ — **so help me** : on my word : believe it or not

²help *n* **1** : AID, ASSISTANCE **2** : a source of aid ⟨printed ~*s* to the memory —C. S. Braden⟩ **3** : REMEDY, RELIEF **4 a** : one who is in the service of or who assists another : HELPER **b** : the services of a paid worker ⟨~ wanted⟩ **5** : HELPING

help·er *n* : one that helps; *esp* : a relatively unskilled worker who assists a skilled worker usu. by manual labor

help·ful \'help-fəl\ *adj* : of service or assistance : USEFUL — **help·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **help·ful·ness** *n*

help·ing *n* : a serving of food

help·less \'hel-pləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking protection or support : DEFENSELESS **2** : lacking strength or effectiveness : POWERLESS ⟨the fever . . . laid him low, prostrate and ~ —William Styron⟩ — **help·less·ly** *adv* — **help·less·ness** *n*

help·mate \'help-ˌmāt\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. *helpmeet*] : one who is a companion and helper; *esp* : WIFE

help·meet \-ˌmēt\ *n* [²*help* + *meet*, adj.] : HELPMATE

¹hel·ter–skel·ter \ˌhel-tər-'skel-tər\ *adv* [imit.] **1** : in headlong disorder : PELL-MELL ⟨ran ~, getting in each other's way —F. V. W. Mason⟩ **2** : in random order : HAPHAZARDLY

²helter–skelter *n* : a disorderly confusion : TURMOIL

³helter–skelter *adj* **1** : confusedly hurried : PRECIPITATE **2** : HAPHAZARD, HIT-OR-MISS ⟨the ~ arrangement of the papers, all mussed and frayed —Jean Stafford⟩

helve \'helv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hielfe;* akin to OE *healf* half] : a handle of a tool or weapon : HAFT

Hel·ve·tian \hel-'vē-shən\ *adj* : of or relating to the Helvetii or Helvetia : SWISS — **Helvetian** *n*

Hel·ve·tii \-shē-ˌī\ *n pl* [L] : an early Celtic people of western Switzerland in the time of Julius Caesar

¹hem \'hem\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to MHG *hemmen* to hem in, Arm *kamel* to press] **1 a** : a border of a cloth article doubled back and stitched down **b** : a similar border on an article of sheet metal, plastic, rubber, or leather **2** : RIM, MARGIN ⟨bright green ~ of reeds about the ponds —R. M. Lockley⟩

²hem *vb* **hemmed; hem·ming** *vt* **1 a** : to finish with a hem **b** : BORDER, EDGE **2** : to surround in a restrictive manner : CONFINE — usu. used with *in* ⟨*hemmed* in by enemy troops⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a hem in sewing — **hem·mer** *n*

³hem *usually read as* 'hem\ *interj* [imit.] — often used to indicate a vocalized pause in speaking

⁴hem \'hem\ *vi* **hemmed; hem·ming** **1** : to utter the sound represented by *hem* ⟨*hemmed* and hawed before answering⟩ **2** : EQUIVOCATE ⟨the administration *hemmed* and hawed over the students' demands⟩

hem- *or* **hemo-** *or* **haem-** *or* **haemo-** *comb form* [MF *hemo-*, fr. L *haem-, haemo-*, fr. Gk *haim-, haimo-*, fr. *haima*] : blood ⟨*hem*al⟩ ⟨*hemo*flagellate⟩

hema- *or* **haema-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *haima*] : HEM- ⟨*hema*cytometer⟩

he·ma·cy·tom·e·ter \ˌhē-mə-sī-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for counting blood cells

hem·ag·glu·ti·nate \ˌhē-mə-'glüt-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *vt* : to cause agglutination of red blood cells — **hem·ag·glu·ti·na·tion** \-glüt-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n*

hem·ag·glu·ti·nin \-'glüt-ᵊn-ən\ *n* [ISV] : an agglutinin that causes hemagglutination

he·mal \'hē-məl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the blood or blood vessels **2** : relating to or situated on the side of the spinal cord where the heart and chief blood vessels are placed

he–man \'hē-'man\ *n* : a strong virile man

hem·an·gi·o·ma \ˌhē-ˌman-jē-'ō-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hem-* + *angioma*] : a usu. benign tumor made up of blood vessels that typically occurs as a purplish or reddish slightly elevated area of skin

hemat- *or* **hemato-** *or* **haemat-** *or* **haemato-** *comb form* [L *haemat-, haemato-*, fr. Gk *haimat-, haimato-*, fr. *haimat-, haima*] : HEM- ⟨*hemat*oid⟩ ⟨*hemato*genous⟩

he·ma·tein \ˌhē-mə-'tē-ən, 'hē-mə-ˌtēn\ *n* : a reddish brown crystalline compound $C_{16}H_{12}O_6$ constituting the essential dye in logwood extracts

he·mat·ic \hi-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or containing blood **2** : affecting the blood

he·ma·tin \'hē-mə-tən\ *n* **1** : HEMATEIN **2 a** : a brownish black or bluish black derivative $C_{34}H_{33}N_4O_5Fe$ of oxidized heme; *also* : any of several similar compounds **b** : HEME

he·ma·tin·ic \ˌhē-mə-'tin-ik\ *n* : an agent that tends to stimulate blood cell formation or to increase the hemoglobin in the blood — **hematinic** *adj*

he·ma·tite \'hē-mə-ˌtīt\ *n* : a mineral Fe_2O_3 constituting an important iron ore and occurring in crystals or in a red earthy form — **he·ma·ti·tic** \ˌhē-mə-'tit-ik\ *adj*

he·ma·to·blast \'hē-mət-ə-ˌblast, hi-'mat-ə-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : BLOOD PLATELET **2** : an immature blood cell — **he·ma·to·blas·tic** \ˌhē-mət-ə-'blas-tik, hi-ˌmat-ə-\ *adj*

he·mat·o·crit \hi-'mat-ə-krət, -ˌkrit\ *n* [ISV *hemat-* + Gk *kritēs* judge, fr. *krinein* to judge — more at CERTAIN] **1** : an instrument for determining usu. by centrifugation the relative amounts of plasma and corpuscles in blood **2** : a ratio of volume of packed red blood cells to volume of whole blood determined by a hematocrit

he·ma·tog·e·nous \ˌhē-mə-'täj-ə-nəs\ *adj* **1** : producing blood **2** : spread by or arising in the blood ⟨~ tuberculosis⟩

he·ma·to·log·ic \ˌhē-mət-ᵊl-'äj-ik\ *or* **he·ma·to·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to blood or to hematology

he·ma·tol·o·gy \ˌhē-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of biology that deals with the blood and blood-forming organs — **he·ma·tol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

he·ma·to·ma \-'tō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ : a tumor or swelling containing blood

he·ma·toph·a·gous \-'täf-ə-gəs\ *adj* [ISV] : feeding on blood

he·ma·to·poi·e·sis \hi-ˌmat-ə-pȯi-'ē-səs, ˌhē-mət-ō-\ *n* [NL] : the formation of blood or of blood cells in the living body — **he·ma·to·poi·et·ic** \-'et-ik\ *adj* — **he·ma·to·poi·et·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

he·ma·tox·y·lin \ˌhē-mə-'täk-sə-lən\ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Haematoxylon*, genus of plants] : a crystalline phenolic compound $C_{16}H_{14}O_6$ found in logwood and used chiefly as a biological stain

he·ma·tu·ria \-'t(y)u̇r-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : the presence of blood or blood cells in the urine

heme \'hēm\ *n* [ISV, fr. *hematin*] : the deep red iron-containing prosthetic group $C_{34}H_{32}N_4O_4Fe$ of hemoglobin

hem·el·y·tron \he-'mel-ə-ˌträn\ *n, pl* **-tra** \-trə\ [NL, fr. *hemi-* + *elytron*] : one of the basally thickened anterior wings of various insects (as true bugs)

hem·er·a·lo·pia \ˌhem-ə-rə-'lō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *hēmeralōps*, fr. *hēmera* day + *alaos* blind + *ōps* eye — more at EPHEMERAL, EYE] **1** : a defect of vision characterized by reduced visual capacity in bright lights **2** : NIGHT BLINDNESS — **hem·er·a·lo·pic** \-'lō-pik\ *adj*

hem·ero·cal·lis \ˌhem-ə-rō-'kal-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *hēmerokalles*, fr. *hēmera* + *kallos* beauty — more at CALLIGRAPHY] : DAY LILY 1

hem·er·y·thrin \hē-'mer-ə-thrən\ *n* [*hem-* + *erythr-* + *-in*] : an iron-containing respiratory pigment in the blood of various invertebrates (as some annelids)

hemi- *prefix* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *hēmi-* — more at SEMI-] : half ⟨*hemi*hedral⟩

-hemia — see -EMIA

hemi·ac·e·tal \ˌhem-ē-'as-ə-ˌtal\ *n* : any of a class of compounds characterized by the grouping C(OH)(OR) where R is an alkyl group and usu. formed as intermediates in the preparation of acetals from aldehydes or ketones

he·mic \'hē-mik\ *adj* : of or relating to blood

hemi·cel·lu·lose \ˌhem-i-'sel-yə-ˌlōs, -ˌlōz\ *n* [ISV] : any of various plant polysaccharides less complex than cellulose and easily hydrolyzable to simple sugars and other products

hemi·chor·date \-'kȯrd-ət, -'kȯ(ə)r-ˌdāt\ *n* [NL *Hemichordata*, group name, fr. *hemi-* + *Chordata* chordates] : any of a division (Hemichordata) of chordates comprising vermiform marine animals (as an acorn worm) that have in the proboscis an outgrowth of the pharyngeal wall which suggests and is probably homologous with the notochord of higher chordates

hemi·cy·cle \'hem-i-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* [F *hémicycle*, fr. L *hemicyclium*, fr. Gk *hēmikyklion*, fr. *hēmi-* + *kyklos* circle — more at CYCLE] : a curved or semicircular structure or arrangement

hemi·demi·semi·qua·ver \ˌhem-i-ˌdem-i-'sem-i-ˌkwā-vər\ *n* : SIXTY-FOURTH NOTE

hemi·he·dral \ˌhem-i-'hē-drəl\ *adj* [*hemi-* + *-hedron*] *of a crystal* : having half the faces required by complete symmetry — compare HOLOHEDRAL, TETARTOHEDRAL — **hemi·he·dral·ly** \-drə-lē\ *adv*

hemi·hy·drate \-'hī-ˌdrāt\ *n* : a hydrate (as plaster of paris) containing half a molecule of water to one molecule of the compound forming the hydrate — **hemi·hy·drat·ed** \-ˌdrāt-əd\ *adj*

hemi·me·tab·o·lism \-mə-'tab-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : incomplete metamorphosis esp. in various insects with aquatic larvae that do not resemble the adult — **hemi·me·tab·o·lous** \-ləs\ *also* **hemi·met·a·bol·ic** \-ˌmet-ə-'bäl-ik\ *adj*

hemi·mor·phic \ˌhem-i-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* [ISV] : unsymmetrical in form as regards the two ends of an axis — **hemi·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n*

hemi·mor·phite \-ˌfīt\ *n* : a mineral $Zn_4Si_2O_7OH.H_2O$ that is a basic zinc silicate in usu. colorless transparent orthorhombic crystals

he·min \ˈhē-mən\ *n* [ISV] : a red-brown to blue-black crystalline salt $C_{34}H_{32}N_4O_4FeCl$ derived from oxidized heme but usu. obtained in a characteristic crystalline form from hemoglobin

hemi·o·la \ˌhem-ē-ˈō-lə\ *n* [LL *hemiolia*, fr. Gk *hēmiolia* ratio of one and a half to one, fr. *hēmi-* + *holos* whole — more at SAFE] : a musical rhythmic alteration consisting of three beats in place of two or two beats in place of three

hemi·par·a·site \ˌhem-i-ˈpar-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a facultative parasite **2** : a parasitic plant (as the mistletoe) that contains some chlorophyll and is capable of photosynthesis — **hemi·par·a·sit·ic** \-ˌpar-ə-ˈsit-ik\ *adj*

hemi·ple·gia \ˌhem-i-ˈplē-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. MGk *hēmiplēgia* paralysis, fr. Gk *hēmi-* + *-plēgia* -plegia] : paralysis of one lateral half of the body or part of it resulting from injury to the motor centers of the brain — **hemi·ple·gic** \-jik\ *adj or n*

he·mip·ter·an \hi-ˈmip-tə-rən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *hēmi-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : any of a large order (Hemiptera) of insects (as the true bugs) that have mouthparts adapted to piercing and sucking and usu. two pairs of wings, undergo an incomplete metamorphosis, and include many important pests — **he·mip·ter·oid** \-ˌrȯid\ *adj* — **he·mip·ter·on** \-ˌrän\ *n* — **he·mip·ter·ous** \-rəs\ *adj*

hemi·sphere \ˈhem-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ME *hemispere*, fr. L *hemisphaerium*, fr. Gk *hēmisphairion*, fr. *hēmi-* + *sphairion*, dim. of *sphaira* sphere] **1 a** : a half of the celestial sphere divided into two halves by the horizon, the celestial equator, or the ecliptic **b** : the northern or southern half of the earth divided by the equator or the eastern or western half divided by a meridian **c** : the inhabitants of a terrestrial hemisphere **2** : REALM, PROVINCE **3** : one of two half spheres formed by a plane through the sphere's center **4** : a map or projection of a celestial or terrestrial hemisphere **5** : CEREBRAL HEMISPHERE — **hemi·spher·ic** \ˌhem-ə-ˈsfi(ə)r-ik, -ˈsfer-\ *or* **hemi·spher·i·cal** \-ˈsfir-i-kəl, -ˈsfer-\ *adj*

hemi·stich \ˈhem-i-ˌstik\ *n* [L *hemistichium*, fr. Gk *hēmistichion*, fr. *hēmi-* + *stichos* line, verse; akin to Gk *steichein* to go — more at STAIR] : half a poetic line of verse usu. divided by a caesura

hemi·ter·pene \ˌhem-i-ˈtər-ˌpēn\ *n* [ISV] : a compound C_5H_8 whose formula represents half that of a terpene; *esp* : ISOPRENE

hemi·zy·gous \-ˈzī-gəs\ *adj* : having or characterized by one or more genes (as in a genetic deficiency or in an X chromosome paired with a Y chromosome) that have no allelic counterparts

hem·line \ˈhem-ˌlīn\ *n* : the line formed by the lower edge of a dress, skirt, or coat

hem·lock \ˈhem-ˌläk\ *n* [ME *hemlok*, fr. OE *hemlic*] **1 a** : any of several poisonous herbs (as a poison hemlock or a water hemlock) of the carrot family having finely cut leaves and small white flowers **b** : a poisonous drink made from the fruit of the hemlock — compare CONIINE **2** : any of a genus (*Tsuga*) of evergreen coniferous trees of the pine family; *also* : the soft light splintery wood of a hemlock

hemo- — see HEM-

he·mo·blast \ˈhē-mə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : HEMATOBLAST

he·mo·chro·ma·to·sis \ˌhē-mə-ˌkrō-mə-ˈtō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *hem-* + *chromat-* + *osis*] : a disorder of iron metabolism that occurs usu. in males and that is characterized by bronzing of the skin due to deposition of iron-containing pigments in the tissues and frequently by diabetic symptoms

he·mo·coel *also* **he·mo·coele** \ˈhē-mə-ˌsēl\ *n* : a body cavity (as in arthropods or some mollusks) that normally contains blood and functions as part of the circulatory system

he·mo·cy·a·nin \ˌhē-mō-ˈsī-ə-nən\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless copper-containing respiratory pigment in solution in the blood plasma of various arthropods and mollusks

he·mo·cyte \ˈhē-mə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a blood cell esp. of an invertebrate animal

he·mo·cy·tom·e·ter \ˌhē-mə-sī-ˈtäm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : HEMACYTOMETER

he·mo·di·al·y·sis \ˌhē-mō-dī-ˈal-ə-səs\ *n* : purification of the blood (as in a kidney patient) by dialysis

he·mo·di·lu·tion \-dī-ˈlü-shən, -də-\ *n* : decreased concentration (as after hemorrhage) of cells and solids in the blood resulting from gain of fluid from the tissues

he·mo·dy·nam·ic \-dī-ˈnam-ik, -də-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving hemodynamics **2** : concerned with or functioning in the mechanics of blood circulation — **he·mo·dy·nam·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

he·mo·dy·nam·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a branch of physiology that deals with the circulation of the blood **2** : the forces or mechanisms involved in circulation (as of a particular body part)

he·mo·fla·gel·late \ˌhē-mō-ˈflaj-ə-lət, -ˌlāt; -flə-ˈjel-ət\ *n* : a flagellate (as a trypanosome) that is a blood parasite

he·mo·glo·bin \ˈhē-mə-ˌglō-bən\ *n* [ISV, short for earlier *hematoglobulin*] **1 a** : an iron-containing conjugated protein respiratory pigment occurring in the red blood cells of vertebrates **b** : a dark purplish crystallizable form of hemoglobin found chiefly in the venous blood of vertebrates that is a conjugated protein composed of heme and globin **2** : any of numerous iron-containing respiratory pigments of invertebrates and some plants (as yeasts) — **he·mo·glo·bin·ic** \ˌhē-mə-glō-ˈbin-ik\ *adj* — **he·mo·glo·bin·ous** \-ˈglō-bə-nəs\ *adj*

he·mo·glo·bin·op·a·thy \ˌhē-mə-ˌglō-bə-ˈnäp-ə-thē\ *n, pl* **-thies** : a blood disorder (as sickle-cell anemia) caused by a genetically determined change in the molecular structure of hemoglobin

hemoglobin S *n* : a hemoglobin that occurs in the red blood cells in sickle-cell anemia and sickle-cell trait

he·mo·glo·bin·uria \ˌhē-mə-ˌglō-bə-ˈn(y)u̇r-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : the presence of free hemoglobin in the urine — **he·mo·glo·bin·uric** \-ˈn(y)u̇(ə)r-ik\ *adj*

he·mo·lymph \ˈhē-mə-ˌlim(p)f\ *n* : the circulatory fluid of various invertebrate animals that is functionally comparable to the blood and lymph of vertebrates

he·mo·ly·sin \ˌhē-mə-ˈlis-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV] : a substance that causes the dissolution of red blood cells

he·mo·ly·sis \hi-ˈmäl-ə-səs, ˌhē-mə-ˈlī-səs\ *n* [NL] : lysis of red blood cells with liberation of hemoglobin — **he·mo·lyt·ic** \ˌhē-mə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj*

hemolytic anemia *n* : anemia caused by excessive destruction (as in chemical poisoning, infection, or sickle-cell anemia) of red blood cells

hemolytic disease of the newborn : ERYTHROBLASTOSIS FETALIS

he·mo·lyze \ˈhē-mə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** [irreg. fr. *hemolysis*] *vt* : to cause hemolysis of ~ *vi* : to undergo hemolysis

he·mo·phil·ia \ˌhē-mə-ˈfil-ē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a sex-linked hereditary blood defect of males characterized by delayed clotting of the blood and consequent difficulty in controlling hemorrhage even after minor injuries

1he·mo·phil·i·ac \-ē-ˌak\ *n* : one affected with hemophilia — called also *bleeder*

2hemophiliac *adj* : HEMOPHILIC 1

he·mo·phil·ic \-ˈfil-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, resembling, or affected with hemophilia **2** : tending to thrive in blood ⟨~ bacteria⟩

he·mo·poi·e·sis \ˌhē-mə-pȯi-ˈē-səs\ *n* [NL] : HEMATOPOIESIS — **he·mo·poi·et·ic** \-ˈet-ik\ *adj*

he·mo·pro·tein \-ˈprō-ˌtēn, -ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n* : a conjugated protein (as hemoglobin or cytochrome) whose prosthetic group is a porphyrin combined with iron

he·mop·ty·sis \hi-ˈmäp-tə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *hem-* + Gk *ptysis* act of spitting, fr. *ptyein* to spit — more at SPEW] : expectoration of blood from some part of the respiratory tract

1hem·or·rhage \ˈhem-(ə-)rij\ *n* [F & L; F *hémorrhagie*, fr. L *haemorrhagia*, fr. Gk *haimorrhagia*, fr. *haimo-* hem- + *-rrhagia*] : a copious discharge of blood from the blood vessels — **hem·or·rhag·ic** \ˌhem-ə-ˈraj-ik\ *adj*

2hemorrhage *vi* **-rhaged; -rhag·ing** : to undergo heavy or uncontrollable bleeding

hem·or·rhoid \ˈhem-(ə-)ˌrȯid\ *n* [MF *hemorrhoides*, pl., fr. L *haemorrhoidae*, fr. Gk *haimorrhoides*, fr. *haimorrhoos* flowing with blood, fr. *haimo-* hem- + *rhein* to flow — more at STREAM] : a mass of dilated veins in swollen tissue situated near the anal sphincter — usu. used in pl.; called also *piles*

1hem·or·rhoid·al \ˌhem-ə-ˈrȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving hemorrhoids **2** : RECTAL

2hemorrhoidal *n* : a hemorrhoidal part (as an artery or vein)

he·mo·sid·er·in \ˌhē-mō-ˈsid-ə-rən\ *n* [ISV] : a yellowish brown granular pigment formed by breakdown of hemoglobin and composed essentially of colloidal ferric oxide

he·mo·sta·sis \ˌhē-mə-ˈstā-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *haimostasis* styptic, fr. *haimo-* hem- + *-stasis*] : arrest of bleeding

he·mo·stat \ˈhē-mə-ˌstat\ *n* : HEMOSTATIC; *esp* : an instrument for compressing a bleeding vessel

1he·mo·stat·ic \ˌhē-mə-ˈstat-ik\ *n* : an agent that checks bleeding

2hemostatic *adj* **1** : of or caused by hemostasis **2** : serving to check bleeding

hemp \ˈhemp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hænep;* akin to OHG *hanaf* hemp; both prob. fr. the source of Gk *kannabis* hemp] **1 a** : a tall widely cultivated Asiatic herb (*Cannabis sativa*) of the mulberry family with tough bast fiber used esp. for cordage **b** : the fiber of hemp **c** : a psychoactive drug (as marijuana or hashish) from hemp **2** : a fiber (as jute) from a plant other than the true hemp; *also* : a plant yielding such fiber



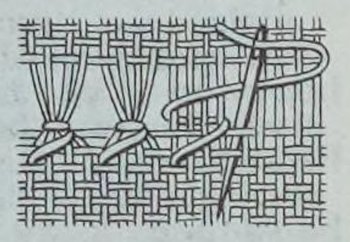
hemp 1a

hemp·en \ˈhem-pən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling hemp

hemp nettle *n* : any of a genus (*Galeopsis*) of coarse Old World herbs of the mint family; *esp* : a bristly Eurasian herb (*G. tetrahit*) common in the U.S. as a weed

1hem·stitch \ˈhem-ˌstich\ *vt* : to decorate (as a border) with hemstitch — **hem·stitch·er** *n*

2hemstitch *n* **1** : decorative needlework similar to drawnwork that is used esp. on or next to the stitching line of hems **2** : a stitch used in hemstitching



hemstitch

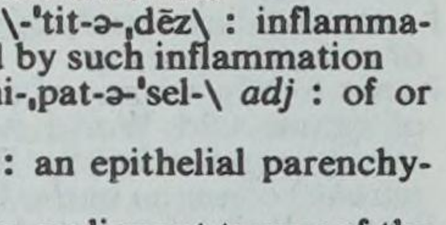
hen \ˈhen\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *henn;* akin to OE *hana* rooster — more at CHANT] **1 a** : a female domestic fowl esp. over a year old; *broadly* : a female bird **b** : the female of various mostly aquatic animals (as lobsters or fish) **2** : WOMAN; *specif* : a fussy middle-aged woman

hen and chickens *n* : any of several plants having offsets, runners, or proliferous flowers; *esp* : HOUSELEEK

hen·bane \ˈhen-ˌbān\ *n* : a poisonous fetid Old World herb (*Hyoscyamus niger*) of the nightshade family having sticky hairy dentate leaves and yellowish brown flowers and yielding a medicinal extract resembling belladonna

hence \ˈhen(t)s\ *adv* [ME *hennes, henne*, fr. OE *heonan;* akin to OHG *hinnan* away, OE *hēr* here] **1** : from this place : AWAY; *specif* : from this world or life **2 a** *archaic* : HENCEFORTH **b** : from this time **3** : because of a preceding fact or premise **4** : from this source or origin

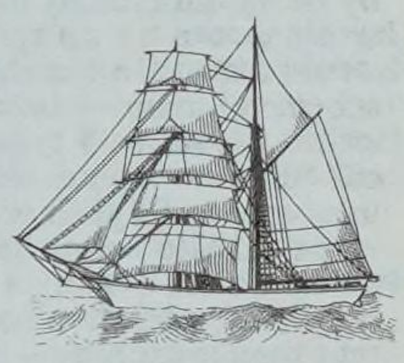
hence·forth \ˈhen(t)s-ˌfō(ə)rth, -ˌfȯ(ə)rth, hen(t)s-ˈ\ *adv* : from this point on
hence·for·ward \hen(t)s-ˈfȯr-wərd\ *adv* : HENCEFORTH
hench·man \ˈhench-mən\ *n* [ME *hengestman* groom, fr. *hengest* stallion (fr. OE) + *man;* akin to OHG *hengist* gelding] **1** *obs* : a squire or page to a person of high rank **2 a** : a trusted follower : a right-hand man **b** : a political follower whose support is chiefly for personal advantage **c** : an unscrupulous often violent member of a gang
hen·deca·syl·lab·ic \(ˌ)hen-ˌdek-ə-sə-ˈlab-ik\ *adj* [L *hendecasyllabus*, fr. Gk *hendeka* eleven (fr. *hen-, heis* one + *deka* ten) + *syllabē* syllable — more at SAME, TEN] : consisting of 11 syllables or composed of verses of 11 syllables — **hendecasyllabic** *n* — **hen·deca·syl·la·ble** \hen-ˈdek-ə-ˌsil-ə-bəl, (ˌ)hen-ˌdek-ə-ˈ\ *n*
hen·di·a·dys \hen-ˈdī-əd-əs\ *n* : the expression of an idea by the use of usu. two independent words connected by *and* (as *nice and warm*) instead of the usual combination of independent word and its modifier (as *nicely warm*)
hen·e·quen \ˈhen-i-kən, ˌhen-i-ˈken\ *n* [Sp *henequén*] : a strong yellowish or reddish hard fiber obtained from the leaves of a tropical American agave chiefly in Yucatan and used esp. for binder twine; *also* : a plant (*Agave fourcroydes*) that yields henequen
Hen·le's loop \ˌhen-lēz-\ *n* : LOOP OF HENLE
¹hen·na \ˈhen-ə\ *n* [Ar *ḥinnā'*] **1** : an Old World tropical shrub or small tree (*Lawsonia inermis*) of the loosestrife family with small opposite leaves and axillary panicles of fragrant white flowers **2** : a reddish brown dye obtained from leaves of the henna plant and used esp. on hair
²henna *vt* : to dye (as hair) with henna
hen·nery \ˈhen-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ner·ies** : a poultry farm; *also* : an enclosure for poultry
heno·the·ism \ˈhen-ə-(ˌ)thē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [G *henotheismus*, fr. Gk *hen-, heis* one + *theos* god — more at SAME] : the worship of one god without denying the existence of other gods — **heno·the·ist** \-ˌthē-əst\ *n* — **heno·the·is·tic** \ˌhen-ə-thē-ˈis-tik\ *adj*
hen party *n* : a party for women only
hen·peck \ˈhen-ˌpek\ *vt* : to subject (one's husband) to persistent nagging and domination
hen·ry \ˈhen-rē\ *n, pl* **henrys** *or* **henries** [Joseph *Henry*] : the practical mks unit of inductance equal to the self-inductance of a circuit or the mutual inductance of two circuits in which the variation of one ampere per second results in an induced electromotive force of one volt
hent \ˈhent\ *vt* [ME *henten*, fr. OE *hentan* — more at HUNT] *archaic* : SEIZE
hen track *n* : an illegible or scarcely legible mark intended as handwriting — called also *hen scratch*
¹hep \ˈhep, ˈhəp, ˈhət\ *interj* [origin unknown] — used to mark a marching cadence
²hep \ˈhep\ *var of* HIP
hep·a·rin \ˈhep-ə-rən\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *hēpar* liver] : a polysaccharide sulfuric acid ester that is found esp. in liver, that prolongs the clotting time of blood, and that is used medically
hep·a·rin·ize \-rə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to treat with heparin
hepat- *or* **hepato-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk *hēpat-, hēpato-*, fr. *hēpat-, hēpar*] **1** : liver ⟨*hepat*ectomy⟩ ⟨*hepato*toxic⟩ **2** : hepatic and ⟨*hepato*biliary⟩
hep·a·tec·to·my \ˌhep-ə-ˈtek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : excision of the liver or of part of the liver — **hep·a·tec·to·mize** \-ˌmīz\ *vt*
¹he·pat·ic \hi-ˈpat-ik\ *adj* [L *hepaticus*, fr. Gk *hēpatikos*, fr. *hēpat-, hēpar;* akin to L *jecur* liver] : of, relating to, or resembling the liver
²hepatic *n* : LIVERWORT
he·pat·i·ca \hi-ˈpat-i-kə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. ML, liverwort, fr. L, fem. of *hepaticus*] : a plant of a genus (*Hepatica*) of herbs of the buttercup family with lobed leaves and delicate flowers
hep·a·ti·tis \ˌhep-ə-ˈtīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-tit·i·des** \-ˈtit-ə-ˌdēz\ : inflammation of the liver; *also* : a condition marked by such inflammation
he·pa·to·cel·lu·lar \ˌhep-ət-ō-ˈsel-yə-lər, hi-ˌpat-ə-ˈsel-\ *adj* : of or involving hepatocytes ⟨~ jaundice⟩
he·pa·to·cyte \hi-ˈpat-ə-ˌsīt, ˈhep-ət-ə-\ *n* : an epithelial parenchymatous cell of the liver
hep·a·to·ma \ˌhep-ə-ˈtō-mə\ *n* [NL] : a usu. malignant tumor of the liver
he·pa·to·pan·cre·as \ˌhep-ət-ō-ˈpaŋ-krē-əs, hi-ˌpat-ə-ˈpaŋ-, -ˈpan-\ *n* : a glandular structure (as of a crustacean) that combines the digestive functions of the vertebrate liver and pancreas
hep·a·top·a·thy \ˌhep-ə-ˈtäp-ə-thē\ *n, pl* **-thies** : an abnormal or diseased state of the liver
hep·a·to·tox·ic \ˌhep-ət-ō-ˈtäk-sik, hi-ˌpat-ə-ˈtäk-\ *adj* : capable of causing injury to the liver ⟨~ drugs⟩
hep·a·to·tox·ic·i·ty \-täk-ˈsis-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : a state of toxic damage to the liver **2** : a tendency or capacity to cause hepatotoxicity
hep·cat \ˈhep-ˌkat\ *n* : HIPSTER
He·phaes·tus \hi-ˈfes-təs, -ˈfēs-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hēphaistos*] : the Greek god of fire and metalworking — compare VULCAN
hepped up \ˈhep-ˈtəp\ *adj* : ENTHUSIASTIC
Hep·ple·white \ˈhep-əl-ˌhwīt, -ˌwīt\ *adj* [George *Hepplewhite*] : of, relating to, or imitating a style of furniture originating in late 18th century England
hepta- *or* **hept-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *hepta* — more at SEVEN] **1** : seven ⟨*hepta*meter⟩ **2** : containing seven atoms, groups, or equivalents ⟨*hept*ane⟩
hep·ta·chlor \ˈhep-tə-ˌklō(ə)r, -ˌklȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*hepta-* + *chlor*ine] : a persistent cyclodiene chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticide $C_{10}H_5Cl_7$
hep·tad \ˈhep-ˌtad\ *n* [Gk *heptad-, heptas*, fr. *hepta*] : a group of seven
hep·ta·gon \ˈhep-tə-ˌgän\ *n* [Gk *heptagōnos* heptagonal, fr. *hepta* + *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] : a polygon of seven angles and seven sides — **hep·tag·o·nal** \hep-ˈtag-ən-ᵊl\ *adj*
hep·tam·e·ter \hep-ˈtam-ət-ər\ *n* : a line of verse consisting of seven metrical feet



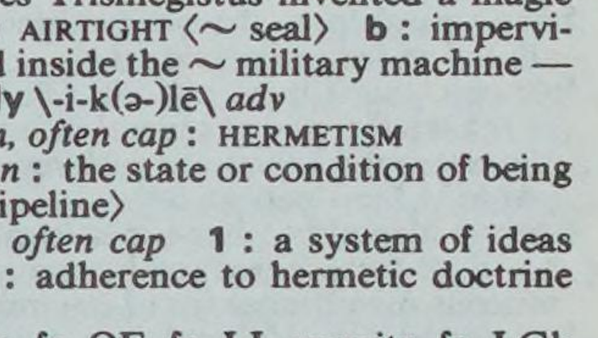
heptagons

hep·tane \ˈhep-ˌtān\ *n* : any of several isomeric hydrocarbons C_7H_{16} of the methane series; *esp* : the liquid normal isomer occurring in petroleum and used esp. as a solvent and in determining octane numbers
hep·tar·chy \ˈhep-ˌtär-kē\ *n* : a hypothetical confederacy of seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of the 7th and 8th centuries
Hep·ta·teuch \ˈhep-tə-ˌt(y)ük\ *n* [LL *heptateuchos*, fr. Gk, fr. *hepta* + *teuchos* book — more at PENTATEUCH] : the first seven books of the canonical Jewish and Christian Scriptures
hep·tose \ˈhep-ˌtōs, -ˌtōz\ *n* : a monosaccharide $C_7H_{14}O_7$ containing seven carbon atoms in the molecule
¹her \(h)ər, ˌhər\ *adj* [ME *hire*, fr. OE *hiere*, gen. of *hēo* she — more at HE] : of or relating to her or herself esp. as possessor, agent, or object of an action ⟨~ house⟩ ⟨~ research⟩ ⟨~ rescue⟩ — compare ¹SHE
²her \ər, (ˈ)hər\ *pron, objective case of* SHE
³her *abbr* heraldry
He·ra \ˈhir-ə, ˈhē-rə\ *n* [Gk *Hēra, Hērē*] : the sister and consort of Zeus — compare JUNO
Her·a·cles \ˈher-ə-ˌklēz\ *n* [Gk *Hēraklēs*] : HERCULES
¹her·ald \ˈher-əld\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *hiraut*, fr. an (assumed) Gmc compound whose first component is akin to OHG *heri* army, and whose second is akin to OHG *waltan* to rule — more at HARRY, WIELD] **1 a** : an official at a tournament of arms with duties including the making of announcements and the marshaling of combatants **b** : an officer with the status of ambassador acting as official messenger between leaders esp. in war **c** (1) : OFFICER OF ARMS (2) : an officer of arms ranking above a pursuivant and below a king of arms **2** : an official crier or messenger **3 a** : HARBINGER **b** : one that conveys news or proclaims : ANNOUNCER ⟨it was the lark, the ~ of the morn —Shak.⟩ **c** : one that supports or advocates : SPOKESMAN ***syn*** see FORERUNNER
²herald *vt* **1** : to give notice of : ANNOUNCE **2** : to greet esp. with enthusiasm : HAIL
he·ral·dic \he-ˈral-dik, hə-\ *adj* : of or relating to heralds or heraldry — **he·ral·di·cal·ly** \-di-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
her·ald·ry \ˈher-əl-drē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : the practice of devising, blazoning, and granting armorial insignia and of tracing and recording genealogies **2** : an armorial ensign; *broadly* : INSIGNIA **3** : PAGEANTRY
herb \ˈ(h)ərb\ *n, often attrib* [ME *herbe*, fr. OF, fr. L *herba*] **1** : a seed-producing annual, biennial, or perennial that does not develop persistent woody tissue but dies down at the end of a growing season **2** : a plant or plant part valued for its medicinal, savory, or aromatic qualities — **herb·like** \ˈ(h)ər-ˌblīk\ *adj* — **herby** \ˈ(h)ər-bē\ *adj*
her·ba·ceous \ˌ(h)ər-ˈbā-shəs\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of an herb **b** *of a stem* : having little or no woody tissue and persisting usu. for a single growing season **2** : having the texture, color, or appearance of a leaf
herb·age \ˈ(h)ər-bij\ *n* **1** : herbaceous vegetation (as grass) esp. when used for grazing **2** : the succulent parts of herbaceous plants
¹herb·al \ˈ(h)ər-bəl\ *n* **1** : a book about plants esp. with reference to their medical properties **2** *archaic* : HERBARIUM 1
²herbal *adj* : of, relating to, or made of herbs
herb·al·ist \(ˈ)(h)ər-bə-ləst\ *n* **1** : one that collects or grows herbs **2** : HERB DOCTOR
her·bar·i·um \ˌ(h)ər-ˈbar-ē-əm, -ˈber-\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ **1** : a collection of dried plant specimens usu. mounted and systematically arranged for reference **2** : a place that houses an herbarium
herb doctor *n* : one who practices healing by the use of herbs
her·bi·cide \ˈ(h)ər-bə-ˌsīd\ *n* [L *herba* + ISV *-cide*] : an agent used to destroy or inhibit plant growth — **her·bi·cid·al** \ˌ(h)ər-bə-ˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj* — **her·bi·cid·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
her·bi·vore \ˈ(h)ər-bə-ˌvō(ə)r, -ˌvȯ(ə)r\ *n* [NL *Herbivora*, group of mammals, fr. neut. pl. of *herbivorus*] : a plant-eating animal; *esp* : UNGULATE
her·biv·o·rous \ˌ(h)ər-ˈbiv-ə-rəs\ *adj* [NL *herbivorus*, fr. L *herba* grass + *-vorus* -vorous] **1** : feeding on plants **2** : having a stout body and a long small intestine : ENDOMORPHIC — **her·biv·o·rous·ly** *adv*
herb Rob·ert \ˌ(h)ərb-ˈräb-ərt\ *n* [prob. fr. *Robertus* (St. Robert) †1067 F ecclesiastic] : a sticky low geranium (*Geranium robertianum*) with small reddish purple flowers
Her·cu·le·an \ˌhər-kyə-ˈlē-ən, ˌhər-ˈkyü-lē-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Hercules **2** *often not cap* : of extraordinary power, size, or difficulty
Her·cu·les \ˈhər-kyə-ˌlēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hēraklēs*] **1** : a mythical Greek hero fabled for his great strength and esp. for performing 12 labors imposed on him by Hera **2** [L (gen. *Herculis*)] : a northern constellation between Corona Borealis and Lyra
Her·cu·les'–club \ˌhər-kyə-ˌlēz-ˈkləb\ *n* **1** : a small prickly eastern U.S. tree (*Aralia spinosa*) of the ginseng family — called also *angelica tree* **2** : a prickly shrub or tree (genus *Zanthoxylum*, esp. *Z. clava-herculis*) of the rue family
¹herd \ˈhərd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *heord;* akin to OHG *herta* herd, Gk *korthys* heap] **1 a** : a number of animals of one kind kept together under human control **b** : a congregation of gregarious wild animals **2 a** : a group of people usu. having a common bond ⟨entered the troop with the midwinter ~ of tenderfeet —MacKinlay Kantor⟩ **b** : the undistinguished masses : CROWD ⟨isolate the individual prophets from the ~ —Norman Cousins⟩ — **herd·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
²herd *vi* **1** : to assemble or move in a herd **2** : to place oneself in a group : ASSOCIATE ~ *vt* **1 a** : to keep or move (animals) together **b** : to gather, lead, or drive as if in a herd ⟨seventy-five boys and girls were ~*ed* by six or eight teachers —W. A. White⟩ **2** : to place in a group
herd·er \ˈhərd-ər\ *n* : one that herds; *specif* : HERDSMAN
her·dic \ˈhərd-ik\ *n* [Peter *Herdic* †1888 Am inventor] : a small 19th century American horse-drawn cab having side seats and an entrance at the back

herds·man \'hərdz-mən\ *n* **1** : a manager, breeder, or tender of livestock **2** *cap* : BOÖTES
[1]here \'hi(ə)r\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *hēr;* akin to OHG *hier* here, OE *hē* he] **1 a** : in or at this place ⟨turn ~⟩ — often used interjectionally esp. in answering a roll call **b** : NOW ⟨~ it's morning already⟩ **2** : at or in this point or particular ⟨~ we agree⟩ **3** : in the present life or state **4** : HITHER ⟨come ~⟩ **5** — used interjectionally in rebuke or encouragement — **here goes** —used interjectionally to express resolution or resignation esp. at the beginning of a difficult or unpleasant undertaking — **neither here nor there** : having no interest or relevance : of no consequence ⟨matters of comfort are *neither here nor there* to a real sailing fan⟩
[2]here *adj* **1** — used for emphasis esp. after a demonstrative pronoun or after a noun modified by a demonstrative adjective ⟨this book ~⟩ **2** *substand* — used for emphasis after a demonstrative adjective but before the noun modified ⟨this ~ book⟩
[3]here *n* : this place
here·abouts \'hi(ə)r-ə-ˌbau̇ts\ *or* **here·about** \-ˌbau̇t\ *adv* : in this vicinity
[1]here·af·ter \hi(ə)r-'af-tər\ *adv* **1** : after this in sequence or in time **2** : in some future time or state
[2]hereafter *n, often cap* **1** : FUTURE **2** : an existence beyond earthly life
[3]hereafter *adj, archaic* : FUTURE
here and now *n* : the present time — used with *the* ⟨man's obligation is in the *here and now* —W. H. Whyte⟩
here and there *adv* **1** : in one place and another **2** : from time to time
here·away \'hi(ə)r-ə-ˌwā\ *or* **here·aways** \-ˌwāz\ *adv, dial* : HEREABOUTS
here·by \hi(ə)r-'bī, 'hi(ə)r-ˌ\ *adv* : by this means
her·e·dit·a·ment \ˌher-ə-'dit-ə-mənt\ *n* [ML *hereditamentum,* fr. LL *hereditare,* fr. L *hered-, heres*] : heritable property
he·red·i·tar·i·an \hə-ˌred-ə-'ter-ē-ən\ *n* : an advocate of hereditarianism — **hereditarian** *adj*
he·red·i·tar·i·an·ism \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the theory that individual differences in human beings can be accounted for primarily on the basis of genetics
he·red·i·tary \hə-'red-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : genetically transmitted or transmittable from parent to offspring **b** : characteristic of or fostered by one's predecessors **2 a** : received or passing by inheritance or required to pass by inheritance or by reason of birth **b** : having title or possession through inheritance or by reason of birth **3** : of a kind established by tradition ⟨~ enemy⟩ **4** : of or relating to inheritance or heredity ***syn*** see INNATE — **he·red·i·tar·i·ly** \-ˌred-ə-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv*
he·red·i·ty \hə-'red-ət-ē\ *n* [MF *heredité,* fr. L *hereditat-, hereditas,* fr. *hered-, heres* heir — more at HEIR] **1 a** : INHERITANCE **b** : TRADITION **2 a** : the sum of the qualities and potentialities genetically derived from one's ancestors **b** : the transmission of qualities from ancestor to descendant through a mechanism lying primarily in the chromosomes of the germ cells
Heref *abbr* Herefordshire
Her·e·ford \'hər-fərd *sometimes* 'her-ə-\ *n* [*Hereford* co., England] : any of an English breed of hardy red beef cattle with white faces and markings now extensively raised in the western U.S.
here·in \hi(ə)r-'in\ *adv* : in this
here·in·above \(ˌ)hi(ə)r-ˌin-ə-'bəv\ *adv* : at a prior point in this writing or document
here·in·af·ter \ˌhi(ə)r-ə-'naf-tər\ *adv* : in the following part of this writing or document
here·in·be·fore \(ˌ)hi(ə)r-ˌin-bi-'fō(ə)r, -'fȯ(ə)r\ *adv* : in the preceding part of this writing or document
here·in·be·low \-bi-'lō\ *adv* : at a subsequent point in this writing or document
here·of \hi(ə)r-'əv, -'äv\ *adv* : of this
here·on \-'ȯn, -'än\ *adv* : on this
He·re·ro \hə-'re(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, 'her-ə-ˌrō\ *n, pl* **Herero** *or* **Hereros** : a member of a Bantu people of the central part of southwest Africa
he·re·si·arch \hə-'rē-zē-ˌärk, 'her-ə-sē-\ *n* [LL *haeresiarcha,* fr. LGk *hairesiarchēs,* fr. *hairesis* + Gk *-archēs* -arch] : an originator or chief advocate of a heresy
her·e·sy \'her-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-sies** [ME *heresie,* fr. OF, fr. LL *haeresis,* fr. LGk *hairesis,* fr. Gk, action of taking, choice, sect, fr. *hairein* to take] **1 a** : adherence to a religious opinion contrary to church dogma **b** : denial of a revealed truth by a baptized member of the Roman Catholic Church **c** : an opinion or doctrine contrary to church dogma **2 a** : dissent from a dominant theory or opinion **b** : an opinion or doctrine contrary to the truth or to generally accepted beliefs
her·e·tic \'her-ə-ˌtik\ *n* **1** : a dissenter from established church dogma; *esp* : a baptized member of the Roman Catholic Church who disavows a revealed truth **2** : one who dissents from an accepted belief or doctrine : NONCONFORMIST
he·ret·i·cal \hə-'ret-i-kəl\ *also* **he·re·tic** \'her-ə-ˌtik, hə-'ret-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by heresy **2** : of, relating to, or characterized by departure from accepted beliefs or standards : UNORTHODOX — **he·ret·i·cal·ly** \hə-'ret-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **he·ret·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*
here·to \hi(ə)r-'tü\ *adv* : to this writing or document
here·to·fore \'hi(ə)rt-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r, ˌhirt-ə-'\ *adv* : up to this time : HITHERTO
here·un·der \hi(ə)r-'ən-dər\ *adv* : under or in accordance with this writing or document
here·un·to \hi(ə)r-'ən-(ˌ)tü, ˌhi(ə)r-(ˌ)ən-'tü\ *adv* : to this
here·upon \'hi(ə)r-ə-ˌpȯn, -ˌpän, ˌhir-ə-'\ *adv* : on this : immediately after this
here·with \hi(ə)r-'with, -'with\ *adv* **1** : with this : enclosed in this **2** : HEREBY
her·i·ot \'her-ē-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *heregeatwe,* pl., military equipment, fr. *here* army + *geatwe* equipment; akin to OHG *heri* army — more at HARRY] : a feudal duty or tribute due under English law to a lord on the death of a tenant
her·i·ta·ble \'her-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being inherited or of passing by inheritance **2** : HEREDITARY — **her·i·ta·bil·i·ty** \ˌher-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
her·i·tage \'her-ət-ij\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *heriter* to inherit, fr. LL *hereditare,* fr. L *hered-, heres* heir — more at HEIR] **1** : property that descends to an heir **2** : something transmitted by or acquired from a predecessor : LEGACY **3** : something possessed as a result of one's natural situation or birth : BIRTHRIGHT ⟨the nation's ~ of tolerance⟩
syn HERITAGE, INHERITANCE, PATRIMONY, BIRTHRIGHT *shared meaning element* : something received from a parent or predecessor
her·i·tor \'her-ət-ər\ *n* : INHERITOR
herm \'hərm\ *n* [L *hermes,* fr. Gk *hermēs* statue of Hermes, herm, fr. *Hermēs*] : a statue in the form of a square stone pillar surmounted by a bust or head esp. of Hermes — called also *herma*
her·ma \'hər-mə\ *n* : HERM
her·maph·ro·dite \(ˌ)hər-'maf-rə-ˌdīt\ *n* [ME *hermofrodite,* fr. L *hermaphroditus,* fr. Gk *hermaphroditos,* fr. *Hermaphroditos*] **1 a** : an animal or plant having both male and female reproductive organs **b** : HOMOSEXUAL **2** : something that is a combination of diverse elements — **hermaphrodite** *adj* — **her·maph·ro·dit·ic** \(ˌ)hər-ˌmaf-rə-'dit-ik\ *adj* — **her·maph·ro·dit·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **her·maph·ro·dit·ism** \-'maf-rə-ˌdīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
hermaphrodite brig *n* : a 2-masted vessel square-rigged forward and schooner-rigged aft


hermaphrodite brig

Her·maph·ro·di·tus \(ˌ)hər-ˌmaf-rə-'dīt-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hermaphroditos,* fr. *Hermēs* + *Aphroditē* Aphrodite] : a son of Hermes and Aphrodite whose body coalesces with that of a nymph who is in love with him
her·ma·typ·ic \ˌhər-mə-'tip-ik\ *adj* [Gk *herma* prop, reef + *typtein* to strike, coin + E *-ic* — more at TYPE] : building reefs ⟨~ corals⟩
her·me·neu·ti·cal \ˌhər-mə-'n(y)üt-i-kəl\ *or* **her·me·neu·tic** \-ik\ *adj* [Gk *hermēneutikos,* fr. *hermēneuein* to interpret, fr. *hermēneus* interpreter] : of or relating to hermeneutics : INTERPRETATIVE — **her·me·neu·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
her·me·neu·tics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the study of the methodological principles of interpretation (as of the Bible)
Her·mes \'hər-(ˌ)mēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hermēs*] : a Greek god who serves as herald and messenger of the other gods — compare MERCURY
Hermes Tris·me·gis·tus \-ˌtris-mə-'jis-təs\ *n* [Gk *Hermēs trismegistos,* lit., Hermes thrice greatest] : a legendary author of works embodying magical, astrological, and alchemical doctrines
her·met·ic \(ˌ)hər-'met-ik\ *also* **her·met·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [NL *hermeticus,* fr. *Hermet-, Hermes Trismegistus*] **1** *often cap* **a** : of or relating to the Gnostic writings or teachings arising in the first three centuries A.D. and attributed to Hermes Trismegistus **b** : relating to or characterized by occultism or abstruseness : RECONDITE **2** [fr. the belief that Hermes Trismegistus invented a magic seal to keep vessels airtight] **a** : AIRTIGHT ⟨~ seal⟩ **b** : impervious to external influence ⟨trapped inside the ~ military machine — Jack Newfield⟩ — **her·met·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
her·met·i·cism \-'met-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n, often cap* : HERMETISM
her·me·tic·i·ty \ˌhər-mə-'tis-ət-ē\ *n* : the state or condition of being airtight : AIRTIGHTNESS ⟨~ of a pipeline⟩
her·me·tism \'hər-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : a system of ideas based on hermetic teachings **2** : adherence to hermetic doctrine — **her·me·tist** \-mət-əst\ *n*
her·mit \'hər-mət\ *n* [ME *eremite,* fr. OF, fr. LL *eremita,* fr. LGk *erēmitēs,* fr. Gk, adj., living in the desert, fr. *erēmia* desert, fr. *erēmos* lonely — more at RETINA] **1 a** : one that retires from society and lives in solitude esp. for religious reasons : RECLUSE **b** *obs* : BEADSMAN **2** : a spiced molasses cookie — **her·mit·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
her·mit·age \'hər-mət-ij\ *n* **1 a** : the habitation of a hermit **b** : a secluded residence or private retreat : HIDEAWAY **c** : MONASTERY **2** : the life or condition of a hermit
Her·mi·tage \ˌ(h)er-mi-'täzh\ *n* [Tain-l'*Ermitage,* commune in France] : a chiefly red Rhone valley wine; *also* : a similar wine made elsewhere
hermit crab *n* : any of numerous chiefly marine decapod crustaceans (families Paguridae and Parapaguridae) having soft asymmetrical abdomens and occupying the empty shells of gastropods


hermit crab

her·mi·tian matrix \er-ˌmē-shən, ˌhər-ˌmish-ən-\ *n* [Charles *Hermite* †1901 F mathematician] : a square matrix having the property that each pair of elements in the *i*th row and *j*th column and in the *j*th row and *i*th column are conjugate complex numbers
hern \'he(ə)rn, 'hərn\ *dial var of* HERON
her·nia \'hər-nē-ə\ *n, pl* **-ni·as** *or* **-ni·ae** \-nē-ˌē, -nē-ˌī\ [L — more at YARN] : a protrusion of an organ or part through connective tissue or through a wall of the cavity in which it is normally enclosed — called also *rupture* — **her·ni·al** \-nē-əl\ *adj*

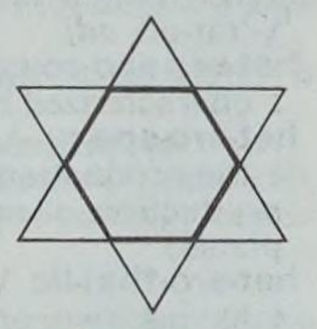
her·ni·ate \'hər-nē-ˌāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to protrude through an abnormal body opening — **her·ni·a·tion** \ˌhər-nē-'ā-shən\ *n*
he·ro \'hē-(ˌ)rō, 'hi(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **heroes** [L *heros*, fr. Gk *hērōs*] **1 a** : a mythological or legendary figure often of divine descent endowed with great strength or ability **b** : an illustrious warrior **c** : a man admired for his achievements and qualities **d** : one that shows great courage **2 a** : the principal male character in a literary or dramatic work **b** : the central figure in an event or period **3** *pl usu* **heros** : SUBMARINE 2
Hero *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hērō*] : a legendary priestess of Aphrodite loved by Leander
[1]he·ro·ic \hi-'rō-ik\ *also* **he·ro·ical** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling heroes esp. of antiquity **2 a** : exhibiting or marked by courage and daring **b** : GRAND, NOBLE **3** : of impressive size, power, or effect : LARGE, POWERFUL, POTENT ⟨~ doses⟩ **4** : of, relating to, or constituting drama written during the Restoration in heroic couplets and concerned with a conflict between love and honor — **he·ro·ical·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]heroic *n* **1** : a heroic verse or poem **2** *pl* **a** : heroic behavior **b** : showy behavior
heroic couplet *n* : a rhyming couplet in iambic pentameter
he·roi·com·ic \hi-ˌrō-i-'käm-ik\ *or* **he·roi·com·i·cal** \-'käm-i-kəl\ *adj* [F *héroïcomique*, fr. *héroïque* heroic + *comique* comic] : comic by being ludicrously noble, bold, or elevated
heroic poem *n* : an epic or a poem in epic style
heroic stanza *n* : a rhymed quatrain in heroic verse with a rhyme scheme of *abab* — called also *heroic quatrain*
heroic verse *n* **1** : dactylic hexameter esp. of epic verse of classical times — called also *heroic meter* **2** : the iambic pentameter used esp. in English epic poetry during the 17th and 18th centuries — called also *heroic line, heroic meter*
her·o·in \'her-ə-wən\ *n* [fr. *Heroin*, a trademark] : a strongly physiologically addictive narcotic $C_{21}H_{23}NO_5$ made from but more potent than morphine — **her·o·in·ism** \-wə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
her·o·ine \'her-ə-wən\ *n* [L *heroina*, fr. Gk *hērōinē*, fem. of *hērōs*] **1 a** : a mythological or legendary woman having the qualities of a hero **b** : a woman admired and emulated for her achievements and qualities **2 a** : the principal female character in a literary or dramatic work **b** : the central female figure in an event or period
her·o·ism \'her-ə-ˌwiz-əm\ *n* **1** : extreme self-sacrificing courage esp. in fulfilling a high purpose or attaining a noble end **2** : the qualities of a hero
syn HEROISM, VALOR, PROWESS, GALLANTRY *shared meaning element* : conspicuous courage
he·ro·ize \'hē-(ˌ)rō-ˌīz, 'hir-(ˌ)ō-; 'her-ə-ˌwīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make heroic
her·on \'her-ən\ *n, pl* **herons** *also* **heron** [ME *heiroun*, fr. MF *hairon*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *heigaro* heron, Gk *krizein* to creak, OHG *scrīan* to scream] : any of various long-necked wading birds (family Ardeidae) with a long tapering bill, large wings, and soft plumage
her·on·ry \-ən-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a heron rookery
hero–worship *vt* : to feel or express hero worship for — **hero–worshiper** *n*
hero worship *n* **1** : veneration of a hero **2** : foolish or excessive adulation for an individual
her·pes \'hər-(ˌ)pēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *herpēs*, fr. *herpein* to creep — more at SERPENT] : any of several inflammatory virus diseases of the skin characterized by clusters of vesicles; *esp* : HERPES SIMPLEX — **her·pet·ic** \(ˌ)hər-'pet-ik\ *adj*
herpes sim·plex \ˌhər-(ˌ)pēz-'sim-ˌpleks\ *n* [NL, lit., simple herpes] : a virus disease marked by groups of watery blisters on the skin or mucous membranes (as of the mouth, lips, or genitals)
her·pes·vi·rus \-'vī-rəs\ *n* : any of a group of DNA-containing viruses that replicate in cell nuclei and produce herpes
herpes zos·ter \ˌhər-(ˌ)pē(z)-'zōs-tər, -'zäs-\ *n* [NL, lit., girdle herpes] : an acute viral inflammation of the sensory ganglia of spinal and cranial nerves associated with a vesicular eruption and neuralgic pains — called also *shingles*
herpet- *or* **herpeto-** *comb form* [Gk *herpeton*, fr. neut. of *herpetos* creeping, fr. *herpein*] **1** : reptile or reptiles ⟨*herpeto*fauna⟩ ⟨*herpeto*logy⟩ **2** [L *herpet-, herpes*] : herpes ⟨*herpeti*form⟩
her·pe·tol·o·gy \ˌhər-pə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of zoology dealing with reptiles and amphibians — **her·pe·to·log·ic** \-pət-ᵊl-'äj-ik\ *or* **her·pe·to·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **her·pe·to·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **her·pe·tol·o·gist** \ˌhər-pə-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*
Herr \(ˌ)he(ə)r\ *n, pl* **Her·ren** \ˌher-ən, (ˌ)he(ə)rn\ [G] — used among German-speaking people as a title equivalent to *Mr.*
her·ren·volk \'her-ən-ˌfōk, -ˌfȯlk\ *n, often cap* [G] : MASTER RACE
her·ring \'her-iŋ\ *n, pl* **herring** *or* **herrings** [ME *hering*, fr. OE *hǣring*; akin to OHG *hārinc* herring] : a valuable clupeid food fish (*Clupea harengus*) that is abundant in the temperate and colder parts of the north Atlantic and that is preserved in the adult state by smoking or salting and in the young state is extensively canned and sold as sardines; *broadly* : a fish of the same family (Clupeidae)
[1]her·ring·bone \'her-iŋ-ˌbōn\ *n* **1** : a pattern made up of rows of parallel lines which in any two adjacent rows slope in opposite directions **2 a** : a twilled fabric with a herringbone pattern; *also* : a suit made of this fabric **b** : a herringbone arrangement (as of materials or parts) **3** : a method in skiing of ascending a slope by herringboning


herringbone 1

[2]herringbone *vt* **1** : to produce a herringbone pattern on **2** : to arrange in a herringbone pattern ~ *vi* **1** : to produce a herringbone pattern **2** : to ascend a slope by toeing out on skis and placing the weight on the inner side
herring gull *n* : a common large gull (*Larus argentatus*) of the northern hemisphere that as an adult is largely white with blue-gray mantle and dark wing tips and pink feet
hers \'hərz\ *pron, sing or pl in constr* : that which belongs to her — used without a following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to the adjective *her*
her·self \(h)ər-'self\ *pron* **1** : that identical female one — compare [1]SHE; used reflexively, for emphasis, or in absolute constructions ⟨she considers ~ lucky⟩ ⟨she ~ did it⟩ ⟨~ an orphan, she understood the situation⟩ **2** : her normal, healthy, or sane condition or self **3** *Irish & Scot* : a woman of consequence; *esp* : the mistress of the house
Herts *abbr* Hertfordshire
hertz \'he(ə)rts, 'hərts\ *n, pl* **hertz** [Heinrich R. *Hertz*] : a unit of frequency equal to one cycle per second — abbr. *Hz*
hertz·ian wave \ˌhert-sē-ən-, ˌhərt-\ *n* [Heinrich R. *Hertz*] : an electromagnetic wave produced by the oscillation of electricity in a conductor (as a radio antenna) and of a length ranging from less than a millimeter to many kilometers
he's \(ˌ)hēz, ēz\ : he is : he has
Hesh·van \'ḵesh-vən\ *n* [Heb *Ḥeshwān*] : the 2d month of the civil year or the 8th month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table
hes·i·tance \'hez-ə-tən(t)s\ *n* : HESITANCY
hes·i·tan·cy \-tən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being hesitant: as **a** : INDECISION ⟨people . . . who didn't understand the *hesitancies*, the ambiguities of choice —Daniel Stern⟩ **b** : RELUCTANCE ⟨we are putting our judgment ahead of yours . . . which we do only with the greatest ~ —Gay Talese⟩ **2** : an act or instance of hesitating
hes·i·tant \'hez-ə-tənt\ *adj* : tending to hesitate ***syn*** see DISINCLINED — **hes·i·tant·ly** *adv*
hes·i·tate \'hez-ə-ˌtāt\ *vi* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *haesitatus*, pp. of *haesitare* to stick fast, hesitate, fr. *haesus*, pp. of *haerēre* to stick; akin to Lith *gaišti* to loiter] **1** : to hold back in doubt or indecision **2** : to delay momentarily : PAUSE **3** : STAMMER — **hes·i·tater** *n* — **hes·i·tat·ing·ly** \-ˌtāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn HESITATE, WAVER, VACILLATE, FALTER *shared meaning element* : to show irresolution or uncertainty
hes·i·ta·tion \ˌhez-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of hesitating **2** : a pausing or faltering in speech
Hes·pe·ri·an \he-'spir-ē-ən\ *adj* [L *Hesperia*, the west, fr. Gk, fr. fem. of *hesperios* of the evening, western, fr. *hesperos* evening — more at WEST] : WESTERN, OCCIDENTAL
Hes·per·i·des \he-'sper-ə-ˌdēz\ *n pl* [L, fr. Gk] **1** : the nymphs in classical mythology who guard with the aid of a dragon a garden in which golden apples grow **2** : a legendary garden at the western extremity of the world producing golden apples
hes·per·i·din \he-'sper-əd-ᵊn\ *n* [NL *hesperidium*, orange, fr. L *Hesperides*] : a crystalline glycoside $C_{28}H_{34}O_{15}$ found in most citrus fruits and esp. in orange peel
hes·per·id·i·um \ˌhes-pə-'rid-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-id·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, orange] : a berry (as an orange or lime) having a leathery rind
Hes·per·us \'hes-p(ə-)rəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hesperos*] : EVENING STAR 1
hes·sian \'hesh-ən\ *n* **1** *cap* **a** : a native of Hesse **b** : a German mercenary serving in the British forces during the American Revolution; *broadly* : a mercenary soldier **2** : BURLAP
Hessian boot *n* : a high boot that extends to just below the knee and is commonly ornamented with a tassle and that was introduced into England by the Hessians early in the 19th century
Hessian fly *n* : a small two-winged fly (*Mayetiola destructor*) that is destructive to wheat in America
hess·ite \'hes-ˌīt\ *n* [G *hessit*, fr. Henry *Hess* †1850 Swiss chemist] : a mineral Ag_2Te consisting of a lead-gray sectile silver telluride
hes·so·nite \'hes-\ *var of* ESSONITE
hest \'hest\ *n* [ME *hest, hes*, fr. OE *hǣs*; akin to OE *hātan* to command — more at HIGHT] *archaic* : COMMAND, PRECEPT
Hes·tia \'hes-tē-ə, 'hes(h)-chə\ *n* [Gk] : the Greek goddess of the hearth and chief goddess of domestic activity — compare VESTA
he·tae·ra \hi-'tir-ə\ *or* **he·tai·ra** \-'tī-rə\ *n, pl* **he·tae·rae** \-'ti(ə)r-(ˌ)ē\ *or* **hetaeras** *or* **hetairas** *or* **he·tai·rai** \-'ti(ə)r-ˌī\ [Gk *hetaira*, lit., companion, fem. of *hetairos*] **1** : one of a class of highly cultivated courtesans in ancient Greece **2** : DEMIMONDAINE
heter- *or* **hetero-** *comb form* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *heteros*; akin to Gk *heis* one — more at SAME] **1** : other than usual : other : different ⟨*hetero*phyllous⟩ **2** : containing atoms of different kinds ⟨*hetero*cyclic⟩
het·ero \'het-ə-ˌrō\ *n, pl* **-er·os** : HETEROSEXUAL
het·ero·at·om \'het-ə-rō-ˌat-əm\ *n* : an atom other than carbon in the ring of a heterocyclic compound
het·ero·au·to·tro·phic \'het-ə-(ˌ)rō-ˌȯt-ə-trō-fik\ *adj* : requiring a simple organic source of carbon but utilizing inorganic nitrogen for metabolism
het·ero·aux·in \ˌhet-ə-rō-'ȯk-sən\ *n* : INDOLEACETIC ACID
het·ero·cer·cal \-'sər-kəl\ *adj* **1** : having the upper lobe larger than the lower with the end of the vertebral column prolonged and somewhat upturned in the upper lobe **2** : having or relating to a heterocercal tail fin
het·ero·chro·mat·ic \-krə-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having different colors **2** : made up of various wavelengths or frequencies **3** [*heterochromatin*] : of or relating to heterochromatin — **het·ero·chro·ma·tism** \-'krō-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n*
het·ero·chro·ma·tin \-'krō-mət-ən\ *n* [G] : densely staining chromatin that appears as nodules in or along chromosomes and contains relatively few genes
het·ero·chro·mo·some \-'krō-mə-ˌsōm, -ˌzōm\ *n* [ISV] : SEX CHROMOSOME
[1]het·ero·clite \'het-ə-rə-ˌklīt\ *n* **1** : a word irregular in inflection; *esp* : a noun irregular in declension **2** : one that deviates from common rules or forms
[2]heteroclite *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *heteroclitus*, fr. Gk *heteroklitos*, fr. *heter-* + *klinein* to lean, inflect — more at LEAN] : deviating from common forms or rules
het·ero·crine \'het-ə-rə-ˌkrin, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* [*heter-* + *-crine* (as in *endocrine*)] : having both an endocrine and an exocrine secretion

het·ero·cy·clic \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈsī-klik, -ˈsik-lik\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to, characterized by, or being a ring composed of atoms of more than one kind — **het·ero·cy·cle** \ˈhet-ə-rō-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* — **heterocyclic** *n*
het·ero·cyst \ˈhet-ə-rō-ˌsist\ *n* : a large transparent thick-walled cell that resembles a spore and occurs at intervals along the filament in some blue-green algae
het·ero·dox \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌdäks, ˈhe-trə-\ *adj* [LL *heterodoxus*, fr. Gk *heterodoxos*, fr. *heter-* + *doxa* opinion — more at DOXOLOGY] **1** : contrary to or different from an acknowledged standard ⟨a ~ sermon⟩ **2** : holding unorthodox opinions or doctrines ⟨the societies representing the orthodox practice of medicine have generally succeeded in keeping . . . ~ practitioners out —D. D. McKean⟩
het·ero·doxy \-ˌdäk-sē\ *n, pl* **-dox·ies** **1** : the quality or state of being heterodox **2** : a heterodox opinion or doctrine
[1]het·ero·dyne \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌdīn, ˈhe-trə-\ *adj* : of or relating to the production of an electrical beat between two radio frequencies of which one usu. is that of a received signal-carrying current and the other that of an uninterrupted current introduced into the apparatus; *also* : of or relating to the production of a beat between two optical frequencies
[2]heterodyne *vt* **-dyned; -dyn·ing** : to combine (as a radio frequency) with a different frequency so that a beat is produced
het·er·oe·cious *or* **het·er·ecious** \ˌhet-ə-ˈrē-shəs\ *adj* [*heter-* + Gk *oikia* house — more at VICINITY] : passing through the different stages in the life cycle on alternate and often unrelated hosts ⟨~ insects⟩ — **het·er·oe·cism** \-ˈrē-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*
het·ero·ga·mete \ˌhet-ə-rō-gə-ˈmēt, -ˈgam-ˌēt\ *n* [ISV] : either of a pair of gametes that differ in form, size, or behavior and occur typically as large nonmotile oogametes and small motile sperms
het·ero·ga·met·ic \-gə-ˈmet-ik\ *adj* : forming two kinds of germ cells of which one produces male offspring and the other female offspring ⟨the human male is ~⟩
het·er·og·a·mous \ˌhet-ə-ˈräg-ə-məs\ *adj* **1** : bearing flowers of two kinds (as perfect and pistillate) — used esp. of sedges and composites **2** : having or characterized by fusion of unlike gametes — compare ANISOGAMOUS, ISOGAMOUS
het·er·og·a·my \-mē\ *n* **1** : sexual reproduction involving fusion of unlike gametes often differing in size, structure, and physiology **2** : the condition of reproducing by heterogamy
het·er·o·ge·ne·ity \ˌhet-ə-rō-jə-ˈnē-ət-ē, ˌhe-trō-\ *n* : the quality or state of being heterogeneous
het·er·o·ge·neous \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈjē-nē-əs, ˌhe-trə-, -nyəs\ *adj* [ML *heterogeneus, heterogenus*, fr. Gk *heterogenēs*, fr. *heter-* + *genos* kind — more at KIN] : consisting of dissimilar ingredients or constituents : MIXED — **het·er·o·ge·neous·ly** *adv* — **het·er·o·ge·neous·ness** *n*
het·ero·gen·e·sis \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] **1** : ABIOGENESIS **2** : ALTERNATION OF GENERATIONS — **het·ero·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj*
het·er·og·e·nous \ˌhet-ə-ˈräj-ə-nəs\ *adj* **1** : originating in an outside source; *esp* : derived from another species ⟨~ bone graft⟩ **2** : HETEROGENEOUS
het·er·og·e·ny \-nē\ *n* : a heterogenous collection or group
het·ero·gon·ic \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈgän-ik\ *adj* **1** : ALLOMETRIC **2** : being that course of development in which a generation of parasites is succeeded by a free-living generation — used of some nematode worms
het·er·og·o·ny \ˌhet-ə-ˈräg-ə-nē\ *n* **1** : ALTERNATION OF GENERATIONS: *esp* : alternation of a dioecious generation with a parthenogenetic one **2** : ALLOMETRY
het·ero·graft \ˈhet-ə-rō-ˌgraft\ *n* : a graft of tissue taken from a donor of one species and grafted into a recipient of another species — compare HOMOGRAFT
het·ero·kary·on \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈkar-ē-ˌän, -ən\ *also* **het·ero·cary·on** *n* [NL, fr. *heter-* + *karyon, caryon* nucleus, fr. Gk *karyon* nut, kernel — more at CAREEN] : a cell in the mycelium of a fungus that contains two or more genetically unlike nuclei
het·ero·kary·o·sis \ˈhet-ə-rō-ˌkar-ē-ˈō-səs\ *also* **het·ero·cary·o·sis** *n* [NL] : the condition of having cells that are heterokaryons
het·ero·kary·ot·ic *also* **het·ero·cary·ot·ic** \-ē-ˈät-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or consisting of heterokaryons
het·er·ol·o·gous \-ˈräl-ə-gəs\ *adj* **1** : characterized by heterology **2** : derived from a different species ⟨~ DNAs⟩ ⟨~ transplants⟩ — **het·er·ol·o·gous·ly** *adv*
het·er·ol·o·gy \ˌhet-ə-ˈräl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV *heter-* + *-logy* (as in *analogy*)] : a lack of correspondence of apparently similar bodily parts due to differences in fundamental makeup or origin
het·ero·ly·sis \ˌhet-ə-ˈräl-ə-səs, -ə-rə-ˈlī-səs\ *n* [NL] : decomposition of a compound into two oppositely charged particles or ions — **het·ero·lyt·ic** \-ə-rə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj*
het·ero·mor·phic \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *or* **het·ero·mor·phous** \-fəs\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : deviating from the usual form **2** : exhibiting diversity of form or forms ⟨~ pairs of chromosomes⟩ ⟨~ alternation of generations⟩ — **het·ero·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n*
het·er·on·o·mous \ˌhet-ə-ˈrän-ə-məs\ *adj* [*heter-* + *-nomous* (as in *autonomous*)] **1** : specialized along different lines of growth or under different controlling forces **2** : subject to external controls and impositions — **het·er·on·o·mous·ly** *adv*
het·er·on·o·my \-mē\ *n* [*heter-* + *-nomy* (as in *autonomy*)] : subjection to something else; *esp* : a lack of moral freedom or self-determination ⟨a life of alienation, a life of ~ rather than autonomy —Mary Aloysius⟩
het·ero·phile \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌfīl\ *or* **het·ero·phil** \-ˌfil\ *adj* : reacting serologically with an antigen of another species
het·er·oph·o·ny \ˌhet-ə-ˈräf-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [Gk *heterophōnia* diversity of note, fr. *heter-* + *-phōnia* -phony] : the performance of a single melody by two or more individuals who add their own individual rhythmic or melodic modifications
het·ero·phyl·lous \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈfil-əs\ *adj* : having the foliage leaves of more than one form on the same plant or stem — **het·ero·phyl·ly** \ˈhet-ə-rō-ˌfil-ē\ *n*
het·ero·phyte \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌfīt\ *n* : a plant (as a parasite or saprophyte) that is dependent for food materials upon other organisms or their products — **het·ero·phyt·ic** \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈfit-ik\ *adj*
het·ero·ploid \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : having a chromosome number that is not a simple multiple of the haploid chromosome number — **heteroploid** *n* — **het·ero·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*
het·ero·po·lar \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈpō-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : POLAR 5, IONIC — **het·ero·po·lar·i·ty** \-rō-pə-ˈlar-ət-ē\ *n*
het·er·op·ter·ous \ˌhet-ə-ˈräp-tə-rəs\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *heter-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : of or relating to an insect order or suborder (Heteroptera) comprising the true bugs
[1]het·ero·sex·u·al \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈseksh-(ə-)wəl, -ˈsek-shəl\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, or marked by heterosexuality **2** : of or relating to different sexes — **het·ero·sex·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
[2]heterosexual *n* : a heterosexual individual
het·ero·sex·u·al·i·ty \-ˌsek-shə-ˈwal-ət-ē\ *n* : the manifestation of sexual desire for one or more members of the opposite sex
het·er·o·sis \ˌhet-ə-ˈrō-səs\ *n* [NL] : a marked vigor or capacity for growth often shown by crossbred animals or plants — **het·er·ot·ic** \-ˈrät-ik\ *adj*
het·ero·spo·rous \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈspōr-əs, -ˈspȯr-; -ˈräs-pə-rəs\ *adj* : characterized by heterospory
het·ero·spo·ry \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌspōr-ē, -ˌspȯr-; ˌhet-ə-ˈräs-pə-rē\ *n* **1** : the production of asexual spores of more than one kind **2** : the production of microspores and megaspores (as in ferns and seed plants)
het·ero·thal·lic \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈthal-ik\ *adj* [*heter-* + *thall-* + *-ic*] **1** : having two or more genetically incompatible but morphologically similar haploid phases that function as separate sexes or strains — used esp. of some algae or fungi or of the unisexual spores producing them **2** : DIOECIOUS — **het·ero·thal·lism** \-ˈthal-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
het·ero·top·ic \-rə-ˈtäp-ik\ *adj* [*heter-* + Gk *topos* place — more at TOPIC] : occurring in an abnormal place ⟨~ bone formation⟩ ⟨~ liver transplantation⟩
het·ero·troph \ˈhet-ə-rə-ˌtrōf, -ˌträf\ *n* : a heterotrophic individual
het·ero·tro·phic \ˌhet-ə-rə-ˈtrō-fik\ *adj* : requiring complex organic compounds of nitrogen and carbon for metabolic synthesis — **het·ero·tro·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
het·ero·typ·ic \ˌhet-ə-rō-ˈtip-ik\ *also* **het·ero·typ·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or being the reduction division of meiosis as contrasted with typical mitotic division **2** : different in kind, arrangement, or form
het·ero·zy·go·sis \ˌhet-ə-rō-(ˌ)zī-ˈgō-səs\ *n* [NL] : HETEROZYGOSITY
het·ero·zy·gos·i·ty \-ˈgäs-ət-ē\ *n* : the state of being heterozygous
het·ero·zy·gote \-ˈzī-ˌgōt\ *n* : a heterozygous individual
het·ero·zy·gous \-gəs\ *adj* : having the two genes at corresponding loci on homologous chromosomes different for one or more loci
heth \ˈkāt(h), ˈket(h)\ *n* [Heb *ḥēth*] : the 8th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
het·man \ˈhet-mən\ *n, pl* **hetmans** [Pol, commander in chief] : a cossack leader
het up \ˈhet-ˈəp\ *adj* [*het*, dial. past of *heat*] : highly excited : UPSET
heu·land·ite \ˈhyü-lən-ˌdīt\ *n* [Henry *Heuland*, 19th cent. E mineral collector] : a zeolite consisting of a hydrous aluminosilicate of sodium and calcium
[1]heu·ris·tic \hyü-ˈris-tik\ *adj* [G *heuristisch*, fr. NL *heuristicus*, fr. Gk *heuriskein* to discover; akin to OIr *fūar* I have found] : providing aid or direction in the solution of a problem but otherwise unjustified or incapable of justification ⟨~ techniques⟩ ⟨a ~ assumption⟩ ; *specif* : of or relating to exploratory problem-solving techniques that utilize self-educating techniques (as the evaluation of feedback) to improve performance ⟨a ~ computer program⟩
[2]heuristic *n* **1** : the study or practice of heuristic procedure **2** : heuristic argument **3** : a heuristic method or procedure
hew \ˈhyü\ *vb* **hewed; hewed** *or* **hewn** \ˈhyün\; **hew·ing** [ME *hewen*, fr. OE *hēawan;* akin to OHG *houwan* to hew, L *cudere* to beat] *vt* **1** : to cut with blows of a heavy cutting instrument **2** : to fell by blows of an ax ⟨~ a tree⟩ **3** : to give form or shape to with or as if with heavy cutting blows ⟨~*ed* their farms from the wilderness —J.T. Shotwell⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to make cutting blows **2** : to conform strictly : ADHERE — often used in the phrase *hew to the line* ⟨there is no pressure . . . on newspapers to ~ to the official line —*N.Y. Times Mag.*⟩ — **hew·er** *n*
HEW *abbr* Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
[1]hex \ˈheks\ *vb* [PaG *hexe*, fr. G *hexen*, fr. *hexe* witch] *vi* : to practice witchcraft ~ *vt* **1** : to put a hex on **2** : to affect as if by an evil spell : JINX ⟨giving in to an unscientific fear of ~*ing* the whole project —Daniel Lang⟩ — **hex·er** *n*
[2]hex *n* **1** : SPELL, JINX **2** : a person who practices witchcraft : WITCH
[3]hex *adj* : HEXAGONAL ⟨a bolt with a ~ head⟩
[4]hex *abbr* hexagon; hexagonal
hexa- *or* **hex-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *hex* six — more at SIX] **1** : six ⟨*hexa*merous⟩ **2** : containing six atoms, groups, or equivalents ⟨*hex*ane⟩
hexa·bi·ose *or* **hexo·bi·ose** \ˌhek-sə-ˈbī-ˌōs, -ˌōz\ *n* : a disaccharide (as maltose) yielding two hexose molecules on hydrolysis
hexa·chlo·ride \ˌhek-sə-ˈklō(ə)r-ˌīd, -ˈklȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a chloride containing six atoms of chlorine in a molecule
hexa·chlo·ro·eth·ane \-ˌklōr-ə-ˈweth-ˌān, -ˌklȯr-\ *or* **hexa·chlor·eth·ane** \-ˌklōr-ˈeth-, -ˌklȯr-\ *n* [ISV] : a toxic crystalline compound C_2Cl_6 used esp. in smoke bombs and in the control of liver flukes in ruminants
hexa·chlo·ro·phene \-ˈklōr-ə-ˌfēn, -ˈklȯr-\ *n* [*hexa-* + *chlor-* + *phenol*] : a crystalline phenolic bacteria-inhibiting agent $C_{13}Cl_6H_6O_2$

hexa·chord \'hek-sə-ˌkȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [*hexa-* + Gk *chordē* string — more at YARN] : a diatonic series of six tones having a semitone between the third and fourth tones
hex·ad \'hek-ˌsad\ *or* **hex·ade** \-ˌsād\ *n* [LL *hexad-, hexas*, fr. Gk, fr. *hex*] : a group or series of six — **hex·ad·ic** \hek-'sad-ik\ *adj*
hexa·dec·i·mal \ˌhek-sə-'des-(ə-)məl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a number system with a base of 16
hexa·gon \'hek-sə-ˌgän\ *n* [Gk *hexagōnon*, neut. of *hexagōnos* hexagonal, fr. *hexa-* + *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] : a polygon of six angles and six sides
hex·ag·o·nal \hek-'sag-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : having six angles and six sides **2** : having a hexagon as section or base **3** : relating to or being a crystal system characterized by three equal lateral axes intersecting at angles of 60 degrees and a vertical axis of variable length at right angles — **hex·ag·o·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
hexa·gram \'hek-sə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a figure formed by completing externally an equilateral triangle on each side of a regular hexagon



hexagram

hexa·he·dron \ˌhek-sə-'hē-drən\ *n, pl* **-drons** *also* **-dra** \-drə\ [LL, fr. Gk *hexaedron*, fr. neut. of *hexaedros* of six surfaces, fr. *hexa-* + *hedra* seat — more at SIT] : a polyhedron of six faces
hexa·hy·drate \-'hī-ˌdrāt\ *n* : a chemical compound with six molecules of water — **hexa·hy·drat·ed** \-ˌdrāt-əd\ *adj*
hex·am·e·ter \hek-'sam-ət-ər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *hexametron*, fr. neut. of *hexametros* having six measures, fr. *hexa-* + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] : a line of verse consisting of six metrical feet
hexa·me·tho·ni·um \ˌhek-sə-mə-'thō-nē-əm\ *n* [*hexa-* + *meth-* + *-onium*] : either of two compounds $C_{12}H_{30}Br_2N_2$ or $C_{12}H_{30}Cl_2N_2$ used as ganglionic blocking agents in the treatment of hypertension
hexa·meth·y·lene·tet·ra·mine \ˌhek-sə-'meth-ə-ˌlēn-'te-trə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV] : a crystalline compound $C_6H_{12}N_4$ used esp. as an accelerator in vulcanizing rubber, as an absorbent for phosgene, and as a diuretic
hex·ane \'hek-ˌsān\ *n* [ISV] : any of several isomeric volatile liquid paraffin hydrocarbons C_6H_{14} found in petroleum
hex·a·no·ic acid \ˌhek-sə-ˌnō-ik-\ *n* [ISV *hexane* + *-oic*] : CAPROIC ACID
hexa·ploid \'hek-sə-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : having or being six times the monoploid chromosome number — **hexaploid** *n* — **hexa·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*
¹hexa·pod \'hek-sə-ˌpäd\ *n* [Gk *hexapod-, hexapous* having six feet, fr. *hexa-* + *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] : INSECT 1b
²hexapod *adj* **1** : six-footed **2** : of or relating to insects
Hexa·teuch \'hek-sə-ˌt(y)ük\ *n* [*hexa-* + Gk *teuchos* book — more at PENTATEUCH] : the first six books of the Old Testament
hex·en·be·sen \'hek-sən-ˌbāz-ᵊn\ *n* [G, fr. *hexen* (pl. of *hexe* witch) + *besen* broom, fr. OHG *besmo* — more at BESOM] : WITCHES'-BROOM
hex·e·rei \ˌhek-sə-'rī\ *n* [PaG, fr. G] : WITCHCRAFT
hexo·bar·bi·tal \ˌhek-sə-'bär-bə-ˌtȯl\ *n* [*hexo-* (fr. *hexa-*) + *barbital*] : a barbiturate $C_{12}H_{16}N_2O_3$ used as a sedative and hypnotic and in the form of its soluble sodium salt as an intravenous anesthetic of short duration
hexo·ki·nase \ˌhek-sə-'kī-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* [*hexose* + *kinase*] : any of a group of enzymes that accelerate the phosphorylation of hexoses (as in the formation of glucose-6-phosphate from glucose and ATP) in carbohydrate metabolism
hex·o·san \'hek-sə-ˌsan\ *n* : a polysaccharide yielding only hexoses on hydrolysis
hex·ose \'hek-ˌsōs, -ˌsōz\ *n* [ISV] : a monosaccharide (as glucose) containing six carbon atoms in the molecule
hex·yl \'hek-səl\ *n* [ISV] : an alkyl radical C_6H_{13} derived from a hexane
hex·yl·res·or·cin·ol \ˌhek-səl-rə-'zȯrs-ᵊn-ˌȯl, -ˌōl\ *n* : a crystalline phenol $C_{12}H_{18}O_2$ used as an antiseptic and anthelmintic
hey \'hā\ *interj* [ME] — used esp. to call attention or to express interrogation, surprise, or exultation
¹hey·day \'hā-ˌdā\ *interj* [irreg. fr. *hey*] *archaic* — used to express elation or wonder
²heyday *n* **1** *archaic* : high spirits **2** : the period of one's greatest strength, vigor, or prosperity
Hez·e·ki·ah \ˌhez-ə-'kī-ə\ *n* [Heb *Ḥizqīyāh*] : a king of Judah under whom the kingdom underwent a ruinous Assyrian invasion at the end of the 8th century B.C.
hf *abbr* half
Hf *symbol* hafnium
HF *abbr* **1** height finding **2** high frequency **3** home forces
hg *abbr* **1** hectogram **2** heliogram **3** hemoglobin
Hg *symbol* [NL *hydrargyrum*, lit., water silver] mercury
HGH *abbr* human growth hormone
hgt *abbr* height
hgwy *abbr* highway
HH *abbr* **1** Her Highness; His Highness **2** His Holiness
HHD *abbr* [NL *Humanitatum Doctor*] doctor of humanities
HHFA *abbr* Housing and Home Finance Agency
hi \'hī(-ē)\ *interj* [ME *hy*] — used esp. as a greeting
HI *abbr* **1** Hawaii **2** high intensity **3** humidity index
HIA *abbr* Horological Institute of America
HIAA *abbr* Health Insurance Association of America
hi·a·tal \hī-'āt-ᵊl\ *adj* : HIATUS 〈~ hernia〉
¹hi·a·tus \hī-'āt-əs\ *n* [L, fr. *hiatus*, pp. of *hiare* to yawn — more at YAWN] **1 a** : a break in or as if in a material object : GAP 〈the ~ between the theory and the practice of the party —J. G. Colton〉 **b** : a gap or passage in an anatomical part or organ **2 a** : a lapse in continuity **b** : the occurrence of two vowel sounds without pause or intervening consonantal sound
²hiatus *adj* **1** : involving a hiatus **2** *of a hernia* : having a part that herniates through the esophageal hiatus of the diaphragm
Hi·a·wa·tha \ˌhī-ə-'wȯ-thə, ˌhē-ə-, -'wäth-ə\ *n* : the Indian hero of Longfellow's poem *The Song of Hiawatha*
hi·ba·chi \hi-'bäch-ē\ *n* [Jap] : a charcoal brazier
hi·ber·nac·u·lum \ˌhī-bər-'nak-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L, winter residence, fr. *hibernare*] : a shelter occupied during the winter by a dormant animal (as an insect)
hi·ber·nal \hī-'bərn-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or occurring in winter : WINTRY
hi·ber·nate \'hī-bər-ˌnāt\ *vi* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *hibernatus*, pp. of *hibernare* to pass the winter, fr. *hibernus* of winter; akin to L *hiems* winter, Gk *cheimōn*] **1** : to pass the winter in a torpid or resting state **2** : to be or become inactive or dormant — **hi·ber·na·tion** \ˌhī-bər-'nā-shən\ *n* — **hi·ber·na·tor** \'hī-bər-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*
¹Hi·ber·ni·an \hī-'bər-nē-ən\ *adj* [L *Hibernia* Ireland] : of, relating to, or characteristic of Ireland or the Irish
²Hibernian *n* : a native or inhabitant of Ireland
hi·bis·cus \hī-'bis-kəs, hə-\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, marshmallow] : any of a large genus (*Hibiscus*) of herbs, shrubs, or small trees of the mallow family with dentate leaves and large showy flowers
HIC *abbr* Health Insurance Council
¹hic·cup *also* **hic·cough** \'hik-(ˌ)əp\ *n* [imit.] **1** : a spasmodic inhalation with closure of the glottis accompanied by a peculiar sound **2** : an attack of hiccuping — usu. used in pl. but sing or pl. in constr.
²hiccup *also* **hiccough** *vi* **hic·cuped** *also* **hic·cupped; hic·cup·ing** *also* **hic·cup·ping** : to make a hiccup; *also* : to be affected with hiccups
hic ja·cet \(')hik-'jā-sət, (')hēk-'yäk-ət\ *n* [L, here lies] : EPITAPH
¹hick \'hik\ *n* [*Hick*, nickname for *Richard*] : an unsophisticated provincial person
²hick *adj* : UNSOPHISTICATED, PROVINCIAL 〈a ~ town〉
¹hick·ey \'hik-ē\ *n, pl* **hickeys** [origin unknown] **1 a** : a threaded coupling between an electrical fixture and an outlet box **b** : a device for bending pipe and conduit **2** : DEVICE, GADGET
²hickey *n, pl* **hickeys** [origin unknown] **1** : PIMPLE **2** : a temporary red mark produced in lovemaking by biting and sucking the skin
hick·o·ry \'hik-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [short for obs. *pokahickory*, fr. *pawcohiccora* food prepared from pounded nuts (in some Algonquian language of Virginia)] **1 a** : any of a genus (*Carya*) of No. American hardwood trees of the walnut family that often have sweet edible nuts **b** : the usu. tough pale wood of a hickory **2** : a switch or cane (as of hickory wood) used esp. for punishing a child — **hickory** *adj*
hid \'hid\ *adj* : HIDDEN
HID *abbr* headache, insomnia, depression
hi·dal·go \hid-'al-(ˌ)gō, ē-'thäl-\ *n, pl* **-gos** *often cap* [Sp] : a member of the lower nobility of Spain
hid·den \'hid-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : being out of sight : CONCEALED **2** : OBSCURE, UNEXPLAINED
hid·den·ite \'hid-ᵊn-ˌīt\ *n* [William E. *Hidden* †1918 Am mineralogist] : a transparent yellow to green spodumene valued as a gem
hidden tax *n* : INDIRECT TAX
¹hide \'hīd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hīgid*] : any of various old English units of land area; *esp* : a unit of 120 acres
²hide *vb* **hid** \'hid\; **hid·den** \'hid-ᵊn\ *or* **hid; hid·ing** \'hīd-iŋ\ [ME *hiden*, fr. OE *hȳdan*; akin to Gk *keuthein* to conceal, OE *hȳd* hide, skin] *vt* **1 a** : to put out of sight : SECRETE **b** : to conceal for shelter or protection : SHIELD **2** : to keep secret **3** : to screen from view **4** : to turn (the eyes or face) away in shame or anger ~ *vi* **1** : to remain out of sight **2** : to seek protection or evade responsibility 〈heads of companies who are not . . . gift-minded ~ behind their boards of directors —*Saturday Rev.*〉 — **hid·er** \'hīd-ər\ *n*
syn HIDE, CONCEAL, SCREEN, SECRETE, BURY *shared meaning element* : to withhold or withdraw from sight
³hide *n* [ME, fr. OE *hȳd*; akin to OHG *hūt* hide, L *cutis* skin, Gk *kytos* hollow vessel] : the skin of an animal whether raw or dressed — used esp. of large heavy skins — **hide or hair** *or* **hide nor hair** : a vestige or trace of someone or something 〈a wife he hadn't seen *hide or hair* of in over 20 years —H. L. Davis〉
⁴hide *vt* **hid·ed; hid·ing** : to give a beating to : FLOG
hide·away \'hīd-ə-ˌwā\ *n* : RETREAT, HIDEOUT
hide·bound \-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* **1 a** *of a domestic animal* : having a dry skin lacking in pliancy and adhering closely to the underlying flesh **b** *of a tree* : having the bark so close and constricting that it impedes growth **2** : having an inflexible character
hid·eous \'hid-ē-əs\ *adj* [alter. of ME *hidous*, fr. OF, fr. *hisde, hide* terror] **1** : offensive to the senses and esp. to sight : exceedingly ugly **2** : morally offensive : SHOCKING ***syn*** see UGLY ***ant*** fair — **hid·eous·ly** *adv* — **hid·eous·ness** *n*
hide·out \'hī-ˌdau̇t\ *n* : a place of refuge or concealment
hid·ey–hole *or* **hidy–hole** \'hīd-ē-ˌhōl\ *n* [alter. of earlier *hiding-hole*] : HIDEAWAY
hi·dro·sis \hid-'rō-səs, hī-'drō-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *hidrōsis*, fr. *hidroun* to sweat, fr. *hidrōs* sweat — more at SWEAT] : excretion of sweat : PERSPIRATION — **hi·drot·ic** \-'rät-ik, -'drät-\ *adj*
hie \'hī\ *vb* **hied; hy·ing** *or* **hie·ing** [ME *hien*, fr. OE *hīgian* to strive, hasten; akin to OSw *hikka* to pant, Skt *śīghra* quick] : HASTEN
hi·emal \'hī-ə-məl\ *adj* [L *hiemalis*, fr. *hiems* winter — more at HIBERNATE] : HIBERNAL
hier- *or* **hiero-** *comb form* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *hieros* — more at IRE] : sacred : holy 〈*hier*ology〉
hi·er·arch \'hī-(ə-)ˌrärk\ *n* [MF or ML; MF *hierarche*, fr. ML *hierarcha*, fr. Gk *hierarchēs*, fr. *hier-* + *-archēs* -arch] **1** : a religious leader in a position of authority **2** : a person high in a hierarchy — **hi·er·ar·chal** \ˌhī-(ə-)'rär-kəl\ *adj*
hi·er·ar·chi·cal \ˌhī-(ə-)'rär-ki-kəl\ *or* **hi·er·ar·chic** \-kik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or arranged in a hierarchy — **hi·er·ar·chi·cal·ly** \-ki-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hi·er·ar·chy \'hī-(ə-)ˌrär-kē\ *n, pl* **-chies** **1** : a division of angels **2 a** : a ruling body of clergy organized into orders or ranks each subordinate to the one above it; *specif* : the bishops of a province or nation **b** : church government by a hierarchy **3** : a body of

persons in authority **4** : a graded or ranked series ⟨Christian ~ of values⟩ ⟨a machine's ~ of responses⟩

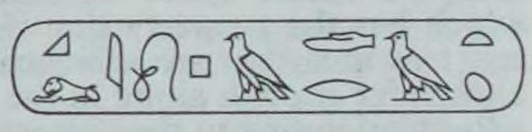
hi·er·at·ic \ˌhī-(ə-)ˈrat-ik\ *adj* [L *hieraticus* sacerdotal, fr. Gk *hieratikos*, deriv. of *hieros*] **1** : constituting or belonging to a cursive form of ancient Egyptian writing simpler than the hieroglyphic **2** : SACERDOTAL — **hi·er·at·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hi·ero·dule \ˈhī-(ə-)rō-ˌd(y)ü(ə)l, hī-ˈer-ə-\ *n* [LL *hierodulus*, fr. Gk *hierodoulos*, fr. *hier-* + *doulos* slave] : a slave in the service of a temple — **hi·ero·du·lic** \ˌhī-(ə-)rō-ˈd(y)ü-lik, (ˌ)hī-ˌer-ə-\ *adj*

hi·ero·glyph \ˈhī-(ə-)rə-ˌglif\ *n* [F *hiéroglyphe*, fr. MF, back-formation fr. *hieroglyphique*] **1** : a character used in a system of hieroglyphic writing **2** : something that resembles a hieroglyph

¹hi·ero·glyph·ic \ˌhī-(ə-)rə-ˈglif-ik\ *or* **hi·ero·glyph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [MF *hieroglyphique*, fr. LL *hieroglyphicus*, fr. Gk *hieroglyphikos*, fr. *hier-* + *glyphein* to carve — more at CLEAVE] **1** : written in, constituting, or belonging to a system of writing mainly in pictorial characters **2** : inscribed with hieroglyphic **3** : resembling hieroglyphic in difficulty of decipherment — **hi·ero·glyph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²hieroglyphic *n* **1** : HIEROGLYPH **2** : a system of hieroglyphic writing; *specif* : the picture script of the ancient Egyptian priesthood — often used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. **3** : something that resembles a hieroglyph esp. in difficulty of decipherment



Egyptian hieroglyphics

hi·ero·phant \ˈhī-(ə-)rə-ˌfant, hī-ˈer-ə-fənt\ *n* [LL *hierophanta*, fr. Gk *hierophantēs*, fr. *hier-* + *phainein* to show] **1** : a priest in ancient Greece; *specif* : the chief priest of the Eleusinian mysteries **2 a** : EXPOSITOR **b** : ADVOCATE — **hi·ero·phan·tic** \ˌhī-(ə-)rə-ˈfant-ik, (ˌ)hī-ˌer-ə-\ *adj*

HIF *abbr* Health Information Foundation

hi–fi \ˈhī-ˈfī\ *n* **1** : HIGH FIDELITY **2** : equipment for reproduction of sound with high fidelity

hig·gle \ˈhig-əl\ *vi* **hig·gled; hig·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [prob. alter. of *haggle*] : HAGGLE — **hig·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

hig·gle·dy–pig·gle·dy \ˌhig-əl-dē-ˈpig-əl-dē\ *adv* [origin unknown] : in confusion : TOPSY-TURVY ⟨tiny hovels piled ~ against each other —Edward Behr⟩ — **higgledy–piggledy** *adj*

¹high \ˈhī\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *hēah*; akin to OHG *hōh* high, L *cacumen* point, top] **1 a** : having large extension upward : taller than average, usual, or expected ⟨a ~ hill⟩ ⟨rooms with ~ ceilings⟩ **b** : having a specified elevation : TALL ⟨six feet ~⟩ — often used in combinations ⟨sky-*high*⟩ ⟨waist-*high*⟩ **2 a** (1) : advanced toward the acme or culmination ⟨~ summer⟩ (2) : advanced toward the most active or culminating period ⟨a vacation on the Riviera during ~ season⟩ (3) : constituting the late, most fully developed, or most creative stage or period ⟨~ Gothic⟩ **b** : verging on lateness — usu. used in the phrase *high time* **c** : long past : REMOTE ⟨~ antiquity⟩ **3** : elevated in pitch ⟨a ~ note⟩ **4** : relatively far from the equator ⟨~ latitude⟩ **5** : slightly tainted ⟨~ game⟩; *also* : MALODOROUS **6** : exalted in character : NOBLE ⟨set out with ~ purposes⟩ **7** : of greater degree, amount, cost, value, or content than average, usual, or expected ⟨~ prices⟩ ⟨food ~ in iron⟩ ⟨submitted a ~ bid⟩ **8** : of relatively great importance: as **a** : foremost in rank, dignity, or standing ⟨~ officials⟩ **b** : SERIOUS, GRAVE ⟨~ crimes⟩ **c** : CRITICAL, CLIMACTIC ⟨the ~ point of the novel is the escape⟩ **d** : marked by sublime, heroic, or stirring events or subject matter ⟨~ tragedy⟩ ⟨~ adventure⟩ **9** : FORCIBLE, STRONG ⟨~ winds⟩ **10 a** : showing elation or excitement ⟨~ spirits⟩ **b** : INTOXICATED; *also* : excited or stupefied by a drug (as marijuana or heroin) **11** : advanced in complexity, development, or elaboration ⟨~*er* nerve centers⟩ ⟨~*er* mathematics⟩ **12** : articulated with some part of the tongue close to the palate ⟨\ē\ is a ~ vowel⟩ — **high·ly** *adv*

syn HIGH, TALL, LOFTY *shared meaning element* : above the average in height ***ant*** low

²high *adv* **1** : at or to a high place, altitude, or degree ⟨climbed ~*er* on the ladder⟩ ⟨the bids went too ~⟩ **2** : WELL, LUXURIOUSLY — often used in the phrases *high off the hog* and *high on the hog*

³high *n* **1** : an elevated place or region: as **a** : HILL, KNOLL **b** : the space overhead : SKY — usu. used with *on* **c** : HEAVEN — usu. used with *on* **2** : a region of high barometric pressure — called also *anticyclone* **3 a** : a high point or level : HEIGHT ⟨sales have reached a new ~⟩ **b** : the transmission gear of an automotive vehicle giving the highest ratio of propeller-shaft to engine-shaft speed and consequently the highest speed of travel **4** : an excited or stupefied state produced by or as if by a drug (as heroin)

high altar *n* : the principal altar in a church

high analysis *adj, of a fertilizer* : containing more than 20 percent of total plant nutrients

high and dry *adv* **1** : out of reach of the current or tide : out of water **2** : in a helpless or abandoned position : without recourse

high and low *adv* : EVERYWHERE

high–and–mighty *adj* : characterized by arrogance : IMPERIOUS

¹high·ball \ˈhī-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1 a** : a railroad signal for a train to proceed at full speed **b** : a fast train **2** : a drink of alcohol (as whiskey) and water or a carbonated beverage

²highball *vi* : to go at full or high speed ⟨a ~*ing* express train⟩

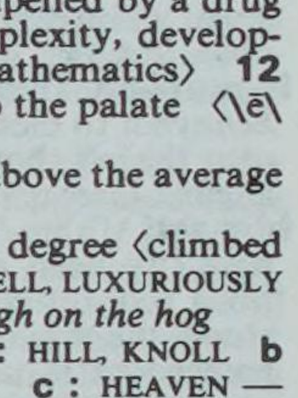
high beam *n* : the long-range focus of a vehicle headlight

high·bind·er \ˈhī-ˌbīn-dər\ *n* [the *Highbinders*, gang of vagabonds in New York City *ab*1806] **1** : a professional killer operating in the Chinese quarter of an American city **2** : a corrupt or scheming politician

high blood pressure *n* : HYPERTENSION

high·born \ˈhī-ˈbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : of noble birth

high·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a tall chest of drawers with a legged base



highboy

high·bred \-ˈbred\ *adj* : coming from superior stock

high·brow \-ˌbraů\ *n* : a person who possesses or has pretensions to superior learning or culture — **highbrow** *adj* — **high·browed** \-ˌbraůd\ *adj* — **high·brow·ism** \-ˌbraů-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

high·bush \-ˈbůsh\ *adj* : forming a notably tall or erect bush; *also* : borne on a highbush plant

highbush blueberry *n* : a variable moisture-loving No. American shrub (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) that is the source of most cultivated blueberries; *also* : its fruit

high chair *n* : a child's chair with long legs, a footrest, and usu. a feeding tray

High Church *adj* : tending esp. in Anglican worship to stress the sacerdotal, liturgical, ceremonial, traditional, and Catholic elements in worship — **High Churchman** *n*

high–class \ˈhī-ˈklas\ *adj* : SUPERIOR, FIRST-CLASS

high comedy *n* : comedy employing subtle characterizations and witty dialogue — compare LOW COMEDY

high command *n* **1** : the supreme headquarters of a military force **2** : the highest leaders in an organization

high commissioner *n* : a principal or a high-ranking commissioner; *esp* : an ambassadorial representative of the government of one country stationed in another

high–count \ˈhī-ˈkaůnt\ *adj* : having a large number of warp and weft yarns to the square inch ⟨~ percale sheeting⟩

high court *n* : SUPREME COURT

high–energy *adj* **1 a** : having such speed and kinetic energy as to exhibit relativistic departure from classical laws of motion — used esp. of elementary particles whose velocity has been imparted by an accelerator **b** : of or relating to high-energy particles ⟨a ~ reaction⟩ **2** : yielding a relatively large amount of energy when undergoing hydrolysis ⟨~ phosphate bonds in ATP⟩

high–energy physics *n* : a branch of physics dealing with the constitution, properties, and interactions of elementary particles esp. as revealed in experiments with particle accelerators

higher criticism *n* : study of biblical writings to determine their literary history and the purpose and meaning of the authors — compare LOWER CRITICISM — **higher critic** *n*

higher education *n* : education beyond the secondary level; *esp* : education provided by a college or university

higher fungus *n* : a fungus with hyphae well-developed and septate

higher law *n* : a principle of divine or moral law that is considered to be superior to constitutions and enacted legislation

higher learning *n* : education, learning, or scholarship on the collegiate or university level

high·er–up \ˌhī-ə-ˈrəp, ˈhī-ə-ˌ\ *n* : a superior officer or official

high explosive *n* : an explosive (as TNT) that generates gas with extreme rapidity and has a shattering effect

high·fa·lu·tin \ˌhī-fə-ˈlüt-ᵊn\ *adj* [perh. fr. ²*high* + alter. of *fluting*, prp. of *flute*] **1** : PRETENTIOUS **2** : expressed in or marked by the use of high-flown bombastic language : POMPOUS

high fashion *n* **1** : HIGH STYLE **2** : HAUTE COUTURE

high fidelity *n* : the reproduction of sound with a high degree of faithfulness to the original

high finance *n* : large and complex financial operations; *also* : the major financial institutions that engage in them

high–flown \ˈhī-ˈflōn\ *adj* **1** : exceedingly or excessively high or favorable **2** : having an excessively embellished or inflated character : PRETENTIOUS ⟨inflated rhetoric and ~ vocabulary —James Yaffe⟩

high–fly·ing \-ˈflī-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : rising to considerable height **2** : marked by extravagance, pretension, or excessive ambition

high frequency *n* : a radio frequency between very high frequency and medium frequency — see RADIO FREQUENCY table

high gear *n* **1** : HIGH 3b **2** : a state of intense or maximum activity

High German *n* **1** : German as natively used in southern and central Germany **2** : GERMAN 2b

high–grade *adj* **1** : of superior grade or quality ⟨~ bonds⟩ **2** : being near the upper or most favorable extreme of a specified range ⟨a ~ moron approaches normality⟩

high grade *n* : a grade animal that in conformation and economic qualities approximates the breed to which its known purebred ancestors belong

high–grown \ˈhī-ˈgrōn\ *adj, of coffee* : grown at a high altitude

high–hand·ed \-ˈhan-dəd\ *adj* : ARBITRARY, OVERBEARING — **high–hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **high–hand·ed·ness** *n*

high–hat \ˈhī-ˈhat\ *adj* : SUPERCILIOUS, SNOBBISH — **high–hat** *vt*

high hat *n* : BEAVER 2

High Holiday *n* : either of two important Jewish holidays: **a** : ROSH HASHANAH **b** : YOM KIPPUR

high horse *n* : an arrogant and unyielding mood or attitude ⟨wanted to get on her *high horse* and treat him as if he were nothing — William Heuman⟩

high jump *n* : a jump for height in a track-and-field contest

¹high·land \ˈhī-lənd\ *n* : elevated or mountainous land

²highland *adj* **1** : of or relating to a highland **2** *cap* : of or relating to the Highlands of Scotland

high·land·er \-lən-dər\ *n* **1** : an inhabitant of a highland **2** *cap* : an inhabitant of the Highlands of Scotland

Highland fling *n* : a lively Scottish folk dance

high–lev·el \ˈhī-ˈlev-əl\ *adj* **1** : occurring, done, or placed at a high level **2** : being of high importance or rank ⟨~ diplomats⟩

¹high·light \ˈhī-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : the lightest spot or area (as in a painting) : any of several spots in a modeled drawing or painting that

receives the greatest amount of illumination **2 :** an event or detail of major significance or special interest
²highlight *vt* **1 :** to throw a strong light upon **2 a :** to center attention upon : EMPHASIZE **b :** to constitute a highlight of
high-low-jack \ˌhī-ˌlō-ˈjak\ *n* : a card game in which scores are made by winning the highest trump, the lowest trump, the jack of trumps, and either the ten of trumps or the most points
high mass *n, often cap H&M* : a mass marked by the singing of prescribed parts by the celebrant and the choir or congregation
high-mind·ed \ˈhī-ˈmīn-dəd\ *adj* : marked by elevated principles and feelings — **high-mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **high-mind·ed·ness** *n*
high-muck-a-muck \ˌhī-ˌmək-i-ˈmək\ *or* **high-muck·e·ty-muck** \ˌhī-ˌmək-ət-ē-ˈmək\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. Chinook Jargon *hiu muckamuck* plenty to eat] : an important and often arrogant person
high·ness \ˈhī-nəs\ *n* **1 :** the quality or state of being high **2** — used as a title for a person of exalted rank (as a king or prince)
high noon *n* **1 :** precisely noon **2 :** the most advanced, flourishing, or creative stage or period ⟨the *high noon* of his genius —John Pfeiffer⟩
high-octane *adj* **1 :** having a high octane number and hence good antiknock properties ⟨~ gasoline⟩ **2 :** HIGH-POWERED
high-pitched \ˈhī-ˈpicht\ *adj* **1 :** having a high pitch ⟨a ~ voice⟩ **2 :** marked by or exhibiting strong feeling : AGITATED ⟨a ~, almost frantic campaign —Geoffrey Rice⟩
high place *n* : a temple or altar used by the ancient Semites and built usu. on a hill or elevation
high polymer *n* : a substance (as polystyrene) consisting of molecules that are large multiples of units of low molecular weight
high-pow·ered \ˈhī-ˈpaù(-ə)rd\ *also* **high-pow·er** \-ˈpaù(-ə)r\ *adj* : having great drive, energy, or capacity : DYNAMIC
¹high-pressure *adj* **1 a :** having or involving a high or comparatively high pressure esp. greatly exceeding that of the atmosphere **b :** having a high barometric pressure **2 a :** using or involving aggressive and insistent sales techniques **b :** imposing or involving severe strain or tension ⟨~ occupations⟩
²high-pressure *vt* : to sell or influence by high-pressure tactics
high priest *n* **1 :** a chief priest esp. of the ancient Jewish Levitical priesthood traditionally traced from Aaron **2 :** a priest of the Melchizedek priesthood in the Mormon Church **3 :** the head of a movement or chief expounder of a doctrine or an art — **high priestess** *n* — **high priesthood** *n*
high relief *n* : sculptural relief in which at least half of the circumference of the modeled form projects
high-rise \ˈhī-ˈrīz\ *adj* **1 :** being multistory and equipped with elevators ⟨~ apartments⟩ **2 :** of, relating to, or characterized by high-rise buildings **3 :** of, relating to, or being extra-long bicycle handlebars or a bicycle equipped with them — **high rise** *n*
high·road \ˈhī-ˌrōd\ *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : HIGHWAY **2 :** the easiest course
high roller *n* **1 :** one who spends freely in fast or luxurious living **2 :** one who gambles recklessly or for high stakes
¹high school *n* : a school usu. including grades 9–12 or 10–12 — **high school·er** \-ˈskü-lər\ *n*
²high school *n* : a system of advanced exercises in horsemanship
high sea *n* : the open part of a sea or ocean esp. outside territorial waters — usu. used in pl.
high-sound·ing \ˈhī-ˈsau̇n-diŋ\ *adj* : POMPOUS, IMPOSING
high-speed \ˈhī-ˈspēd\ *adj* **1 :** operated or adapted for operation at high speed **2 :** relating to the production of short-exposure photographs of rapidly moving objects or events of short duration
high-spir·it·ed \-ˈspir-ət-əd\ *adj* : characterized by a bold or energetic spirit — **high-spir·it·ed·ly** *adv* — **high-spir·it·ed·ness** *n*
high-stick·ing \-ˈstik-iŋ\ *n* : the act of carrying the blade of the stick at an illegal height in ice hockey
high street *n, Brit* : a main or principal street
high-strung \ˈhī-ˈstrəŋ\ *adj* : having an extremely nervous or sensitive temperament
high style *n* : the newest in fashion or design and usu. adopted by a limited number of people
hight \ˈhīt\ *adj* [ME, irreg. pp. of *hoten* to command, call, be called, fr. OE *hātan;* akin to OHG *heizzan* to command, call, and prob. to L *cière* to move, Gk *kinein*] *archaic* : being called : NAMED
high table *n* : an elevated table in the dining room of a British college for use by the master and fellows of the college and distinguished guests
high-tail \ˈhī-ˌtāl\ *vi* : to move at full speed esp. in making a retreat — often used with *it*
high tea *n, Brit* : a fairly substantial late afternoon or early evening meal
high-tension *adj* : having a high voltage; *also* : relating to apparatus to be used at high voltage
high-test *adj* : meeting a high standard; *esp* : HIGH-OCTANE
high tide *n* **1 :** the tide when the water is at its greatest elevation **2 :** culminating point : CLIMAX
high-toned \ˈhī-ˈtōnd\ *adj* **1 :** high in social, moral, or intellectual quality ⟨discreet, decorous, and ~ establishments —Eugene Burr⟩ **2 :** PRETENTIOUS, POMPOUS
high treason *n* : TREASON 2
high-water *adj* : unusually short ⟨~ pants⟩
high water *n* : a high stage of the water in a river or lake; *also* : HIGH TIDE
high·way \ˈhī-ˌwā\ *n* : a public way; *esp* : a main direct road
high·way·man \-mən\ *n* : a person who robs travelers on a road
highway robbery *n* **1 :** robbery committed on or near a public highway usu. against travelers **2 :** excessive profit or advantage derived from a business transaction
high-wrought \ˈhī-ˈrȯt\ *adj* : extremely agitated
high yal·ler \-ˈyal-ər\ *n* [*yaller*, alter. of *yellow*] : a mulatto or Negro of light-brown color — called also *high yellow*
HII *abbr* Health Insurance Institute
hi·jack *or* **high-jack** \ˈhī-ˌjak\ *vt* [origin unknown] **1 a :** to steal by stopping a vehicle on the highway **b :** to commandeer a flying airplane (as by coercing the pilot at gunpoint) **c :** to stop and steal from (a vehicle in transit) **2 a :** to steal or rob as if by hijacking **b :** to subject to extortion or swindling — **hijack** *n* — **hi·jack·er** *n*
¹hike \ˈhīk\ *vb* **hiked; hik·ing** [perh. akin to ¹*hitch*] *vt* **1 a :** to move, pull, or raise with a sudden motion ⟨*hiked* himself onto the top bunk⟩ **b :** SNAP 6b **c :** to raise in amount sharply or suddenly ⟨~ rents⟩ **2 :** to take on a hike ~ *vi* **1 a :** to go on a hike **b :** to travel by any means **2 :** to rise up; *esp* : to work upward out of place ⟨skirt had *hiked* up in back⟩ — **hik·er** *n*
²hike *n* **1 :** a long walk esp. for pleasure or exercise **2 :** an increase or rise (as of a quantity or amount) ⟨a new wage ~⟩ **3** : SNAP 11
hi·lar \ˈhī-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or located near a hilum
hi·lar·i·ous \hil-ˈar-ē-əs, -ˈer-; hī-ˈlar-, -ˈler-\ *adj* [irreg. fr. L *hilarus, hilaris* cheerful, fr. Gk *hilaros*] : marked by or affording hilarity — **hi·lar·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **hi·lar·i·ous·ness** *n*
hi·lar·i·ty \-ət-ē\ *n* : exhilaration of spirits that may be carried to the point of boisterous conviviality or merriment ***syn*** see MIRTH
Hil·bert space \ˌhil-bərt-\ *n* [David *Hilbert* †1943 G mathematician] : a vector space for which a scalar product is defined and which has the property that if a sequence of elements is such that any two members are arbitrarily close together if the members are chosen far enough along in the sequence, the sequence converges to a limit belonging to the vector space
hil·ding \ˈhil-diŋ\ *n* [*hilding*, adj. (base)] *archaic* : a base contemptible person
¹hill \ˈhil\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hyll;* akin to L *collis* hill, *culmen* top] **1** : a usu. rounded natural elevation of land lower than a mountain **2 :** an artificial heap or mound (as of earth) **3 :** several seeds or plants planted in a group rather than a row — **over the hill 1** : past one's prime **2 :** advanced in age
²hill *vt* **1 :** to form into a heap **2 :** to draw earth around the roots or base of — **hill·er** *n*
hill·bil·ly \ˈhil-ˌbil-ē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [¹*hill* + *Billy*, nickname for *William*] : a person from a backwoods area
hillbilly music *n* : COUNTRY MUSIC
hill climb *n* : a road race for automobiles or motorcycles in which competitors are individually timed up a hill
hill·crest \ˈhil-ˌkrest\ *n* : the top line of a hill
hill myna *n* : a largely black Asiatic starling (*Gracula religiosa*) often tamed and taught to pronounce words
hill·ock \ˈhil-ək\ *n* : a small hill — **hill·ocky** \-ə-kē\ *adj*
Hill reaction \ˌhil-\ *n* [Robin *Hill*, 20th cent. Brit biochemist] : the light dependent transfer of electrons by chloroplasts in photosynthesis that results in the cleavage of water molecules and liberation of oxygen
hill·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : a part of a hill between the summit and the foot
hill·top \ˈhil-ˌtäp\ *n* : the highest part of a hill
hilly \ˈhil-ē\ *adj* **hill·i·er; -est 1 :** abounding in hills **2 :** STEEP
hilt \ˈhilt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *healt* lame — more at HALT] : a handle esp. of a sword or dagger — **to the hilt :** to the very limit : COMPLETELY
hi·lum \ˈhī-ləm\ *n, pl* **hi·la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L, trifle] **1 a :** a scar on a seed (as a bean) marking the point of attachment of the ovule **b :** the nucleus of a starch grain **2** : a notch in or opening from a bodily part suggesting the hilum of a bean


1

1, hilum 1a on a bean seed

him \im, (ˈ)him\ *pron, objective case of* HE
Hi·ma·la·yan \ˌhim-ə-ˈlā-ən, him-ˈäl-(ə-)yən\ *n* [*Himalaya* mountains] : any of a breed of small white domesticated rabbits with black nose, feet, tail, and ear tips
hi·mat·i·on \him-ˈat-ē-ˌän, -ən\ *n* [Gk, fr. *hennynai* to clothe — more at WEAR] : a rectangular cloth draped over the left shoulder and about the body and worn as a garment in ancient Greece
him·self \(h)im-ˈself\ *pron* **1 a :** that identical male one — compare ¹HE; used reflexively, for emphasis, or in absolute constructions ⟨considers ~ lucky⟩ ⟨he ~ did it⟩ ⟨~ unhappy, he understood the situation⟩ **b** — used reflexively when the sex of the antecedent is unspecified ⟨everyone must fend for ~⟩ **2 :** his normal, healthy, or sane condition **3** *Irish & Scot* : a man of consequence; *esp* : the master of the house
¹Him·yar·ite \ˈhim-yə-ˌrīt\ *n* [*Himyar*, legendary king in Yemen] **1** : a member of an ancient people of southern Arabia **2 :** an Arab of a group of related ancient peoples of southern Arabia
²Himyarite *or* **Him·yar·it·ic** \ˌhim-yə-ˈrit-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the ancient Himyarites or their language
hin \ˈhin\ *n* [Heb *hīn*, fr. Egypt *hnw*] : an ancient Hebrew unit of liquid measure equal to about a gallon and a half
Hi·na·ya·na \ˌhē-nə-ˈyän-ə\ *n* [Skt *hīnayāna*, lit., lesser vehicle] : THERAVADA — **Hi·na·ya·nist** \-ˈyän-əst\ *n* — **Hi·na·ya·nis·tic** \-yä-ˈnis-tik\ *adj*
¹hind \ˈhīnd\ *n, pl* **hinds** *also* **hind** [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *hinta* hind, Gk *kemas* young deer] **1 :** a female of the red deer — compare HART **2 :** any of various spotted groupers (esp. genus *Epinephelus*)
²hind *n* [ME *hine* servant, farmhand, fr. OE *hīna*, gen. of *hīwan*, pl., members of a household; akin to OE *hām* home — more at HOME] **1 :** a British farm assistant **2** *archaic* : RUSTIC
³hind *adj* [ME, prob. back-formation fr. OE *hinder*, adv., behind; akin to OHG *hintar*, prep., behind] : of or forming the part that follows or is behind : REAR
Hind *abbr* **1** Hindi **2** Hindustani
hind·brain \ˈhīn(d)-ˌbrān\ *n* **1 a :** the posterior of the three primary divisions of the vertebrate brain or the parts developed from it including the cerebellum, pons, and medulla oblongata **b** : METENCEPHALON **c** : MYELENCEPHALON **2 :** the posterior segment of the brain of an invertebrate
¹hin·der \ˈhin-dər\ *vb* **hin·dered; hin·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *hindren*, fr. OE *hindrian;* akin to OE *hinder* behind] *vt* **1 :** to make slow or difficult the progress of : HAMPER **2 :** to hold back

: CHECK ~ *vi* : to delay, impede, or prevent action — **hin·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*
syn HINDER, IMPEDE, OBSTRUCT, BLOCK *shared meaning element* : to interfere with the activity or progress of ***ant*** further

²hind·er \'hīn-dər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *hinder*, adv.] : situated behind or in the rear : POSTERIOR

hind·gut \'hīn(d)-ˌgət\ *n* : the posterior part of the alimentary canal

Hin·di \'hin-(ˌ)dē\ *n* [Hindi *hindī*, fr. *Hind*, India, fr. Per] **1** : a literary and official language of northern India **2** : a complex of Indic dialects of northern India for which Hindi is the usual literary language — **Hindi** *adj*

hind·most \'hīn(d)-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest to the rear : LAST

hind·quar·ter \-ˌkwȯ(r)t-ər\ *n* **1** : the back half of a side of beef, veal, mutton, or lamb including a leg and usu. one or more ribs **2** *pl* : the hind pair of legs of a quadruped; *broadly* : all the structures of a quadruped that lie posterior to the attachment of the hind legs to the trunk

hin·drance \'hin-drən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the state of being hindered **2** : the action of hindering **3** : IMPEDIMENT

hind·sight \'hīn(d)-ˌsīt\ *n* **1** : a rear sight of a firearm **2** : perception of the nature and demands of an event after it has happened

¹Hin·du *also* **Hin·doo** \'hin-(ˌ)dü *n* [Per *Hindū* inhabitant of India, fr. *Hind* India] **1** : an adherent of Hinduism **2** : a native or inhabitant of India

²Hindu *also* **Hindoo** *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Hindus or Hinduism

Hindu calendar *n* : a lunar calendar usu. dating from 3101 B.C. and used esp. in India — see MONTH table

Hin·du·ism \'hin-(ˌ)dü-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the dominant cultic religion of India emphasizing dharma with its resulting ritual and social observances and often mystical contemplation and ascetic practices

¹Hin·du·stani *also* **Hin·do·stani** \ˌhin-dü-'stan-ē, -'stän-ē\ *n* [Hindi *Hindūstānī*, fr. Per *Hindūstān* India] **1** : a group of Indic dialects of northern India of which literary Hindi and Urdu are considered diverse written forms **2** : a form of speech allied to Urdu but less divergent from Hindi used in some urban areas

²Hindustani *also* **Hindostani** *adj* : of or relating to Hindustan or its people or Hindustani

hind wing *n* : either of the posterior wings of a 4-winged insect

¹hinge \'hinj\ *n* [ME *heng;* akin to MD *henge* hook, OE *hangian* to hang] **1 a** : a jointed or flexible device on which a door, lid, or other swinging part turns **b** : a flexible ligamentous joint **c** : a small piece of thin gummed paper used in fastening a postage stamp in an album **2** : a determining factor : TURNING POINT

²hinge *vb* **hinged; hing·ing** *vt* : to attach by or furnish with hinges ~ *vi* : to be contingent on a single consideration or point — used with *on* or *upon*

hinge joint *n* : a joint between bones (as at the elbow) that permits motion in only one plane

hin·ny \'hin-ē\ *n, pl* **hinnies** [L *hinnus*] : a hybrid between a stallion and a she-ass — compare MULE

¹hint \'hint\ *n* [prob. alter. of obs. *hent* act of seizing, fr. *hent* vb.] **1** *archaic* : OPPORTUNITY, TURN **2 a** : an indirect or summary suggestion ⟨helpful ~*s*⟩ **b** : a statement conveying by implication what it is preferred not to say explicitly **3** : a slight indication of the existence or nature of something : CLUE

²hint *vt* : to convey indirectly and by allusion rather than explicitly ⟨a suspicion that she scarcely dared to ~⟩ ~ *vi* : to give a hint ⟨~ for an invitation⟩ ***syn*** see SUGGEST — **hint·er** *n*

hin·ter·land \'hint-ər-ˌland, -lənd\ *n* [G, fr. *hinter* hinder + *land*] **1** : a region lying inland from a coast **2 a** : a region remote from urban areas **b** : a region lying beyond major metropolitan or cultural centers

¹hip \'hip\ *n* [ME *hipe*, fr. OE *hēope;* akin to OHG *hiafo* hip] : the ripened accessory fruit of a rose that consists of a fleshy receptacle enclosing numerous achenes

²hip *n* [ME, fr. OE *hype;* akin to OHG *huf* hip, L *cubitum* elbow, *cubare* to lie, Gk *kybos* cube, die, OE *hēah* high — more at HIGH] **1 a** : the laterally projecting region of each side of the lower or posterior part of the mammalian trunk formed by the lateral parts of the pelvis and upper part of the femur together with the fleshy parts covering them **b** : HIP JOINT **2** : the external angle formed by the meeting of two sloping sides of a roof that have their wall plates running in different directions

³hip *vt* **hipped; hip·ping** : to make (as a roof) with a hip

⁴hip *interj* [origin unknown] — usu. used to begin a cheer ⟨~ ~ hooray⟩

⁵hip *also* **hep** *adj* **hip·per; hip·pest** [*hip*, alter. of *hep*, of unknown origin] : characterized by a keen informed awareness of or interest in the newest developments

⁶hip *n* : HIPNESS

hip and thigh *adv* : in an overwhelming manner : UNSPARINGLY

hip·bone \'hip-ˌbōn, -ˌbōn\ *n* : INNOMINATE BONE

hip boot *n* : a boot reaching to the hips that is worn esp. by fishermen

hip joint *n* : the articulation between the femur and the innominate bone

hip·ness \'hip-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being hip

hipp- *or* **hippo-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *hippos* — more at EQUINE] : horse ⟨*hippo*phagous⟩

¹hipped \'hipt\ *adj* : having hips esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination ⟨broad-*hipped*⟩

²hipped *adj* [*hip* (hypochondria)] **1** : DEPRESSED **2** : absorbed or interested to an extreme degree ⟨~ on astrology⟩

hip·pie *or* **hip·py** \'hip-ē\ *n, pl* **hippies** [⁵*hip* + *-ie*] : a usu. young person who rejects the mores of established society (as by dressing unconventionally or favoring communal living), advocates a nonviolent ethic, and often uses psychedelic drugs or marijuana; *broadly* : a long-haired unconventionally dressed young person — **hip·pie·dom** \-ēd-əm\ *n* — **hip·pie·hood** \-ē-ˌhu̇d\ *n*

hip·po \'hip-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **hippos** : HIPPOPOTAMUS

hip·po·cam·pal \ˌhip-ə-'kam-pəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the hippocampus

hip·po·cam·pus \-pəs\ *n, pl* **-pi** \-ˌpī, -(ˌ)pē\ [NL, fr. Gk *hippokampos* sea horse, fr. *hipp-* + *kampos* sea monster] : a curved elongated ridge that extends over the floor of the descending horn of each lateral ventricle of the brain and consists of gray matter covered on the ventricular surface with white matter

hip·po·cras \'hip-ə-ˌkras\ *n* [ME *ypocras*, fr. *Ypocras* Hippocrates, its legendary inventor] : a highly spiced wine of medieval Europe

Hip·po·crat·ic \ˌhip-ə-'krat-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to Hippocrates or to the school of medicine that took his name

Hippocratic oath *n* : an oath embodying a code of medical ethics usu. taken by those about to begin medical practice

Hip·po·crene \'hip-ə-ˌkrēn, ˌhip-ə-'krē-nē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hippokrēnē*] : a fountain on Mount Helicon sacred to the Muses and believed to be a source of poetic inspiration

hip·po·drome \'hip-ə-ˌdrōm\ *n* [MF, fr. L *hippodromos*, fr. Gk, fr. *hipp-* + *dromos* racecourse — more at DROMEDARY] **1** : an oval stadium for horse and chariot races in ancient Greece **2** : an arena for equestrian performances

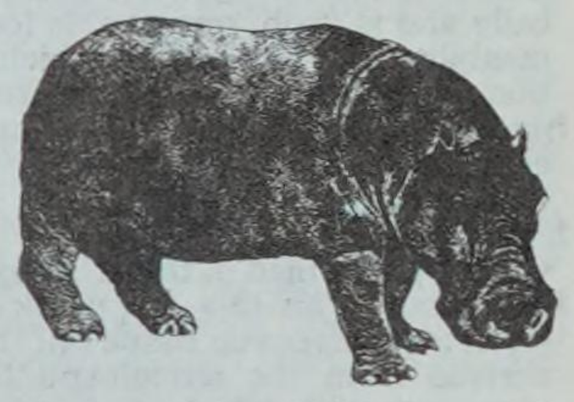
hip·po·griff \-ˌgrif\ *n* [F *hippogriffe*, fr. It *ippogrifo*, fr. *ippo-* hipp- (fr. L *hipp-*) + *grifo* griffin, fr. L *gryphus*] : a legendary animal having the foreparts of a griffin and the body and hindquarters of a horse

Hip·pol·y·ta \hip-'äl-ət-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hippolytē*] : a queen of the Amazons given in marriage to Theseus by Hercules

Hip·pol·y·tus \-ət-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hippolytos*] : a son of Theseus and Hippolyta falsely accused of amorous advances by his stepmother Phaedra and killed by his father through the agency of Poseidon

Hip·pom·e·nes \hip-'äm-ə-ˌnēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hippomenēs*] : the successful suitor of Atalanta according to Greek legend

hip·po·pot·a·mus \ˌhip-ə-'pät-ə-məs\ *n, pl* **-mus·es** *or* **-mi** \-ˌmī, -(ˌ)mē\ [L, fr. Gk *hippopotamos*, fr. *hipp-* + *potamos* river, fr. *petesthai* to fly, rush — more at FEATHER] : any of several large herbivorous 4-toed chiefly aquatic mammals (family Hippopotamidae and esp. genus *Hippopotamus*) with an extremely large head and mouth, bare and very thick skin, and short legs



hippopotamus

-hip·pus \'hip-əs\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *hippos* — more at EQUINE] : horse — in generic names esp. in paleontology ⟨*Eohippus*⟩

hip roof *n* : a roof having sloping ends and sloping sides

hip·ster \'hip-stər\ *n* [⁵*hip*] : a person who is unusually aware of and interested in new and unconventional patterns esp. in jazz, in the use of stimulants (as narcotics), and in exotic religion

hip·ster·ism \-stə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* **1** : HIPNESS **2** : the way of life characteristic of hipsters

¹hire \'hī(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hȳr;* akin to MD *hūre* hire] **1 a** : payment for the temporary use of something **b** : payment for labor or personal services : WAGES **2 a** : the act of hiring **b** : the state of being hired : EMPLOYMENT ***syn*** see WAGE

²hire *vb* **hired; hir·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to engage the personal services of for a set sum ⟨~ on a new crew⟩ **b** : to engage the temporary use of for a fixed sum ⟨~ a hall⟩ **2** : to grant the personal services of or temporary use of for a fixed sum ⟨~ themselves out⟩ **3** : to get done for pay ⟨~ the mowing done⟩ ~ *vi* : to take employment ⟨~ out as a waitress during the tourist season⟩ — **hir·er** *n*
syn HIRE, LET, LEASE, RENT, CHARTER *shared meaning element* : to engage or grant for use at a price. *Hire* and *let* are usually complementary terms, HIRE implying the act of engaging and LET the act of granting for use ⟨we *hired* a house for the summer after some difficulty in persuading the owner to *let* it⟩ Sometimes, and especially with relation to persons or their services, *hire* may be used in either situation ⟨*hire* a servant⟩ ⟨he *hired* himself out as a servant⟩ LEASE strictly implies a letting on contract ⟨agreed to *lease* his farm to the young man on shares⟩ but it may also be employed in the sense of to hire on a lease ⟨we found it cheaper to *lease* then to buy a car⟩ RENT stresses payment for the full use of property and may imply either a hiring or a letting. CHARTER applies to the hiring or letting of a conveyance (as a ship or bus) usually for exclusive use ⟨*charter* an airplane to go to a football game⟩

hire·ling \'hī(ə)r-liŋ\ *n* : a person who serves for hire esp. for purely mercenary motives

hire purchase *n, chiefly Brit* : purchase on the installment plan

hiring hall *n* : a union-operated placement office where registered applicants are referred in rotation to jobs

hir·ple \'hir-pəl\ *vi* **hir·pled; hir·pling** \-p(ə-)liŋ\ [ME (Sc) *hirplen*] *Scot* : LIMP, HOBBLE

hir·sute \'hər-ˌsüt, 'hi(ə)r-, ˌhər-', hi(ə)r-'\ *adj* [L *hirsutus;* akin to L *horrēre* to bristle — more at HORROR] : roughly hairy; *esp* : pubescent with coarse stiff hairs — **hir·sute·ness** *n*

hir·sut·ism \'hər-sə-ˌtiz-əm, 'hi(ə)r-\ *n* : excessive growth of hair of normal or abnormal distribution

hir·su·tu·lous \ˌhər-'sü-chə-ləs, hi(ə)r-\ *adj* : minutely or slightly hirsute

hi·ru·din \hir-'üd-ᵊn, 'hir-(y)əd-ən\ *n* [fr. *Hirudin*, a trademark] : an anticoagulant extracted from the buccal glands of a leech

[1]his \(h)iz, ˌhiz\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE, gen. of *hē* he] : of or relating to him or himself esp. as possessor, agent, or object of an action ⟨~ house⟩ ⟨~ writings⟩ ⟨~ confirmation⟩ — compare [1]HE

[2]his \'hiz\ *pron, sing or pl in constr* : that which belongs to him — used without a following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to the adjective *his*

His·pan·ic \his-'pan-ik\ *adj* [L *hispanicus,* fr. *Hispania* Iberian peninsula, Spain] : of or relating to the people, speech, or culture of Spain, Spain and Portugal, or Latin America — **His·pan·i·cism** \-'pan-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* — **His·pan·i·cist** \-səst\ *n* — **His·pan·i·cize** \-ˌsīz\ *vt*

his·pa·ni·dad \ˌis-ˌpan-i-'thä(th)\ *n* : HISPANISM 1

his·pa·nism \'his-pə-ˌniz-əm\ *n, often cap* **1** : a movement to reassert the cultural unity of Spain and Latin America **2** : a characteristic feature of Spanish occurring in another language

his·pid \'his-pəd\ *adj* [L *hispidus;* prob. akin to L *horrēre*] : rough or covered with bristles, stiff hairs, or minute spines ⟨~ leaf⟩ — **his·pid·i·ty** \his-'pid-ət-ē\ *n*

hiss \'his\ *vb* [ME *hissen,* of imit. origin] *vi* : to make a sharp sibilant sound often as an expression of disapproval ~ *vt* **1** : to condemn by hissing **2** : to utter with a hiss — **hiss** *n* — **hiss·er** *n*

[1]hist \s *often prolonged and usu with* p *preceding and* t *following; often read as* 'hist\ *interj* [origin unknown] — used to attract attention

[2]hist \'hīst\ *dial var of* HOIST

[3]hist *abbr* historian; historical; history

hist- *or* **histo-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk *histos* mast, loom beam, web, fr. *histanai* to cause to stand] : tissue ⟨*histo*physiology⟩

his·ta·mi·nase \his-'tam-ə-ˌnās, 'his-tə-mə-, -ˌnāz\ *n* [ISV] : a widely occurring flavoprotein enzyme that oxidizes histamine and various diamines

his·ta·mine \'his-tə-ˌmēn, -mən\ *n* [ISV] : a compound $C_5H_9N_3$ that is found in ergot and many animal tissues or made synthetically and is prob. responsible for the dilatation and increased permeability of blood vessels which play a major role in allergic reactions — **his·ta·min·ic** \ˌhis-tə-'min-ik\ *adj*

his·ta·min·er·gic \ˌhis-tə-mə-'nər-jik\ *adj* [ISV *histamine* + Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] *of autonomic nerve fibers* : liberating or activated by histamine

his·ti·dine \'his-tə-ˌdēn\ *n* [ISV] : a crystalline basic amino acid $C_6H_9N_3O_2$ formed in the splitting of most proteins

his·tio·cyte \'his-tē-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [Gk *histion* web (dim. of *histos*), + ISV *-cyte*] : a phagocytic tissue cell that may be fixed or freely motile, is derived from the reticuloendothelial system, and resembles the monocyte with which it is sometimes identified — **his·tio·cyt·ic** \ˌhis-tē-ə-'sit-ik\ *adj*

his·to·chem·i·cal \ˌhis-tō-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to histochemistry — **his·to·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

his·to·chem·is·try \-'kem-ə-strē\ *n* [ISV] : a science dealing with the chemical makeup of cells and tissues

his·to·com·pat·i·bil·i·ty \'his-(ˌ)tō-kəm-ˌpat-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : a state of mutual tolerance that allows some tissues to be grafted effectively to others

his·to·gen \'his-tə-jən\ *n* [ISV] : a zone or clearly delimited region of primary tissue in or from which the specific parts of a plant organ are believed to be produced

his·to·gen·e·sis \ˌhis-tə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation and differentiation of tissues — **his·to·ge·net·ic** \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* — **his·to·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

his·to·gram \'his-tə-ˌgram\ *n* [Gk *histos* mast, web + E *-gram*] : a representation of a frequency distribution by means of rectangles whose widths represent class intervals and whose areas are proportional to the corresponding frequencies

his·tol·o·gy \his-'täl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [F *histologie,* fr. *hist-* + *-logie* -logy] **1** : a branch of anatomy that deals with the minute structure of animal and plant tissues as discernible with the microscope **2** : a treatise on histology **3** : tissue structure or organization — **his·to·log·i·cal** \ˌhis-tə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **his·to·log·ic** \-'läj-ik\ *adj* — **his·to·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **his·tol·o·gist** \his-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*

his·tol·y·sis \his-'täl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *hist-* + *-lysis*] : the breakdown of bodily tissues — **his·to·lyt·ic** \ˌhis-tə-'lit-ik\ *adj*

his·tone \'his-ˌtōn\ *n* [ISV] : any of various simple water-soluble proteins that yield a high proportion of basic amino acids on hydrolysis and are found associated with DNA in cell nuclei

his·to·pa·thol·o·gy \ˌhis-tō-pə-'thäl-ə-jē, -pa-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a branch of pathology concerned with the tissue changes characteristic of disease **2** : the tissue changes that affect a part or accompany a disease — **his·to·path·o·log·ic** \-ˌpath-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **his·to·path·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **his·to·path·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **his·to·pa·thol·o·gist** \-pə-'thäl-ə-jəst, -pa-\ *n*

his·to·phys·i·ol·o·gy \-ˌfiz-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : a branch of physiology concerned with the function and activities of tissues **2** : structural and functional tissue organization — **his·to·phys·i·o·log·i·cal** \-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *or* **his·to·phys·i·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

his·to·plas·mo·sis \ˌhis-tə-plaz-'mō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *Histoplasma,* genus of fungi] : a disease caused by infection with a fungus (*Histoplasma capsulatum*) and marked by benign involvement of lymph nodes of the trachea and bronchi or by severe progressive generalized involvement of the lymph nodes and the reticuloendothelial system

his·to·ri·an \his-'tōr-ē-ən, -'tȯr-, -'tär-\ *n* **1** : a student or writer of history; *esp* : one that produces a scholarly synthesis **2** : a writer or compiler of a chronicle

his·tor·ic \his-'tȯr-ik, -'tär-\ *adj* : HISTORICAL; *esp* : famous in history ⟨~ battlefields⟩

his·tor·i·cal \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the character of history **b** : based on history **c** : used in the past and reproduced in historical presentations **2** : famous in history **3 a** : SECONDARY 1c **b** : DIACHRONIC — **his·tor·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **his·tor·i·cal·ness** \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n*

historical materialism *n* : the Marxist theory of history and society that holds that ideas and social institutions develop only as the superstructure of a material economic base — compare DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM

historical present *n* : the present tense used to relate past events

historical school *n* : a school esp. in economics, legal philosophy, or ethnology emphasizing evolutionary developments and historical methods of research, analysis, and interpretation

his·tor·i·cism \his-'tȯr-ə-ˌsiz-əm, -'tär-\ *n* : a theory that emphasizes the importance of history as a standard of value or as a determinant of events — **his·tor·i·cist** \-səst\ *adj or n*

his·to·ric·i·ty \ˌhis-tə-'ris-ət-ē\ *n* : historical actuality : FACT

his·tor·i·cize \his-'tȯr-ə-ˌsīz, -'tär-\ *vb* **-cized; -ciz·ing** *vt* : to make historical ~ *vi* : to use historical material

his·tor·i·co- \his-'tȯr-i-(ˌ)kō, -'tär-\ *comb form* : historical : historical and ⟨*historico*philosophical⟩ ⟨*historico*social⟩

his·to·ri·og·ra·pher \his-ˌtōr-ē-'äg-rə-fər, -ˌtȯr-\ *n* [MF *historiographe,* fr. LL *historiographus,* fr. Gk *historiographos,* fr. *historia* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] : a usu. official writer of history : HISTORIAN

his·to·ri·og·ra·phy \-fē\ *n* **1 a** : the writing of history; *esp* : the writing of history based on the critical examination of sources, the selection of particulars from the authentic materials, and the synthesis of particulars into a narrative that will stand the test of critical methods **b** : the principles, theory, and history of historical writing ⟨a course in ~⟩ **2** : the product of historical writing : a body of historical literature — **his·to·rio·graph·ic** \-ē-ə-'graf-ik\ *or* **his·to·rio·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **his·to·rio·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

his·to·ry \'his-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [L *historia,* fr. Gk, inquiry, history, fr. *histōr, istōr* knowing, learned; akin to Gk *eidenai* to know — more at WIT] **1** : TALE, STORY **2 a** : a chronological record of significant events (as affecting a nation or institution) usu. including an explanation of their causes **b** : a treatise presenting systematically related natural phenomena **c** : an account of a sick person's medical background **3** : a branch of knowledge that records and explains past events ⟨medieval ~⟩ **4 a** : events that form the subject matter of a history **b** : past events ⟨that's all ~ now⟩ **c** : previous treatment, handling, or experience (as of a metal)

syn HISTORY, CHRONICLE, ANNALS *shared meaning element* : a written record of events

his·tri·on·ic \ˌhis-trē-'än-ik\ *adj* [LL *histrionicus,* fr. L *histrion-, histrio* actor, alter. of *hister,* fr. Etruscan] **1** : of or relating to actors, acting, or the theater **2** : deliberately affected : THEATRICAL — **his·tri·on·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

his·tri·on·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : theatrical performances **2** : deliberate display of emotion for effect

[1]hit \'hit\ *vb* **hit; hit·ting** [ME *hitten,* fr. ON *hitta* to meet with, hit] *vt* **1 a** : to reach with or as if with a blow **b** : to come in contact with ⟨the ball ~ the window⟩ **2 a** : to cause to come into contact **b** : to deliver (as a blow) by action **3** : to affect to the detriment of **4** : to make a request of ⟨~ his friend for 10 dollars⟩ **5** : to discover or meet esp. by chance **6 a** : to accord with : SUIT **b** : REACH, ATTAIN ⟨prices ~ a new high⟩ **c** *of fish* : to bite at or on **d** : to reflect accurately ⟨~ the right note⟩ **e** : to cause a propelled object to reach or strike (as a target) esp. for a score in a game or contest ⟨couldn't seem to ~ the basket⟩ **7** : to indulge in excessively ⟨~ the bottle⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to strike a blow **2 a** : to come into contact with something **b** : ATTACK **c** *of a fish* : STRIKE *vi* 11b **d** : COME, HAPPEN **3** : to succeed in attaining something — often used with *on* or *upon* ⟨~ on a solution⟩ **4** *obs* : to be in agreement : SUIT **5** *of an internal-combustion engine* : to fire the charge in the cylinders ***syn*** see STRIKE — **hit·ter** *n* — **hit it off** : to get along well — **hit the books** : to study esp. with intensity — **hit the hay** *or* **hit the sack** : to go to bed — **hit the high points** *or* **hit the high spots** : to touch on or at the most important or salient points or places — **hit the jackpot** : to be or become notably and unexpectedly successful — **hit the nail on the head** : to be exactly right — **hit the road** : LEAVE; *also* : to set out — **hit the roof** *or* **hit the ceiling** : to give vent to a burst of anger or angry protest — **hit the spot** : to give complete or special satisfaction — used esp. of food or drink

[2]hit *n* **1 a** : a blow striking an object aimed at **b** : COLLISION **2 a** : a stroke of luck **b** : something that is conspicuously successful ⟨the show was a big ~⟩ **3** : a telling remark **4** : BASE HIT — **hit·less** \'hit-ləs\ *adj*

hit–and–miss \ˌhit-ᵊn-'mis\ *adj* : sometimes successful and sometimes not : RANDOM

[1]hit–and–run \-'rən\ *adj* **1** : being or relating to a baseball play in which a base runner starts for the next base as the pitcher starts to pitch and the batter attempts to hit the ball **2** : being or involving a motor-vehicle driver who does not stop after being involved in an accident **3** : involving or intended for quick specific action or results

[2]hit–and–run *vi* : to execute a hit-and-run play in baseball

[1]hitch \'hich\ *vb* [ME *hytchen*] *vt* **1** : to move by jerks **2 a** : to catch or fasten by or as if by a hook or knot ⟨~*ed* his horse to the top rail of the fence⟩ **b** (1) : to connect (a vehicle or implement) with a source of motive power ⟨~ a rake to a tractor⟩ (2) : to attach (a source of motive power) to a vehicle or instrument ⟨~ the horses to the wagon⟩ **c** : to join in marriage **3** : HITCHHIKE ~ *vi* **1** : to move with halts and jerks : HOBBLE **2 a** : to become entangled, made fast, or linked **b** : to become joined in marriage **3** : HITCHHIKE — **hitch·er** *n*

[2]hitch *n* **1** : a sudden movement or pull : JERK ⟨gave his trousers a ~⟩ **2** : LIMP **3** : a sudden halt : STOPPAGE **4** : the act or fact of catching hold **5** : a connection between a vehicle or implement and a detachable source of power (as a tractor or horse) **6** : a period usu. of military service **7** : any of various knots used to form a temporary noose in a line or to secure a line temporarily to an object **8** : LIFT 5b **9** : CATCH 7

hitch·hike \'hich-ˌhīk\ *vi* : to travel by securing free rides from passing vehicles ~ *vt* : to solicit and obtain (a free ride) esp. in a passing vehicle — **hitch·hik·er** *n*

hitch up *vi* : to harness and secure a draft animal or team to a vehicle (as a wagon) ⟨we *hitched up* and were on our way before sunrise⟩
¹hith·er \ˈhiṯh-ər\ *adv* [ME *hider, hither,* fr. OE *hider;* akin to Goth *hidre* hither, L *citra* on this side — more at HE] : to this place
²hither *adj* : being on the near or adjacent side ⟨the ~ side of the hill⟩
hith·er·most \-ˌmōst\ *adj* : nearest on this side
hith·er·to \-ˌtü, ˌhiṯh-ər-ˈtü\ *adv* : up to this time
hith·er·ward \ˈhiṯh-ə(r)-wərd\ *adv* : HITHER
Hit·le·ri·an \hit-ˈlir-ē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Adolf Hitler or his regime in Germany
Hit·ler·ism \ˈhit-lə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* **1** : the nationalistic and totalitarian principles and policies associated with Hitler **2** : the Hitlerian movement — **Hit·ler·ite** \-ˌrīt\ *n or adj*
hit off *vt* : to characterize precisely and usu. satirically ~ *vi* : HARMONIZE, AGREE
hit–or–miss \ˌhit-ər-ˈmis\ *adj* : marked by a lack of care, forethought, system, or plan
hit or miss *adv* : in a hit-or-miss manner : HAPHAZARDLY
hit out *vi* : to aim angry and often random blows ⟨*hitting out* at injustice and prejudice⟩
hit parade *n* : a group or listing of the most popular items of a particular kind (as popular songs)
Hitt *abbr* Hittite
Hit·tite \ˈhi-ˌtīt\ *n* [Heb *Ḥittī,* fr. Hitt *ḥattī*] **1** : a member of a conquering people in Asia Minor and Syria with an empire in the 2d millennium B.C. **2** : the Indo-European language of the Hittites — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Hittite** *adj*
¹hive \ˈhīv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hȳf;* akin to Gk *kypellon* cup, OE *hēah* high — more at HIGH] **1** : a container for housing honeybees **2** : a colony of bees **3** : a place swarming with busy occupants — **hive·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²hive *vb* **hived; hiv·ing** *vt* **1** : to collect into a hive **2** : to store up in or as if in a hive ~ *vi* **1** *of bees* : to enter and take possession of a hive **2** : to reside in close association
³hive *n* [back-formation fr. *hives*] : an urticarial wheal
hive off *vt* : to separate from a group ⟨*hived off* the youngest campers into another room⟩
hives \ˈhīvz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [origin unknown] : URTICARIA
hl *abbr* hectoliter
HL *abbr* House of Lords
hld *abbr* hold
HLF *abbr* Heart and Lung Foundation
hlqn *abbr* harlequin
HLS *abbr* **1** [L *hoc loco situs*] laid in this place **2** holograph letter signed
hlt *abbr* halt
hm *abbr* hectometer
HM *abbr* Her Majesty; Her Majesty's; His Majesty; His Majesty's
HMAS *abbr* Her Majesty's Australian Ship; His Majesty's Australian Ship
HMBS *abbr* Her Majesty's British Ship; His Majesty's British Ship
HMC *abbr* **1** heroin, morphine, and cocaine **2** Her Majesty's Customs; His Majesty's Customs
HMCS *abbr* Her Majesty's Canadian Ship; His Majesty's Canadian Ship
HMF *abbr* Her Majesty's Forces; His Majesty's Forces
HMO *abbr* heart minute output
HMS *abbr* Her Majesty's Ship; His Majesty's Ship
HN *abbr* head nurse
HNS *abbr* Holy Name Society
hny *abbr* honey
ho \ˈhō\ *interj* [ME] — used esp. to attract attention to something specified ⟨land ~⟩
Ho *symbol* holmium
hoa·gie *also* **hoa·gy** \ˈhō-gē\ *n, pl* **hoagies** [origin unknown] : SUBMARINE 2
¹hoar \ˈhō(ə)r, ˈhȯ(ə)r\ *adj* [ME *hor,* fr. OE *hār;* akin to OHG *hēr* hoary] : HOARY
²hoar *n* [ME *hor* hoariness, fr. *hor,* adj.] : FROST 1c
¹hoard \ˈhō(ə)rd, ˈhȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [ME *hord,* fr. OE; akin to Gk *kysthos* vulva, OE *hȳdan* to hide] : a hidden supply or fund stored up
²hoard *vt* **1** : to lay up a hoard of **2** : to keep (as one's thoughts) to oneself ⟨the people outside disperse their affections, you ~ yours —Joseph Conrad⟩ ~ *vi* : to lay up a hoard — **hoard·er** *n*
³hoard *n* : HOARDING 1
hoard·ing \ˈhōrd-iŋ, ˈhȯrd-\ *n* [*hourd, hoard* (hoarding)] **1** : a temporary board fence put about a building being erected or repaired — called also *hoard* **2** *Brit* : BILLBOARD
hoar·frost \ˈhō(ə)r-ˌfrȯst, ˈhȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : FROST 1c
hoarse \ˈhō(ə)rs, ˈhȯ(ə)rs\ *adj* **hoars·er; hoars·est** [ME *hos, hors,* fr. OE *hās;* akin to OE *hāt* hot — more at HOT] **1** : rough or harsh in sound : GRATING ⟨~ voice⟩ **2** : having a hoarse voice ⟨shouted himself ~⟩ — **hoarse·ly** *adv* — **hoarse·ness** *n*
hoars·en \ˈhōrs-ᵊn, ˈhȯrs-\ *vb* **hoars·ened; hoars·en·ing** \ˈhōrs-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ, ˈhȯrs-\ *vt* : to make hoarse ~ *vi* : to become hoarse
hoary \ˈhō(ə)r-ē, ˈhȯ(ə)r-\ *adj* **hoar·i·er; -est** **1 a** : gray or white with age **b** : having grayish or whitish usu. pubescent leaves **2** : impressively or venerably old : ANCIENT — **hoar·i·ness** *n*
hoa·tzin \wä(t)-ˈsēn\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Nahuatl *uatzin*] : a crested So. American bird (*Opisthocomos cristatus* of the order Galliformes) smaller than a pheasant with olive-colored plumage marked with white above and with claws on the first and second fingers of the wing
¹hoax \ˈhōks\ *vt* [prob. contr. of *hocus*] : to trick into believing or accepting as genuine something false and often preposterous ***syn*** see DUPE — **hoax·er** *n*
²hoax *n* **1** : an act intended to trick or dupe : IMPOSTURE **2** : something accepted or established by fraud or fabrication
¹hob \ˈhäb\ *n* [ME *hobbe,* fr. *Hobbe,* nickname for Robert] **1** *dial Eng* : HOBGOBLIN, ELF **2** : MISCHIEF, TROUBLE ⟨raise ~⟩
²hob *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a projection at the back or side of a fireplace on which something may be kept warm **2** : a cutting tool used for cutting the teeth of worm wheels or gear wheels
³hob *vt* **hobbed; hob·bing** **1** : to furnish with hobnails **2** : to cut with a hob
Hobbes·ian \ˈhäb-zē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to Hobbes or Hobbism
Hob·bism \ˈhäb-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the philosophical system of Hobbes; *esp* : the Hobbesian theory that absolutism in government is necessary to prevent the war of each against all to which natural selfishness inevitably leads mankind — **Hob·bist** \ˈhäb-əst\ *n or adj*
¹hob·ble \ˈhäb-əl\ *vb* **hob·bled; hob·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *hoblen;* akin to MD *hobbelen* to turn, roll] *vi* : to move along unsteadily or with difficulty; *esp* : to limp along ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to limp : make lame : CRIPPLE **2** [prob. alter. of *hopple* (to hobble)] **a** : to fasten together the legs of (as a horse) to prevent straying : FETTER **b** : to place under handicap : HAMPER, IMPEDE — **hob·bler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*
²hobble *n* **1** : a hobbling movement **2** *archaic* : an awkward situation **3** : something used to hobble an animal
hob·ble·de·hoy \ˈhäb-əl-di-ˌhȯi\ *n* [origin unknown] : an awkward gawky youth
hobble skirt *n* : a skirt constricted at the bottom
¹hob·by \ˈhäb-ē\ *n, pl* **hobbies** [short for *hobbyhorse*] : a pursuit outside one's regular occupation engaged in for relaxation — **hob·by·ist** \-ē-əst\ *n*
²hobby *n, pl* **hobbies** [ME *hoby,* fr. MF *hobé*] : a small Old World falcon (*Falco subbuteo*) formerly trained and flown at small birds (as larks)
hob·by·horse \ˈhäb-ē-ˌhȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [*hobby* (small light horse)] **1 a** : a figure of a horse fastened about the waist in the morris dance **b** : a dancer wearing this figure **2** *obs* : BUFFOON **3 a** : a stick having an imitation horse's head at one end that a child pretends to ride **b** : ROCKING HORSE **c** : a toy horse suspended by springs from a frame **4 a** : a topic to which one constantly reverts **b** : ¹HOBBY
hob·gob·lin \ˈhäb-ˌgäb-lən\ *n* **1** : a mischievous goblin **2** : BOGEY 2, BUGABOO
hob·nail \-ˌnāl\ *n* [²*hob*] : a short large-headed nail for studding shoe soles — **hob·nailed** \-ˌnāld\ *adj*
hob·nob \-ˌnäb\ *vi* **hob·nobbed; hob·nob·bing** [fr. the obs. phrase *drink hobnob* (to drink alternately to one another)] **1** *archaic* : to drink sociably **2** : to associate familiarly — **hob·nob·ber** *n*
¹ho·bo \ˈhō-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **hoboes** *also* **hobos** [perh. alter. of *ho, boy*] **1** : a migratory worker **2** : a homeless and usu. penniless vagrant
²hobo *vi* : to live or travel in the manner of a hobo
Hob·son's choice \ˌhäb-sənz-\ *n* [Thomas *Hobson* †1631 E liveryman, who required every customer to take the horse nearest the door] : an apparently free choice when there is no real alternative
¹hock \ˈhäk\ *n* [ME *hoch, hough,* fr. OE *hōh* heel; akin to ON *hāsin* hock, Skt *kaṅkāla* skeleton] **1** : the tarsal joint or region in the hind limb of a digitigrade quadruped (as the horse) corresponding to the ankle of man but elevated and bending backward — see HORSE illustration **2** : a joint of a fowl's leg that corresponds to the hock of a quadruped
²hock *n, often cap* [modif. of G *hochheimer,* fr. *Hochheim,* Germany] *chiefly Brit* : RHINE WINE 1
³hock *n* [D *hok* pen, prison] **1 a** : ¹PAWN 2 ⟨got his watch out of ~⟩ **b** : DEBT 2 ⟨in ~ to the bank⟩ **2** : PRISON
⁴hock *vt* : PAWN — **hock·er** *n*
hock·ey \ˈhäk-ē\ *n* [perh. fr. MF *hoquet* shepherd's crook, dim. of *hoc* hook, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *hōc* hook] **1** : FIELD HOCKEY **2** : ICE HOCKEY
hock·shop \ˈhäk-ˌshäp\ *n* : PAWNSHOP
ho·cus \ˈhō-kəs\ *vt* **ho·cussed** *or* **ho·cused; ho·cus·sing** *or* **ho·cus·ing** [obs. *hocus,* n., short for *hocus-pocus*] **1** : to perpetrate a trick or hoax on : DECEIVE **2** : to befuddle often with drugged liquor; *also* : DOPE, DRUG ⟨*hocussed* the favorite just before the race⟩
¹ho·cus–po·cus \ˌhō-kə-ˈspō-kəs\ *n* [prob. fr. *hocus pocus,* imitation Latin phrase used by jugglers] **1** : SLEIGHT OF HAND **2** : nonsense or sham used to cloak deception
²hocus–pocus *vt* **ho·cus–po·cussed** *or* **ho·cus–po·cused; ho·cus–po·cus·sing** *or* **ho·cus–po·cus·ing** : to play tricks on
hod \ˈhäd\ *n* [prob. fr. MD *hodde;* akin to MHG *hotte* cradle, ME *schuderen* to shudder] **1** : a tray or trough that has a pole handle and that is borne on the shoulder for carrying loads (as of mortar or brick) **2** : a coal scuttle
ho·dad \ˈhō-ˌdad\ *also* **ho·dad·dy** \-ˌdad-ē\ *n* [perh. alter. of *hodag* (an ugly mythical animal)] : a nonsurfer who frequents surfing beaches and pretends to be a surfer
hod carrier *n* : a laborer employed in carrying supplies to bricklayers, stonemasons, cement finishers, or plasterers on the job
hodge·podge \ˈhäj-ˌpäj\ *n* [alter. of *hotchpotch*] : a heterogeneous mixture : JUMBLE
Hodg·kin's disease \ˈhäj-kənz-\ *n* [Thomas *Hodgkin* †1866 E physician] : a neoplastic disease that is characterized by progressive enlargement of lymph glands, spleen, and liver and by progressive anemia
ho·do·scope \ˈhäd-ə-ˌskōp, ˈhōd-\ *n* [Gk *hodos* road, path + E *-scope* — more at CEDE] : an instrument for tracing the paths of ionizing particles by means of ion counters in close array
¹hoe \ˈhō\ *n* [ME *howe,* fr. MF *houe,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *houwa* mattock, *houwan* to hew — more at HEW] : any of various implements for tilling, mixing, or raking; *esp* : an implement with a thin flat blade on a long handle used esp. for cultivating, weeding, or loosening the earth around plants

²hoe *vb* **hoed; hoe·ing** *vi* : to use a hoe : work with a hoe ~ *vt* **1** : to weed, cultivate, or thin (a crop) with a hoe **2** : to remove (weeds) by hoeing **3** : to dress or cultivate (land) by hoeing — **ho·er** \'hō(-ə)r\ *n*

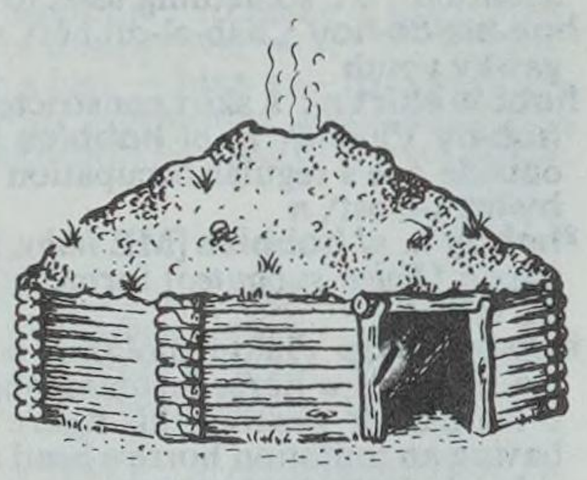
hoe·cake \'hō-ˌkāk\ *n* [fr. its formerly being baked on the blade of a hoe] : a small cake made of cornmeal

hoe·down \-ˌdau̇n\ *n* **1** : SQUARE DANCE **2** : a gathering featuring hoedowns

¹hog \'hȯg, 'häg\ *n, pl* **hogs** *also* **hog** [ME *hogge*, fr. OE *hogg*] **1** : a domestic swine esp. when weighing more than 120 pounds; *broadly* : any of various wild and domestic swine **2** *usu* **hogg** *Brit* : a young unshorn sheep; *also* : wool from such a sheep **3 a** : a selfish, gluttonous, or filthy person **b** : one that uses something to excess ⟨the . . . car becomes more of a gas ~ with each year — Don MacDonald⟩

²hog *vb* **hogged; hog·ging** *vt* **1** : to cut (a horse's mane) short : ROACH **2** : to cause to arch **3** : to take in excess of one's due ~ *vi* : to become curved upward in the middle — used of a ship's bottom or keel

ho·gan \'hō-ˌgän\ *n* [Navaho] : a building usu. made of logs and mud and used as a dwelling by the Navaho Indians



hogan

HO gauge \(')ā-'chō-\ *n* [*half* + *O gauge*] : a gauge of track in model railroading in which the rails are approximately $\frac{5}{8}$ inch apart

hog·back \'hȯg-ˌbak, 'häg-\ *n* : a ridge of land formed by the outcropping edges of tilted strata; *broadly* : a ridge with a sharp summit and steeply sloping sides

hog cholera *n* : a highly infectious often fatal virus disease of swine characterized by fever, loss of appetite, diarrhea, and petechial hemorrhages esp. in the kidneys and lymph glands

hog·fish \'hȯg-ˌfish, 'häg-\ *n* **1** : a large West Indian and Florida wrasse (*Lachnolaimus maximus*) often used for food **2** : PIGFISH 1

hog·gish \'hȯg-ish, 'häg-\ *adj* : grossly selfish, gluttonous, or filthy — **hog·gish·ly** *adv* — **hog·gish·ness** *n*

Hog·ma·nay \ˌhäg-mə-'nā\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** *Scot* : the eve of New Year's Day **2** *Scot* : a gift solicited or given at Hogmanay

hog·nose snake \ˌhȯg-ˌnōz, ˌhäg-\ *n* : any of several rather small harmless stout-bodied No. American colubrid snakes (genus *Heterodon*) — called also *hog-nosed snake*

hog score *n* [*hog* (curling stone that fails to reach the score)] : a line which is marked across a curling rink seven yards from the tee and beyond which a stone must pass or be removed from the ice — called also *hog line*

hogs·head \'hȯgz-ˌhed, 'hägz-\ *n* **1** : a large cask or barrel; *esp* : one containing from 63 to 140 gallons **2** : any of various units of capacity; *esp* : a U.S. unit equal to 63 gallons

hog sucker *n* : a No. American sucker (*Hypentelium nigricans*) that is brassy olive marked with brown and is sometimes used for food

hog–tie \'hȯg-ˌtī, 'häg-\ *vt* **1** : to tie together the feet of **2** : to make helpless

hog·wash \-ˌwȯsh, -ˌwäsh\ *n* **1** : SWILL 1a, SLOP 4a **2** : worthless or nonsensical language

hog–wild \-'wī(ə)ld\ *adj* : lacking in restraint of judgment or temper ⟨would go ~ if unconfined by constitutional limitations —Leo Egan⟩

¹Ho·hen·stau·fen \'hō-ən-ˌs(h)tau̇-fən\ *adj* : of or relating to a princely German family that reigned over the Holy Roman Empire from 1138–1254 and over Sicily from 1194–1266

²Hohenstaufen *n* : a member of the Hohenstaufen family; *esp* : a Hohenstaufen monarch

¹Ho·hen·zol·lern \'hō-ən-ˌzäl-ərn\ *adj* : of or relating to a princely German family that reigned in Prussia from 1701–1918 and in Germany from 1871–1918

²Hohenzollern *n* : a member of the Hohenzollern family; *esp* : a Hohenzollern monarch

ho hum *interj* [imit.] — used to express weariness, boredom, or disdain

hoick \'hȯik\ *vt* [prob. alter. of ¹*hike*] : to move or pull abruptly : YANK ⟨was ~*ed* out of my job —Vincent Sheean⟩

hoi pol·loi \ˌhȯi-pə-'lȯi\ *n pl* [Gk, the many] : the general populace : MASSES

hoise \'hȯiz\ *vt* **hoised** \'hȯizd\ *or* **hoist** \'hȯist\; **hois·ing** \'hȯi-ziŋ\ [origin unknown] : HOIST — **hoist with one's own petard** : victimized or hurt by one's own scheme

¹hoist \'hȯist\ *vb* [alter. of *hoise*] *vt* : to raise into position by or as if by means of tackle ~ *vi* : to become hoisted : RISE ***syn*** see LIFT — **hoist·er** *n*

²hoist *n* **1** : an act of hoisting : LIFT **2** : an apparatus for hoisting **3** : the height of a flag when viewed flying

¹hoi·ty–toi·ty \ˌhȯit-ē-'tȯit-ē, ˌhīt-ē-'tīt-ē\ *n* [irreg. redupl. of E dial. *hoit* (to play the fool)] : thoughtless giddy behavior

²hoity–toity *adj* **1** : thoughtlessly silly or frivolous : FLIGHTY **2** : marked by an air of assumed importance : POMPOUS

hoke \'hōk\ *vt* **hoked; hok·ing** [*hokum*] : to give a false value or quality to : FAKE — usu. used with *up* ⟨used parts of B-grade movies to ~ up a film —Robert Sherrill⟩

hok·ey \'hō-kē\ *adj* **1** : sickly or affectedly sentimental : CORNY, MAWKISH ⟨records on which she *didn't* sing ~ nursery rhymes —G. T. Simon⟩ **2** : obviously contrived : PHONY ⟨the plots are tricky but not ~ —Cleveland Amory⟩ — **hok·ey·ness** *n*

ho·key·po·key \ˌhō-kē-'pō-kē\ *n* **1** : HOCUS-POCUS 2 **2** : ice cream sold by street vendors

hok·ku \'hȯ-(ˌ)kü\ *n, pl* **hokku** [Jap] **1** : HAIKU **2** : a lyric in hokku form

ho·kum \'hō-kəm\ *n* [prob. fr. *ho*cus-pocus + bun*kum*] **1** : a device used (as by showmen) to evoke a desired audience response **2** : pretentious nonsense : BUNKUM

hol- *or* **holo-** *comb form* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *holos* whole — more at SAFE] **1** : complete : total ⟨*holo*hedral⟩ **2** : completely : totally ⟨*hol*andric⟩

hol·an·dric \hō-'lan-drik, hä-\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : inherited solely in the male line **2** : transmitted by a gene in the nonhomologous portion of the Y chromosome — **hol·an·dry** \'hō-ˌlan-drē, 'häl-ˌan-\ *n*

Hol·arc·tic \hō-'lärk-tik, hä-, -'lärt-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the biogeographic region including the northern parts of both hemispheres

¹hold \'hōld\ *vb* **held** \'held \; **hold·ing** [ME *holden*, fr. OE *healdan*; akin to OHG *haltan* to hold, L *celer* rapid] *vt* **1 a** : to maintain possession of : POSSESS **b** : to retain by force ⟨troops ~*ing* the ridge⟩ **c** : to keep control of or authority over **d** : to keep by way of threat or coercion ⟨~*ing* the child for ransom⟩ **2** : to impose restraint upon: as **a** : to refrain from producing **b** (1) : to keep under control ⟨*held* his temper⟩ (2) : STAY, ARREST ⟨*held* his punches⟩ (3) : to stop the action of temporarily ⟨*held* the presses to insert a late story⟩ **c** : to keep from advancing or succeeding in attack **d** : to restrict or limit by control or opposition ⟨~ price increases to a minimum⟩ **e** : to bind legally or morally ⟨~ a man to his word⟩ **f** : to tense muscles in order to brace (oneself) **3 a** : to have or keep in the grasp ⟨*held* her hand⟩ **b** : to cause to be or remain in a particular situation, position, or relation ⟨~ a ladder steady⟩ **c** : SUPPORT, SUSTAIN ⟨the roof won't ~ much weight⟩ **d** : to keep in custody ⟨~*ing* him on a vagrancy charge⟩ **e** : to have in reserve ⟨~ a room⟩ **4** : BEAR, CARRY, COMPORT ⟨the soldierly way he ~*s* himself⟩ **5 a** : to maintain in being or action : keep up without interruption, diminution, or flagging ⟨~ silence⟩ **b** : to keep the uninterrupted interest, attention, or devotion of ⟨*held* the audience in suspense⟩ **6 a** : to receive for storage : CONTAIN ⟨the can ~*s* 5 gallons⟩ **b** : to have in store ⟨what the future ~*s*⟩ **7 a** : to maintain by way of opinion or feeling : HARBOR ⟨~ a theory⟩ **b** : to have in regard ⟨~*ing* money lightly, he spent it freely⟩ **c** : to maintain in an expressed judgment or affirmation ⟨~*ing* that it is nobody's business but his —Jack Olsen⟩ **8 a** : to engage in with someone else or with others : do by concerted action ⟨~ a conference⟩ **b** : to cause to be conducted : CONVENE ⟨~ a meeting of the council⟩ **9 a** : to occupy as a result of an appointment, promotion, or election ⟨~*s* a captaincy in the navy⟩ **b** : to have earned or been awarded ⟨~*s* a Ph.D.⟩ **10** : AIM, POINT — used with *on* ⟨*held* a gun on the druggist while an accomplice robbed the store⟩ ~ *vi* **a** : to maintain position : refuse to give ground ⟨the defensive line is ~*ing*⟩ **b** : to continue in the same way or to the same degree : LAST ⟨hopes the weather will ~⟩ **2** : to maintain a grasp on something : remain fastened to something ⟨the anchor *held* in the rough sea⟩ **3** : to bear or carry oneself ⟨asked him to ~ still⟩ **4** : to be or remain valid : APPLY ⟨the rule ~*s* in most cases⟩ **5** : to go ahead as one has been going ⟨*held* south for several miles⟩ **6** : to forbear an intended or threatened action : HALT, PAUSE **7** : to stop counting during a countdown **8** : to have illicit drug material in one's possession ***syn*** see HAVE — **hold a candle to** : to qualify for comparison with — **hold forth** : to speak at length : EXPATIATE — **hold hands** : to engage one's hand with another's esp. as an expression of affection — **hold one's own** : to prove successful or competitive against opposition or in the face of difficulty — **hold the bag** **1** : to be left empty-handed **2** : to bear alone a responsibility that should have been shared by others — **hold the fort** **1** : to maintain a firm position **2** : to discharge usual responsibilities ⟨is *holding the fort* until the manager returns⟩ — **hold the line** : to operate within desirable limits ⟨*holding the line* on prices — *Current Biog.*⟩ — **hold to** : to give firm assent to : adhere to strongly ⟨*holds to* his promise⟩ — **hold to account** : to hold responsible — **hold water** : to stand up under criticism or analysis — **hold with** : to agree with or approve of

²hold *n* **1** : STRONGHOLD 1 **2 a** : CONFINEMENT, CUSTODY **b** : PRISON **3 a** (1) : the act or the manner of holding or grasping : GRIP ⟨released his ~ on the handle⟩ (2) : a manner of grasping an opponent in wrestling **b** : a nonphysical bond that attaches, restrains, or constrains or by which something is affected, controlled, or dominated ⟨has lost its ~ on the broad public —Oscar Cargill⟩ **c** : full comprehension ⟨get ~ of exactly what is happening —J. P. Lyford⟩ **d** : full or immediate control : POSSESSION ⟨got ~ of himself⟩ ⟨wants to get ~ of a road map⟩ **4** : something that may be grasped as a support **5 a** : FERMATA **b** : the time between the onset and the release of a vocal articulation **6** : a sudden motionless posture at the end of a dance **7 a** : an order or indication that something is to be reserved or delayed **b** : a delay in a countdown (as in launching a spacecraft)

syn HOLD, GRIP, CLASP, CLUTCH *shared meaning element* : a getting or keeping in control or possession

³hold *n* [alter. of *hole*] **1** : the interior of a ship below decks; *esp* : the cargo deck of a ship **2** : the cargo compartment of a plane

hold·all \'hōl-ˌdȯl\ *n* : a container for miscellaneous articles; *esp* : a traveling case or bag (as of cloth)

hold·back \'hōl(d)-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : something that retains or restrains **2 a** : the act of holding back **b** : something held back

hold back \(')hōl(d)-'bak\ *vt* **1** : to hinder the progress or achievement of : RESTRAIN **2** : to retain in one's keeping ~ *vi* : to keep oneself in check

hold–down \'hōl-ˌdau̇n\ *n* **1** : an act of holding down **2** : something used to fasten an object in place

hold down \(')hōl-'dau̇n\ *vt* **1** : to keep within limits ⟨*hold* the noise *down*⟩ **2** : to handle (a responsibility) continuously ⟨*holding down* two jobs⟩

hold·en \'hōl-dən\ *archaic past part of* HOLD

hold·er \'hōl-dər\ *n* **1** : a person that holds: **a** (1) : OWNER (2) : TENANT **b** : a person in possession of and legally entitled to receive payment of a bill, note, or check **2** : a device that holds ⟨cigarette ~⟩

holder in due course : one other than the original recipient who holds a legally effective negotiable instrument and who has a right to collect from and no responsibility toward the issuer
hold·fast \'hōl(d)-ˌfast\ *n* **1 a** : a part by which a plant clings to a flat surface **b** : an organ by which a parasitic animal attaches itself to its host **2** : something to which something else may be firmly secured
hold·ing \'hōl-diŋ\ *n* **1 a** : land held esp. as a vassal or tenant **b** : property (as land or securities) owned — usu. used in pl. **2** : a ruling of a court esp. upon an issue of law raised in a case — compare DICTUM **3** : something that holds
holding company *n* : a company whose primary business is holding a controlling interest in the securities of other companies — compare INVESTMENT COMPANY
holding pattern *n* : the usu. oval course flown (as over an airport) by aircraft awaiting clearance to land
hold off *vt* **1** : to fight to a standoff : WITHSTAND **2** : to block from an objective : DELAY **3** : to defer action on : POSTPONE ~ *vi* : to defer or temporarily stop doing something
hold on *vi* **1** : to persevere in difficult circumstances **2** : to await something (as a telephone connection) desired or requested — **hold on to** : to maintain possession of
hold·out \'hōl-ˌdau̇t\ *n* : one that holds out (as in negotiations)
hold out \(')hōl-'dau̇t\ *vt* **1** : to present as something realizable : PROFFER **2** : to represent to be ~ *vi* **1** : to remain unsubdued or operative : continue to cope **2** : to refuse to come to an agreement — **hold out for** : to insist on as the price for an agreement — **hold out on** : to withhold something (as information) from
hold·over \'hōl-ˌdō-vər\ *n* : one that is held over; *esp* : one that continues in office
hold over \(')hōl-'dō-vər\ *vi* : to continue (as in office) for a prolonged period ~ *vt* **1 a** : POSTPONE **b** : to keep in one's possession : RETAIN **2** : to prolong the engagement or tenure of
hold·up \'hōl-ˌdəp\ *n* **1** : an armed robbery **2** : DELAY
hold up \(')hōl-'dəp\ *vt* **1** : DELAY, IMPEDE **2** : to rob at gunpoint **3** : to present as an example ⟨his work was *held up* to ridicule⟩ ⟨*hold* this *up* as perfection —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to endure a test
[1]hole \'hōl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hol* (fr. neut. of *hol*, adj., hollow) & *holh*; akin to OHG *hol*, adj., hollow, L *caulis* stalk, stem, Gk *kaulos*] **1** : an opening often forced into or through a thing **2 a** : a hollow place; *esp* : PIT **b** : a deep place in a body of water **c** : a defect in a crystal (as of a semiconductor) that is due to an electron's having left its normal position in one of the crystal bonds and that is equivalent in many respects to a positively charged particle **3** : an underground habitation : BURROW **4 a** : a serious discrepancy or flaw ⟨gaping ~*s* in present political theory —W. H. Ferry⟩ **b** : an opening in a defensive formation; *esp* : the area between the third baseman and the shortstop **5 a** : the unit of play from the tee to the hole in golf **b** : a usu. lined cavity in a putting green into which the ball is to be played in golf **6** : a mean or dreary place ⟨a country whose capital was a provincial ~ —Frank O'Connor⟩ **7** : an awkward position : FIX ⟨heroes that got the rebels out of a ~ at the battle —Kenneth Roberts⟩ — **in the hole** **1** : having a score below zero **2** : at a disadvantage
[2]hole *vb* **holed; hol·ing** *vt* **1** : to make a hole in **2** : to drive into a hole ~ *vi* : to make a hole in something
hole card *n* : a card in stud poker that is properly dealt facedown and that the holder need not expose before the showdown
hole in one : ACE 4
hole out *vi* : to play one's ball into the hole in golf
hole up *vi* : to take refuge or shelter in or as if in a hole or cave ~ *vt* : to place in or as if in a refuge or hiding place
hol·ey \'hō-lē\ *adj* : having holes
[1]hol·i·day \'häl-ə-ˌdā\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hāligdæg*, fr. *hālig* holy + *dæg* day] **1** : HOLY DAY **2** : a day on which one is exempt from work; *specif* : a day marked by a general suspension of work in commemoration of an event **3** : a period of relaxation : VACATION — often used in pl.
[2]holiday *vi* : to take or spend a holiday esp. in travel or at a resort — **hol·i·day·er** *n*
hol·i·day·mak·er \'häl-ə-ˌdā-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one who is on a holiday : VACATIONER
hol·i·days \-ˌdāz\ *adv* : on holidays repeatedly : on any holiday
ho·li·er–than–thou \ˌhō-lē-ər-ṯhən-'ṯhau̇\ *adj* : marked by an air of superior piety or morality
[1]ho·li·ness \'hō-lē-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being holy — used as a title for various high religious dignitaries ⟨His *Holiness* Pope Pius XII⟩ **2** : SANCTIFICATION 2
[2]holiness *adj, often cap* : emphasizing the doctrine of the second blessing; *specif* : of or relating to a perfectionist movement arising in U.S. Protestantism in the late 19th century
ho·lism \'hō-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [*hol-* + *-ism*] : a theory that the universe and esp. living nature is correctly seen in terms of interacting wholes (as of living organisms) that are more than the mere sum of elementary particles
ho·lis·tic \hō-'lis-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to holism **2** : emphasizing the organic or functional relation between parts and wholes — **ho·lis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hol·land \'häl-ənd\ *n, often cap* [ME *holand*, fr. *Holand*, county in the Netherlands, fr. MD *Holland*] : a cotton or linen fabric in plain weave usu. heavily sized or glazed and used for window shades, bookbinding, and clothing
hol·lan·daise sauce \ˌhäl-ən-ˌdāz-\ *n* [F *sauce hollandaise*, lit., Dutch sauce] : a rich sauce made of butter, egg yolks, and lemon juice or vinegar
Hol·lands \'häl-ən(d)z\ *n* [D *hollandsch*, fr. *hollandsch genever* Dutch gin] : gin made in the Netherlands — called also *Holland gin*
[1]hol·ler \'häl-ər\ *vb* **hol·lered; hol·ler·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [alter. of *hollo*] *vi* **1** : to cry out (as to attract attention or in pain) : SHOUT **2** : GRIPE, COMPLAIN ~ *vt* : to call out (a word or phrase)
[2]holler *n* **1** : SHOUT, CRY **2** : COMPLAINT **3** : a freely improvised American Negro work song
[3]holler *chiefly dial var of* HOLLOW
Hol·ler·ith \'häl-ə-ˌrith\ *n* [Herman *Hollerith* †1929 Am engineer] : a system for encoding alphanumeric information on punch cards — called also *Hollerith code*
Hol·ler·ith card \ˌhäl-ə-ˌrith-\ *n* : PUNCH CARD
[1]hol·lo \hä-'lō, hə-; 'häl-(ˌ)ō\ *also* **hol·loa** \hä-'lō, hə-\ *or* **hol·la** \hə-'lä, 'häl-(ˌ)ä\ *interj* [origin unknown] **1** — used to attract attention **2** — used as a call of encouragement or jubilation
[2]hol·lo *also* **hol·loa** \'häl-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *or* **hol·la** \'häl-ə(-w)\ *vb* : to cry hollo : HOLLER
[3]hollo *also* **holloa** *or* **holla** *like*[2]\ *n, pl* **hollos** *also* **holloas** *or* **hollas** : an exclamation or call of hollo ⟨every day for food or play, came to the mariner's ~ —S. T. Coleridge⟩
[1]hol·low \'häl-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *adj* **hol·low·er** \'häl-ə-wər\; **hol·low·est** \-ə-wəst\ [ME *holw, holh*, fr. *holh* hole, den, fr. OE *holh* hole, hollow — more at HOLE] **1** : having an indentation or inward curve : CONCAVE, SUNKEN **2** : having a cavity within ⟨~ tree⟩ **3** : reverberating like a sound made in or by beating on a large empty enclosure : MUFFLED **4 a** : deceivingly lacking in real value or significance ⟨a ~ victory⟩ **b** : lacking in truth or substance : FALSE, DECEITFUL ⟨~ promises⟩ ***syn*** see VAIN — **hollow** *adv* — **hol·low·ly** \'häl-ō-lē, -ə-lē\ *adv* — **hol·low·ness** *n*
[2]hollow *vt* **1** : to make hollow **2** : to form by a hollowing action — usu. used with *out* ⟨rain barrels ~*ed* out from trees —Robert Shaplen⟩ ~ *vi* : to become hollow
[3]hollow *n* **1** : a depressed or low part of a surface; *esp* : a small valley or basin **2** : an unfilled space : CAVITY, HOLE
hollow organ *n* : a visceral organ that is a hollow tube or pouch (as the stomach or intestine) or that includes a cavity (as of the heart or bladder) which subserves a vital function
hol·low·ware *or* **hol·lo·ware** \'häl-ə-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : vessels (as bowls, cups, or vases) usu. of pottery, glass, or metal that have a significant depth and volume
hol·ly \'häl-ē\ *n, pl* **hollies** [ME *holin, holly*, fr. OE *holegn*; akin to OHG *hulis* holly, MIr *cuilenn*] **1 a** : any of a genus (*Ilex*) of trees and shrubs (family Aquifoliaceae, the holly family) having thick glossy spiny-margined leaves and usu. bright red berries **b** : the foliage or branches of the holly **2** : any of various trees with foliage resembling that of a holly


holly 1

hol·ly·hock \'häl-ē-ˌhäk, -ˌhȯk\ *n* [ME *holihoc*, fr. *holi* holy + *hoc* mallow, fr. OE] : a tall widely cultivated perennial Chinese herb (*Althaea rosea*) of the mallow family with large coarse rounded leaves and tall spikes of showy flowers
Hol·ly·wood \'häl-ē-ˌwu̇d\ *n* [*Hollywood*, district of Los Angeles, Calif.] : the American motion-picture industry — **Hol·ly·wood·ish** \-ish\ *adj*
Hollywood bed *n* : a mattress on a box spring supported by low legs sometimes with an upholstered headboard
holm \'hō(l)m\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. ON *hōlmr*; akin to OE *hyll* hill] *Brit* : a small inland or inshore island; *also* : BOTTOMS
hol·mi·um \'hō(l)-mē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *Holmia* Stockholm, Sweden] : a metallic element of the rare-earth group that occurs with yttrium and forms highly magnetic compounds — see ELEMENT table
holm oak *n* : ILEX 1
holo- —see HOL-
ho·lo·blas·tic \ˌhō-lə-'blas-tik, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj* [ISV] *of an egg* : having cleavage planes that divide the whole egg into distinct and separate though coherent blastomeres — compare MEROBLASTIC — **ho·lo·blas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ho·lo·caust \'häl-ə-ˌkȯst, 'hō-lə- *also* 'hȯ-lə-\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *holocauste*, fr. LL *holocaustum*, fr. Gk *holokauston*, fr. neut. of *holokaustos* burnt whole, fr. *hol-* + *kaustos* burnt, fr. *kaiein* to burn — more at CAUSTIC] **1** : a sacrifice consumed by fire **2** : a thorough destruction esp. by fire
Ho·lo·cene \'hō-lə-ˌsēn, 'häl-ə-\ *adj* [ISV] : RECENT 2 — **Holocene** *n*
ho·lo·crine \-krən, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* [ISV *hol-* + Gk *krinein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] : producing a secretion containing disintegrated secretory cells; *also* : produced by a holocrine gland
ho·lo·en·zyme \ˌhō-lō-'en-ˌzīm\ *n* [ISV] : a complete active enzyme consisting of an apoenzyme combined with its coenzyme
Ho·lo·fer·nes \ˌhäl-ə-'fər-(ˌ)nēz, ˌhō-lə-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Holophernēs*] : a general of Nebuchadnezzar who led an Assyrian army against Israel and was beheaded while asleep by Judith
ho·log·a·mous \hō-'läg-ə-məs\ *adj* : having gametes of essentially the same size and structural features as vegetative cells — **ho·log·a·my** \-mē\ *n*
ho·lo·gram \'hō-lə-ˌgram, 'häl-ə-\ *n* : a three-dimensional picture that is made on a photographic film or plate without the use of a camera, that consists of a pattern of interference produced by a split coherent beam of light, and that for viewing is illuminated with coherent light from behind
ho·lo·graph \'hō-lə-ˌgraf, 'häl-ə-\ *n* [LL *holographus*, fr. LGk *holographos*, fr. Gk *hol-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] : a document wholly in the handwriting of its author; *also* : the handwriting itself ⟨a letter in the president's ~⟩ — **holograph** *or* **ho·lo·graph·ic** \ˌhō-lə-'graf-ik, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj*
ho·log·ra·phy \hō-'läg-rə-fē\ *n* : the process of making or using a hologram — **ho·lo·graph** \'hō-lə-ˌgraf, 'hä-ə-\ *vt* — **ho·lo·graph·ic** \ˌhō-lə-'graf-ik, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj* — **ho·lo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ho·lo·gy·nic \ˌhō-lə-ˈjin-ik, ˌhäl-ə-, -ˈgī-nik\ *adj* [ISV *hol-* + *-gynic* (fr. Gk *gynē* woman) — more at QUEEN] : inherited solely in the female line presumably through transmission as a recessive factor in the nonhomologous portion of the X chromosome — **ho·log·y·ny** \hō-ˈläj-ə-nē\ *n*
ho·lo·he·dral \ˌhō-lə-ˈhē-drəl, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj* [*hol-* + Gk *hedra* seat — more at SIT] *of a crystal* : having all the faces required by complete symmetry — compare HEMIHEDRAL, TETARTOHEDRAL
ho·lo·me·tab·o·lism \ˌhō-lō-mə-ˈtab-ə-ˌliz-əm, ˌhäl-ō-\ *n* : development of insects involving complete metamorphosis — **ho·lo·me·tab·o·lous** \-ləs\ *adj*
ho·lo·my·ar·i·an \-mī-ˈar-ē-ən, -ˈer-\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *holos* whole + *mys* muscle — more at SAFE, MOUSE] *of a nematode worm* : having the muscle layer continuous or divided into two longitudinal zones without true muscle cells
ho·lo·phras·tic \ˌhō-lə-ˈfras-tik, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj* [ISV *hol-* + *-phrastic* (fr. Gk *phrazein* to point out, declare)] : expressing a complex of ideas in a single word or in a fixed phrase
ho·lo·phyt·ic \-ˈfit-ik\ *adj* : obtaining food after the manner of a green plant by photosynthetic activity
ho·lo·thu·ri·an \-ˈth(y)u̇r-ē-ən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *holothourion* water polyp] : any of a class (Holothurioidea) of echinoderms having an elongate flexible tough muscular body : SEA CUCUMBER — **holothurian** *adj*
ho·lo·type \ˈhō-lə-ˌtīp, ˈhäl-ə-\ *n* **1** : the single specimen designated by an author as the type of a species or lesser taxon at the time of establishing the group **2** : the type of a species or lesser taxon designated at a date later than that of establishing a group or by another person than the author of the taxon — **ho·lo·typ·ic** \ˌhō-lə-ˈtip-ik, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj*
ho·lo·zo·ic \ˌhō-lə-ˈzō-ik, ˌhäl-ə-\ *adj* : obtaining food after the manner of most animals by ingesting complex organic matter
holp \ˈhō(l)p\ *chiefly dial past of* HELP
hol·pen \ˈhō(l)-pən\ *chiefly dial past part of* HELP
hol·stein \ˈhōl-ˌstēn, -ˌstīn\ *n* [short for *holstein-friesian*] : any of a breed of large black-and-white dairy cattle orig. from northern Holland and Friesland that produce large quantities of comparatively low-fat milk
hol·stein–frie·sian \-ˈfrē-zhən\ *n* [*Holstein*, Germany, its later locality + *Friesian* (var. of *Frisian*)] : HOLSTEIN
hol·ster \ˈhōl(t)-stər\ *n* [D; akin to OE *heolstor* cover, *helan* to conceal — more at HELL] : a usu. leather case for a pistol
holt \ˈhōlt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *holz* wood, Gk *klados* twig — more at GLADIATOR] *archaic* : a small woods : COPSE
ho·lus–bo·lus \ˌhō-ləs-ˈbō-ləs\ *adv* [prob. redupl. of *bolus*] : all at once
ho·ly \ˈhō-lē\ *adj* **ho·li·er; -est** [ME, fr. OE *hālig*; akin to OE *hāl* whole — more at WHOLE] **1** : set apart to the service of God or a god : SACRED ⟨the ~ priesthood⟩ **2 a** : characterized by perfection and transcendence : commanding absolute adoration and reverence ⟨the ~ Trinity⟩ **b** : spiritually pure : GODLY ⟨a ~ man given to prayer and charitable works⟩ **3 a** : evoking or meriting veneration or awe ⟨the ~ cross⟩ **b** : being awesome, frightening, or beyond belief ⟨a ~ terror⟩ **4** : filled with superhuman and potentially fatal power — **ho·li·ly** \-lə-lē\ *adv*
holy city *n* : a city that is the center of religious worship and traditions
Holy Communion *n* : COMMUNION 2a
holy day *n* : a day set aside for special religious observance
holy day of obligation : a feast on which Roman Catholics are duty-bound to hear mass
Holy Father *n* : POPE 1
Holy Ghost *n* : the third person of the Trinity : HOLY SPIRIT
Holy Grail *n* : GRAIL 1
Holy Hour *n* : an hour of prayer and meditation before the Blessed Sacrament esp. in memory of the Passion
Holy Joe \ˌhō-lē-ˈjō\ *n, slang* : PARSON, CHAPLAIN
Holy Office *n* : a congregation of the curia charged with protecting faith and morals
holy of holies [trans. of LL *sanctum sanctorum*, trans. of Heb *qōdhesh haq-qŏdhāshīm*] : the innermost and most sacred chamber of the Jewish tabernacle and temple
holy oil *n* : olive oil blessed by a bishop for use in a sacrament or sacramental
holy order *n, often cap H&O* **1** : MAJOR ORDER **2** : the rite or sacrament of ordination
Holy Roller *n* : a member of one of the Protestant sects whose worship meetings are characterized by frenzied excitement — often taken to be offensive
Holy Roman Empire *n* : an empire consisting primarily of a loose confederation of German and Italian territories under the suzerainty of an emperor and existing from the 9th or 10th century to 1806
Holy Saturday *n* : the Saturday before Easter
Holy See *n* : the see of the pope
Holy Spirit *n* : the active presence of God in human life constituting the third person of the Trinity
[1]ho·ly·stone \ˈhō-lē-ˌstōn\ *n* : a soft sandstone used to scrub a ship's decks
[2]holystone *vt* : to scrub with a holystone
Holy Synod *n* : the governing body of a national Eastern church
Holy Thursday *n* **1** : ASCENSION DAY **2** : MAUNDY THURSDAY
holy war *n* : a war waged by religious partisans to propagate or defend their faith
holy water *n* : water blessed by a priest and used as a purifying sacramental
Holy Week *n* : the week before Easter during which the last days of Christ's life are commemorated
holy writ *n, often cap H&W* **1** : BIBLE 1 **2** : a writing or utterance having unquestionable authority ⟨its financial precepts were not necessarily *Holy Writ* —Herbert Stein⟩
Holy Year *n* : a Roman Catholic jubilee year
hom *abbr* homiletics; homily
hom- *or* **homo-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *homos* — more at SAME] **1** : one and the same : similar : alike ⟨*homo*graph⟩ ⟨*homo*sporous⟩ **2** : homologous with a (specified) chemical compound ⟨*homo*gentisic acid⟩
hom·age \ˈ(h)äm-ij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *hommage*, fr. *homme* man, vassal, fr. L *homin-*, *homo* man; akin to OE *guma* man, L *humus* earth — more at HUMBLE] **1 a** : a ceremony by which a man acknowledges himself the vassal of a lord **b** : the relationship between a feudal lord and his man **c** : an act done or payment made in meeting the obligations of vassalage **2 a** : reverential regard : DEFERENCE **b** : flattering attention : TRIBUTE ***syn*** see HONOR
hom·ag·er \ˈ(h)äm-ij-ər\ *n* : VASSAL
homalographic *var of* HOMOLOGRAPHIC
hom·bre \ˈäm-brē, ˈəm-, -ˌbrā\ *n* [Sp, man, fr. L *homin-*, *homo*] : GUY, FELLOW ⟨a cabin occupied by a group of nasty-looking ~*s* — Philip Hamburger⟩
hom·burg \ˈhäm-ˌbərg\ *n* [*Homburg*, Germany] : a man's felt hat with a stiff curled brim and a high crown creased lengthwise


homburg

[1]home \ˈhōm\ *n* [ME *hom*, fr. OE *hām* village, home; akin to Gk *kōmē* village, L *civis* citizen, Gk *koiman* to put to sleep — more at CEMETERY] **1 a** : a family's place of residence : DOMICILE **b** : HOUSE **2** : the social unit formed by a family living together **3 a** : a congenial environment **b** : HABITAT **4 a** : a place of origin ⟨salmon returning to their ~ to spawn⟩ **b** : HEADQUARTERS **5** : an establishment providing residence and special care for disabled persons **6** : the objective in various games; *esp* : HOME PLATE — **home·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **at home** **1 a** : relaxed and comfortable : at ease ⟨felt completely *at home* on the stage⟩ **b** : in harmony with the surroundings **2** : on familiar ground : KNOWLEDGEABLE ⟨teachers *at home* in their subject fields⟩
[2]home *adv* **1** : to or at home **2** : to a final, closed, or standard position ⟨drive a nail ~⟩ **3 a** : to an ultimate objective (as a goal or finish line) **b** : to a successful or rewarding end **4** : to a vital sensitive core ⟨the truth struck ~⟩
[3]home *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a home, place of origin, or base of operations ⟨~ office⟩ **2** : prepared, done, or designed for use in a home ⟨~ remedies⟩ ⟨~ cooking⟩ ⟨a ~ aquarium⟩ **3** : operating or occurring in a home area ⟨the ~ team⟩ ⟨~ games⟩
[4]home *vb* **homed; hom·ing** *vi* **1 a** : to go or return home **b** *of an animal* : to return accurately to one's home or natal area from a distance **c** : to proceed to or toward a source of radiated energy used as a guide ⟨missiles ~ in on radar⟩ **d** : to proceed or direct attention toward an objective ⟨science is *homing* in on the mysterious human process —Sam Glucksberg⟩ **2** : to have a home ~ *vt* : to send to or provide with a home
home- *or* **homeo-** *also* **homoi-** *or* **homoio-** *comb form* [L&Gk; L *homoeo-*, fr. Gk *homoi-*, *homoio-*, fr. *homoios*, fr. *homos* same — more at SAME] : like : similar ⟨*homeo*stasis⟩ ⟨*homoio*thermic⟩
home·body \ˈhōm-ˌbäd-ē\ *n* : one whose life centers in the home
[1]home·bound \ˈhōm-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* [*home* + [1]*bound*] : going homeward ⟨~ travelers⟩
[2]homebound *adj* [*home* + [4]*bound*] : confined to the home ⟨~ invalids⟩
home·bred \ˈhōm-ˈbred\ *adj* : produced at home : INDIGENOUS
home brew *n* : an alcoholic beverage (as beer) made at home
home·com·ing \ˈhōm-ˌkəm-iŋ\ *n* **1** : a return home **2 a** : the return of a group of people esp. on a special occasion to a place formerly frequented or regarded as home **b** : an annual celebration for alumni at a college or university
home economics *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the theory and practice of homemaking — **home economist** *n*
home front *n* : the sphere of civilian activity in war
home·grown \ˈhōm-ˈgrōn\ *adj* **1** : grown or produced at home **2** : produced in or characteristic of the home country or place of origin ⟨~ politicians⟩
home·land \-ˌland *also* -lənd\ *n* : native land : FATHERLAND
home·like \ˈhōm-ˌlīk\ *adj* : characteristic of a home: **a** : CHEERFUL, COZY **b** : SIMPLE, WHOLESOME
home·ly \ˈhōm-lē\ *adj* **home·li·er; -est** **1** : suggestive or characteristic of a home **2** : frequently encountered : FAMILIAR ⟨explained the problem in ~ terms⟩ **3** : of a sympathetic character : KINDLY **4 a** : unaffectedly natural : SIMPLE **b** : not elaborate or complex **5** : lacking beauty of feature or grace of proportion : approaching ugliness ⟨a ~ face redeemed by its smile⟩ ***syn*** see PLAIN ***ant*** comely — **home·li·ness** *n*
home·made \ˈhōm-ˌ(m)ād\ *adj* **1** : made in the home, on the premises, or by one's own efforts **2** : of domestic manufacture
home·mak·er \ˈhōm-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one who manages a household esp. as a wife and mother — **home·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n or adj*
ho·meo·mor·phic \ˌhō-mē-ə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* : characterized by homeomorphism
ho·meo·mor·phism \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a near similarity of crystalline forms between unlike chemical compounds **2** : a one-to-one mapping in topology between two figures that is continuous in both directions
ho·meo·path \ˈhō-mē-ə-ˌpath\ *n* : a practitioner or adherent of homeopathy
ho·me·op·a·thy \ˌhō-mē-ˈäp-ə-thē, ˌhäm-ē\ *n* [G *homöopathie*, fr. *homöo-* home- + *-pathie* -pathy] : a system of medical practice that treats a disease esp. by the administration of minute doses of a remedy that would in healthy persons produce symptoms of the disease treated — **ho·meo·path·ic** \ˌhō-mē-ə-ˈpath-ik\ *adj* — **ho·meo·path·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ho·meo·sta·sis \ˌhō-mē-ō-ˈstā-səs\ *n* [NL] : a relatively stable state of equilibrium or a tendency toward such a state between the different but interdependent elements or groups of elements of an organism or group — **ho·meo·stat·ic** \-ˈstat-ik\ *adj*
ho·meo·typ·ic \-ˈtip-ik\ *adj* : being or relating to the second or equational meiotic division

home plate *n* : a rubber slab at one corner of a baseball diamond at which a batter stands when batting and which must be touched by a base runner in order to score
home port *n* : the port from which a ship hails or from which it is documented
[1]ho·mer \'hō-mər\ *n* [Heb *ḥōmer*] : an ancient Hebrew unit of capacity equal to about $10\frac{1}{2}$ or later $11\frac{1}{2}$ bushels or 100 gallons
[2]hom·er \'hō-mər\ *n* **1** : HOMING PIGEON **2** : HOME RUN
[3]hom·er *vi* : to hit a home run
home range *n* : the area to which the activities of an animal are confined
Ho·mer·ic \hō-'mer-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Greek poet Homer, his age, or his writings **2** : of epic proportions : HEROIC ⟨~ feats of reporting —Stanley Walker⟩ — **Ho·mer·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
home·room \'hōm-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : a classroom where pupils of the same class report at the opening of school
home rule *n* **1** : self-government in internal affairs by the people of a dependent political unit **2** : limited autonomy in the organization and management of local affairs granted by a state to a county or municipality
home run *n* : a hit in baseball that enables the batter to make a complete circuit of the bases and score a run
home·sick \'hōm-ˌsik\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *homesickness*] : longing for home and family while absent from them — **home·sickness** *n*
home·site \-ˌsīt\ *n* **1** : a location suitable for a home **2** : the location of a home
[1]home·spun \-ˌspən\ *adj* **1 a** : spun or made at home **b** : made of homespun **2** : SIMPLE, HOMELY ⟨local ~ virtues —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩
[2]homespun *n* : a loosely woven usu. woolen or linen fabric orig. made from homespun yarn
home stand *n* : a series of baseball games played at a team's home field
[1]home·stead \'hōm-ˌsted, -stəd\ *n* **1 a** : the home and adjoining land occupied by a family **b** : an ancestral home **c** : HOUSE **2** : a tract of land acquired from U.S. public lands by filing a record and living on and cultivating the tract
[2]home·stead \-ˌsted\ *vt* : to acquire or occupy as a homestead ~ *vi* : to acquire or settle on land under a homestead law — **home·stead·er** \-ˌsted-ər\ *n*
homestead law *n* **1** : a law exempting a homestead from attachment or sale under execution for general debts **2** : any of several legislative acts authorizing the sale of public lands in homesteads to settlers
home·stretch \'hōm-'strech\ *n* **1** : the part of a racecourse between the last curve and the winning post **2** : a final stage (as of a project)
home·town \-'taůn\ *n* : the city or town of one's birth or principal residence
home truth *n* **1** : an unpleasant fact that jars the sensibilities **2** : a statement of undisputed fact
[1]home·ward \'hōm-wərd\ *or* **home·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* : toward home ⟨look ~, angel —John Milton⟩
[2]homeward *adj* : being or going in the direction of home
home·work \'hōm-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : piecework done at home for pay **2** : an assignment given to a student to be completed outside the regular class period **3** : preparatory reading or research (as for a discussion) ⟨had not done all his essential ~ in party and public relations —Arthur Krock⟩
hom·ey *also* **homy** \'hō-mē\ *adj* **hom·i·er; -est** : HOMELIKE ⟨a restaurant with a ~ atmosphere⟩ — **hom·ey·ness** *or* **hom·i·ness** *n*
ho·mi·cid·al \ˌhäm-ə-'sīd-ᵊl, ˌhō-mə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or tending toward homicide — **ho·mi·cid·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
ho·mi·cide \'häm-ə-ˌsīd, 'hō-mə-\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. ME, fr. MF, fr. L *homicida*, fr. *homo* man + *-cida* -cide; in sense 2, fr. ME, fr. MF, fr. L *homicidium*, fr. *homo* + *-cidium* -cide] **1** : a person who kills another **2** : a killing of one human being by another
hom·i·let·ic \ˌhäm-ə-'let-ik\ *or* **hom·i·let·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [LL *homileticus*, fr. Gk *homilētikos* of conversation, fr. *homilein*] **1** : of, relating to, or resembling a homily **2** : of or relating to homiletics — **hom·i·let·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hom·i·let·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the art of preaching
hom·i·ly \'häm-ə-lē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [ME *omelie*, fr. MF, fr. LL *homilia*, fr. LGk, fr. Gk, conversation, discourse, fr. *homilein* to consort with, address, fr. *homilos* crowd, assembly] **1** : a religious discourse usu. delivered to a congregation : SERMON; *specif* : an informal exposition of Scripture **2** : a lecture on moral conduct
homing pigeon *n* : a racing pigeon trained to return home
hom·i·nid \'häm-ə-nəd, -ˌnid\ *n* [deriv. of L *homin-, homo* man] : any of a family (Hominidae) of bipedal primate mammals comprising recent man, his immediate ancestors, and related forms — **hominid** *adj*
hom·i·ni·za·tion \ˌhäm-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* [L *homin-, homo* + E *-ization*] : the evolutionary development of human characteristics that differentiate man from his primate ancestors
hom·i·nized \'häm-ə-ˌnīzd\ *adj* : characterized by hominization
hom·i·noid \-ˌnȯid\ *adj* : resembling or related to man — **hominoid** *n*
hom·i·ny \'häm-ə-nē\ *n* [prob. of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *-minne* grain] : hulled corn with the germ removed
hominy grits *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : hominy in uniform granular particles
[1]ho·mo \'hō-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **homos** [NL *Homin-, Homo*, genus name, fr. L, man] : any of a genus (*Homo*) of primate mammals that usu. includes a single recent species (*H. sapiens*) comprising all surviving and various extinct men
[2]homo *n, pl* **homos** [by shortening] : HOMOSEXUAL
homo- — see HOM-
ho·mo·cer·cal \ˌhō-mə-'sər-kəl, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj* **1** : having the upper and lower lobes approximately symmetrical and the vertebral column ending at or near the middle of the base — used of the tail fin of a fish **2** : having or relating to a homocercal tail fin
ho·mo·chro·mat·ic \-krō-'mat-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to one color
ho·mo·erot·ic \ˌhō-mō-i-'rät-ik\ *adj* : HOMOSEXUAL — **ho·mo·erot·i·cism** \-'rät-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*
ho·mo·ga·met·ic \ˌhō-mō-gə-'met-ik, ˌhäm-ō-\ *adj* : forming one kind of germ cell; *esp* : forming all gametes with one type of sex chromosome
ho·mog·a·my \hō-'mäg-ə-mē\ *n* [G *homogamie*, fr. *hom-* + *-gamie* -gamy] **1 a** : a state of having flowers alike throughout **b** : the maturing of stamens and pistils at the same period **2** : reproduction within an isolated group perpetuating qualities by which it is differentiated from the larger group of which it is a part; *broadly* : the mating of like with like — **ho·mog·a·mous** \-məs\ *or* **ho·mogam·ic** \ˌhō-mə-'gam-ik, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj*
ho·mog·e·nate \hō-'mäj-ə-ˌnāt, hə-\ *n* : a product of homogenizing
ho·mo·ge·ne·ity \ˌhō-mə-jə-'nē-ət-ē, -'nā-ət-; *esp Brit* ˌhäm-ə-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being homogeneous **2** : the state of having identical distribution functions or values ⟨a test for ~ of variances⟩ ⟨~ of two statistical populations⟩
ho·mo·ge·neous \-'jē-nē-əs, -nyəs\ *adj* [ML *homogeneus, homogenus*, fr. Gk *homogenēs*, fr. *hom-* + *genos* kind — more at KIN] **1** : of the same or a similar kind or nature **2** : of uniform structure or composition throughout ⟨a culturally ~ neighborhood⟩ **3** : having the property that if each variable is replaced by a constant times that variable the constant can be factored out : having each term of the same degree if all variables are considered ⟨$x^2 + xy + y^2 = 0$ is a ~ equation⟩ **4** : HOMOGENOUS 1 — **ho·mo·ge·neous·ly** *adv* — **ho·mo·ge·neous·ness** *n*
ho·mog·e·ni·za·tion \hō-ˌmäj-ə-nə-'zā-shən, hə-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being homogenized **2** : the act or process of homogenizing
ho·mog·e·nize \hō-'mäj-ə-ˌnīz, hə-\ *vb* **-nized; -niz·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to blend (diverse elements) into a smooth mixture **b** : to make homogeneous **2 a** : to reduce to small particles of uniform size and distribute evenly usu. in a liquid **b** : to reduce the particles of so that they are uniformly small and evenly distributed; *specif* : to break up the fat globules of (milk) into very fine particles esp. by forcing through minute openings ~ *vi* : to become homogenized — **ho·mog·e·niz·er** *n*
ho·mog·e·nous \-nəs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or exhibiting homogeny **2** : HOMOPLASTIC 2 **3** : HOMOGENEOUS
ho·mog·e·ny \-nē\ *n* : correspondence between parts or organs due to descent from the same ancestral type
ho·mo·graft \'hō-mə-ˌgraft, 'häm-ə-\ *n* : a graft of tissue taken from a donor of the same species as the recipient — compare HETEROGRAFT
ho·mo·graph \'häm-ə-ˌgraf, 'hō-mə-\ *n* : one of two or more words spelled alike but different in meaning or derivation or pronunciation ⟨the noun *conduct* and the verb *conduct* are ~*s*⟩ — **ho·mograph·ic** \ˌhäm-ə-'graf-ik, ˌhō-mə-\ *adj*
homoi- *or* **homoio-** — see HOME-
ho·moio·therm \hō-'mȯi-ə-ˌthərm\ *n* : a homoiothermic organism
ho·moio·ther·mic \-ˌmȯi-ə-'thər-mik\ *or* **ho·moio·ther·mal** \-məl\ *adj* : WARM-BLOODED
ho·moi·ou·si·an \hō-'mȯi-ˌü-zē-ən, hä-, -'ü-sē-\ *n* [LGk *homoiousios* of like substance, fr. Gk *homoi-* home- + *ousia* essence, substance, fr. *ont-, ōn*, prp. of *einai* to be — more at IS] : an adherent of an ecclesiastical party of the 4th century holding that the Son is essentially like the Father but not of the same substance
ho·mo·lec·i·thal \ˌhō-mō-'les-ə-thəl, ˌhäm-ō-\ *adj* [*hom-* + Gk *lekithos* yolk] : having the yolk small in amount and nearly uniformly distributed
ho·mol·o·gate \hō-'mäl-ə-ˌgāt, hə-\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [ML *homologatus*, pp. of *homologare* to agree, fr. Gk *homologein*, fr. *homologos*] : SANCTION, ALLOW; *esp* : to approve or confirm officially — **ho·mol·o·ga·tion** \-ˌmäl-ə-'gā-shən\ *n*
ho·mo·log·i·cal \ˌhō-mə-'läj-i-kəl, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj* : HOMOLOGOUS — **ho·mo·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ho·mol·o·gize \hō-'mäl-ə-ˌjīz, hə-\ *vt* **-gized; -giz·ing** **1** : to make homologous **2** : to demonstrate the homology of — **ho·mol·o·giz·er** *n*
ho·mol·o·gous \hō-'mäl-ə-gəs, hə-\ *adj* [Gk *homologos* agreeing, fr. *hom-* + *legein* to say — more at LEGEND] **1 a** : having the same relative position, value, or structure **b** (1) : exhibiting biological homology (2) : having the same or allelic genes with genetic loci usu. arranged in the same order ⟨~ chromosomes⟩ **c** : belonging to or consisting of a chemical series whose members exhibit homology **2** : derived from or developed in response to organisms of the same species ⟨~ tissue graft⟩
hom·o·lo·graph·ic \ˌhäm-ə-lə-'graf-ik\ *adj* [F *homalographique*, fr. Gk *homalos* even, level (akin to Gk *homos* same) + *graphein* to write — more at SAME, CARVE] : preserving the mutual relations of parts esp. as to size and form ⟨a ~ map projection⟩
ho·mo·logue *or* **ho·mo·log** \'hō-mə-ˌlȯg, 'häm-ə-, -ˌläg\ *n* : something (as a chemical compound or a chromosome) that exhibits homology
ho·mol·o·gy \hō-'mäl-ə-jē, hə-\ *n, pl* **-gies** **1** : a similarity often attributable to common origin **2 a** : likeness in structure between parts of different organisms due to evolutionary differentiation from the same or a corresponding part of a remote ancestor — compare ANALOGY, HOMOMORPHY **b** : correspondence in structure between different parts of the same individual **3 a** : the relation existing between chemical compounds in a series whose successive members have in composition a regular difference esp. of one carbon and two hydrogen atoms CH_2 **b** : the relation existing among elements in the same group of the periodic table **4** : a classification of configurations in topology into distinct types

ho·mol·o·sine projection \hō-ˌmäl-ə-ˌsīn-\ *n* [irreg. fr. Gk *homalos*] : an equal-area map projection that combines the sinusoidal projection for latitudes up to 40° with the homolographic for areas poleward of these latitudes

ho·mol·y·sis \hō-'mäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : decomposition of a chemical compound into two uncharged atoms or radicals — **ho·mo·lyt·ic** \ˌhō-mə-'lit-ik, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj*

ho·mo·mor·phism \ˌhō-mə-'mȯr-ˌfiz-əm, ˌhäm-ə-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : likeness in form: as **a** : HOMOMORPHY **b** : the condition of having perfect flowers of only one type **2** : a mapping of a mathematical group, ring, or vector space onto another in such a way that the result obtained by applying an operation to elements of the domain is mapped onto the result obtained by applying the operation to their images in the range — **ho·mo·mor·phic** \-fik\ *adj*

ho·mo·mor·phy \'hō-mə-ˌmȯr-fē, 'häm-ə-\ *n* [ISV] : similarity of form with different fundamental structure; *specif* : superficial resemblance between organisms of different groups due to convergence — compare HOMOLOGY, HOMOPHYLY

ho·mo·nu·cle·ar \ˌhō-mə-'n(y)ü-klē-ər, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj* : of or relating to a molecule (as hydrogen gas) composed of identical nuclei

hom·onym \'häm-ə-ˌnim, 'hō-mə-\ *n* [L *homonymum*, fr. Gk *homōnymon*, fr. neut. of *homōnymos*] **1 a** : HOMOPHONE **b** : HOMOGRAPH **c** : one of two or more words spelled and pronounced alike but different in meaning ⟨the noun *quail* and the verb *quail* are ~*s*⟩ **2** : NAMESAKE **3** : a taxonomic designation rejected because the identical term has been used to designate another group of the same rank — compare SYNONYM — **hom·onym·ic** \ˌhäm-ə-'nim-ik, ˌhō-mə-\ *adj*

hom·on·y·mous \hō-'män-ə-məs\ *adj* [L *homonymus* having the same name, fr. Gk *homōnymos*, fr. *hom-* + *onyma, onoma* name — more at NAME] **1** : AMBIGUOUS **2** : having the same designation **3** : of, relating to, or being homonyms : HOMONYMIC — **hom·on·y·mous·ly** *adv*

hom·on·y·my \-mē\ *n* : the quality or state of being homonymous

ho·mo·ou·si·an \hō-'mō-ˌü-zē-ən, hä-, -ˌü-sē-\ *n* [LGk *homoousios* of the same substance, fr. Gk *hom-* + *ousia* substance — more at HOMOIOUSIAN] : an adherent of an ecclesiastical party of the 4th century holding to the doctrine of the Nicene Creed that the Son is of the same substance with the Father

ho·mo·phile \'hō-mə-ˌfīl\ *adj* [*hom-* + *²-phil*] : GAY 4b

ho·mo·phone \'häm-ə-ˌfōn, 'hō-mə-\ *n* [ISV] **1** : one of two or more words pronounced alike but different in meaning or derivation or spelling ⟨the words *to, too,* and *two* are ~*s*⟩ **2** : a character or group of characters pronounced the same as another character or group — **ho·moph·o·nous** \hō-'mäf-ə-nəs\ *adj*

ho·mo·pho·nic \ˌhäm-ə-'fän-ik, ˌhō-mə-, -'fō-nik\ *adj* [Gk *homophōnos* being in unison, fr. *hom-* + *phōnē* sound — more at BAN] : of, relating to, or being music consisting of a single accompanied melodic line — **ho·moph·o·ny** \hō-'mäf-ə-nē\ *n*

ho·mo·phy·ly \'hō-mə-ˌfī-lē, 'häm-ə-; hō-'mäf-ə-lē\ *n* [ISV *hom-* + *phyl-* + *-y*] : resemblance due to common ancestry — compare HOMOMORPHY

ho·mo·plas·tic \ˌhō-mə-'plas-tik, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to homoplasy **2** : of, relating to, or derived from another individual of the same species ⟨~ grafts⟩ — **ho·mo·plas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ho·mo·pla·sy \'hō-mə-ˌplā-sē, 'häm-ə-, -ˌplas-ē; hō-'mäp-lə-sē\ *n* : correspondence between parts or organs acquired as the result of parallel evolution or convergence

ho·mo·po·lar \ˌhō-mə-'pō-lər, ˌhäm-ə-\ *adj* : of or relating to a union of atoms of like polarity : NONIONIC

ho·mo·pol·y·mer \-'päl-ə-mər\ *n* : a polymer (as polyethylene) consisting of identical monomer units

ho·mop·ter·an \hō-'mäp-tə-rən\ *n* : a homopterous insect — **homopteran** *adj*

ho·mop·ter·ous \-rəs\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *hom-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : of or relating to a large order or suborder (Homoptera) of insects (as cicadas, aphids, and scale insects) that have sucking mouthparts

Ho·mo sa·pi·ens \ˌhō-(ˌ)mō-'sap-ē-ənz, -'sā-pē-, -ˌenz\ *n* [NL, species name, fr. *Homo*, genus name + *sapiens*, specific epithet, fr. L, wise, intelligent — more at HOMO, SAPIENT] : MANKIND 1

ho·mo·sce·das·tic \ˌhō-mō-si-'das-tik, ˌhäm-ō-\ *adj* [*hom-* + Gk *skedastikos* able to scatter, fr. *skedannynai* to scatter] : having equal statistical variances ⟨~ distributions⟩ — **ho·mo·sce·das·tic·i·ty** \-ˌdas-'tis-ət-ē\ *n*

¹ho·mo·sex·u·al \ˌhō-mə-'seksh-(ə-)wəl, -'sek-shəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or exhibiting sexual desire toward a member of one's own sex — **ho·mo·sex·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²homosexual *n* : one who is inclined toward or practices homosexuality

ho·mo·sex·u·al·i·ty \ˌhō-mə-ˌsek-shə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the manifestation of sexual desire toward a member of one's own sex **2** : erotic activity with a member of one's own sex

ho·mo·spo·rous \ˌhō-mə-'spōr-əs, ˌhäm-ə-, -'spȯr-; hō-'mäs-pə-rəs\ *adj* : producing asexual spores of one kind only

ho·mo·spo·ry \'hō-mə-ˌspōr-ē, 'häm-ə-ˌspȯr-; hō-'mäs-pə-rē\ *n* : the production by various plants (as the club mosses and horsetails) of asexual spores of only one kind

ho·mo·thal·lic \ˌhō-mō-'thal-ik\ *adj* [*hom-* + Gk *thallein* to sprout, grow — more at THALLUS] **1** : having only one haploid phase that produces two kinds of gametes capable of fusing to form a zygote **2** : MONOECIOUS — **ho·mo·thal·lism** \-'thal-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

ho·mo·trans·plant \ˌhō-mō-'tran(t)-ˌsplant, ˌhäm-ō-\ *n* : HOMOGRAFT — **ho·mo·trans·plan·ta·tion** \-ˌtran(t)-ˌsplan-'tā-shən\ *n*

ho·mo·zy·go·sis \ˌhō-mə-zī-'gō-səs, ˌhäm-ə-\ *n* [NL] : HOMOZYGOSITY

ho·mo·zy·gos·i·ty \-'gäs-ət-ē\ *n* : the state of being homozygous

ho·mo·zy·gote \-'zī-ˌgōt\ *n* [ISV] : a homozygous individual

ho·mo·zy·gous \-'zī-gəs\ *adj* : having the two genes at corresponding loci on homologous chromosomes identical for one or more loci — **ho·mo·zy·gous·ly** *adv*

ho·mun·cu·lus \hō-'məŋ-kyə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [L, dim. of *homin-, homo* man — more at HOMAGE] : a little man : MANIKIN

homy *var of* HOMEY

hon *abbr* honor; honorable; honorary

Hon *or* **Hond** *abbr* Honduras

hon·cho \'hän-(ˌ)chō\ *n, pl* **honchos** [Jap *hanchō* squad leader, fr. *han* squad + *chō* head, chief] : BOSS ⟨the ~ of an elite state police force —H. F. Waters⟩

¹hone \'hōn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hān* stone; akin to ON *hein* whetstone, L *cot-, cos,* Gk *kōnos* cone] **1** : a fine-grit stone for sharpening a cutting implement **2** : a tool for enlarging holes to precise tolerances and controlling finishes by means of a mechanically rotated abrasive

²hone *vt* **honed; hon·ing** **1** : to sharpen, enlarge, or smooth with a hone **2** : to make more acute, intense, or effective : WHET ⟨helped her ~ her comic timing to perfection —Patricia Bosworth⟩ — **hon·er** *n*

³hone *vi* **honed; hon·ing** [MF *hoigner* to grumble] **1** *dial* : GRUMBLE, MOAN **2** *dial* : YEARN

hon·est \'än-əst\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *honeste*, fr. L *honestus* honorable, fr. *honos, honor* honor] **1 a** : free from fraud or deception : LEGITIMATE, TRUTHFUL ⟨an ~ plea⟩ **b** : GENUINE, REAL ⟨making ~ stops at stop signs —*Christian Science Monitor*⟩ **c** : HUMBLE, PLAIN **2 a** : REPUTABLE, RESPECTABLE ⟨~ decent people⟩ **b** *chiefly Brit* : GOOD, WORTHY **3** : CREDITABLE, PRAISEWORTHY ⟨an ~ day's work⟩ **4 a** : marked by integrity **b** : FRANK, SINCERE ⟨an ~ appraisal⟩ **c** : INNOCENT, SIMPLE ***syn*** see UPRIGHT ***ant*** dishonest — **hon·est** *adv* — **hon·est·ly** *adv*

honest broker *n* : a neutral mediator ⟨an *honest broker* between the two Democrats —*Christian Science Monitor*⟩

hon·es·ty \'än-ə-stē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** *obs* : CHASTITY **2 a** : fairness and straightforwardness of conduct **b** : adherence to the facts : SINCERITY **3** : any of a genus (*Lunaria*) of European plants of the mustard family with cordate leaves and broad siliques

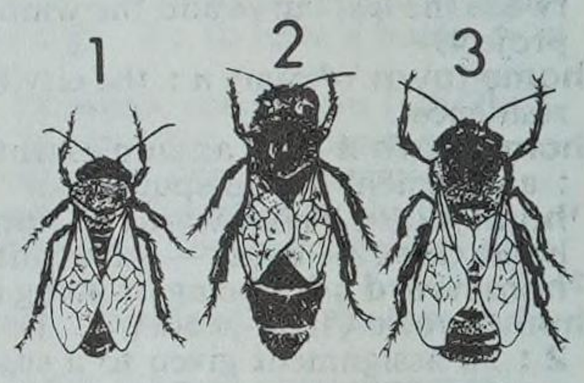
syn HONESTY, HONOR, INTEGRITY, PROBITY *shared meaning element* : uprightness of character or action ***ant*** dishonesty

¹hon·ey \'hən-ē\ *n, pl* **honeys** [ME *hony*, fr. OE *hunig;* akin to OHG *honag* honey, L *canicae* bran] **1 a** : a sweet viscid material elaborated out of the nectar of flowers in the honey sac of various bees **b** : a sweet fluid resembling honey that is collected or elaborated by various insects **2 a** : SWEETHEART, DEAR **b** : a superlative example ⟨a ~ of a girl —Philip Roth⟩ **3** : the quality or state of being sweet : SWEETNESS

²honey *vb* **hon·eyed** *also* **hon·ied** \'hən-ēd\; **hon·ey·ing** *vt* **1** : to sweeten with or as if with honey **2** : to speak ingratiatingly to : FLATTER ~ *vi* : to use blandishments or cajolery

³honey *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling honey **2** : much loved : DEAR

hon·ey·bee \'hən-ē-ˌbē\ *n* : a social honey-producing bee (*Apis* or related genera); *esp* : a native European bee (*A. mellifera*) kept for its honey and wax



honeybees: *1* worker, *2* queen, *3* drone

¹hon·ey·comb \-ˌkōm\ *n* **1** : a mass of hexagonal wax cells built by honeybees in their nest to contain brood and stores of honey **2** : something that resembles a honeycomb in structure or appearance; *esp* : a strong lightweight cellular structural material

²honeycomb *vt* **1 a** : to cause to be full of cavities like a honeycomb **b** : to make into a checkered pattern : FRET **2 a** : to penetrate into every part : FILL **b** : SUBVERT, WEAKEN ~ *vi* : to become pitted, checked, or cellular

hon·ey·creep·er \'hən-ē-ˌkrē-pər\ *n* **1** : any of numerous small bright-colored oscine birds (family Coerebidae) of tropical and subtropical America **2** : any of a family (Drepanididae) of oscine birds that are found only in Hawaii

hon·ey·dew \-ˌd(y)ü\ *n* : a saccharine deposit secreted on the leaves of plants usu. by aphids or scales or sometimes by a fungus

honeydew melon *n* : a pale smooth-skinned muskmelon with greenish sweet flesh

honey eater *n* : any of several oscine birds (family Meliphagidae) mostly of the South Pacific with a long protrusible tongue adapted for extracting nectar and small insects from flowers

honey guide *n* : any of several small plainly colored nonpasserine birds (family Indicatoridae and esp. genera *Indicator* and *Prodotiscus*) that inhabit Africa, the Himalayas, and the East Indies and lead men or lower animals to the nests of bees

honey locust *n* : a tall usu. spiny No. American leguminous tree (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) with very hard durable wood and long twisted pods containing a sweet edible pulp and seeds that resemble beans

hon·ey·moon \'hən-ē-ˌmün\ *n* [fr. the idea that the first month of marriage is the sweetest] **1** : a trip or vacation taken by a newly married couple **2** : a period of harmony immediately following marriage **3** : a period of unusual harmony following the establishment of a new relationship ⟨the ~ between the new President and Congress —Arthur Blaustein⟩ — **honeymoon** *vi* — **hon·ey·moon·er** *n*

honey sac *n* : a distension of the esophagus of a bee in which honey is elaborated — called also *honey stomach*

hon·ey·suck·le \'hən-ē-ˌsək-əl\ *n* [ME *honysoukel*, alter. of *honysouke*, fr. OE *hunisūce*, fr. *hunig* honey + *sūcan* to suck] : any of a genus (*Lonicera* of the family Caprifoliaceae, the honeysuckle family) of shrubs with opposite leaves and often showy flowers rich in nectar; *broadly* : any of various plants (as a columbine or azalea) with tubular flowers rich in nectar

hong \'häŋ, 'hȯŋ\ *n* [Chin (Cant) *hōng*] : a commercial establishment or house of foreign trade in China

¹honk \'häŋk, 'hȯŋk\ *n* [imit.] : the characteristic cry of a goose; *also* : a similar sound

²honk *vi* **1** : to make the characteristic cry of a goose **2** : to make a sound resembling the cry of a goose ~ *vt* : to cause (as a horn) to honk — **honk·er** *n*

hon·kie *or* **hon·ky** *also* **hon·key** \'hȯŋ-kē, 'häŋ-\ *n, pl* **honkies** *also* **honkeys** [origin unknown] : a white man — usu. used disparagingly

¹hon·ky-tonk \'häŋ-kē-ˌtäŋk, 'hȯŋ-kē-ˌtȯŋk\ *n* [origin unknown] : a cheap nightclub or dance hall : DIVE

²honky-tonk *adj* : of, used in, or being a form of ragtime piano playing performed typically on an upright piano

¹hon·or \'än-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *honor*, fr. L *honos, honor*] **1 a** : good name or public esteem : REPUTATION **b** : a showing of usu. merited respect : RECOGNITION ⟨a man worthy of all possible ~⟩ **2** : PRIVILEGE **3** : a person of superior standing — now used esp. as a title for a holder of high office ⟨if Your *Honor* please⟩ **4** : one whose worth brings respect or fame : CREDIT ⟨was an ~ to his profession⟩ **5** : the center point of the upper half of an armorial escutcheon **6** : an evidence or symbol of distinction: as **a** : an exalted title or rank **b** (1) : BADGE, DECORATION (2) : a ceremonial rite or observance ⟨buried with full military ~s⟩ **c** *archaic* : a gesture of deference : BOW **d** *pl* (1) : an academic distinction conferred on a superior student (2) : a course of study for superior students supplementing or replacing a regular course **e** : an award in a contest or field of competition **7** : CHASTITY, PURITY ⟨fought fiercely for her ~ and her life —Barton Black⟩ **8 a** : a keen sense of ethical conduct : INTEGRITY **b** : one's word given as a guarantee of performance **9** *pl* : social courtesies or civilities extended by a host ⟨did the ~s at the table⟩ **10 a** (1) : an ace, king, queen, jack, or ten esp. of the trump suit in bridge (2) : the scoring value of honors held in bridge — usu. used in pl. **b** : the privilege of playing first from the tee in golf

syn **1** HONOR, HOMAGE, DEFERENCE, REVERENCE *shared meaning element* : respect and esteem shown to another **2** see HONESTY

²honor *vt* **hon·ored; hon·or·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to regard or treat with honor or respect **b** : to confer honor on **2 a** : to live up to or fulfill the terms of ⟨~ a commitment⟩ **b** : to accept and pay when due ⟨~ a draft⟩ **3** : to salute with a bow in square dancing — **hon·or·er** \'än-ər-ər\ *n*

¹hon·or·able \'än-(ə-)rə-bəl, 'än-ər-bəl\ *adj* **1** : deserving of honor **2** : performed or accompanied with marks of honor or respect **3 a** : of great renown : ILLUSTRIOUS **b** : entitled to honor — used as a title for the children of certain British noblemen and for various government officials **4 a** : attesting to creditable conduct **b** : consistent with an untarnished reputation ⟨an ~ withdrawal⟩ **5** : characterized by integrity : guided by a high sense of honor and duty ***syn*** see UPRIGHT ***ant*** dishonorable — **hon·or·abil·i·ty** \ˌän-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **hon·or·able·ness** \'än-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, 'än-ər-bəl-\ *n* — **hon·or·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

²honorable *n* **1** : any of various members of British noble families **2** : any of various officials to whom the title of Honorable is applied

honorable mention *n* : a distinction conferred (as in a contest or exhibition) on works or persons of exceptional merit but not deserving of top honors

hon·o·rar·i·um \ˌän-ə-'rer-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ *also* **-i·ums** [L, fr. neut. of *honorarius*] : a payment usu. for services on which custom or propriety forbids a price to be set ⟨*honoraria* for the members of the committee —I. M. Price⟩

¹hon·or·ary \'än-ə-ˌrer-ē\ *adj* [L *honorarius*, fr. *honor*] **1 a** : having or conferring distinction **b** : COMMEMORATIVE **2 a** : conferred or elected in recognition of achievement or service without the usual prerequisites or obligations ⟨an ~ degree⟩ ⟨an ~ member⟩ **b** : UNPAID, VOLUNTARY ⟨an ~ chairman⟩ **3** : dependent on honor for fulfillment — **hon·or·ari·ly** \ˌän-ə-'rer-ə-lē\ *adv*

²honorary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** **1** *archaic* : HONORARIUM **2** : an honorary society **3** : an honorary degree or its recipient

hon·or·ee \ˌän-ə-'rē\ *n* : one who receives an honor

honor guard *n* : a guard assigned to greet or accompany a distinguished person or to accompany a casket at a military funeral — called also *guard of honor*

¹hon·or·if·ic \ˌän-ə-'rif-ik\ *adj* **1** : conferring or conveying honor ⟨~ titles⟩ **2** : belonging to or constituting a class of grammatical forms used in speaking to or about a social superior — **hon·or·if·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²honorific *n* : an honorific word, phrase, or form

honor roll *n* : a roster of names of persons deserving honor: as **a** : a list of students achieving academic distinction **b** : a publicly displayed list of the names of local citizens who have served in the armed forces

honor society *n* : a society for the recognition of scholarly achievement esp. of undergraduates

honor system *n* : a system (as at a college or prison) whereby persons are trusted to abide by the regulations without supervision or surveillance; *specif* : a system of conducting examinations without faculty supervision

hon·our \'än-ər\, **hon·our·able** *chiefly Brit var of* HONOR, HONORABLE

¹hooch \'hüch\ *n* [short for *hoochinoo* (a distilled liquor made by the Hoochinoo Indians, a Tlingit people)] *slang* : alcoholic liquor esp. when inferior or illicitly made or obtained

²hooch *or* **hootch** \'hüch\ *n* [modif. of Jap *uchi* house] *slang* : a usu. thatched hut; *broadly* : DWELLING ⟨was awakened in his ~ at an air base . . . by a fellow pilot —M. D. Perry⟩

¹hood \'hu̇d\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hōd;* akin to OHG *huot* head covering] **1 a** (1) : a flexible covering for the head and neck (2) : a protective covering for the head and face **b** : a covering for a hawk's head and eyes **c** : a covering for a horse's head; *also* : BLINDER **2 a** : an ornamental scarf worn over an academic gown that indicates by its color the wearer's college or university **b** : a color marking or crest on the head of an animal or an expansion of the head that suggests a hood **3 a** : something resembling a hood in form or use **b** : a cover for parts of mechanisms; *specif* : the movable metal covering over the engine of an automobile **c** : a top cover for the body of a vehicle designed to be folded back **d** : an enclosure or canopy provided with a draft for carrying off disagreeable or noxious fumes, sprays, smokes, or dusts **e** : a covering for an opening (as a companion hatch) on a boat — **hood** *vt* — **hood·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²hood \'hu̇d, 'hu̇d\ *n* : HOODLUM

-hood \ˌhu̇d\ *n suffix* [ME *-hod*, fr. OE *-hād;* akin to OHG *-heit* state, condition, *heitar* bright, clear] **1** : state : condition : quality : character ⟨boy*hood*⟩ ⟨hardi*hood*⟩ **2** : time : period ⟨child*hood*⟩ ⟨widow*hood*⟩ **3** : instance of a (specified) state or quality ⟨false*hood*⟩ **4** : individuals sharing a (specified) state or character ⟨brother*hood*⟩

hood·ed \'hu̇d-əd\ *adj* **1** : having a hood **2** : shaped like a hood ⟨~ spathes⟩ **3 a** : having the head conspicuously different in color from the rest of the body ⟨~ bird⟩ **b** : having a crest on the head that suggests a hood ⟨~ seals⟩ **c** : having the skin at each side of the neck capable of expansion by movements of the ribs ⟨~ cobra⟩ — **hood·ed·ness** *n*

hood·lum \'hüd-ləm, 'hu̇d-\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : THUG; *esp* : one who commits acts of violence **2** : a young ruffian — **hood·lum·ish** \-lə-mish\ *adj* — **hood·lum·ism** \-ˌmiz-əm\ *n*

hood·man–blind \ˌhu̇d-mən-'blīnd\ *n, archaic* : BLINDMAN'S BUFF

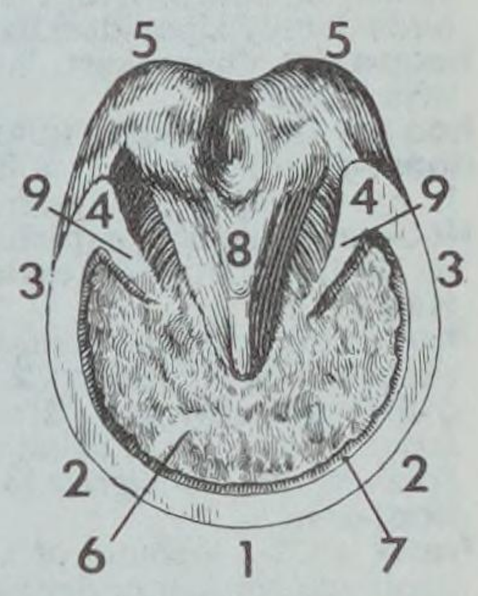
¹hoo·doo \'hüd-(ˌ)ü\ *n, pl* **hoodoos** [of African origin; akin to Hausa *hu³'du³'ba¹* to arouse resentment] **1** : VOODOO **2** : something that brings bad luck **3** : a natural column of rock in western No. America often in fantastic form — **hoo·doo·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

²hoodoo *vt* : to cast a spell on; *broadly* : to be a source of misfortune to

hood·wink \'hu̇d-ˌwiŋk\ *vt* [¹*hood* + *wink*] **1** *archaic* : BLINDFOLD **2** *obs* : HIDE **3** : to deceive by false appearance : impose upon — **hood·wink·er** *n*

hoo·ey \'hü-ē\ *n* [origin unknown] : NONSENSE

¹hoof \'hu̇f, 'hüf\ *n, pl* **hooves** \'hu̇vz, 'hüvz\ *or* **hoofs** [ME, fr. OE *hōf;* akin to OHG *huof* hoof, Skt *śapha*] **1** : a curved covering of horn that protects the front of or encloses the ends of the digits of an ungulate mammal and that corresponds to a nail or claw **2** : a hoofed foot esp. of a horse — **on the hoof** *of a meat animal* : before butchering : LIVING ⟨10¢ a pound *on the hoof*⟩



hoof of a horse, unshod; *1, 2, 3, 4,* parts of wall (*1* toe, *2* side walls, *3* quarters, *4* buttresses) *5* bulbs, *6* sole, *7* white line, *8* frog, *9* bars

²hoof *vt* **1** : WALK **2** : KICK, TRAMPLE ~ *vi* : to move on the feet; *esp* : DANCE

hoof–and–mouth disease *n* : FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

hoof·beat \'hu̇f-ˌbēt, 'hüf-\ *n* : the sound of a hoof striking a hard surface (as the ground)

hoofed \'hu̇ft, 'hüft, 'hu̇vd, 'hüvd\ *adj* : furnished with hoofs : UNGULATE

hoof·er \'hu̇f-ər, 'hü-fər\ *n* : a professional dancer

hoof·print \'hu̇f-ˌprint, 'hüf-\ *n* : an impression or hollow made by a hoof

¹hook \'hu̇k\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hōc;* akin to MD *hoec* fishhook, corner, Lith *kengė* hook] **1** : a curved or bent device for catching, holding, or pulling **2** : something curved or bent like a hook **3** : a flight of a ball that deviates from a straight course in a direction opposite to the dominant hand of the player propelling it; *also* : a ball following such a course — compare SLICE **4** : a short blow delivered with a circular motion by a boxer while the elbow remains bent and rigid **5** : HOOK SHOT **6** : BUTTONHOOK — **by hook or by crook** : by any means — **off the hook** : out of trouble — **on one's own hook** : by oneself : INDEPENDENTLY

²hook *vt* **1** : to form into a hook : CROOK **2** : to seize, make fast, or connect by or as if by a hook **3** : STEAL, PILFER **4** : to strike or pierce as if with a hook **5** : to make (as a rug) by drawing loops of yarn, thread, or cloth through a coarse fabric with a hook **6** : to hit or throw (a ball) so that a hook results ~ *vi* **1** : to form a hook : CURVE **2** : to become hooked

hoo·kah \'hu̇k-ə, 'hü-kə\ *n* [Ar *ḥuqqah* bottle of a water pipe] : WATER PIPE

hook and eye *n* : a 2-part fastening device (as on a garment or a door) consisting of a metal hook that catches over a bar or into a loop

hook and ladder truck *n* : a piece of mobile fire apparatus carrying ladders and usu. other fire-fighting and rescue equipment — called also *hook and ladder, ladder truck*

hook–bill \'hu̇k-ˌbil\ *n* : PARROT; *also* : a closely related bird

hook check *n* : an act or instance of attempting to knock the puck away from an opponent in ice hockey by hooking it with the stick

hooked \'hu̇kt, *I is also* 'hu̇k-əd\ *adj* **1** : having the form of a hook **2** : provided with a hook **3** : made by hooking ⟨a ~ rug⟩ **4 a** : addicted to narcotics **b** : fascinated by or devoted to something ⟨~ on skiing⟩ — **hooked·ness** \'hu̇k(t)-nəs, 'hu̇k-əd-nəs\ *n*

¹hook·er \'hu̇k-ər\ *n* **1** : one that hooks **2** : PROSTITUTE

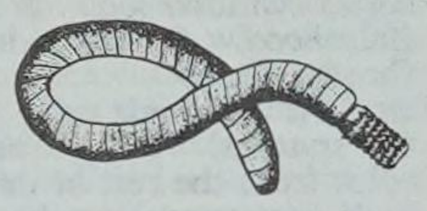
²hooker *n* [D *hoeker*, alter. of MD *hoecboot*, fr. *hoec* fishhook + *boot* boat] **1** : a one-masted fishing boat used on the English and Irish coasts **2** : an old, outmoded, or clumsy boat

hook·let \'hu̇k-lət\ *n* : a small hook

hook shot *n* : a shot in basketball made usu. while standing sideways to the basket by swinging the ball up through an arc with the far hand

hook·up \'hu̇k-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : an assemblage (as of circuits) used for a specific purpose (as radio transmission); *also* : the plan of such an assemblage **2** : an arrangement of mechanical parts; *also* : CONNECTION ⟨a campsite with electric, water, and sewer ~*s*⟩ **3** : a state of cooperation or alliance often between antagonistic elements

hook·worm \'hu̇k-ˌwərm\ *n* **1** : any of several parasitic nematode worms (family Ancylostomatidae) that have strong buccal hooks or plates for attaching to the host's intestinal lining and that include serious bloodsucking pests **2** : ANCYLOSTOMIASIS



hookworm 1

hooky *or* **hook·ey** \'hu̇k-ē\ *n, pl* **hook·ies** *or* **hookeys** [prob. fr. slang *hook, hook it* (to make off)] : TRUANT — used chiefly in the phrase *play hooky*

hoo·li·gan \'hü-li-gən\ *n* [perh. fr. Patrick *Hooligan fl*1898 Irish hoodlum in Southwark, London] : RUFFIAN, HOODLUM — **hoo·li·gan·ism** \-gə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

¹hoop \'hu̇p, 'hüp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hōp;* akin to MD *hoep* ring, hoop, Lith *kabė* hook] **1** : a circular strip used esp. for holding together the staves of containers or as a plaything **2 a** : a circular figure or object : RING **b** : the rim of a basketball goal; *broadly* : the entire goal **3** : a circle or series of circles of flexible material used to expand a woman's skirt — **hoop** *adj*

²hoop *vt* : to bind or fasten with or as if with a hoop — **hoop·er** *n*

hoop·la \'hü-ˌplä, 'hu̇p-ˌlä\ *n* [F *houp-là*, interj.] **1** : often gay and excited commotion : TO-DO **2** : utterances designed to bewilder

hoo·poe \'hü-(ˌ)pü, -(ˌ)pō\ *n* [alter. of obs. *hoop*, fr. MF *huppe*, fr. L *upupa*, of imit. origin] : any of several Old World nonpasserine birds (family Upupidae) having a slender decurved bill

hoop·skirt \'hu̇p-ˈskərt, 'hüp-\ *n* : a skirt stiffened with or as if with hoops

hoo·ray \hu̇-'rā\ *var of* HURRAH

hoose·gow \'hüs-ˌgau̇\ *n* [Sp *juzgado* panel of judges, courtroom, fr. pp. of *juzgar* to judge, fr. L *judicare*] *slang* : JAIL

Hoo·sier \'hü-zhər\ *n* [perh. alter. of E dial. *hoozer* anything large of its kind] : a native or resident of Indiana — used as a nickname — **Hoosier** *adj*

¹hoot \'hüt\ *vb* [ME *houten*, of imit. origin] *vi* **1** : to utter a loud shout usu. in contempt **2** : to make the natural throat noise of an owl or a similar cry **3** : to make a loud clamorous mechanical sound ~ *vt* **1** : to assail or drive out by hooting ⟨~*ed* down the speaker⟩ **2** : to express in or by hoots ⟨~*ed* their disapproval⟩ — **hoot·er** *n*

²hoot *n* **1** : a sound of hooting; *esp* : the cry of an owl **2** : a minimum amount or degree (as of care or consideration) : the least bit ⟨don't give a ~ what happens⟩

³hoot \'hüt\ *or* **hoots** \'hüts\ *interj* [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* — used to express impatience, dissatisfaction, or objection

hoo·te·nan·ny \'hüt-ᵊn-ˌan-ē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [origin unknown] **1** *chiefly dial* : GADGET **2** : a gathering at which folksingers entertain often with the audience joining in

¹hop \'häp\ *vb* **hopped; hop·ping** [ME *hoppen*, fr. OE *hoppian;* akin to OE *hype* hip] *vi* **1** : to move by a quick springy leap or in a series of leaps; *esp* : to jump on one foot **2** : to make a quick trip esp. by air ~ *vt* **1** : to jump over ⟨~ a fence⟩ **2** : to ride on esp. surreptitiously and without authorization ⟨~ a freight⟩

²hop *n* **1 a** : a short brisk leap esp. on one leg **b** : BOUNCE, REBOUND ⟨shortstop took it on the first ~⟩ **2** : DANCE, BALL **3 a** : a flight in an aircraft **b** : a short trip **c** : a free ride

³hop *n* [ME *hoppe*, fr. MD; akin to OHG *hopfo* hop, OE *scēaf* sheaf — more at SHEAF] **1** : a twining vine (*Humulus lupulus*) of the mulberry family with 3-lobed or 5-lobed leaves and inconspicuous flowers of which the pistillate ones are in glandular cone-shaped catkins **2** *pl* : the ripe dried pistillate catkins of a hop used esp. to impart a bitter flavor to malt liquors **3** *slang* : a narcotic drug; *esp* : OPIUM

⁴hop *vt* **hopped; hop·ping** **1** : to impregnate with hops **2 a** : to drug or stimulate with drugs : DOPE — usu. used with *up* **b** : EXCITE, ROUSE — used with *up* **3** : to increase the power of beyond an original rating — used with *up* ⟨~ up an engine⟩

HOP *abbr* high oxygen pressure

¹hope \'hōp\ *vb* **hoped; hop·ing** [ME *hopen*, fr. OE *hopian;* akin to MHG *hoffen* to hope] *vi* **1** : to cherish a desire with expectation of fulfillment ⟨~*s* for great things from his son⟩ **2** *archaic* : TRUST ~ *vt* **1** : to long for with expectation of obtainment **2** : to expect with desire : TRUST ***syn*** see EXPECT ***ant*** despair (*of*), despond — **hop·er** *n* — **hope against hope** : to hope without any basis for expecting fulfillment

²hope *n* **1** : TRUST, RELIANCE **2 a** : desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment ⟨are in ~*s* of an early recovery⟩ **b** : someone or something on which hopes are centered ⟨a fast halfback was the team's only ~ for victory⟩ **c** : something hoped for

HOPE *abbr* Health Opportunity for People Everywhere

hope chest *n* : a young woman's accumulation of clothes and domestic furnishings (as silver and linen) kept in anticipation of her marriage; *also* : a chest for such an accumulation

¹hope·ful \'hōp-fəl\ *adj* **1** : full of or inclined to hope **2** : having qualities which inspire hope — **hope·ful·ness** *n*

²hopeful *n* : a person who aspires to become or achieve something ⟨political ~*s*⟩

hope·ful·ly \'hōp-fə-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a hopeful manner **2** : it is hoped ⟨~ better coordinated and more effective programs may result —N. M. Pusey⟩

hope·less \'hō-pləs\ *adj* **1 a** : having no expectation of good or success : DESPAIRING **b** : not susceptible to remedy or cure : INCURABLE **2 a** : giving no ground for hope : DESPERATE **b** : incapable of solution, management, or accomplishment : IMPOSSIBLE ***syn*** see DESPONDENT ***ant*** hopeful — **hope·less·ly** *adv* — **hope·less·ness** *n*

hop·head \'häp-ˌhed\ *n, slang* : a drug addict

hop hornbeam *n* : an American tree (*Ostrya virginiana*) with fruiting clusters resembling hops

Ho·pi \'hō-(ˌ)pē\ *n, pl* **Hopi** *also* **Hopis** [Hopi *Hópi*, lit., good, peaceful] **1 a** : an Amerindian people of northeastern Arizona **b** : a member of this people **2** : the language of the Hopi people

hop·lite \'häp-ˌlīt\ *n* [Gk *hoplitēs*, fr. *hoplon* tool, weapon, fr. *hepein* to care for, work at — more at SEPULCHER] : a heavily armed infantry soldier of ancient Greece

hop–o'–my–thumb \ˌhäp-ə-mə-'thəm\ *n* : a very small person

hop·per \'häp-ər\ *n* **1 a** : one that hops **b** : a leaping insect; *specif* : an immature hopping form of an insect **2** [fr. the shaking motion of hoppers used to feed grain into a mill] **a** : a usu. funnel-shaped receptacle for delivering material (as grain or coal); *also* : any of various other receptacles for the temporary storage of material **b** : a freight car with a floor sloping to one or more hinged doors for discharging bulk materials — called also *hopper car* **c** : a box in which a bill to be considered by a legislative body is dropped **d** : a tank holding liquid and having a device for releasing its contents through a pipe

¹hop·ping \'häp-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : journeying or flitting about from place to place — usu. used in combination ⟨thus began a frenetic show-*hopping* existence — *N. Y. Times*⟩ **2** : intensely active : BUSY ⟨they kept him ~⟩ **3** : extremely angry

²hopping *adv* : EXTREMELY, VIOLENTLY — used in the phrase *hopping mad*

hop·scotch \'häp-ˌskäch\ *n* : a child's game in which a player tosses an object (as a stone) into areas of a figure outlined on the ground and hops through the figure and back to regain the object

hop, skip, and jump *n* : a short distance ⟨only a *hop, skip, and jump* from home to work⟩

hop, step, and jump *n* : TRIPLE JUMP

hor *abbr* horizontal

ho·ra *also* **ho·rah** \'hōr-ə, 'hȯr-ə\ *n* [NHeb *hōrāh*, fr. Rum *horă*] : a circle dance of Rumania and Israel

Ho·rae \'hō(ə)r-ˌē, 'hȯ(ə)r-, -ˌī\ *n pl* [L, fr. Gk *Hōrai*] : the Greek goddesses of the seasons

ho·ra·ry \'hōr-ər-ē, 'hȯr-, 'här-\ *adj* [ML *horarius*, fr. L *hora* hour — more at HOUR] : of or relating to an hour; *also* : HOURLY

Ho·ra·tian \hə-'rā-shən\ *adj* [L *Horatianus*, fr. *Horatius* Horace] : of, relating to, or characteristic of Horace or his poetry

Ho·ra·tio Al·ger \hə-ˌrā-shō-'al-jər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling the fiction of Horatio Alger in which success is achieved through self-reliance and hard work

Ho·ra·tius \hə-'rā-sh(ē-)əs\ *n* [L] : a hero in Roman legend noted for his defense of a bridge over the Tiber against the Etruscans

horde \'hō(ə)rd, 'hȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [MF, G & Pol; MF & G, fr. Pol *horda*, of Mongolic origin; akin to Mongolian *orda* camp, horde] **1 a** : a tribal group of Mongolian nomads **b** : a people or tribe of nomadic life **2** : a loosely organized or disordered crowd or throng : SWARM ⟨a ~ of flies buzzing about the table⟩ ***syn*** see CROWD

hore·hound \'hō(ə)r-ˌhau̇nd, 'hȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [ME *horhoune*, fr. OE *hārhūne*, fr. *hār* hoary + *hūne* horehound — more at HOAR] **1 a** : a bitter mint (*Marrubium vulgare*) with hoary downy leaves **b** : an extract or confection made from this plant **2** : any of several mints resembling the horehound

ho·ri·zon \hə-'rīz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *orizon*, fr. LL *horizont-, horizon*, fr. Gk *horizont-, horizōn*, fr. prp. of *horizein* to bound, define, fr. *horos* boundary; akin to L *urvus* circumference of a city] **1 a** : the apparent junction of earth and sky — called also *apparent horizon, visible horizon* **b** (1) : the plane tangent to the earth's surface at an observer's position — called also *sensible horizon* (2) : the plane parallel to the sensible horizon but passing through the earth's center; *also* : the great circle formed by the intersection of this plane with the celestial sphere — called also *celestial horizon, rational horizon* **c** : a level mirror (as the surface of mercury in a shallow vessel or a plane reflector adjusted to the true level artificially) used esp. in observing altitudes **d** : range of perception or experience **2 a** : the geological deposit of a particular time usu. identified by distinctive fossils **b** : any of the reasonably distinct layers of soil or its underlying material in a vertical section of land **c** : a cultural area or level of development indicated by separated groups of artifacts — **ho·ri·zon·al** \-'rīz-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj*

hor·i·zon·tal \ˌhȯr-ə-'zänt-ᵊl, ˌhär-\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or situated near the horizon **b** : parallel to, in the plane of, or operating in a plane parallel to the horizon or to a base line : LEVEL ⟨~ distance⟩ ⟨~ engine⟩ **2** : relating to or consisting of individuals of similar status in a hierarchy ⟨~ labor unions⟩ — **horizontal** *n* — **hor·i·zon·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

horizontal bar *n* **1** : a steel bar supported in a horizontal position approximately eight feet above the floor and used for swinging feats in gymnastics **2** : an event in gymnastics competition in which the horizontal bar is used

hor·mo·go·ni·um \ˌhȯr-mə-'gō-nē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *hormos* chain, necklace + NL *gonium* — more at SERIES] : a portion of a filament in many blue-green algae that becomes detached as a reproductive body

hor·mon·al \hȯr-'mōn-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or effected by hormones — **hor·mon·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

hor·mone \'hȯr-ˌmōn\ *n* [Gk *hormōn*, prp. of *horman* to stir up, fr. *hormē* impulse, assault — more at SERUM] **1** : a product of living cells that circulates in body fluids or sap and produces a specific effect on the activity of cells remote from its point of origin; *esp* : one exerting a stimulatory effect on a cellular activity **2** : a synthetic substance that acts like a hormone — **hor·mone·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

horn \'hȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *horn*, L *cornu*, Gk *keras*] **1 a** : one of the usu. paired bony processes that arise from the head of many ungulates and that are found in some extinct mammals and reptiles: as (1) : one of the permanent paired hollow sheaths of keratin usu. present in both sexes of cattle and their

relatives that function chiefly for defense and arise from a bony core anchored to the skull — see COW illustration (2) : ANTLER (3) : a permanent solid horn of keratin that is attached to the nasal bone of a rhinoceros (4) : one of a pair of permanent bone protuberances from the skull of a giraffe or okapi that are covered with hairy skin **b** : a part like an animal's horn attributed esp. to the devil **c** : a natural projection or excrescence from an animal resembling or suggestive of a horn **d** (1) : the tough fibrous material consisting chiefly of keratin that covers or forms the horns of cattle and related animals, hooves, or other horny parts (as claws or nails) (2) : a manufactured product (as a plastic) resembling horn **e** : a hollow horn used to hold something **2** : something resembling or suggestive of a horn: as **a** : one of the curved ends of a crescent **b** : a sharp mountain peak **c** : a body of land or water shaped like a horn **d** : a beak-shaped part of an anvil **e** : a high pommel of a saddle **3 a** : an animal's horn used as a wind instrument **b** : a brass wind instrument: as (1) : HUNTING HORN (2) : FRENCH HORN **c** : a wind instrument used in a jazz band; *esp* : TRUMPET **d** : a usu. electrical device that makes a noise like that of a horn **4** : a source of strength — **horn** *adj* — **horn·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **horn·less·ness** *n* — **horn·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

horn·beam \'hȯ(ə)rn-ˌbēm\ *n* : any of a genus (*Carpinus*) of trees of the birch family having smooth gray bark and hard white wood

horn·bill \-ˌbil\ *n* : any of a family (Bucerotidae) of large nonpasserine Old World birds having enormous bills



hornbill

horn·blende \-ˌblend\ *n* [G] : a mineral approximately $Ca_2Na(Mg,Fe)_4(Al,Fe,Ti)_3Si_6O_{22}(O,OH)_2$ that is the common dark variety of aluminous amphibole; *broadly* : AMPHIBOLE — **horn·blend·ic** \hȯrn-'blen-dik\ *adj*

horn·book \'hȯ(ə)rn-ˌbu̇k\ *n* **1** : a child's primer consisting of a sheet of parchment or paper protected by a sheet of transparent horn **2** : a rudimentary treatise

horned \'hȯ(ə)rnd\ *adj* : having a horn — often used in combination — **horned·ness** \'hȯr-nəd-nəs, 'hȯ(ə)rn(d)-nəs\ *n*

horned owl *n* : any of various owls having conspicuous tufts of feathers on the head

horned pout *n* : a bullhead (genus *Ameiurus*); *esp* : a common bullhead (*A. nebulosus*) of the eastern U.S. that has been introduced into streams of the Pacific coast

horned toad *n* : any of several small harmless insectivorous lizards (genus *Phrynosoma*) of the western U.S. and Mexico having hornlike spines

horned viper *n* : CERASTES

hor·net \'hȯr-nət\ *n* [ME *hernet*, fr. OE *hyrnet;* akin to OHG *hornaz* hornet, L *crabro*] : any of the larger social wasps (family Vespidae) — compare YELLOW JACKET

hornet's nest *n* **1** : a troublesome or hazardous situation **2** : an angry reaction ⟨must have known that his frank comments . . . would stir up a *hornet's nest* —*U.S. Investor*⟩

horn·fels \'hȯ(ə)rn-ˌfelz\ *n* [G, fr. *horn* horn + *fels* cliff, rock] : a fine-grained silicate rock produced by metamorphism esp. of slate

horn fly *n* : a small black European fly (*Haematobia irritans*) that has been introduced into No. America where it is a blood-sucking pest of cattle

horn in *vi* : to participate without invitation or consent : INTRUDE

horn–mad \'hȯ(ə)rn-'mad\ *adj* : furiously enraged

horn of plenty : CORNUCOPIA

horn·pipe \'hȯ(ə)rn-ˌpīp\ *n* **1** : a single-reed wind instrument consisting of a wooden or bone pipe with finger holes, a bell, and mouthpiece usu. of horn **2** : a lively folk dance of the British Isles orig. accompanied by hornpipe playing

horn–rims \-ˌrimz\ *n pl* : glasses with horn rims

horn·stone \'hȯ(ə)rn-ˌstōn\ *n* : a mineral that is a variety of quartz much like flint but more brittle

horn·swog·gle \-ˌswäg-əl\ *vt* **horn·swog·gled; horn·swog·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *slang* : BAMBOOZLE, HOAX

horn·tail \-ˌtāl\ *n* : any of various hymenopterous insects (family Siricidae) related to the typical sawflies but having larvae that burrow in woody plants and on the females a stout hornlike ovipositor for depositing the egg

horn·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : a hawkmoth caterpillar having a hornlike tail process

horn·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a genus (*Ceratophyllum*) of rootless thin-stemmed aquatic herbs that have flowers with a sepaloid perianth and a single carpel

horny \'hȯr-nē\ *adj* **horn·i·er; -est** **1 a** : of or made of horn **b** : HARD, CALLOUS ⟨*horny*-handed⟩ **c** : compact and homogeneous with a dull luster — used of a mineral **2** : having horns **3** [*horn* (erect penis) + *-y*] **a** : desiring sexual gratification **b** : excited sexually

horol *abbr* horology

hor·o·loge \'hȯr-ə-ˌlōj, 'här-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *horologium*, fr. Gk *hōrologion*, fr. *hōra* hour + *legein* to gather — more at YEAR, LEGEND] : a timekeeping device

ho·rol·o·ger \hə-'räl-ə-jər\ *n* : HOROLOGIST

hor·o·log·ic \ˌhȯr-ə-'läj-ik, ˌhär-\ *also* **hor·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to a horologe or horology

ho·rol·o·gist \hə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n* **1** : a person skilled in the practice or theory of horology **2** : a maker of clocks or watches

ho·rol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* [Gk *hōra* + E *-logy*] **1** : the science of measuring time **2** : the art of making instruments for indicating time

horo·scope \'hȯr-ə-ˌskōp, 'här-\ *n* [MF, fr. L *horoscopus*, fr. Gk *hōroskopos*, fr. *hōra* + *skopos* watcher; akin to Gk *skopein* to look at — more at SPY] **1** : a diagram of the relative positions of planets and signs of the zodiac at a specific time (as at one's birth) for use by astrologers in inferring individual character and personality traits and in foretelling events of a person's life **2** : an astrological forecast

hor·ren·dous \hȯ-'ren-dəs, hä-, hə-\ *adj* [L *horrendus*, fr. gerundive of *horrēre*] : perfectly horrid : DREADFUL ⟨the tax rate was ~⟩ ***syn*** see HORRIBLE — **hor·ren·dous·ly** *adv*

hor·rent \'hȯr-ənt, 'här-\ *adj* [L *horrent-, horrens*, prp. of *horrēre*] **1** *archaic* : covered with bristling points : BRISTLED **2** *archaic* : standing up like bristles : BRISTLING

hor·ri·ble \'hȯr-ə-bəl, 'här-\ *adj* **1** : marked by or conducive to horror **2** : extremely unpleasant or disagreeable — **horrible** *n* — **hor·ri·ble·ness** *n* — **hor·ri·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn HORRIBLE, HORRID, HORRIFIC, HORRENDOUS *shared meaning element* : inspiring horror or abhorrence ***ant*** fascinating

hor·rid \'hȯr-əd, 'här-\ *adj* [L *horridus*, fr. *horrēre*] **1** *archaic* : ROUGH, BRISTLING **2** : innately offensive or repulsive: **a** : being such as to inspire horror : SHOCKING **b** : inspiring disgust or loathing : NASTY ***syn*** see HORRIBLE ***ant*** delightful — **hor·rid·ly** *adv* — **hor·rid·ness** *n*

hor·rif·ic \hȯ-'rif-ik, hä-\ *adj* : having the power to horrify ⟨a ~ account of the tragedy⟩ ***syn*** see HORRIBLE — **hor·rif·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hor·ri·fy \'hȯr-ə-ˌfī, 'här-\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** **1** : to cause to feel horror **2** : to fill with distaste : SHOCK ⟨his rough manner *horrified* his hostess⟩ ***syn*** see DISMAY — **hor·ri·fy·ing·ly** \-ˌfī-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

[1]hor·ror \'hȯr-ər, 'här-\ *n* [ME *horrour*, fr. MF *horror*, fr. L, action of trembling, fr. *horrēre* to tremble; akin to OE *gorst* gorse, Gk *chersos* dry land] **1 a** : painful and intense fear, dread, or dismay : CONSTERNATION ⟨astonishment giving place to ~ on the faces of the people about me —H. G. Wells⟩ **b** : intense aversion or repugnance **2 a** : the quality of inspiring horror : repulsive, horrible, or dismal quality or character ⟨contemplating the ~ of their lives —Liam O'Flaherty⟩ **b** : something that inspires horror **3** *pl* : a state of extreme depression or apprehension

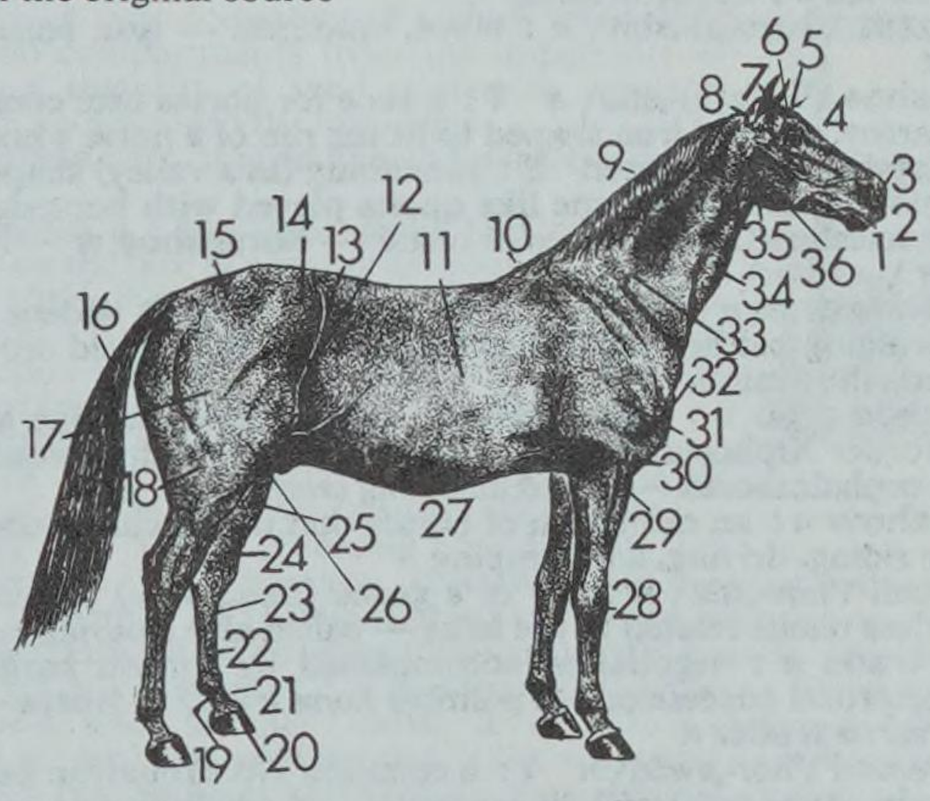
[2]horror *adj* : calculated to inspire feelings of dread or horror : BLOODCURDLING ⟨a ~ story⟩

hor·ror–struck \-ˌstrək\ *adj* : struck with horror ⟨stood ~ as they watched . . . their own city destroyed —*Nashville Tennessean*⟩

hors de com·bat \ˌȯrd-ə-kōⁿ-'bä\ *adv or adj* [F] : out of combat : DISABLED

hors d'oeuvre \ȯr-'dərv\ *n, pl* **hors d'oeuvres** *also* **hors d'oeuvre** \-'dərv(z)\ [F *hors-d'œuvre*, lit., outside of work] : any of various savory foods usu. served as appetizers

[1]horse \'hȯ(ə)rs\ *n, pl* **hors·es** *also* **horse** [ME *hors*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *hros* horse] **1 a** (1) : a large solid-hoofed herbivorous mammal (*Equus caballus*, family Equidae, the horse family) domesticated by man since a prehistoric period and used as a beast of burden, a draft animal, or for riding (2) : RACEHORSE ⟨play the ~s⟩ **b** : a male horse : STALLION; *also* : a gelding as distinguished from an entire male **c** : a recent or extinct animal of the horse family **2 a** : JACKSTAY **b** : a frame usu. with legs used for supporting something (as planks or staging) **c** (1) : SIDE HORSE (2) : LONG HORSE **3** *horse pl* : CAVALRY **4** : a mass of the same geological character as the wall rock occurring within a vein **5** : HORSEPOWER **6** *slang* : HEROIN — **from the horse's mouth** : from the original source



horse 1a: *1* mouth, *2* nose, *3* nostril, *4* face, *5* forehead, *6* forelock, *7* ear, *8* poll, *9* mane, *10* withers, *11* ribs, *12* flank, *13* loin, *14* haunch, *15* croup, *16* tail, *17* thigh, *18* buttock, *19* fetlock, *20* hoof, *21* coronet, *22* pastern, *23* cannon, *24* hock, *25* gaskin, *26* stifle, *27* belly, *28* knee, *29* forearm, *30* elbow, *31* shoulder, *32* breast, *33* neck, *34* throatlatch, *35* lower jaw, *36* cheek

[2]horse *vb* **horsed; hors·ing** *vt* **1** : to provide with a horse **2** : to move by brute force ~ *vi* **1** *of a mare* : to be in heat **2** : to engage in horseplay ⟨*horsing* around too much⟩

[3]horse *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a horse **b** : hauled or powered by a horse ⟨a ~ barge⟩ **2** : large or coarse of its kind **3** : mounted on horses ⟨~ guards⟩

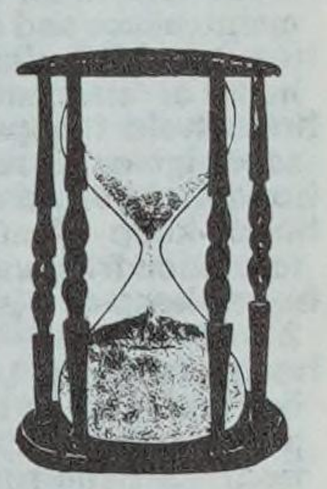
horse–and–buggy *adj* **1** : of or relating to the era before the advent of certain socially revolutionizing inventions (as the automobile) **2** : clinging to outdated attitudes or ideas : OLD-FASHIONED

[1]horse·back \'hȯrs-ˌbak\ *n* **1 :** the back of a horse **2 :** a natural ridge : HOGBACK
[2]horseback *adv* : on horseback
horse·bean \'hȯrs-ˌbēn\ *n* **1 :** BROAD BEAN **2 :** JERUSALEM THORN 2
horse·car \-ˌkär\ *n* **1 :** a streetcar drawn by horses **2 :** a car fitted for transporting horses
horse chestnut *n* **1 :** a large Asiatic tree (*Aesculus hippocastanum* of the family Hippocastanaceae, the horse-chestnut family) that has palmate leaves and erect conical clusters of showy flowers and is widely cultivated as an ornamental and shade tree and naturalized as an escape; *also* : BUCKEYE **2 :** the large glossy brown seed of a horse chestnut
horse coper *n, Brit* : COPER
horse·flesh \'hȯrs-ˌflesh\ *n* : horses considered esp. with reference to riding, driving, or racing
horse·fly \-ˌflī\ *n* : any of a family (Tabanidae) of swift usu. large two-winged flies with bloodsucking females
horse gentian *n* : FEVERWORT
horse·hair \'hȯrs-ˌha(ə)r, -ˌhe(ə)r\ *n* **1 :** the hair of a horse esp. from the mane or tail **2 :** cloth made from horsehair
horsehair worm *n* : a free-living adult hairworm — called also *horsehair snake*
horse·hide \'hȯrs-ˌhīd\ *n* **1 :** the dressed or raw hide of a horse **2 :** the ball used in the game of baseball
horse latitudes *n pl* : either of two belts or regions in the neighborhood of 30° N and 30° S latitude characterized by high pressure, calms, and light baffling winds
horse·laugh \'hȯr-ˌslaf, -ˌslȧf\ *n* : a loud boisterous laugh : GUFFAW
horse·less carriage \ˌhȯr-slәs-\ *n* : AUTOMOBILE
horse mackerel *n* **1 :** any of several large scombroid fishes (as a bluefin tuna) **2 :** any of various large fishes (family Carangidae); *esp* : a large Atlantic food fish (*Trachurus trachurus*)
horse·man \'hȯr-smәn\ *n* **1 a :** a rider on horseback **b :** one skilled in managing horses **2 :** a breeder or raiser of horses — **horse·man·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
horse·mint \'hȯr-ˌsmint\ *n* : any of various coarse mints; *esp* : MONARDA
horse nettle *n* : a coarse prickly weed (*Solanum carolinense*) of the nightshade family with bright yellow fruit resembling berries
horse opera *n* : WESTERN 2
horse·play \'hȯr-ˌsplā\ *n* : rough or boisterous play
horse·play·er \-әr\ *n* : one who habitually bets on horse races
horse·pow·er \'hȯr-ˌspaù(-ə)r\ *n* **1 :** the power that a horse exerts in pulling **2 :** a unit of power equal in the U.S. to 746 watts and nearly equivalent to the English gravitational unit of the same name that equals 550 foot-pounds of work per second
horsepower–hour *n* : the work performed or energy consumed by working at the rate of one horsepower for one hour that is equal to 1,980,000 foot-pounds
horse·rad·ish \'hȯrs-ˌrad-ish, -ˌred-\ *n* : a tall coarse white-flowered herb (*Armoracia lapathifolia*) of the mustard family; *also* : its pungent root used as a condiment
horse sense *n* : COMMON SENSE
horse·shit \'hȯrs(h)-ˌshit\ *n* : BUNK, NONSENSE — usu. considered vulgar
horse·shoe \'hȯrs(h)-ˌshü\ *n* **1 :** a shoe for horses usu. consisting of a narrow plate of iron shaped to fit the rim of a horse's hoof and being somewhat U-shaped **2 :** something (as a valley) shaped like a horseshoe **3** *pl* : a game like quoits played with horseshoes or with horseshoe-shaped pieces of metal — **horseshoe** *vt* — **horse·sho·er** \-ˌshü-әr\ *n*
horseshoe arch *n* : an arch having an intrados that widens above the springing before narrowing to a rounded or pointed crown — see ARCH illustration
horseshoe crab *n* : any of several closely related marine arthropods (order Xiphosura and class Merostomata) with a broad crescentic cephalothorax — called also *king crab*
horse show *n* : an exhibition of horses that usu. includes competition in riding, driving, and jumping
horse·tail \'hȯr-ˌstāl\ *n* : any of a genus (*Equisetum*) of perennial flowerless plants related to the ferns — called also *scouring rush*
horse trade *n* : negotiation accompanied by shrewd bargaining and reciprocal concessions ⟨a political *horse trade*⟩ — **horse–trade** *vi* — **horse trader** *n*
horse·weed \'hȯr-ˌswēd\ *n* **1 :** a common No. American fleabane (*Erigeron canadensis*) with linear leaves and small discoid heads of yellowish flowers **2 :** a coarse annual ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*) **3 :** a wild lettuce (*Lactuca canadensis*)
horse·whip \'hȯr-ˌswip, 'hȯrs-ˌhwip\ *vt* : to flog with or as if with a whip made to be used on a horse — **horse·whip·per** *n*
horse·wom·an \'hȯr-ˌswùm-ən\ *n* **1 :** a woman horseback rider **2 :** a woman skilled in caring for or managing horses
hors·ey *or* **horsy** \'hȯr-sē\ *adj* **hors·i·er; -est** **1 :** of, relating to, or resembling a horse **2 :** having to do with horses or horse racing **3 :** characteristic of horsemen — **hors·i·ly** \-sә-lē\ *adv* — **hors·i·ness** \-sē-nәs\ *n*
horst \'hȯ(ə)rst\ *n* [G] : a block of the earth's crust separated by faults from adjacent relatively depressed blocks
hort *abbr* horticultural; horticulture
hor·ta·tive \'hȯrt-ət-iv\ *adj* [LL *hortativus*, fr. L *hortatus*, pp. of *hortari* to urge — more at YEARN] : giving exhortation : ADVISORY — **hor·ta·tive·ly** *adv*
hor·ta·to·ry \'hȯrt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : HORTATIVE, EXHORTATORY
hor·ti·cul·ture \'hȯrt-ə-ˌkәl-chәr\ *n* [L *hortus* garden + E *-i-* + *culture* — more at YARD] : the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, or ornamental plants — **hor·ti·cul·tur·al** \ˌhȯrt-ə-'kәlch(-ə)-rәl\ *adj* — **hor·ti·cul·tur·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv* — **hor·ti·cul·tur·ist** \-rәst\ *n*
Ho·rus \'hōr-әs, 'hȯr-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Hōros*, fr. Egypt *Ḥr*] : the Egyptian god of light and the son of Osiris and Isis
Hos *abbr* Hosea
[1]ho·san·na \hō-'zan-ə *also* -'zän-\ *interj* [ME *osanna*, fr. LL, fr. Gk *hōsanna*, fr. Heb *hōshī'āh-nnā* pray, save (us)!] — used as a cry of acclamation and adoration
[2]hosanna *n* : a cry of acclamation and adoration
HO scale \(')ā-'chō-\ *n* [fr. its fitness for rails of HO gauge] : a scale of 1/8 inch to one foot used esp. for model toys (as automobiles or trains)
[1]hose \'hōz\ *n, pl* **hose** *or* **hos·es** [ME, fr. OE *hosa* stocking, husk; akin to OHG *hosa* leg covering, Gk *kystis* bladder, OE *hȳd* hide] **1** *pl hose* **a** (1) : a cloth leg covering that sometimes covers the foot (2) : STOCKING, SOCK **b** (1) : a close-fitting garment covering the legs and waist that is usu. attached to a doublet by points (2) : short breeches reaching to the knee **2 :** a flexible tube for conveying fluids (as from a faucet or hydrant)
[2]hose *vt* **hosed; hos·ing** : to spray, water, or wash with a hose — often used with *down* ⟨~ down a stable floor⟩
Ho·sea \hō-'zā-ə, -'zē-\ *n* [Heb *Hōshēa'*] **1 :** a Hebrew prophet of the 8th century B.C. **2 :** a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
ho·sel \'hō-zәl\ *n* [dim. of [1]*hose*] : a socket in the head of a golf club into which the shaft is inserted
ho·siery \'hōzh(-ə)-rē, 'hōz(-ə)-\ *n* **1 :** HOSE 1a **2** *chiefly Brit* : KNITWEAR
hosp *abbr* hospital
hos·pice \'häs-pәs\ *n* [F, fr. L *hospitium*, fr. *hospit-*, *hospes* host — more at HOST] : a lodging for travelers, young persons, or the underprivileged esp. when maintained by a religious order
hos·pi·ta·ble \hä-'spit-ə-bәl, 'häs-(ˌ)pit-\ *adj* **1 a :** given to generous and cordial reception of guests **b :** promising or suggesting generous and cordial welcome **c :** offering a pleasant or sustaining environment **2 :** readily receptive : OPEN ⟨~ to new ideas⟩ — **hos·pi·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
hos·pi·tal \'häs-ˌpit-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *hospitale*, fr. LL, hospice, fr. L, guest room, fr. neut. of *hospitalis* of a guest, fr. *hospit-*, *hospes*] **1 :** a charitable institution for the needy, aged, infirm, or young **2 :** an institution where the sick or injured are given medical or surgical care — usu. used in British English without an article in the phrase *in hospital* **3 :** a repair shop for specified small objects ⟨clock ~⟩
Hos·pi·tal·er *or* **Hos·pi·tal·ler** \-ᵊl-әr\ *n* [ME *hospitalier*, fr. MF, fr. ML *hospitalarius*, fr. LL *hospitale*] : a member of a religious military order established in Jerusalem in the 12th century
hos·pi·tal·i·ty \ˌhäs-pə-'tal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : hospitable treatment, reception, or disposition
hos·pi·tal·ize \'häs-ˌpit-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to place in a hospital as a patient — **hos·pi·tal·iza·tion** \ˌhäs-ˌpit-ᵊl-ə-'zā-shәn\ *n*
hospital ship *n* : a ship equipped as a hospital; *esp* : one built or specifically assigned to assist the wounded, sick, and shipwrecked in time of war
[1]host \'hōst\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *hostis*, fr. L, stranger, enemy — more at GUEST] **1 :** ARMY **2 :** a very large number : MULTITUDE
[2]host *vi* : to assemble in a host usu. for a hostile purpose
[3]host *n* [ME *hoste* host, guest, fr. OF, fr. L *hospit-*, *hospes*, fr. *hostis*] **1 a :** one that receives or entertains guests socially, commercially, or officially **b :** one that provides facilities for an event or function ⟨our college served as ~ for the basketball tournament⟩ **2 a :** a living animal or plant affording subsistence or lodgment to a parasite **b :** the larger, stronger, or dominant member of a commensal or symbiotic pair **c :** an individual into which a tissue or part is transplanted from another **3 :** a mineral or rock that is older than the minerals or rocks in it; *also* : substance that contains a usu. small amount of another substance incorporated in its structure **4 :** a radio or television emcee
[4]host *vt* **1 :** to receive or entertain socially : serve as host to ⟨will ~ the cadets during their visit —*Springfield (Mass.) Daily News*⟩ **2 a :** to serve as host at ⟨the garden party he had ~*ed* last spring —*Saturday Rev.*⟩ **b :** EMCEE ⟨~*ed* a series of TV programs⟩
[5]host *n, often cap* [ME *hoste*, fr. MF *hoiste*, fr. LL & L; LL *hostia* Eucharist, fr. L, sacrifice] : the eucharistic bread
hos·tage \'häs-tij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. *hoste*] : a person held by one party in a conflict as a pledge that promises will be kept or terms met by the other party
[1]hos·tel \'häs-tᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *hospitale* hospice] **1 :** INN **2 :** a supervised lodging for usu. young travelers — called also *youth hostel*
[2]hostel *vi* : to stay at hostels overnight in the course of traveling (as by foot, bicycle, or motorcycle)
hos·tel·er \'häs-tə-lәr\ *n* **1 :** one that lodges guests or strangers **2 :** a young traveler who stops at hostels overnight
hos·tel·ry \'häs-tᵊl-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : INN, HOTEL
[1]host·ess \'hō-stәs\ *n* **1 :** a woman who entertains socially **2 a :** a woman in charge of a public dining room who seats diners **b :** a female employee on a ship, airplane, bus, or train who manages the provisioning of food and attends passengers **c :** a woman who acts as a dancing partner or companion to male patrons in a dance hall or bar
[2]hostess *vi* : to act as hostess ~ *vt* : to serve as hostess to ⟨the guests will be ~*ed* before the encampment in councils —Alberta Schuckle⟩
hos·tile \'häs-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *hostilis*, fr. *hostis*] **1 :** of or relating to an enemy **2 :** marked by esp. overt antagonism : UNFRIENDLY **3 :** not hospitable ⟨a ~ environment⟩ — **hostile** *n* — **hos·tile·ly** \-tᵊl-(l)ē, -ˌtīl-lē\ *adv*
hos·til·i·ty \hä-'stil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a :** a hostile state **b** (1) : hostile action (2) *pl* : overt acts of warfare : WAR **2 :** antagonism, opposition, or resistance in thought or principle ***syn*** see ENMITY
hos·tler \'(h)äs-lәr\ *n* [ME, innkeeper, hostler, fr. *hostel*] **1 :** one who takes care of horses or mules **2 :** one who services a vehicle (as a locomotive or truck) or machine (as a crane)
host·ly \'hōst-lē\ *adj* : of or appropriate to a host ⟨so young-looking that people did not instinctively lay upon him ~ duties — John Updike⟩

host plant *n* : a plant upon which an organism (as an insect or mildew) lodges and subsists
[1]hot \'hät\ *adj* **hot·ter; hot·test** [ME, fr. OE *hāt;* akin to OHG *heiz* hot, Lith *kaīsti* to get hot] **1 a** : having a relatively high temperature **b** : capable of giving a sensation of heat or of burning, searing, or scalding **c** : having heat in a degree exceeding normal body heat **2 a** : ARDENT, FIERY ⟨a ~ temper⟩ **b** : VIOLENT, RAGING ⟨a ~ battle⟩ **c** : sexually excited or receptive : LUSTFUL **d** : EAGER ⟨~ for reform⟩ **e** *of jazz* : ecstatic and emotionally exciting and marked by strong rhythms and free melodic improvisations **3** : having or causing the sensation of an uncomfortable degree of body heat ⟨~ and tired⟩ **4 a** : newly made : FRESH ⟨a ~ scent⟩ ⟨~ off the press⟩ **b** : close to something sought ⟨guess again, you're getting *hotter*⟩ **5 a** : suggestive of heat or of burning or glowing objects ⟨~ colors⟩ **b** : PUNGENT, PEPPERY **6 a** : of intense and immediate interest ⟨a ~ scandal⟩ **b** : unusually lucky or favorable ⟨~ dice⟩ **c** : temporarily capable of unusual performance (as in a sport) **d** : currently popular (as of merchandise) **e** : very good — used as a generalized term of approval ⟨he's really ~ in math⟩ **f** : ABSURD, UNBELIEVABLE ⟨that's a ~ one⟩ **7 a** : electrically energized esp. with high voltage **b** : RADIOACTIVE; *also* : dealing with radioactive material **c** *of an atom* : being in an excited state due usu. to nuclear processes **8 a** : recently and illegally obtained ⟨~ jewels⟩ **b** : wanted by the police; *also* : unsafe for a fugitive **9** *of a vehicle* : FAST — **hot·tish** \'hät-ish\ *adj*
[2]hot *adv* : HOTLY
hot air *n* : empty talk
hot·bed \'hät-ˌbed\ *n* **1** : a bed of soil enclosed in glass, heated esp. by fermenting manure, and used for forcing or for raising seedlings **2** : an environment that favors rapid growth or development ⟨a ~ of crime⟩
hot·blood \-ˌbləd\ *n* : THOROUGHBRED 1
hot–blood·ed \-'blə-dəd\ *adj* **1** : EXCITABLE, ARDENT **2 a** *of a horse* : having Arab or Thoroughbred ancestors **b** *of livestock* : of pure or superior breeding — **hot–blood·ed·ness** *n*
hot·box \-ˌbäks\ *n* : a journal bearing (as of a railroad car) overheated by friction
hot·cake \-ˌkāk\ *n* : PANCAKE
hotch \'häch\ *vi* [prob. fr. MF *hocher* to shake, fr. OF *hochier*] *Scot* : WIGGLE, FIDGET
hotch·pot \'häch-ˌpät\ *n* [AF *hochepot*, fr. OF, hotchpotch] : the combining of properties into a common lot to ensure equality of division among heirs
hotch·potch \'häch-ˌpäch\ *n* [ME *hochepot*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *hochier* to shake + *pot*] **1 a** : a thick soup or stew of vegetables, potatoes, and usu. meat **b** : HODGEPODGE **2** : HOTCHPOT
hot corner *n* : the fielding position of the third baseman in baseball
hot·dog \'hät-ˌdȯg\ *vi* [*[2]hot dog*] : to perform in a conspicuous or often ostentatious manner; *esp* : to perform fancy stunts and maneuvers (as while surfing or skiing)
[1]hot dog \'hät-ˌdȯg\ *n* **1** : FRANKFURTER; *esp* : a frankfurter heated and served in a long split roll **2** [prob. fr. *[2]hot dog*] : one that hotdogs; *also* : SHOW-OFF
[2]hot dog \'hät-ˌdȯg, -'dȯg\ *interj* — used to express approval or gratification
hot·dog·ger \-ˌdȯg-ər\ *n* : HOT DOG 2
ho·tel \hō-'tel\ *n* [F *hôtel*, fr. OF *hostel*] : an establishment that provides lodging and usu. meals, entertainment, and various personal services for the public : INN
Hotel — a communications code word for the letter *h*
ho·te·lier \hō-'tel-yər; ˌōt-ᵊl-'yā, ˌȯt-\ *n* [F *hôtelier*, fr. OF *hostelier*, fr. *hostel*] : a proprietor or manager of a hotel
ho·tel·man \hō-'tel-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : one who is engaged in the hotel business esp. in a supervisory or managerial capacity
hot flash *n* : a sudden brief flushing and sensation of heat caused by dilation of skin capillaries usu. associated with menopausal endocrine imbalance
[1]hot·foot \'hät-ˌfůt\ *adv* : in haste
[2]hotfoot *vi* : to go hotfoot : HURRY — usu. used with *it*
[3]hotfoot *n, pl* **hotfoots** : a practical joke in which a match is surreptitiously inserted between the upper and the sole of a victim's shoe and lighted
hot·head \'hät-ˌhed\ *n* : a hotheaded person
hot·head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* : FIERY, IMPETUOUS — **hot·head·ed·ly** *adv* — **hot·head·ed·ness** *n*
[1]hot·house \-ˌhaůs\ *n* **1** *obs* : BROTHEL **2** : a greenhouse maintained at a high temperature esp. for the culture of tropical plants **3** : HOTBED 2
[2]hothouse *adj* **1** : grown in a hothouse **2** : having the qualities of a plant raised in a hothouse; *esp.* : DELICATE
hot line *n* : a direct telephone line in constant operational readiness so as to facilitate immediate communication (as between heads of two governments)
hot·ly \'hät-lē\ *adv* : in a hot or fiery manner ⟨a ~ debated issue⟩ ⟨~ colored paintings⟩
hot pepper *n* **1** : any of various small and usu. thin-walled capsicum fruits of marked pungency **2** : a pepper plant bearing hot peppers
hot plate *n* **1** : a heated iron plate for cooking **2** : a simple portable appliance for heating or for cooking in limited spaces
hot potato *n* : a controversial question or issue that involves unpleasant or dangerous consequences for anyone dealing with it
hot rod *n* : an automobile rebuilt or modified for high speed and fast acceleration — **hot–rod·der** \'hät-'räd-ər\ *n*
hot seat *n* **1** *slang* : ELECTRIC CHAIR **2** : a position of uneasiness, embarrassment, or anxiety ⟨on the *hot seat*, directing a half-million dollar gamble —Mark Stroock & Percy Knauth⟩
hot·shot \'hät-ˌshät\ *n* **1** : a fast freight **2** : a showily skillful person ⟨a literary ~⟩ — **hotshot** *adj*
hot spring *n* : THERMAL SPRING; *esp* : a spring with water above 98° F
Hot·ten·tot \'hät-ᵊn-ˌtät\ *n* [Afrik] **1** : a member of a people of southern Africa apparently akin to both the Bushmen and the Bantus **2** : the language of the Hottentot people
hot up *vi* : to increase in intensity, pace, or excitement ⟨air raids began to *hot up* about the beginning of February —George Orwell⟩ ~ *vt* : to make livelier or speedier ⟨the studios had *hotted up* her comeback —Kenneth Baily⟩
hot war *n* : a conflict involving actual fighting — compare COLD WAR
hot water *n* : a distressing predicament : DIFFICULTY
Hou·dan \'hü-ˌdan\ *n* [F, fr. *Houdan*, village in France] : any of a French breed of crested domestic fowls with black-and-white or white plumage and five toes
[1]hound \'haůnd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hund;* akin to OHG *hunt* dog, L *canis*, Gk *kyōn*] **1 a** : DOG **b** : a dog of any of various hunting breeds typically having large drooping ears and a deep voice and following their prey by scent **2** : a mean or despicable person **3** : DOGFISH **4** : one greatly devoted to something ⟨autograph ~*s*⟩
[2]hound *vt* **1** : to pursue with or as if with hounds **2** : to drive or affect by persistent harassing ⟨~*ed* from office by rumors⟩ ***syn*** see BAIT — **hound·er** *n*
hounds \'haůn(d)z\ *n pl* [ME *hune*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *hūnn* cube — more at CAVE] : the framing at the masthead of a ship that supports the heel of the topmast and the upper parts of the lower rigging
hound's–tongue \'haůn(d)z-ˌtəŋ\ *n* : any of various coarse plants (genus *Cynoglossum*, esp. *C. officinale*) of the borage family having tongue-shaped leaves and reddish flowers
hounds·tooth check *or* **hound's–tooth check** \ˌhaůn(d)z-ˌtüth-\ *n* : a small broken-check textile pattern


houndstooth check

hour \'aů(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *heure*, fr. LL & L; LL *hora* canonical hour, fr. L, hour of the day, fr. Gk *hōra*] **1** : a time or office for daily liturgical devotion; *esp* : CANONICAL HOUR **2** : the 24th part of a day **3 a** : the time of day reckoned in two 12-hour periods **b** *pl* : the time reckoned in one 24-hour period from midnight to midnight using a 4-digit number of which the first two digits indicate the hour and the last two digits indicate the minute ⟨attack at 0900 ~*s*⟩ ⟨in the military 4:30 p.m. is called 1630 ~*s*⟩ **4 a** : a customary time ⟨during his lunch ~⟩ **b** : a particular time ⟨in his ~ of need⟩ **5** : an angular unit of right ascension equal to 15 degrees measured along the equinoctial **6** : the work done or distance traveled at normal rate in an hour ⟨the city was two ~*s* away⟩ **7 a** : a class session **b** : CREDIT HOUR, SEMESTER HOUR
hour angle *n* : the angle between the celestial meridian of an observer and the hour circle of a celestial object measured westward from the meridian
hour circle *n* : a circle on the celestial sphere that passes through both celestial poles
[1]hour·glass \'aů(ə)r-ˌglas\ *n* : an instrument for measuring time consisting of a glass vessel having two compartments from the uppermost of which a quantity of sand, water, or mercury runs in an hour into the lower one


hourglass

[2]hourglass *adj* : shaped like an hourglass ⟨an ~ figure⟩
hour hand *n* : the short hand that marks the hours on the face of a watch or clock
hou·ri \'hů(ə)r-ē, 'hü-rē\ *n* [F, fr. Per *hūri*, fr. Ar *ḥūrīyah*] **1** : one of the beautiful maidens that in Muslim belief live with the blessed in paradise **2** : a voluptuously beautiful young woman
hour–long \'aů(ə)r-'lȯŋ\ *adj* : lasting an hour
[1]hour·ly \'aů(ə)r-lē\ *adv* : at or during every hour; *also* : FREQUENTLY, CONTINUALLY
[2]hourly *adj* **1 a** : occurring hour by hour ⟨~ bus service⟩ **b** : FREQUENT, CONTINUAL ⟨in ~ expectation of the rain's stopping⟩ **2** : computed in terms of an hour ⟨an ~ wage⟩
[1]house \'haůs\ *n, pl* **hous·es** \'haů-zəz\ [ME *hous*, fr. OE *hūs;* akin to OHG *hūs* house] **1** : a building that serves as living quarters for one or a few families : HOME **2 a** (1) : a shelter or refuge (as a nest or den) of a wild animal (2) : a natural covering (as a test or shell) that encloses and protects an animal or a colony of zooids **b** : a building in which something is housed ⟨carriage ~⟩ **3 a** : one of the 12 equal sectors in which the celestial sphere is divided in astrology **b** : a zodiacal sign that is the seat of a planet's greatest influence **c** : the circular area 12 feet in diameter surrounding the tee and within which a curling stone must rest in order to count **4 a** : HOUSEHOLD **b** : a family including ancestors, descendants, and kindred ⟨the ~ of Tudor⟩ **5 a** : a residence for a religious community or for students **b** : the community or students in residence **6 a** : a legislative, deliberative, or consultative assembly; *esp* : one constituting a division of a bicameral body **b** : the building or chamber where such an assembly meets **c** : a quorum of such an assembly **7 a** : a place of business or entertainment **b** (1) : a business organization ⟨a publishing ~⟩ (2) : a gambling establishment **c** : the audience in a theater or concert hall ⟨a good ~ on opening night⟩ — **house·ful** \'haůs-ˌfůl\ *n* — **on the house** : at the expense of an establishment or its management ⟨have a drink *on the house*⟩

²house \ˈhau̇z\ *vb* **housed; hous·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to provide with living quarters or shelter **b** : to store in a house **2** : to encase, enclose, or shelter as if by putting in a house **3** : to serve as shelter for : CONTAIN ~ *vi* : to take shelter : LODGE
house arrest *n* : confinement often under guard to one's house or quarters instead of in prison
¹house·boat \ˈhau̇s-ˌbōt\ *n* : a barge fitted for use as a dwelling or for leisurely cruising; *also* : a dwelling supported on the water by floats
²houseboat *vi* : to live or cruise on a houseboat
house-bound \ˈhau̇s-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : confined to the house
house-boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : HOUSEMAN
¹house·break \-ˌbrāk\ *vi* **-broke** \-ˌbrōk\; **-bro·ken** \-ˌbrō-kən\; **-break·ing** [back-formation fr. *housebreaker & housebreaking*] : to commit housebreaking — **house·break·er** *n*
²housebreak *vt* **-broke** \-ˌbrōk\; **-bro·ken** \-ˌbrō-kən\; **-break·ing** [back-formation fr. *housebroken*] **1** : to make housebroken **2 a** : to teach acceptable social manners to **b** : TAME, SUBDUE
house-break·ing \ˈhau̇s-ˌbrā-kiŋ\ *n* : an act of breaking open and entering the dwelling house of another with a felonious purpose
house-bro·ken \-ˌbrō-kən\ *adj* **1** : trained to excretory habits acceptable in indoor living **2** : made tractable or polite
house-carl \-ˌkär(ə)l\ *n* [OE *hūscarl*, fr. ON *hūskarl*, fr. *hūs* house + *karl* man] : a member of the bodyguard of a Danish or early English king or noble
house cat *n* : CAT 1a
house-clean \ˈhau̇s-ˌklēn\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *housecleaning*] *vi* **1** : to clean a house and its furniture **2** : to get rid of unwanted or undesirable items or people ~ *vt* **1** : to clean the surfaces and furnishings of **2** : to improve or reform by ridding of undesirable people or practices — **house-clean·ing** *n*
house-coat \ˈhau̇-ˌskōt\ *n* : a woman's often long-skirted informal garment for wear around the house
house cricket *n* : any of various crickets living in or about dwellings; *esp* : a widely distributed American cricket (*Acheta domesticus*)
house detective *n* : one who is employed (as by a hotel) to prevent disorderly or improper conduct of patrons
house-dress \ˈhau̇s-ˌdres\ *n* : a dress with simple lines that is suitable for housework and is made usu. of a washable fabric
house-fa·ther \-ˌfät͟h-ər\ *n* : a man in charge of a dormitory, hall, or hostel for young people or children
house-fly \ˈhau̇s-ˌflī\ *n* : a cosmopolitan two-winged fly (*Musca domestica*) that is often about human habitations and acts as a mechanical vector of diseases (as typhoid fever); *also* : any of various flies of similar appearance or habitat
house-front \-ˌfrənt\ *n* : the facade of a house
house girl *n* : HOUSEMAID
house-guest \ˈhau̇s-ˌgest\ *n* : GUEST 1a
¹house·hold \ˈhau̇s-ˌhōld, ˈhau̇-ˌsōld\ *n* : those who dwell under the same roof and compose a family; *also* : a social unit comprised of those living together in the same dwelling
²household *adj* **1** : of or relating to a household : DOMESTIC **2** : FAMILIAR, COMMON
household art *n* : one of the techniques (as cooking) used in the maintenance and care of a household
house·hold·er \ˈhau̇s-ˌhōl-dər, ˈhau̇-ˌsōl-\ *n* : one who occupies a house or tenement alone or as the head of a household
household troops *n pl* : troops appointed to attend and guard a sovereign or his residence
household word *n* : a common word or phrase
house-keep \ˈhau̇-ˌskēp\ *vi* **-kept** \-ˌskept\; **-keep·ing** [back-formation fr. *housekeeper*] : to keep house
house-keep·er \-ˌskē-pər\ *n* **1** : a woman employed to keep house **2** : HOUSEWIFE 1
house-keep·ing \-piŋ\ *n* **1** : the management of a house and home affairs **2** : the care and management of property and the provision of equipment and services (as for an industrial organization) **3** : the routine tasks that have to be done in order for a system to function
¹hou·sel \ˈhau̇-zəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hūsel* sacrifice, Eucharist; akin to Goth *hunsl* sacrifice] *archaic* : the Eucharist or the act of administering or receiving it
²housel *vt, archaic* : to administer communion to
house·leek \ˈhau̇-ˌslēk\ *n* : a pink-flowered European plant (*Sempervivum tectorum*) of the orpine family found on old walls and roofs; *broadly* : SEMPERVIVUM
house·less \ˈhau̇-sləs, ˈhau̇z-ləs\ *adj* **1** : destitute of the shelter of a house : HOMELESS ⟨a ~ wanderer⟩ **2** : destitute of houses ⟨a ~ desert⟩ — **house·less·ness** *n*
house·lights \ˈhau̇-ˌslīts\ *n pl* : the lights that illuminate the auditorium of a theater
house·maid \ˈhau̇-ˌsmād\ *n* : a female servant employed to do housework
housemaid's knee *n* [so called fr. its frequent occurrence among servant girls who work a great deal on their knees] : a swelling over the knee due to an enlargement of the bursa in the front of the patella
house·man \ˈhau̇-smən, -ˌsman\ *n* : a person who performs general work about a house or hotel
house·mate \ˈhau̇-ˌsmāt\ *n* : one that lives in the same house with another
house·moth·er \ˈhau̇-ˌsməth-ər\ *n* : a woman acting as hostess, chaperon, and often housekeeper in a residence for young people
house mouse *n* : a common nearly cosmopolitan usu. gray mouse (*Mus musculus*) that lives and breeds about buildings, is a vector of diseases, and is an important experimental animal
house of assembly : a legislative body or the lower house of a legislature (as in various British colonies, protectorates, and countries of the Commonwealth)
House of Burgesses : the colonial representative assembly of Virginia
house of cards : a structure or situation that is insubstantial, shaky, or in constant danger of collapse
House of Commons : the lower house of the British and Canadian parliaments
house of correction : an institution where persons who have committed a minor offense and are considered capable of reformation are confined
house of delegates : HOUSE 6a; *esp* : the lower house of the state legislature in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia
House of Lords : the upper house of the British Parliament composed of the peers temporal and spiritual
house of representatives : the lower house of a legislative body (as the U.S. Congress)
house of studies : an educational institution serving scholars of a religious order — called also *house of study*
house organ *n* : a periodical distributed by a business concern among its employees, sales personnel, and customers
house painter *n* : one whose business or occupation is painting houses
house party *n* : a party lasting over one or more nights at a residence (as a home or fraternity house)
house physician *n* : a physician who is employed by and lives in a hospital
house·plant \ˈhau̇-ˌsplant\ *n* : a plant grown or kept indoors
house-proud \ˈhau̇-ˌsprau̇d\ *adj* : proud of one's house or housekeeping
hous·er \ˈhau̇-zər\ *n* [²*house*] : one that promotes or administers housing projects
house-rais·ing \ˈhau̇s-ˌrā-ziŋ\ *n* : the joint erection of a house or its framework by a gathering of neighbors
house·room \-ˌrüm, -ˌru̇m\ *n* : space for accommodation in or as if in a house ⟨only two universities . . . gave the subject ~ —*Amer. Naturalist*⟩
house rule *n* : a rule that applies to a game only among a certain group or in a certain place
house seat *n* : a theater seat reserved by the management for special guests
house sparrow *n* : ENGLISH SPARROW
house-to-house \ˌhau̇s-tə-ˈhau̇s\ *adj* : DOOR-TO-DOOR 1
house·top \ˈhau̇-ˌstäp\ *n* : ROOF; *esp* : the level surface of a flat roof — **from the housetops** : for all to hear : OPENLY ⟨shouting their grievances *from the housetops*⟩
house trailer *n* : TRAILER 3b
house-train \ˈhau̇-ˌstrān\ *vt, chiefly Brit* : ²HOUSEBREAK
house·wares \ˈhau̇-ˌswā(ə)rz, -ˌswe(ə)rz\ *n pl* : furnishings for a house; *esp* : small articles of household equipment (as cooking utensils or small appliances)
house·warm·ing \ˈhau̇-ˌswȯr-miŋ\ *n* : a party to celebrate the taking possession of a house or premises
house·wife \ˈhau̇-ˌswīf; *an old pronunciation* ˈhəz-əf *or* ˈhəs-əf *survives for sense 2*\ *n* **1** : a married woman in charge of a household **2** : a small container for small articles (as thread) — **house·wife·li·ness** \-lē-nəs\ *n* — **house·wife·ly** \-lē\ *adj* — **house·wif·ery** \-ˌwī-f(ə-)rē\ *n*
house·work \ˈhau̇-ˌswərk\ *n* : the work of housekeeping
¹hous·ing \ˈhau̇-ziŋ\ *n* **1 a** : SHELTER, LODGING **b** : dwellings provided for people **2** : something that covers or protects: as **a** : a case or enclosure (as for a mechanical part or an instrument) **b** : a casing (as an enclosed bearing) in which a shaft revolves **c** : a support (as a frame) for mechanical parts **3** : a portion of a mast that is beneath the deck or of a bowsprit that is inboard **4 a** : the space taken out of a structural member (as a timber) to admit the insertion of part of another **b** : a niche for a sculpture
²housing *n* **1** : an ornamental cover for a saddle **2** *pl* : TRAPPINGS
housing development *n* : a group of individual dwellings or apartment houses typically of similar design that are built and leased under one management
housing estate *n, Brit* : HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
housing project *n* : a publically supported and administered housing development planned usu. for low-income families
Hou·yhn·hnm \hü-ˈin-əm, ˈhwin-\ *n* [imit.] : a member of a race of horses endowed with reason in Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*
hove *past of* HEAVE
hov·el \ˈhəv-əl, ˈhäv-\ *n* [ME] **1** : an open shed or shelter **2** : TABERNACLE **3** : a small, wretched, and often dirty house : HUT
hov·er \ˈhəv-ər, ˈhäv-\ *vb* **hov·ered; hov·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *hoveren*, freq. of *hoven* to hover] *vi* **1 a** : to hang fluttering in the air or on the wing **b** : to remain suspended over a place or object **2 a** : to move to and fro near a place **b** : to be in a state of uncertainty, irresolution, or suspense ~ *vt* : to brood over ⟨hen ~*s* her chicks⟩ — **hover** *n* — **hov·er·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*
Hov·er·craft \-ər-ˌkraft\ *trademark* — used for a ground-effect machine
¹how \(ˌ)hau̇\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *hū;* akin to OHG *hwuo* how, OE *hwā* who — more at WHO] **1 a** : in what manner or way **b** : with what meaning : to what effect **c** : by what name or title ⟨~ art thou called —Shak.⟩ **d** : for what reason : WHY **2** : to what degree or extent **3** : in what state or condition ⟨~ are you⟩ **4** : at what price ⟨~ a score of ewes now —Shak.⟩ — **how about** : what do you say to or think of ⟨*how about* it, are you going⟩
²how *conj* **1 a** : the way or manner in which ⟨remember ~ they fought⟩; *also* : the state or condition in which **b** : THAT ⟨told them ~ he had a situation —Charles Dickens⟩ **2** : HOWEVER, AS ⟨a reader can shift his attention ~ he likes —William Empson⟩
³how \ˈhau̇\ *n* **1** : a question about manner or method **2** : MANNER, METHOD
¹how·be·it \hau̇-ˈbē-ət\ *adv* : NEVERTHELESS
²howbeit *conj* : ALTHOUGH
how·dah \ˈhau̇d-ə\ *n* [Hindi *hauda*] : a seat or covered pavilion on the back of an elephant or camel


howdah

howe \'haù, 'hō\ *n* [ME (northern) *how, holl,* fr. OE *hol,* fr. *hol,* adj., hollow — more at HOLE] *Scot* : HOLLOW, VALLEY
[1]how-ev-er \haù-'ev-ər\ *conj* **1** : in whatever manner or way ⟨can go ~ he likes⟩ **2** *archaic* : ALTHOUGH
[2]however *adv* **1 a** : to whatever degree or extent ⟨has done this for ~ many thousands of years —Emma Hawkridge⟩ **b** : in whatever manner or way ⟨shall serve you, sir, truly, ~ else — Shak.⟩ **2** : in spite of that : on the other hand : BUT ⟨still seems possible, ~, that conditions will improve⟩ ⟨would like to go; ~, I think I'd better not⟩ **3** : how in the world ⟨~ did you manage to do it⟩
howff *or* **howf** \'haùf, 'hōf\ *n* [D *hof* enclosure; akin to OE *hof* enclosure, *hȳf* hive] *Scot* : HAUNT, RESORT
how-it-zer \'haù-ət-sər\ *n* [D *houwitser,* deriv. of Czech *houfnice* ballista] : a short cannon used to fire projectiles at medium muzzle velocities and with relatively high trajectories
howl \'haù(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *houlen;* akin to MHG *hiulen* to howl, Gk *kōkyein* to shriek] *vi* **1** : to emit a loud sustained doleful sound characteristic of dogs **2** : to cry loudly and without restraint under strong impulse (as pain or grief) **3** : to go on a spree or rampage ~ *vt* **1** : to utter with unrestrained outcry **2** : to affect, effect, or drive by adverse outcry — used esp. with *down* ⟨~*ed* down the speaker⟩ — **howl** *n*
howl-er \'haù-lər\ *n* **1** : one that howls **2** : a stupid and ridiculous blunder
howler monkey *n* : any of a genus (*Alouatta*) of So. and Central American monkeys that have a long prehensile tail and enlargement of the hyoid and laryngeal apparatus enabling them to make loud howling noises
howl-ing \'haù-liŋ\ *adj* **1** : marked by howling ⟨a ~ storm⟩ **2** : DESOLATE, WILD ⟨a ~ wilderness⟩ **3** : very great : PRONOUNCED ⟨a ~ success⟩
how-so-ev-er \ˌhaù-sə-'wev-ər\ *adv* **1** : in whatever manner **2** : to whatever degree or extent
how-to \'haù-'tü\ *adj* : giving practical instruction and advice (as on a craft) ⟨~ books on all sorts of hobbies —Harry Milt⟩
[1]hoy \'hȯi\ *interj* [ME] — used in attracting attention or in driving animals
[2]hoy *n* [ME, fr. MD *hoei*] **1** : a small usu. sloop-rigged coasting ship **2** : a heavy barge for bulky cargo
hoy-den \'hȯid-ᵊn\ *n* [perh. fr. obs D *heiden* country lout, fr. MD, heathen; akin to OE *hæthen* heathen] : a girl or woman of saucy, boisterous, or carefree behavior — **hoy-den-ish** \-ish\ *adj*
hoyle \'hȯi(ə)l\ *n, often cap* [Edmond *Hoyle* †1769 E writer on games] : an encyclopedia of the rules of indoor games and esp. card games
HP *abbr* **1** half pay **2** high pressure **3** hire purchase **4** horsepower
HPA *abbr* high-power amplifier
HPF *abbr* **1** highest possible frequency **2** high power field
HPGC *abbr* heading per gyrocompass
HQ *abbr* headquarters
hr *abbr* **1** here **2** hour
HR *abbr* House of Representatives
hrdwre *abbr* hardware
H Rept *abbr* House report
H Res *abbr* House resolution
Hr factor \'ā-'chär-\ *n* [backward spelling of *Rh (factor)*] : a substance present in Rh-negative blood and apparently reciprocally related to the Rh factor
HRH *abbr* Her Royal Highness; His Royal Highness
HRI *abbr* height-range indicator
HRS *abbr* historical records survey
hrzn *abbr* horizon
HS *abbr* **1** high school **2** house surgeon
HSAA *abbr* Health Sciences Advancement Award
HSGT *abbr* high-speed ground transport
Hsia \shē-'ä\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *hsia*⁴] : the legendary first dynasty of Chinese history traditionally dated from about 2200-1766 B.C.
HSL *abbr* high-speed launch
HST *abbr* **1** Hawaiian standard time **2** hypersonic transport
HSUS *abbr* Humane Society of the United States
ht *abbr* height
HT *abbr* **1** half time **2** halftone **3** hardtop **4** Hawaiian time **5** high-tension **6** high tide **7** [L *hoc tempore*] at this time **8** [L *hoc titulo*] under this title **9** hydrotherapy
hua-ra-che \wə-'räch-ē, hə-\ *n* [MexSp] : a low-heeled sandal having an upper made of interwoven leather thongs
hub \'həb\ *n* [prob. alter. of [2]*hob*] **1** : the central part of a wheel, propeller, or fan **2** : a center of activity : FOCAL POINT **3** : a steel punch from which a working die for a coin or medal is made
hub-ble-bub-ble \'həb-əl-ˌbəb-əl\ *n* [redupl. of *bubble*] **1** : WATER PIPE **2** : a flurry of sound or activity : COMMOTION
hub-bub \'həb-ˌəb\ *n* [prob. of Celt origin; akin to ScGael *ub ub,* interj. of contempt] **1** : NOISE, UPROAR **2** : CONFUSION, TURMOIL
hub-by \'həb-ē\ *n, pl* **hubbies** [by alter.] : HUSBAND
hub-cap \'həb-ˌkap\ *n* : a removable metal cap over the end of an axle; *esp* : one used on the wheel of a motor vehicle
hu-bris \'hyü-brəs\ *n* [Gk *hybris* — more at OUT] : exaggerated pride or self-confidence often resulting in retribution — **hu-bris-tic** \hyü-'bris-tik\ *adj*
huck \'hək\ *n* : HUCKABACK
huck-a-back \'hək-ə-ˌbak\ *n* [origin unknown] : an absorbent durable fabric of cotton, linen, or both used chiefly for towels
huck-le-ber-ry \'hək-əl-ˌber-ē\ *n* [perh. alter. of *hurtleberry* (huckleberry)] **1** : any of a genus (*Gaylussacia*) of American shrubs of the heath family; *also* : the edible dark blue to black usu. acid berry (esp. of *G. baccata*) with 10 bony nutlets **2** : BLUEBERRY
[1]huck-ster \'hək-stər\ *n* [ME *hukster,* fr. MD *hokester,* fr. *hoeken* to peddle; akin to MLG *hōken* to peddle — more at HAWKER] **1** : HAWKER, PEDDLER **2** : one who produces advertising material for commercial clients esp. for radio or television — **huck-ster-ism** \-stə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*
[2]huckster *vb* **huck-stered; huck-ster-ing** \-st(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* : HAGGLE ~ *vt* **1** : to deal in or bargain over **2** : to promote by showmanship
HUD *abbr* Department of Housing and Urban Development
[1]hud-dle \'həd-ᵊl\ *vb* **hud-dled; hud-dling** \'həd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [prob. fr. or akin to ME *hoderen* to huddle] *vt* **1** *Brit* : to arrange carelessly or hurriedly **2 a** : to crowd together ⟨*huddled* masses of people⟩ **b** : to draw (oneself) together : CROUCH **3** *archaic* : to herd into or out of a place in a disorderly mass **4** : to wrap closely in (as clothes) ~ *vi* **1 a** : to gather in a close-packed group **b** : to curl up : CROUCH **2 a** : to hold a consultation **b** : to gather in a huddle in football — **hud-dler** \'həd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
[2]huddle *n* **1** : a close-packed group : BUNCH ⟨~*s* of cattle⟩ ⟨a ~ of cottages⟩ **2 a** : MEETING, CONFERENCE ⟨secret ~*s* were held by five leading Republicans —*Newsweek*⟩ **b** : a conference of football players away from the line of scrimmage to receive the strategy (as from the quarterback) for the next down
Hu-di-bras-tic \ˌhyüd-ə-'bras-tik\ *adj* [irreg. fr. *Hudibras,* satirical poem by Samuel Butler †1680] **1** : written in humorous octosyllabic couplets **2** : MOCK-HEROIC — **Hudibrastic** *n*
Hud-son seal \ˌhəd-sən-\ *n* [*Hudson* bay, sea in Canada] : the fur of the muskrat dressed to simulate seal
hue \'hyü\ *n* [ME *hewe,* fr. OE *hīw;* akin to OE *hār* hoary — more at HOAR] **1** : COMPLEXION, ASPECT ⟨political parties of every ~ — Louis Wasserman⟩ **2 a** : gradation of color **b** : the attribute of colors that permits them to be classed as red, yellow, green, blue, or an intermediate between any contiguous pair of these colors — compare LIGHTNESS, SATURATION
hue and cry *n* [*hue* (outcry)] **1 a** : a loud outcry formerly used in the pursuit of one who is suspected of a crime **b** : the pursuit of a suspect or a written proclamation for the capture of a suspect **2** : a clamor of alarm or protest **3** : HUBBUB
hued \'hyüd\ *adj* : COLORED — usu. used in combination ⟨green=*hued*⟩
[1]huff \'həf\ *vb* [imit.] *vi* **1** : to emit puffs (as of breath or steam) **2 a** : to make empty threats : BLUSTER ⟨management ~*ed* about the chances of a lockout⟩ **b** : to react or behave indignantly ⟨refused to agree and ~*ed* off in anger⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to puff up : INFLATE ⟨their buying ~*ed* low-priced motor shares —*Time*⟩ **2** *archaic* : to treat with contempt : BULLY **3** : to make angry
[2]huff *n* : a usu. peevish and transitory spell of anger or resentment
syn see OFFENSE
huff-ish \'həf-ish\ *adj* : ARROGANT, SULKY
huffy \'həf-ē\ *adj* **huff-i-er; -est** **1** : HAUGHTY, ARROGANT **2 a** : roused to indignation : IRRITATED **b** : easily offended : TOUCHY — **huff-i-ness** *n*
hug \'həg\ *vt* **hugged; hug-ging** [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *hugga* to soothe] **1** : to press tightly esp. in the arms **2 a** : CONGRATULATE **b** : to hold fast : CHERISH ⟨*hugged* his miseries like a sulky child —John Buchan⟩ **3** : to stay close to ⟨the road ~*s* the river⟩ — **hug** *n* — **hug-ga-ble** \'həg-ə-bəl\ *adj*
huge \'hyüj, 'yüj\ *adj* **hug-er; hug-est** [ME, fr. OF *ahuge*] : very large or extensive: as **a** : of great size or area **b** : great in scale or degree ⟨~ spending⟩ **c** : great in scope or character ⟨a man of ~ talent⟩ — **huge-ly** *adv* — **huge-ness** *n*
syn HUGE, VAST, IMMENSE, ENORMOUS, GIGANTIC, COLOSSAL, MAMMOTH *shared meaning element* : exceedingly or excessively large. HUGE indicates extreme largeness, usually in size, bulk, or capacity ⟨*huge* cities grow steadily *huger* —Aldous Huxley⟩ VAST denotes extreme largeness or broadness, usually of extent or range ⟨the *vast* varieties of religions ancient and modern —M. R. Cohen⟩ ⟨depleting our *vast* natural resources heedlessly⟩ IMMENSE implies an exceeding of usual standards or measurements or accustomed concepts ⟨an *immense* quill, plucked from a distended albatross' wing —Herman Melville⟩ ⟨the technical power of the human race has become *immense* —Michael Novak⟩ ENORMOUS, often interchangeable with *immense,* is likely to be preferred when the idea of exceeding the reasonable, the normal, or the acceptable is to be conveyed ⟨the burden of humiliation carried by most Africans over thirty is *enormous* —William Attwood⟩ ⟨some practitioners have attained *enormous* incomes as beneficiaries of the public systems of health care —T. R. McConnell⟩ The remaining words graphically describe whatever is large beyond accustomed concepts, GIGANTIC calling up the image of the fabled giants of old, COLOSSAL that of the ancient Colossus, and MAMMOTH that of the ponderous prehistoric elephantine mammoth ⟨*gigantic* jewels that a hundred Negroes could not carry —G. K. Chesterton⟩ ⟨the *colossal* speed of 15,000 miles a second —James Jeans⟩ ⟨the *mammoth* hydrogen bomb explosion —*N.Y. Times*⟩ ***ant*** tiny
huge-ous \-əs\ *adj* : HUGE — **huge-ous-ly** *adv*
[1]hug-ger-mug-ger \'həg-ər-ˌməg-ər\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : SECRECY **2** : CONFUSION, MUDDLE
[2]hugger-mugger *adj* **1** : SECRET **2** : of a confused or disorderly nature : JUMBLED — **hugger-mugger** *adv*
[3]hugger-mugger *vb* **hug-ger-mug-gered; hug-ger-mug-ger-ing** \-ˌməg-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to keep secret : hush up ~ *vi* : to act or confer stealthily
hug-me-tight \'həg-mē-ˌtīt\ *n* : a woman's short usu. knitted sleeveless close-fitting jacket
Hu-gue-not \'hyü-gə-ˌnät\ *n* [MF, French Protestant, fr. MF dial. *huguenot,* adherent of a Swiss political movement, alter. (influenced by Besançon *Hugues* †1532 Swiss political leader) of *eidgnot,* fr. G dial. *eidgnoss* confederate] : a member of the French Reformed communion esp. of the 16th and 17th centuries — **Hu-gue-not-ic** \ˌhyü-gə-'nät-ik\ *adj* — **Hu-gue-not-ism** \'hyü-gə-ˌnät-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

hu·la \'hü-lə\ *also* **hu·la–hu·la** \ˌhü-lə-'hü-lə\ *n* [Hawaiian] **1** : a sinuous Polynesian dance characterized by rhythmic movement of the hips and mimetic gestures with the hands and often accompanied by chants and rhythmic drumming **2** : music to which a hula is performed

¹hulk \'həlk\ *n* [ME *hulke*, fr. OE *hulc*, fr. ML *holcas*, fr. Gk *holkas*, fr. *helkein* to pull — more at SULCUS] **1 a** : a heavy clumsy ship **b** : the body of an old ship unfit for service **c** : an abandoned wreck or shell **d** : a ship used as a prison — usu. used in pl. ⟨every prisoner sent to the ~*s* —Kenneth Roberts⟩ **2** : one that is bulky or unwieldy ⟨a big ~ of a man⟩

²hulk *vi* **1** *dial Eng* : to move ponderously **2** : to appear impressively large or massive : LOOM

hulk·ing \'həl-kiŋ\ *adj* : PONDEROUS, MASSIVE

¹hull \'həl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hulu;* akin to OHG *hala* hull, OE *helan* to conceal — more at HELL] **1 a** : the outer covering of a fruit or seed **b** : the persistent calyx or involucre that subtends some fruits **2 a** : the frame or body of a ship exclusive of masts, yards, sails, and rigging **b** (1) : the portion of a flying boat which furnishes buoyancy when in contact with the water and to which the main supporting surfaces and other parts are attached (2) : the main structure of a rigid airship **3** : COVERING, CASING — **hull–less** \'həl-ləs\ *adj*

²hull *vt* : to remove the hulls of : SHUCK — **hull·er** *n*

hul·la·ba·loo \'həl-ə-bə-ˌlü\ *n, pl* **-loos** [perh. irreg. fr. *hallo* + Sc *balloo*, interj. used to hush children] : a confused noise : UPROAR

hull down *adv or adj, of a ship* : at such a distance that only the superstructure is visible

hulled corn *n* : whole grain corn from which the hulls have been removed by soaking or boiling in lye water

hul·lo \(ˌ)hə-'lō\ *chiefly Brit var of* HELLO

hum \'həm\ *vb* **hummed; hum·ming** [ME *hummen;* akin to MHG *hummen* to hum, MD *hommel* bumblebee] *vi* **1 a** : to utter a sound like that of the speech sound \m\ prolonged **b** : to make the natural noise of an insect in motion or a similar sound : DRONE **c** : to give forth a low continuous blend of sound **2** : to be busily active ~ *vt* **1** : to sing with the lips closed and without articulation **2** : to affect or express by humming ⟨*hummed* me to sleep⟩ ⟨*hummed* his displeasure⟩ — **hum** *n* — **hum·ma·ble** \'həm-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **hum·mer** *n*

¹hu·man \'hyü-mən, 'yü-\ *adj* [ME *humain*, fr. MF, fr. L *humanus;* akin to L *homo* man — more at HOMAGE] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of man **2** : consisting of men **3 a** : having human form or attributes **b** : susceptible to or representative of the sympathies and frailties of man's nature ⟨such an inconsistency is very ~ —P. E. More⟩ — **hu·man·ness** \-mən-nəs\ *n*

²human *n* : a human being — **hu·man·like** \-mən-ˌlīk\ *adj*

hu·mane \hyü-'mān, yü-\ *adj* [ME *humain*] **1** : marked by compassion, sympathy, or consideration for other human beings or animals **2** : characterized by or tending to broad humanistic culture : HUMANISTIC ⟨~ studies⟩ — **hu·mane·ly** *adv* — **hu·mane·ness** \-'mān-nəs\ *n*

human ecology *n* **1** : a branch of sociology concerned esp. with the study of the spatial and temporal interrelationships between men and their economic, social, and political organization **2** : the ecology of man and of human communities and populations esp. as concerned with preservation of environmental quality (as of air or water) through proper application of conservation and civil engineering practices

human engineering *n* **1** : management of human beings and affairs esp. in industry **2** : a science that deals with the design of mechanical devices for efficient use by human beings

hu·man·ism \'hyü-mə-ˌniz-əm, 'yü-\ *n* **1 a** : devotion to the humanities : literary culture **b** : the revival of classical letters, individualistic and critical spirit, and emphasis on secular concerns characteristic of the Renaissance **2** : HUMANITARIANISM **3** : a doctrine, attitude, or way of life centered on human interests or values; *esp* : a philosophy that asserts the dignity and worth of man and his capacity for self-realization through reason and that often rejects supernaturalism — **hu·man·ist** \-nəst\ *n or adj* — **hu·man·is·tic** \ˌhyü-mə-'nis-tik, ˌyü-\ *adj* — **hu·man·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hu·man·i·tar·i·an \hyü-ˌman-ə-'ter-ē-ən, yü-\ *n* : a person promoting human welfare and social reform : PHILANTHROPIST — **humanitarian** *adj*

hu·man·i·tar·i·an·ism \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : concern for human welfare esp. as expressed through philanthropic activities and interest in social reforms

hu·man·i·ty \hyü-'man-ət-ē, yü-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being humane **2 a** : the quality or state of being human **b** *pl* : human attributes or qualities ⟨his work has the ripeness of the 18th century, and its rough *humanities* —Pamela H. Johnson⟩ **3** *pl* : the branches of learning having primarily a cultural character **4** : MANKIND

hu·man·ize \'hyü-mə-ˌnīz, 'yü-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1 a** : to represent as or endow with a human character **b** : to adapt to human nature or use **2** : to make humane ⟨tried to ~ and regulate war — Vera M. Dean⟩ — **hu·man·iza·tion** \ˌhyü-mə-nə-'zā-shən, ˌyü-\ *n* — **hu·man·iz·er** *n*

hu·man·kind \'hyü-mən-ˌkīnd, 'yü-\ *n sing but sing or pl in constr* : MANKIND

hu·man·ly \'hyü-mən-lē, 'yü-\ *adv* **1 a** : from the viewpoint of man ⟨~ speaking, the process works . . . like this —Elizabeth Janeway⟩ **b** : within the range of human capacity ⟨a ~ impossible task⟩ **2 a** : with regard to or in keeping with human proneness to error or weakness ⟨had the temerity to be ~ inefficient a few times —Leonard Koppett⟩ **b** : with regard to human needs and emotions ⟨provide ~ for those who are not needed in the economy —E. F. Bacon⟩

human nature *n* : the nature of man: as **a** : the complex of behavioral patterns, attitudes, and ideas which man acquires socially **b** : the complex of fundamental dispositions and traits of man

hu·man·oid \'hyü-mə-ˌnȯid, 'yü-\ *adj* : having human form or characteristics ⟨~ dentition⟩ ⟨~ robots⟩ — **humanoid** *n*

human relations *n pl but usu sing in constr* **1** : a study of human problems arising from organizational and interpersonal relations (as in industry) **2** : a course, study, or program designed to develop better interpersonal and intergroup adjustments

hu·mate \'hyü-ˌmāt, 'yü-\ *n* : a salt or ester of a humic acid

¹hum·ble \'həm-bəl, 'əm-\ *adj* **hum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\; **hum·blest** \-b(ə-)ləst\ [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *humilis* low, humble, fr. *humus* earth; akin to Gk *chthōn* earth, *chamai* on the ground] **1** : not proud or haughty : not arrogant or assertive **2** : reflecting, expressing, or offered in a spirit of deference or submission ⟨a ~ apology⟩ **3** : ranking low in a hierarchy or scale : INSIGNIFICANT, UNPRETENTIOUS — **hum·ble·ness** \-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **hum·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn HUMBLE, MEEK, MODEST, LOWLY *shared meaning element* : lacking all signs of pride, aggressiveness, or self-assertiveness

²humble *vt* **hum·bled; hum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to make humble in spirit or manner **2** : to destroy the power, independence, or prestige of ***syn*** see ABASE — **hum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*

hum·ble–bee \'həm-bəl-ˌbē\ *n* [ME *humbylbee*, fr. *humbyl-* (akin to MD *hommel* bumblebee) + *bee* — more at HUM] : BUMBLEBEE

humble pie *n* : submission, apology, or retraction usu. made under pressure : HUMILIATION — often used in the phrase *eat humble pie*

¹hum·bug \'həm-ˌbəg\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 a** : something designed to deceive and mislead **b** : a person who passes himself off as something that he is not **2** : an attitude or spirit of pretense and deception **3** : DRIVEL, NONSENSE ***syn*** see IMPOSTURE — **hum·bug·gery** \-ˌbəg-(ə-)rē\ *n*

²humbug *vb* **hum·bugged; hum·bug·ging** *vt* : DECEIVE, HOAX ~ *vi* : to engage in a hoax or deception

hum·ding·er \'həm-'diŋ-ər\ *n* [prob. alter. of *hummer* (humdinger)] : a striking or extraordinary person or thing

hum·drum \'həm-ˌdrəm\ *adj* [irreg. redupl. of *hum*] : MONOTONOUS, DULL — **humdrum** *n*

hu·mec·tant \hyü-'mek-tənt\ *n* [L *humectant-, humectans*, prp. of *humectare* to moisten, fr. *humectus* moist, fr. *humēre* to be moist — more at HUMOR] : a substance that promotes retention of moisture — **humectant** *adj*

hu·mer·al \'hyüm-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or situated in the region of the humerus or shoulder **2** : of, relating to, or being a body part analogous to the humerus or shoulder — **humeral** *n*

humeral veil *n* : an oblong vestment worn around the shoulders and over the hands by a priest or subdeacon holding a sacred vessel

hu·mer·us \'hyüm-(ə-)rəs\ *n, pl* **hu·meri** \'hyü-mə-ˌrī, -ˌrē\ [NL, fr. L, upper arm, shoulder; akin to Goth *ams* shoulder, Gk *ōmos*] : the long bone of the upper arm or forelimb extending from the shoulder to the elbow

hu·mic \'hyü-mik, 'yü-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or derived at least in part from humus

humic acid *n* : any of various organic acids obtained from humus

hu·mid \'hyü-məd, 'yü-\ *adj* [F or L; F *humide*, fr. L *humidus*, fr. *humēre*] : containing or characterized by perceptible moisture esp. to the point of being oppressive ⟨a ~ climate⟩ ***syn*** see WET — **hu·mid·ly** *adv*

hu·mid·i·fi·er \hyü-'mid-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r, yü-\ *n* : a device for supplying or maintaining humidity

hu·mid·i·fy \-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** : to make humid — **hu·mid·i·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌmid-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

hu·mid·i·stat \hyü-'mid-ə-ˌstat, yü-\ *n* : an instrument for regulating or maintaining the degree of humidity

hu·mid·i·ty \hyü-'mid-ət-ē, yü-\ *n, pl* **-ties** : a moderate degree of wetness esp. of the atmosphere : DAMPNESS — compare RELATIVE HUMIDITY

hu·mi·dor \'hyü-mə-ˌdȯ(ə)r, 'yü-\ *n* [*humid* + *-or* (as in *cuspidor*)] : a case usu. for storing cigars in which the air is kept properly humidified

hu·mi·fi·ca·tion \ˌhyü-mə-fə-'kā-shən, ˌyü-\ *n* : formation of or conversion into humus

hu·mi·fied \'hyü-mə-ˌfīd, 'yü-\ *adj* : converted into humus

hu·mil·i·ate \hyü-'mil-ē-ˌāt, yü-\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *humiliatus*, pp. of *humiliare*, fr. L *humilis* low — more at HUMBLE] : to reduce to a lower position in one's own eyes or others' eyes : MORTIFY ***syn*** see ABASE — **hu·mil·i·a·tion** \-ˌmil-ē-'ā-shən\ *n*

hu·mil·i·at·ing \hyü-'mil-ē-ˌāt-iŋ, yü-\ *adj* : extremely destructive to one's self-respect or dignity : HUMBLING — **hu·mil·i·at·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

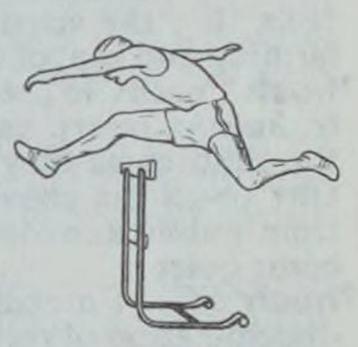
hu·mil·i·ty \hyü-'mil-ət-ē, yü-\ *n* : the quality or state of being humble

hum·ming·bird \'həm-iŋ-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of numerous tiny brightly colored nonpasserine birds (family Trochilidae) related to the swifts and like them having narrow wings with long primaries, a slender bill, and a very extensile tongue

hum·mock \'həm-ək\ *n* [alter. of ²*hammock*] **1** : a rounded knoll or hillock **2** : a ridge of ice **3** : ²HAMMOCK 2 — **hum·mocky** \-ə-kē\ *adj*

¹hu·mor \'(h)yü-mər\ *n* [ME *humour*, fr. MF *humeur*, fr. ML & L; ML *humor*, fr. L, moisture; akin to ON *vökr* damp, L *humēre* to be moist, Gk *hygros* wet] **1 a** : a normal functioning bodily semifluid or fluid (as the blood or lymph) **b** : a secretion (as a hormone) that is an excitant of activity **2 a** *in medieval physiology* : a fluid or juice of an animal or plant; *specif* : one of the four fluids entering into the constitution of the body and determining by their relative proportions a person's health and temperament **b** : characteristic or habitual disposition or bent : TEMPERAMENT ⟨a man of cheerful ~⟩ **c** : an often temporary state of mind imposed esp. by circumstances ⟨he was in no ~ to listen to further argument⟩ **d** : a sudden, unpredictable, or unreasoning inclination : WHIM ⟨beset by the uncertain ~*s* of nature⟩ **3 a** : that quality which appeals to a sense of the ludicrous or absurdly incongruous **b** : the mental faculty of discovering, expressing, or appreciating the ludicrous or absurdly incongruous **c** : something that is or is designed to be comical or amusing ***syn*** see MOOD, WIT — **out of humor** : out of sorts

²humor *vt* **hu·mored; hu·mor·ing** \'(h)yüm-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to soothe or content by indulgence **2** : to adapt oneself to ***syn*** see INDULGE
hu·mor·al \'(h)yüm-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, proceeding from, or involving a bodily humor (as a hormone)
hu·mor·esque \ˌ(h)yü-mə-'resk\ *n* [G *humoreske*, fr. *humor*, fr. E] : a musical composition typically whimsical or fanciful in character : CAPRICCIO
hu·mor·ist \'(h)yüm-(ə-)rəst\ *n* **1** *archaic* : a person subject to whims **2** : a person specializing in or noted for humor
hu·mor·is·tic \ˌ(h)yü-mə-'ris-tik\ *adj* : HUMOROUS
hu·mor·less \'(h)yü-mər-ləs\ *adj* **1** : lacking a sense of humor **2** : lacking humorous characteristics — **hu·mor·less·ness** *n*
hu·mor·ous \'(h)yüm-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1** *obs* : HUMID **2 a** : full of or characterized by humor : JOCULAR **b** : indicating or expressive of a sense of humor ***syn*** see WITTY — **hu·mor·ous·ly** *adv* — **hu·mor·ous·ness** *n*
hu·mour *chiefly Brit var of* HUMOR
¹hump \'həmp\ *n* [akin to MLG *hump* bump, L in*cumbere* to lie down, Gk *kymbē* bowl, OE *hype* hip] **1** : a rounded protuberance: as **a** : HUMPBACK 1 **b** : a fleshy protuberance on the back of an animal (as a camel, bison, or whale) **c** (1) : MOUND, HUMMOCK (2) : MOUNTAIN, RANGE ⟨the Himalayan ~⟩ **2** *Brit* : a fit of depression or sulking **3** : a difficult, trying, or critical phase — often used in the phrase *over the hump*
²hump *vt* **1** : to exert (oneself) vigorously **2** : to make humpbacked : HUNCH **3** *chiefly Brit* : to put or carry on the back; *also* : TRANSPORT **4** : to copulate with — usu. considered vulgar ~ *vi* **1** : to exert oneself : HUSTLE **2** : to move swiftly : RACE
hump·back \-ˌbak, *for 1 also* -'bak\ *n* **1** : a humped or crooked back; *also* : KYPHOSIS **2** : HUNCHBACK 2 **3** : a large whalebone whale (genus *Megaptera*) related to the rorquals but having very long flippers
hump·backed \-'bakt\ *adj* **1** : having a humped back **2** : convexly curved ⟨a ~ bridge⟩
humped \'həm(p)t\ *adj* : having a hump; *esp* : HUMPBACKED
humped cattle *n* : domestic cattle developed from an Indian species (*Bos indicus*) and characterized by a hump of fat and muscle above the shoulders : Brahman cattle
¹humph *a snort, or* h *followed by* m *or nasalized* ə; *often read as* 'həm(p)f\ *interj* [imit. of a grunt] — used to express doubt or contempt
²humph \'həm(p)f\ *vi* : to utter a humph ~ *vt* : to utter (as a remark) in a tone suggestive of a humph
hump·ty–dump·ty \ˌhəm(p)-tē-'dəm(p)-tē\ *n, pl* **-dumpties** *often cap H&D* [*Humpty-Dumpty*, egg-shaped nursery-rhyme character who fell from a wall and broke into bits] : something that once damaged can never be repaired or made operative again
humpy \'həm-pē\ *adj* **hump·i·er; -est** **1** : full of humps **2** : covered with humps
hu·mus \'hyü-məs, 'yü-\ *n* [NL, fr. L, earth — more at HUMBLE] : a brown or black complex variable material resulting from partial decomposition of plant or animal matter and forming the organic portion of soil
Hun \'hən\ *n* [LL *Hunni*, pl.] **1** : a member of a nomadic Mongolian people gaining control of a large part of central and eastern Europe under Attila about A.D. 450 **2 a** *often not cap* : a person who is wantonly destructive : VANDAL **b** : GERMAN; *esp* : a German soldier — usu. used disparagingly
¹hunch \'hənch\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* **1** : to thrust oneself forward **2** : to assume a bent or crooked posture ~ *vt* **1** : JOSTLE, SHOVE **2** : to thrust into a hump
²hunch *n* **1** : an act or instance of hunching : PUSH **2 a** : HUMP **b** : a thick piece : LUMP **3** : a strong intuitive feeling concerning a future event or result
hunch·back \'hənch-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : HUMPBACK 1 **2** : a person with a humpback — **hunch·backed** \-'bakt\ *adj*
hun·dred \'hən-drəd, -dərd\ *n, pl* **hundreds** *or* **hundred** [ME, fr. OE; akin to ON *hundrath* hundred; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc≈NGmc compound whose constituents were akin respectively to OE *hund* hundred and to Goth *garathjan* to count; akin to L *centum* hundred, Gk *hekaton*, Av *satəm*, OE *tīen* ten — more at TEN, REASON] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the number occupying the position three to the left of the decimal point in the arabic notation **3 hundreds** *pl* : the numbers 100 to 999 **4** : a 100-dollar bill **5** : a subdivision of some English and American counties — **hundred** *adj* — **hun·dredth** \-drədth, -drətth\ *adj or n*
hun·dred–per·cent·er \ˌhən-drəd-pər-'sent-ər, -dərd-\ *n* [*hundred≈percent* (*American*)] : a thoroughgoing nationalist — **hun·dred–per·cent·ism** \-'sent-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
hun·dred·weight \'hən-drə-ˌdwāt, -dər-ˌdwāt\ *n, pl* **hundredweight** *or* **hundredweights** **1 a** : a unit of weight equal to 100 pounds — called also *short hundredweight*; see WEIGHT table **b** *Brit* : a unit of weight equal to 112 pounds — called also *long hundredweight* **2** : METRIC HUNDREDWEIGHT
hung *past of* HANG
Hung *abbr* Hungarian; Hungary
Hun·gar·i·an \ˌhəŋ-'ger-ē-ən, -'gar-\ *n* **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Hungary : MAGYAR **b** : a person of Hungarian descent **2** : MAGYAR 2 — **Hungarian** *adj*
¹hun·ger \'həŋ-gər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hungor*; akin to OHG *hungar* hunger, Skt *kāṅkṣati* he desires] **1 a** : a craving or urgent need for food or a specific nutrient **b** : an uneasy sensation occasioned by the lack of food **c** : a weakened condition brought about by prolonged lack of food **2** : a strong desire : CRAVING
²hunger *vb* **hun·gered; hun·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to feel or suffer hunger **2** : to have an eager desire ~ *vt* : to make hungry ***syn*** see LONG
hunger strike *n* : refusal (as by a prisoner) to eat enough to sustain life
hung jury *n* : a jury that fails to reach a verdict
hung over *adj* : suffering from a hangover
hun·gry \'həŋ-grē\ *adj* **hun·gri·er; -est** **1 a** : feeling hunger **b** : characterized by or characteristic of hunger or appetite **2** : EAGER, AVID **3** : not rich or fertile : BARREN — **hun·gri·ly** \-grə-lē\ *adv* — **hun·gri·ness** \-grē-nəs\ *n*
hung up *adj* **1** : delayed or detained for a time **2** : anxiously nervous
hunk \'həŋk\ *n* [Flem *hunke*] : a large lump or piece
hun·ker \'həŋ-kər\ *vi* **hun·kered; hun·ker·ing** \-k(ə-)riŋ\ [perh. of Scand origin; akin to ON *hūka* to squat; akin to MLG *hōken* to squat — more at HAWKER] : CROUCH, SQUAT
hun·kers \'həŋ-kərz\ *n pl* : HAUNCHES
hunks \'həŋ(k)s\ *n pl but sing in constr* [origin unknown] : a surly ill-natured person; *esp* : MISER
hun·ky–do·ry \ˌhəŋ-kē-'dōr-ē, -'dȯr-\ *adj* [obs. E dial. *hunk* (home base) + *-dory* (origin unknown)] : quite satisfactory : FINE
Hun·nish \'hən-ish\ *adj* : relating to or resembling the Huns; *specif* : BARBAROUS
¹hunt \'hənt\ *vb* [ME *hunten*, fr. OE *huntian*; akin to OHG *heri-hunda* battle spoils] *vt* **1 a** : to pursue for food or in sport ⟨~ buffalo⟩ **b** : to manage in the search for game ⟨~*s* a pack of dogs⟩ **2 a** : to pursue with intent to capture ⟨~*ed* the escaped prisoner⟩ **b** : to search out : SEEK **3** : to drive or chase esp. by harrying ⟨members of the colonial council . . . were ~*ed* from their homes —J. T. Adams⟩ **4** : to traverse in search of prey ⟨~*s* the woods⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to take part in a hunt **2** : to attempt to find something **3** : to oscillate alternately to each side (as of a neutral point) or to run alternately faster and slower instead of steadily — used esp. of a device or machine
²hunt *n* **1** : the act, the practice, or an instance of hunting **2** : a group of mounted hunters and their hunting dogs
hunt·er \'hənt-ər\ *n* **1 a** : a person who hunts game **b** : a dog used or trained for hunting **c** : a horse used or adapted for use in hunting; *esp* : a fast strong horse trained for cross-country work and jumping **2** : a person who searches for something
hunt·ing *n* **1** : the act of one that hunts; *specif* : the pursuit of game **2** : the process of hunting **3 a** : a periodic variation in speed of a synchronous electrical machine from that of the true synchronous speed **b** : a self-induced and undesirable oscillation of a variable above and below the desired value in an automatic control system **c** : a continuous attempt by an automatically controlled system to find a desired equilibrium condition
hunting horn *n* : a signal horn used in the chase; *specif* : a long conical tube coiled in a large circle and having a flared bell and a cup-shaped mouthpiece
hunt·ress \'hən-trəs\ *n* : a female hunter
Hunts *abbr* Huntingdonshire
hunts·man \'hən(t)-smən\ *n* **1** : HUNTER 1a **2** : a person who manages a hunt and looks after the hounds
hup \'həp\ *interj* [prob. alter. of *one*] — used to mark a marching cadence
hur·dies \'hərd-ēz\ *n pl* [origin unknown] *dial Brit* : BUTTOCKS, RUMP
¹hur·dle \'hərd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *hurdel*, fr. OE *hyrdel*; akin to OHG *hurd* hurdle, L *cratis* wickerwork, hurdle] **1 a** : a portable panel usu. of wattled withes and stakes used esp. for enclosing land or livestock **b** : a frame or sled formerly used in England for dragging traitors to execution **2 a** : an artificial barrier over which men or horses must leap in a race **b** *pl* : any of various track events in which a series of hurdles must be surmounted **3** : BARRIER, OBSTACLE


hurdle 2a

²hurdle *vt* **hur·dled; hur·dling** \'hərd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ **1** : to leap over esp. while running **2** : OVERCOME, SURMOUNT — **hur·dler** \'hərd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
hur·dy–gur·dy \ˌhərd-ē-'gərd-ē, 'hərd-ē-ˌ\ *n, pl* **-gur·dies** [prob. imit.] : a musical instrument in which the sound is produced by turning a crank; *esp* : BARREL ORGAN
hurl \'hər(-ə)l\ *vb* **hurled; hurl·ing** \'hər-liŋ\ [ME *hurlen*] *vi* **1** : RUSH, HURTLE **2** : PITCH 4 ~ *vt* **1** : to send or thrust with great vigor ⟨the forces that were to be ~*ed* against the Turks —N. T. Gilroy⟩ **2** : to throw down with violence ⟨~*ed* the tyrant from his throne⟩ **3 a** : to throw forcefully : FLING ⟨~*ed* the manuscript into the fire⟩ ⟨~*ed* himself over the fence⟩ **b** : PITCH 2a ***syn*** see THROW — **hurl** *n* — **hurl·er** \'hər-lər\ *n*
hurl·ing *n* : an Irish game resembling field hockey played between two teams of 15 players each
hur·ly \'hər-lē\ *n* [prob. short for *hurly-burly*] : UPROAR, TUMULT
hur·ly–bur·ly \ˌhər-lē-'bər-lē\ *n* [prob. alter. & redupl. of *hurling*, gerund of *hurl*] : UPROAR, TUMULT
Hu·ron \'hyůr-ən, 'hyů(ə)r-ˌän, *or without* h\ *n, pl* **Hurons** *or* **Huron** [F, lit., boor] **1** *pl* : a confederacy of Amerindian peoples orig. of the St. Lawrence valley **2** : a member of any of the Huron peoples
¹hur·rah \hů-'rȯ, -'rä\ *also* **hur·ray** \hů-'rā\ *interj* [perh. fr. G *hurra*] — used to express joy, approbation, or encouragement
²hur·rah \hů-'rȯ, -'rä, 'hü-ˌ\ *n* **1** : EXCITEMENT, FANFARE **2** : FUSS, CONTROVERSY
Hur·ri·an \'hůr-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : a member of an ancient non-Semitic people prominent in northern Mesopotamia, Syria, and eastern Asia Minor about 1500 B.C. **2** : the language of the Hurrian people
hur·ri·cane \'hər-ə-ˌkān, -i-kən, 'hə-rə-, 'hə-ri-\ *n* [Sp *huracán*, fr. Taino *hurakán*] : a tropical cyclone with winds of 74 miles per hour or greater that is usu. accompanied by rain, thunder, and

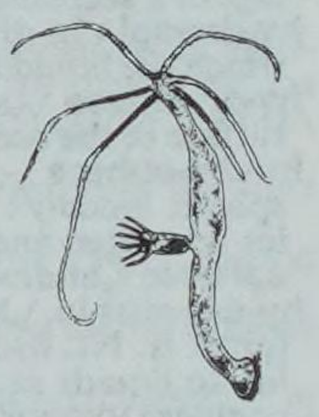
lightning and that sometimes moves into temperate latitudes — see BEAUFORT SCALE table
hurricane deck *n* : PROMENADE DECK
hurricane lamp *n* : a candlestick or an electric lamp equipped with a glass chimney
hur·ried \'hər-ēd, 'hə-rēd\ *adj* **1** : going or working at speed **2** : done in a hurry : HASTY — **hur·ried·ly** *adv* — **hur·ried·ness** *n*
¹hur·ry \'hər-ē, 'hə-rē\ *vb* **hur·ried; hur·ry·ing** [perh. fr. ME *horyen*] *vt* **1 a** : to carry or cause to go with haste ⟨~ him to the hospital⟩ **b** : to impel to rash or precipitate action **2 a** : to impel to greater speed : PROD ⟨used spurs to ~ the horse⟩ **b** : EXPEDITE **c** : to perform with undue haste ⟨~ a minuet⟩ ~ *vi* : to move or act with haste ⟨please ~ up⟩ — **hur·ri·er** *n*
²hurry *n* **1** : disturbed or disorderly activity : COMMOTION **2 a** : flurried and often bustling or disorderly haste **b** : a state of eagerness or urgency : RUSH ***syn*** see HASTE — **in a hurry** : without delay : as rapidly as possible ⟨the police got there *in a hurry*⟩
hur·ry–scur·ry *or* **hur·ry–skur·ry** \ˌhər-ē-'skər-ē, ˌhə-rē-'skə-rē\ *n* [redupl. of *²hurry*] : a confused rush : TURMOIL — **hurry–scurry** *adj or adv*
¹hurt \'hərt\ *vb* **hurt; hurt·ing** [ME *hurten*] *vt* **1 a** : to inflict with physical pain : WOUND **b** : to do substantial or material harm to : DAMAGE ⟨the dry summer has ~ the land⟩ **2 a** : to cause pain or anguish to : OFFEND **b** : to be detrimental to : HAMPER ⟨charges of graft ~ his chances of being elected⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to feel pain : SUFFER **b** *chiefly Midland* : to be in need : WANT **2** : to cause damage or distress ⟨hit where it ~*s*⟩ ***syn*** see INJURE — **hurt·er** *n*
²hurt *n* **1** : a cause of injury or damage : BLOW **2 a** : a bodily injury or wound **b** : mental distress or anguish : SUFFERING **3** : WRONG, HARM
hurt·ful \'hərt-fəl\ *adj* : causing injury or suffering : DAMAGING — **hurt·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **hurt·ful·ness** *n*
hur·tle \'hərt-ᵊl\ *vb* **hur·tled; hur·tling** \'hərt-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *hurtlen* to collide, freq. of *hurten* to cause to strike, hurt] *vi* : to move with or as if with a rushing sound ~ *vt* : HURL, FLING — **hurtle** *n*
hurt·less \'hərt-ləs\ *adj* : causing no pain or injury : HARMLESS
¹hus·band \'həz-bənd\ *n* [ME *husbonde*, fr. OE *hūsbonda* master of a house, fr. ON *hūsbōndi*, fr. *hūs* house + *bōndi* householder] **1** : a married man **2** *Brit* : MANAGER, STEWARD **3** : a frugal manager — **hus·band·ly** *adj*
²husband *vt* **1 a** : to manage prudently and economically **b** : to use sparingly : CONSERVE **2** *archaic* : to find a husband for : MATE — **hus·band·er** *n*
hus·band·man \'həz-bən(d)-mən\ *n* **1** : one that plows and cultivates land : FARMER **2** : a specialist in a branch of farm husbandry
hus·band·ry \'həz-bən-drē\ *n* **1** *obs* : the care of a household **2** : the control or judicious use of resources : CONSERVATION **3 a** : the cultivation or production of plants and animals : AGRICULTURE **b** : the scientific control and management of a branch of farming and esp. of domestic animals
¹hush \'həsh\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *husht* (hushed), fr. ME *hussht*, fr. *huissht*, interj. used to enjoin silence] *vt* **1** : CALM, QUIET ⟨~*ed* the children as they entered the library⟩ **2** : to put at rest : MOLLIFY ⟨~*ed* his conscience by bringing her flowers⟩ **3** : to keep from public knowledge : SUPPRESS ⟨~ the story up⟩ ~ *vi* : to become quiet
²hush *adj* **1** *archaic* : SILENT, STILL **2** : intended to prevent the dissemination of certain information ⟨~ money⟩
³hush *n* : a silence or calm esp. following noise : QUIET
hush–hush \'həsh-ˌhəsh\ *adj* : SECRET, CONFIDENTIAL
hush puppy *n, chiefly South* [fr. its occasional use as food for dogs] : cornmeal dough shaped into small balls and fried in deep fat — usu. used in pl.
¹husk \'həsk\ *n* [ME] **1 a** : a typically dry or membranous outer covering (as of hulls, bracts, or pod) of a seed or fruit; *also* : one of the constituent parts **b** : a carob pod **2 a** : an outer layer : SHELL **b** : an emptied shell : REMNANT **c** : a supporting framework
²husk *vt* : to strip the husk from — **husk·er** *n*
husk·ing *n* : a gathering of farm families to husk corn
husk–tomato *n* : GROUND-CHERRY
¹husky \'həs-kē\ *adj* **husk·i·er; -est** : resembling, containing, or full of husks
²hus·ky \'həs-kē\ *adj* **hus·ki·er; -est** [prob. fr. *husk* (huskiness), fr. obs. *husk* (to have a dry cough)] : hoarse with or as if with emotion — **hus·ki·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **hus·ki·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
³hus·ky *adj* **hus·ki·er; -est** [prob. fr. *¹husk*] **1** : BURLY, ROBUST **2** : LARGE
⁴hus·ky *n, pl* **huskies** : one that is husky
⁵hus·ky *n, pl* **huskies** [prob. by shortening & alter. fr. *Eskimo*] **1** : a heavy-coated working dog of the New World arctic region **2** : SIBERIAN HUSKY
hus·sar \(ˌ)hə-'zär, -'sär\ *n* [Hung *huszár* hussar, (obs.) highway robber, fr. Serb *husar* pirate, fr. ML *cursarius* — more at CORSAIR] : a member of any of various European units orig. modeled on the Hungarian light cavalry of the 15th century
Huss·ite \'həs-ˌīt, 'hüs-\ *n* [NL *Hussita*, fr. John *Huss*] : a member of the Bohemian religious and nationalist movement originating with John Huss — **Hussite** *adj* — **Huss·it·ism** \-ˌīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
hus·sy \'həz-ē, 'həs-\ *n, pl* **hussies** [alter. of *housewife*] **1** : a lewd or brazen woman **2** : a saucy or mischievous girl
hus·tings \'həs-tiŋz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ME, fr. OE *hūsting*, fr. ON *hūsthing*, fr. *hūs* house + *thing* assembly] **1 a** : a local court formerly held in various English municipalities and still held infrequently in London **b** : a local court in some cities in Virginia **2 a** : a raised platform used until 1872 for the nomination of candidates for the British Parliament and for election speeches **b** : an election platform : STUMP **c** : the proceedings or locale of an election campaign
hus·tle \'həs-əl\ *vb* **hus·tled; hus·tling** \'həs-(ə-)liŋ\ [D *husselen* to shake, fr. MD *hutselen*, freq. of *hutsen*; akin to MD *hodde* hod] *vt* **1 a** : JOSTLE, SHOVE **b** : to convey forcibly or hurriedly **c** : to urge forward precipitately **2 a** : to obtain by energetic activity **b** : to sell something to or obtain something from by energetic and esp. underhanded activity ~ *vi* **1** : SHOVE, PRESS **2** : HASTEN, HURRY **3 a** : to make strenuous efforts to secure money or business **b** : to obtain money by fraud or deception **c** : to engage in prostitution **4** : to play a game or sport in an alert aggressive manner — **hustle** *n* — **hus·tler** \'həs-lər\ *n*
¹hut \'hət\ *n* [MF *hutte*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *hutta* hut; akin to OE *hȳd* skin, hide] **1** : an often small and temporary dwelling of simple construction : SHACK **2** : a simple shelter from the elements — **hut** *vb*
²hut *interj* [prob. alter. of *one*] — used to mark a marching cadence
hutch \'həch\ *n* [ME *huche*, fr. OF] **1 a** : a chest or compartment for storage **b** : a low cupboard usu. surmounted by open shelves **2** : a pen or coop for an animal **3** : SHACK, SHANTY
hut·ment \'hət-mənt\ *n* **1** : a collection of huts : ENCAMPMENT **2** : HUT
Hut·ter·ite \'hət-ə-ˌrīt, 'hüt-\ *n* [Jakob *Hutter* †1536 Moravian Anabaptist] : a member of a Mennonite sect of northwestern U.S. and Canada living communally and holding property in common — **Hut·te·ri·an** \ˌhə-'tir-ē-ən, hü-\ *adj*
hutzpah *or* **hutzpa** *var of* CHUTZPAH
huz·zah *or* **huz·za** \(ˌ)hə-'zä\ *interj* — used to express joy or approbation
hv *abbr* have
HV *abbr* **1** high velocity **2** high-voltage
hvy *abbr* heavy
hw *abbr* how
HW *abbr* **1** high water **2** highway **3** hot water
hwan \'hwän\ *n, pl* **hwan** [Korean] **1** : a Korean monetary unit equal to $^1/_{10}$ won **2** : a coin representing one hwan
HWM *abbr* high-water mark
hwy *abbr* highway
hy *abbr* henry
hy·a·cinth \'hī-ə-(ˌ)sin(t)th, -sən(t)th\ *n* [L *hyacinthus*, a precious stone, a flowering plant, fr. Gk *hyakinthos*] **1 a** : a precious stone of the ancients sometimes held to be the sapphire **b** : a gem zircon or essonite **2 a** : a plant of the ancients held to be a lily, iris, larkspur, or gladiolus **b** (1) : any of a genus (*Hyacinthus*) of bulbous herbs of the lily family; *esp* : a common garden plant (*H. orientalis*) widely grown for the beauty and fragrance of the flowers (2) : any of several other plants of the lily family **3** : a light violet to moderate purple — **hy·a·cin·thine** \ˌhī-ə-'sin(t)-thən\ *adj*



hyacinth 2b(1)

Hy·a·cin·thus \ˌhī-ə-'sin(t)-thəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hyakinthos*] : a youth loved and accidentally killed by Apollo who memorialized him with a hyacinth growing from the youth's blood
Hy·a·des \'hī-ə-ˌdēz\ *n pl* [L, fr. Gk] : a V-shaped cluster of stars in the head of the constellation Taurus held by the ancients to indicate rainy weather when they rise with the sun.
hy·ae·na *var of* HYENA
hyal- *or* **hyalo-** *comb form* [LL, glass, fr. Gk, fr. *hyalos*] : glass : glassy : hyaline ⟨*hyal*escent⟩ ⟨*hyal*ogen⟩
¹hy·a·line \'hī-ə-lən, -ˌlīn\ *adj* [LL *hyalinus*, fr. Gk *hyalinos*, fr. *hyalos*] **1** : of or relating to glass **2 a** : transparent or nearly so and usu. homogeneous **b** *of a mineral* (1) : GLASSY (2) : lacking crystallinity : AMORPHOUS
²hy·a·line \'hī-ə-lən, -ˌlīn, *in sense 2* -lən *or* -ˌlēn\ *n* **1** : something (as the clear atmosphere) that is transparent **2** *or* **hy·a·lin** \-lən\ : any of several translucent nitrogenous substances related to chitin, found esp. around cells, and readily stained by eosin
hyaline cartilage *n* : translucent bluish white cartilage with the cells embedded in an apparently homogeneous matrix that is present in joints and respiratory passages and forms most of the fetal skeleton
hy·a·lite \'hī-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *hyalit*, fr. Gk *hyalos*] : a colorless opal that is clear as glass or sometimes translucent or whitish
hy·a·loid \-ˌlȯid\ *adj* [Gk *hyaloeidēs*, fr. *hyalos*] : GLASSY, TRANSPARENT
hy·a·lo·plasm \hī-'al-ə-ˌplaz-əm, 'hī-ə-lō-\ *n* [prob. fr. G *hyaloplasma*, fr. *hyal-* + *-plasma* -plasm] : the clear apparently homogeneous matrix of cytoplasm that is essentially the continuous phase of a multiple-phase colloidal system — called also *ground substance*
hy·al·uron·ic acid \ˌhīl-yù-ˌrän-ik-, ˌhī-əl-yù-\ *n* [ISV] : a viscous mucopolysaccharide acid that occurs esp. in the vitreous humor, the umbilical cord, and synovial fluid and as a cementing substance in the subcutaneous tissue
hy·al·uron·i·dase \-'rän-ə-ˌdās, -dāz\ *n* [ISV, irreg. fr. *hyaluronic (acid)* + *-ase*] : an enzyme that splits and lowers the viscosity of hyaluronic acid facilitating the spreading of fluids through tissues
hy·brid \'hī-brəd\ *n* [L *hybrida*] **1** : an offspring of two animals or plants of different races, breeds, varieties, species, or genera **2** : a person produced by the blending of two diverse cultures or traditions **3 a** : something heterogeneous in origin or composition : COMPOSITE ⟨artificial ~*s* of DNA and RNA⟩ **b** : a word composed of elements from different languages — **hybrid** *adj* — **hy·brid·ism** \-brə-ˌdiz-əm\ *n* — **hy·brid·i·ty** \hī-'brid-ət-ē\ *n*
hybrid computer *n* : a computer system consisting of a combination of analog and digital computer systems
hy·brid·ize \'hī-brə-ˌdīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to cause to produce hybrids : INTERBREED ~ *vi* : to produce hybrids — **hy·brid·iza·tion** \ˌhī-brəd-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **hy·brid·iz·er** *n*
hybrid perpetual rose *n* : any of numerous vigorous hardy bush roses derived from the bourbon rose and grown esp. for their sometimes recurrent often fragrant bloom
hybrid tea rose *n* : any of numerous moderately hardy cultivated bush roses derived chiefly from tea roses and hybrid perpetual

roses and grown esp. for their strongly recurrent bloom of large usu. scentless flowers
hybrid vigor *n* : HETEROSIS
hy·bris \'hī-brəs, 'hē-\ *var of* HUBRIS
hyd *abbr* **1** hydraulics **2** hydrostatics
hy·da·thode \'hīd-ə-ˌthōd\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *hydat-, hydōr* water + *hodos* road — more at CEDE] : an epidermal structure in higher plants functioning in the exudation of water
hy·da·tid \'hīd-ə-təd, -ˌtid\ *n* [Gk *hydatid-, hydatis* watery cyst, fr. *hydat-, hydōr*] : a larval tapeworm occurring as a fluid-filled sac containing daughter cysts and scolices or forming a proliferating spongy mass that actively invades and metastasizes in the host's tissues
hydr- *or* **hydro-** *comb form* [ME *ydr-, ydro-*, fr. OF, fr. L *hydr-, hydro-*, fr. Gk, fr. *hydōr* — more at WATER] **1 a** : water ⟨*hydr*ous⟩ ⟨*hydro*electricity⟩ **b** : liquid ⟨*hydro*kinetics⟩ **2** : hydrogen : containing or combined with hydrogen ⟨*hydro*carbon⟩ ⟨*hydro*xyl⟩ **3** : hydroid ⟨*hydro*medusa⟩
Hy·dra \'hī-drə\ *n* [ME *Ydra*, fr. L *Hydra*, fr. Gk] **1** : a many-headed serpent or monster of Greek mythology slain by Hercules each head of which when cut off was replaced by two others **2** *not cap* : a multifarious evil not to be overcome by a single effort **3** [L (gen. *Hydrae*), fr. Gk] : a southern constellation of great length that lies south of Cancer, Sextans, Corvus, and Virgo and is represented on old maps by a serpent **4** *not cap* [NL, genus name, fr. L, Hydra] : any of numerous small tubular freshwater hydrozoan polyps (as of the genus *Hydra*) having at one end a mouth surrounded by tentacles


hydra 4

hy·dra–head·ed \ˌhī-drə-'hed-əd\ *adj* : having many centers or branches ⟨a ~ organization⟩
hy·dral·azine \hī-'dral-ə-ˌzēn\ *n* [*hydr-* + phth*al*ic (acid) + *azine*] : a crystalline base $C_8H_8N_4$ used in the treatment of hypertension
hy·dran·gea \hī-'drān-jə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *hydr-* + Gk *angeion* vessel — more at ANGI-] : any of a genus (*Hydrangea*) of shrubs and one woody vine of the saxifrage family with opposite leaves and showy corymbose clusters of usu. sterile white or tinted flowers
hy·drant \'hī-drənt\ *n* **1** : a discharge pipe with a valve and spout at which water may be drawn from a water main (as for fighting fires) — called also *fireplug* **2** : FAUCET
hy·dranth \'hī-ˌdran(t)th\ *n* [ISV *hydr-* + Gk *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] : one of the nutritive zooids of a hydroid colony
hy·drase \'hī-ˌdrās, -ˌdrāz\ *n* : an enzyme that promotes the addition or removal of water to or from its substrate
hy·dras·tine \hī-'dras-ˌtēn, -tən\ *n* : a bitter crystalline alkaloid $C_{21}H_{21}NO_6$ that is an active constituent of hydrastis
hy·dras·tis \-təs\ *n* [NL, genus name] : the dried rhizome and roots of a goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*) formerly used as a bitter tonic, hemostatic, and antiseptic
[1]hy·drate \'hī-ˌdrāt\ *n* **1** : a compound or complex ion formed by the union of water with some other substance **2** : HYDROXIDE ⟨calcium ~⟩
[2]hydrate *vb* **hy·drat·ed; hy·drat·ing** *vt* : to cause to take up or combine with water or the elements of water ~ *vi* : to become a hydrate — **hy·dra·tion** \hī-'drā-shən\ *n* — **hy·dra·tor** \'hī-ˌdrāt-ər\ *n*
hy·drau·lic \hī-'drȯ-lik\ *adj* [L *hydraulicus*, fr. Gk *hydraulikos*, fr. *hydraulis* hydraulic organ, fr. *hydr-* + *aulos* reed instrument — more at ALVEOLUS] **1** : operated, moved, or effected by means of water **2 a** : of or relating to hydraulics ⟨~ engineer⟩ **b** : of or relating to water or other liquid in motion ⟨~ erosion⟩ **3** : operated by the resistance offered or the pressure transmitted when a quantity of liquid (as water or oil) is forced through a comparatively small orifice or through a tube ⟨~ brakes⟩ **4** : hardening or setting under water ⟨~ cement⟩ — **hy·drau·li·cal·ly** \-li-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hydraulic ram *n* : a pump that forces running water to a higher level by utilizing the kinetic energy of flow
hy·drau·lics \hī-'drȯ-liks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of science that deals with practical applications (as the transmission of energy or the effects of flow) of liquid (as water) in motion
hy·dra·zide \'hī-drə-ˌzīd\ *n* : any of a class of compounds resulting from the replacement by an acid radical of hydrogen in hydrazine or in one of its derivatives
hy·dra·zine \'hī-drə-ˌzēn\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless fuming corrosive strongly reducing liquid base N_2H_4 used esp. in fuels for rocket and jet engines; *also* : an organic base derived from this compound
hy·dra·zo·ic acid \ˌhī-drə-ˌzō-ik-\ *n* [*hydr-* + *azo-* + *-ic*] : a colorless volatile poisonous explosive liquid HN_3 that has a foul odor and yields explosive salts of heavy metals
hy·dric \'hī-drik\ *adj* : characterized by, relating to, or requiring an abundance of moisture ⟨a ~ habitat⟩ ⟨a ~ plant⟩ — compare MESIC, XERIC — **hy·dri·cal·ly** \-dri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
-hy·dric \'hī-drik\ *adj suffix* **1** : containing acid hydrogen ⟨mono*hydric*⟩ **2** : containing hydroxyl ⟨hexa*hydric* alcohols⟩
hy·dride \'hī-ˌdrīd\ *n* : a compound of hydrogen usu. with a more electropositive element or radical
hy·dri·od·ic acid \ˌhī-drē-ˌäd-ik-\ *n* [ISV] : an aqueous solution of hydrogen iodide HI that is a strong acid resembling hydrochloric acid chemically and that is also a strong reducing agent
[1]hy·dro \'hī-(ˌ)drō\ *n, pl* **hydros** [short for *hydropathic establishment*] **1** *Brit* : a hotel that caters to people taking a water cure **2** *Brit* : an establishment that furnishes water cures : SPA
[2]hydro *adj* : HYDROELECTRIC ⟨~ energy⟩
hy·dro·bi·ol·o·gy \ˌhī-drō-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : the biology of bodies or units of water; *esp* : LIMNOLOGY — **hy·dro·bi·o·log·i·cal** \-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **hy·dro·bi·ol·o·gist** \-bī-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*
hy·dro·bro·mic acid \ˌhī-drə-ˌbrō-mik-\ *n* [ISV] : an aqueous solution of hydrogen bromide HBr that is a strong acid resembling hydrochloric acid chemically, that is a weak reducing agent, and that is used esp. for making bromides
hy·dro·car·bon \ˌhī-drə-'kär-bən\ *n* : an organic compound (as acetylene or benzene) containing only carbon and hydrogen and often occurring in petroleum, natural gas, coal, and bitumens — **hy·dro·car·bo·na·ceous** \-ˌkär-bə-'nā-shəs\ *or* **hy·dro·car·bon·ic** \-kär-'bän-ik\ *or* **hy·dro·car·bon·ous** \-'kär-bə-nəs\ *adj*
hy·dro·cele \'hī-drə-ˌsēl\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *hydrokēlē*, fr. *hydr-* + *kēlē* tumor — more at -CELE] : an accumulation of serous fluid in a sacculated cavity (as the scrotum)
hy·dro·ce·phal·ic \ˌhī-drō-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj* : relating to, characterized by, or affected with hydrocephalus — **hydrocephalic** *n*
hy·dro·ceph·a·lus \-'sef-ə-ləs\ *also* **hy·dro·ceph·a·ly** \-lē\ *n* [NL *hydrocephalus*, fr. LL, hydrocephalic, adj., fr. Gk *hydrokephalos*, fr. *hydr-* + *kephalē* head — more at CEPHALIC] : an abnormal increase in the amount of cerebrospinal fluid within the cranial cavity that is accompanied by expansion of the cerebral ventricles, enlargement of the skull and esp. the forehead, and atrophy of the brain
hy·dro·chlo·ric acid \ˌhī-drə-ˌklōr-ik-, -ˌklȯr-\ *n* [ISV] : an aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride HCl that is a strong corrosive irritating acid, is normally present in dilute form in gastric juice, and is widely used in industry and in the laboratory
hy·dro·chlo·ride \-'klō(ə)r-ˌīd, -'klȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a compound of hydrochloric acid esp. with an organic base (as an alkaloid)
hy·dro·chlo·ro·thi·a·zide \-ˌklōr-ə-'thī-ə-ˌzīd, -ˌklȯr-\ *n* [*hydr-* + *chlor-* + *thiazine* + *-ide*] : a diuretic and antihypertensive drug $C_7H_8O_4N_3ClS_2$
hy·dro·col·loid \ˌhī-drə-'käl-ˌȯid\ *n* : a substance that yields a gel with water — **hy·dro·col·loi·dal** \-kə-'lȯid-ᵊl, -kä-\ *adj*
hy·dro·cor·ti·sone \-'kȯrt-ə-ˌsōn, -ˌzōn\ *n* : CORTISOL
hy·dro·crack·ing \'hī-drə-ˌkrak-iŋ\ *n* : the cracking of hydrocarbons in the presence of hydrogen — **hy·dro·crack** \-ˌkrak\ *vt*
hy·dro·cy·an·ic acid \ˌhī-drō-sī-ˌan-ik-\ *n* [ISV] : an aqueous solution of hydrogen cyanide HCN that is a poisonous weak acid and is used chiefly in fumigating and in organic synthesis
hy·dro·dy·nam·ic \-dī-'nam-ik\ *also* **hy·dro·dy·nam·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [NL *hydrodynamicus*, fr. *hydr-* + *dynamicus* dynamic] : of, relating to, or involving principles of hydrodynamics — **hy·dro·dy·nam·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hy·dro·dy·nam·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of science that deals with the motion of fluids and the forces acting on solid bodies immersed in fluids and in motion relative to them — compare HYDROSTATICS — **hy·dro·dy·nam·i·cist** \-'nam-ə-səst\ *n*
hy·dro·elec·tric \ˌhī-drō-i-'lek-trik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to production of electricity by waterpower — **hy·dro·elec·tri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **hy·dro·elec·tric·i·ty** \-ˌlek-'tris-ət-ē, -'tris-tē\ *n*
hy·dro·flu·or·ic acid \ˌhī-drō-flu-ˌȯr-ik, -ˌär-\ *n* [ISV] : an aqueous solution of hydrogen fluoride HF that is a weak poisonous acid, that resembles hydrochloric acid chemically but attacks silica and silicates, and that is used esp. in finishing and etching glass
hy·dro·foil \'hī-drə-ˌfȯil\ *n* **1** : a body similar to an airfoil but designed for action in or on water **2** : a motorboat that has metal plates or fins attached by struts fore and aft for lifting the hull clear of the water as speed is attained
hy·dro·form·ing \-ˌfȯr-miŋ\ *n* [*hydr-* + re*forming*] : a process for producing high-octane gasoline from petroleum naphthas by catalytic dehydrogenation and aromatization in the presence of hydrogen — **hy·dro·form·er** \-mər\ *n*
hy·dro·gen \'hī-drə-jən\ *n* [F *hydrogène*, fr. *hydr-* + *-gène* -gen; fr. the fact that water is generated by its combustion] : a nonmetallic element that is the simplest and lightest of the elements, is normally a colorless odorless highly flammable diatomic gas, and is used esp. in synthesis — compare DEUTERIUM, TRITIUM; see ELEMENT table — **hy·drog·e·nous** \hī-'träj-ə-nəs\ *adj*
hy·drog·e·nase \hī-'träj-ə-ˌnās, -'nāz\ *n* : an enzyme of various microorganisms that promotes the formation and utilization of gaseous hydrogen
hy·dro·ge·nate \hī-'träj-ə-ˌnāt, 'hī-drə-jə-\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** : to combine or treat with or expose to hydrogen; *esp* : to add hydrogen to the molecule of (an unsaturated organic compound) — **hy·dro·ge·na·tion** \hī-ˌträj-ə-'nā-shən, ˌhī-drə-jə-\ *n*
hydrogen bomb *n* : a bomb whose violent explosive power is due to the sudden release of atomic energy resulting from the union of light nuclei (as of hydrogen atoms) at very high temperature and pressure to form helium nuclei
hydrogen bond *n* : a linkage consisting of a hydrogen atom bonded between two electronegative atoms (as fluorine, oxygen, or nitrogen) with one side of the linkage being a covalent bond and the other being electrostatic in nature
hydrogen bromide *n* : a colorless irritating gas HBr that fumes in moist air and yields hydrobromic acid when dissolved in water
hydrogen chloride *n* : a colorless pungent poisonous gas HCl that fumes in moist air and yields hydrochloric acid when dissolved in water
hydrogen cyanide *n* **1** : a poisonous usu. gaseous compound HCN that has the odor of bitter almonds **2** : HYDROCYANIC ACID
hydrogen fluoride *n* : a colorless corrosive fuming usu. gaseous compound HF that yields hydrofluoric acid when dissolved in water
hydrogen iodide *n* : an acrid colorless gas HI that fumes in moist air and yields hydriodic acid when dissolved in water
hydrogen ion *n* **1** : the cation H^+ of acids consisting of a hydrogen atom whose electron has been transferred to the anion of the acid **2** : HYDRONIUM
hydrogen peroxide *n* : an unstable compound H_2O_2 used esp. as an oxidizing and bleaching agent, an antiseptic, and a propellant

hydrogen sulfide *n* : a flammable poisonous gas H_2S that has an odor suggestive of rotten eggs and is found esp. in many mineral waters and in putrefying matter

hy·drog·ra·phy \hī-'drägˈ-rə-fē\ *n* [MF *hydrographie*, fr. *hydr-* + *-graphie* -graphy] **1** : the description and study of bodies of water (as seas, lakes, and rivers): as **a** : the measurement of flow and investigation of the behavior of streams esp. with reference to the control of their waters **b** : the charting of bodies of water **2** : bodies of water — **hy·drog·ra·pher** \-fər\ *n* — **hy·dro·graph·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **hy·dro·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹hy·droid \'hī-ˌdrȯid\ *adj* [deriv. of NL *Hydra*] : of or relating to a hydrozoan; *esp* : resembling a typical hydra

²hydroid *n* : HYDROZOAN; *esp* : a hydrozoan polyp as distinguished from a medusa

hy·dro·ki·net·ic \ˌhī-drō-kə-'net-ik, -(ˌ)kī-\ *adj* : of or relating to the motions of fluids or the forces which produce or affect such motions — compare HYDROSTATIC

hy·dro·lase \'hī-drə-ˌlās, -ˌlāz\ *n* : a hydrolytic enzyme (as an esterase)

hy·drol·o·gy \hī-'dräl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *hydrologia*, fr. L *hydr-* + *-logia* -logy] : a science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere — **hy·dro·log·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'läj-ik\ *or* **hy·dro·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **hy·dro·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **hy·drol·o·gist** \hī-'dräl-ə-jəst\ *n*

hy·dro·ly·sate \hī-'dräl-ə-ˌsāt, ˌhī-drə-'lī-\ *also* **hy·dro·ly·zate** \-ˌzāt\ *n* : a product of hydrolysis

hy·dro·ly·sis \hī-'dräl-ə-səs, ˌhī-drə-'lī-\ *n* [NL] : a chemical process of decomposition involving splitting of a bond and addition of the elements of water — **hy·dro·lyt·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'lit-ik\ *adj* — **hy·dro·lyt·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·dro·lyze \'hī-drə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lyzed; -lyz·ing** [ISV, fr. NL *hydrolysis*] *vt* : to subject to hydrolysis ~ *vi* : to undergo hydrolysis — **hy·dro·lyz·able** \-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj*

hy·dro·mag·net·ic \ˌhī-drō-mag-'net-ik\ *adj* [*hydr-* + *magnetic*] **1** : MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC **2** : being a wave in an electrically conducting fluid immersed in a magnetic field

hy·dro·man·cy \'hī-drə-ˌman(t)-sē\ *n* [ME *ydromancie*, fr. MF, fr. L *hydromantia*, fr. *hydr-* + *-mantia* -mancy] : divination by the appearance or motion of liquids (as water)

hy·dro·me·chan·ics \ˌhī-drō-mi-'kan-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of mechanics that deals with the equilibrium and motion of fluids and of solid bodies immersed in them — **hy·dro·me·chan·i·cal** \-'kan-i-kəl\ *adj*

hy·dro·me·du·sa \ˌhī-drō-mi-'d(y)ü-sə, -zə\ *n, pl* **-sae** \-ˌsē, -ˌzē\ [NL] : a medusa (as of the orders Anthomedusae and Leptomedusae) produced as a bud from a hydroid — **hy·dro·me·du·san** \-'d(y)üs-ᵊn, -'d(y)üz-\ *adj or n* — **hy·dro·me·du·soid** \-'d(y)ü-ˌsȯid, -ˌzȯid\ *adj*

hy·dro·mel \'hī-drə-ˌmel\ *n* [ME *ydromel*, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *hydromeli*, fr. Gk, fr. *hydr-* + *meli* honey — more at MELLIFLUOUS] : a mixture of honey and water; *esp* : MEAD

hy·dro·met·al·lur·gy \ˌhī-drō-'met-ᵊl-ˌər-jē\ *n* [ISV] : the treatment of ores by wet processes (as leaching) — **hy·dro·met·al·lur·gi·cal** \-ˌmet-ᵊl-'ər-ji-kəl\ *adj*

hy·dro·me·te·or \ˌhī-drō-'mēt-ē-ər, -ē-ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a product (as fog, rain, or hail) formed by the condensation of atmospheric water vapor

hy·dro·me·te·o·rol·o·gy \-ˌmēt-ē-ə-'räl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of meteorology that deals with water in the atmosphere esp. as precipitation — **hy·dro·me·te·o·ro·log·i·cal** \-ē-ˌȯr-ə-'läj-i-kəl, -ˌär-ə-, -ə-rə-\ *adj* — **hy·dro·me·te·o·rol·o·gist** \-ē-ə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n*

hy·drom·e·ter \hī-'dräm-ət-ər\ *n* : a floating instrument for determining specific gravities of liquids and hence the strength (as of spirituous liquors or saline solutions) — **hy·dro·met·ric** \ˌhī-drə-'me-trik\ *or* **hy·dro·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **hy·drom·e·try** \hī-'dräm-ə-trē\ *n*

hy·dro·mor·phic \ˌhī-drə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj, of a soil* : developed in the presence of an excess of moisture which tends to suppress aerobic factors in soil-building

hy·dron·ic \hī-'drän-ik\ *adj* [*hydr-* + *-onic* (as in *electronic*)] : of, relating to, or being a system of heating or cooling that involves transfer of heat by a circulating fluid (as water or vapor) in a closed system of pipes — **hy·dron·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·dro·ni·um \hī-'drō-nē-əm\ *n* [ISV *hydr-* + *-onium*] : a hydrated hydrogen ion H_3O^+

hy·drop·a·thy \hī-'dräp-ə-thē\ *n* [ISV] : the empirical use of water in the treatment of disease — compare HYDROTHERAPY — **hy·dro·path·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'path-ik\ *adj* — **hy·dro·path·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·dro·per·ox·ide \ˌhī-drō-pə-'räk-ˌsīd\ *n* : a compound containing an O_2H group

hy·dro·phane \'hī-drə-ˌfān\ *n* : a semitranslucent opal that becomes translucent or transparent on immersion in water

hy·dro·phil·ic \ˌhī-drə-'fil-ik\ *or* **hy·dro·phile** \'hī-drə-ˌfīl\ *adj* [NL *hydrophilus*, fr. Gk *hydr-* + *-philos* -philous] : of, relating to, or having a strong affinity for water — **hy·dro·phi·lic·i·ty** \ˌhī-drə-fil-'is-ət-ē\ *adv*

hy·dro·pho·bia \ˌhī-drə-'fō-bē-ə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *hydr-* + *-phobia* fear of something — more at PHOBIA] **1** : a morbid dread of water **2** : RABIES

hy·dro·pho·bic \-'fō-bik, -'fäb-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or suffering from hydrophobia **2** : lacking affinity for water — **hy·dro·pho·bic·i·ty** \-fō-'bis-ət-ē\ *n*

hy·dro·phone \'hī-drə-ˌfōn\ *n* : an instrument for listening to sound transmitted through water

hy·dro·phyte \-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a perennial vascular aquatic plant having its overwintering buds under water **2** : a plant growing in water or in soil too waterlogged for most plants to survive — **hy·dro·phyt·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

¹hy·dro·plane \'hī-drə-ˌplān\ *n* **1** : HYDROFOIL **2 a** : a speedboat with hydrofoils or a stepped bottom so that the hull is raised wholly or partly out of the water **b** : a rudder on a horizontal axis on a submarine for steering it upward or downward **3** : SEAPLANE

²hydroplane *vi* **1 a** : to skim over the water with the hull more or less clear of the surface **b** *of a car* : to go out of control by skimming the surface of a wet road **2** : to drive or ride in a hydroplane — **hy·dro·plan·er** *n*

hy·dro·pon·ic \ˌhī-drə-'pän-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to hydroponics — **hy·dro·pon·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·dro·pon·ics \-'pän-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [*hydr-* + *-ponics* (as in *geoponics*)] : the growing of plants in nutrient solutions with or without an inert medium to provide mechanical support

hy·dro·qui·none \ˌhī-drō-kwin-'ōn, -'kwin-ˌōn\ *n* [ISV] : a white crystalline strongly reducing phenol $C_6H_6O_2$ used esp. as a photographic developer and as an antioxidant and stabilizer

hy·dro·scope \'hī-drə-ˌskōp\ *n* [ISV] : a mirror device for enabling a person to see an object at a considerable distance below the surface of water

hy·dro·sere \-ˌsi(ə)r\ *n* : an ecological sere originating in an aquatic habitat

hy·dro–ski \'hī-drō-ˌskē\ *n* : a hydrofoil attached below the fuselage of a seaplane to accelerate takeoffs

hy·dro·sol \'hī-drə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl\ *n* [*hydr-* + *-sol* (fr. *solution*)] : a sol in which the liquid is water — **hy·dro·sol·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'säl-ik\ *adj*

hy·dro·space \-ˌspās\ *n* [*hydr-* + *space*] : the regions beneath the surface of the ocean

hy·dro·sphere \-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : the aqueous vapor of the atmosphere; *broadly* : the aqueous envelope of the earth including bodies of water and aqueous vapor in the atmosphere — **hy·dro·spher·ic** \ˌhī-drə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj*

hy·dro·stat·ic \ˌhī-drə-'stat-ik\ *also* **hy·dro·stat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. NL *hydrostaticus*, fr. *hydr-* + *staticus* static] : of or relating to liquids at rest or to the pressures they exert or transmit — compare HYDROKINETIC — **hy·dro·stat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·dro·stat·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of physics that deals with the characteristics of liquids at rest and esp. with the pressure in a liquid or exerted by a liquid on an immersed body — compare HYDRODYNAMICS

hy·dro·sul·fide \ˌhī-drə-'səl-ˌfīd\ *n* [ISV] : a compound that contains the radical SH and is derived from hydrogen sulfide by the replacement of one of its hydrogen atoms by an element or radical

hy·dro·sul·fite \-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : a salt containing the radical S_2O_4; *esp* : a sodium salt used as a reducing and bleaching agent

hy·dro·tax·is \ˌhī-drə-'tak-səs\ *n* [NL] : a taxis in which moisture is the directive factor — **hy·dro·tac·tic** \-'tak-tik\ *adj*

hy·dro·ther·a·py \ˌhī-drə-'ther-ə-pē\ *n* [ISV] : the scientific use of water in the treatment of disease — compare HYDROPATHY

hy·dro·ther·mal \ˌhī-drə-'thər-məl\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to hot water — used esp. of the formation of minerals by hot solutions rising from a cooling magma — **hy·dro·ther·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

hy·dro·tho·rax \-'thō(ə)r-ˌaks, -'thȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [NL] : an excess of serous fluid in the pleural cavity; *esp* : an effusion resulting from failing circulation (as in heart disease or from lung infection)

hy·drot·ro·pism \hī-'drä-trə-ˌpiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : a tropism (as in plant roots) in which water or water vapor is the orienting factor — **hy·dro·tro·pic** \ˌhī-drə-'trō-pik, -'träp-ik\ *adj* — **hy·dro·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-'trō-pi-k(ə-)lē, -'träp-i-\ *adv*

hy·drous \'hī-drəs\ *adj* : containing water usu. chemically combined (as in hydrates)

hy·drox·ide \hī-'dräk-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a compound of hydroxyl with an element or radical **2** : any of various hydrated oxides regarded as containing hydroxyl

hydroxide ion *n* : the anion OH of basic hydroxides — called also *hydroxyl ion*

hy·droxy \hī-'dräk-sē\ *adj* [ISV, fr. *hydroxyl*] : HYDROXYL; *esp* : containing hydroxyl esp. in place of hydrogen — often used in combination ⟨*hydroxy*acetic acid⟩

hy·droxy·ap·a·tite \hī-ˌdräk-sē-'ap-ə-ˌtīt\ *n* : a complex phosphate of calcium $Ca_5(PO_4)_3OH$ that occurs as a mineral and is the chief structural element of vertebrate bone

hy·droxy·bu·tyr·ic acid \-byü-ˌtir-ik-\ *n* : a hydroxy derivative $C_4H_8O_3$ of butyric acid

hy·drox·yl \hī-'dräk-səl\ *n* [*hydr-* + *ox-* + *-yl*] : the univalent group or radical OH consisting of one atom of hydrogen and one of oxygen that is characteristic esp. of hydroxides, oxygen acids, alcohols, glycols, and phenols — **hy·drox·yl·ic** \ˌhī-ˌdräk-'sil-ik\ *adj*

hy·drox·yl·amine \hī-ˌdräk-sə-lə-'mēn, ˌhī-ˌdräk-'sil-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless odorless nitrogenous base NH_3O that resembles ammonia in its reactions but is less basic and that is used esp. as a reducing agent

hy·drox·y·lase \hī-'dräk-sə-ˌlās, -ˌlāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes the coupled oxidation of two compounds with incorporation of oxygen into one of them

hy·drox·yl·ate \hī-'dräk-sə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to introduce hydroxyl into — **hy·drox·yl·ation** \-ˌdräk-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*

hy·droxy·pro·line \hī-ˌdräk-sē-prō-ˌlēn\ *n* [*hydroxy-* + *proline*] : an amino acid $C_5H_9NO_3$ that occurs naturally as a constituent of collagen

hy·droxy·tryp·ta·mine \-'trip-tə-ˌmēn\ *n* : SEROTONIN

hy·droxy·urea \-yù-'rē-ə\ *n* : a compound $CH_4N_2O_2$ used as an antineoplastic agent in some forms of leukemia

hy·droxy·zine \hī-'dräk-sə-ˌzēn\ *n* [*hydroxy-* + piperazine] : a compound $C_{21}H_{27}ClN_2O_2$ used as an antihistaminic and tranquilizer

hy·dro·zo·an \ˌhī-drə-'zō-ən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *hydr-* + *zōion* animal — more at ZO-] : any of a class (Hydrozoa) of coelenterates that includes simple and compound polyps and jellyfishes having no stomodaeum or gastric tentacles — **hydrozoan** *adj*

hy·e·na \hī-'ē-nə\ *n* [L *hyaena*, fr. Gk *hyaina*, fr. *hys* hog —



hyena

more at SOW] : any of several large strong nocturnal carnivorous Old World mammals (family Hyaenidae) that usu. feed as scavengers — **hy·e·nic** \-'ē-nik, -'en-ik\ *adj* — **hy·e·noid** \-'ē-ˌnȯid\ *adj*

hyet- *or* **hyeto-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *hyetos*, fr. *hyein* to rain — more at SUCK] : rain ⟨*hyeto*logy⟩

Hy·ge·ia \hī-'jē-(y)ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hygieia*] : the goddess of health in Greek mythology

hy·giene \'hī-ˌjēn *also* hī-'\ *n* [F *hygiène* & NL *hygieina*, fr. Gk, neut. pl. of *hygieinos* healthful, fr. *hygiēs* healthy; akin to Skt *su* well and to L *vivus* living — more at QUICK] **1** : a science of the establishment and maintenance of health **2** : conditions or practices (as of cleanliness) conducive to health — **hy·gien·ic** \ˌhī-jē-'en-ik, hī-'jen-, hī-'jēn-\ *adj* — **hy·gien·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **hy·gien·ist** \hī-'jēn-əst, 'hī-ˌjēn-, hī-'jen-\ *n*

hy·gien·ics \ˌhī-jē-'en-iks, hī-'jen-, hī-'jēn-\ *n pl but sing in constr* : HYGIENE 1

hygr- *also* **hygro-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *hygros* wet — more at HUMOR] : humidity : moisture ⟨*hygro*scope⟩

hy·gro·graph \'hī-grə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for recording automatically variations in atmospheric humidity

hy·grom·e·ter \hī-'gräm-ət-ər\ *n* [prob. fr. F *hygromètre*, fr. *hygr-* + *-mètre* -meter] : any of several instruments for measuring the humidity of the atmosphere — **hy·gro·met·ric** \ˌhī-grə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **hy·grom·e·try** \hī-'gräm-ə-trē\ *n*

hy·groph·i·lous \hī-'gräf-ə-ləs\ *adj* : living or growing in moist places

hy·gro·phyte \'hī-grə-ˌfīt\ *n* [ISV] : HYDROPHYTE — **hy·gro·phyt·ic** \ˌhī-grə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

hy·gro·scope \'hī-grə-ˌskōp\ *n* : an instrument that shows changes in humidity (as of the atmosphere)

hy·gro·scop·ic \ˌhī-grə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* [fr. the use of such materials in the hygroscope] **1** : readily taking up and retaining moisture **2** : taken up and retained under some conditions of humidity and temperature ⟨~ water in clay⟩ — **hy·gro·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **hy·gro·scop·ic·i·ty** \-ˌskäp-'is-ət-ē\ *n*

hying *pres part of* HIE

Hyk·sos \'hik-ˌsäs, -ˌsōs\ *adj* [Gk *Hyksōs*, dynasty ruling Egypt, fr. Egypt *ḥqꜣ šꜣ*; *sw* ruler of the countries of the nomads] : of or relating to a Semite dynasty that ruled Egypt from about the 18th to the 16th century B.C.

hyl- *or* **hylo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *hylē*, lit., wood] : matter : material ⟨*hylo*morphous⟩

hy·la \'hī-lə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *hylē* wood] : any of a genus (*Hyla*) of tree frogs

hy·lo·zo·ism \ˌhī-lə-'zō-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [Gk *hylē* + *zōos* alive, living; akin to Gk *zōē* life — more at QUICK] : a doctrine held esp. by early Greek philosophers that all matter is animated — **hy·lo·zo·ist** \-'zō-əst\ *n* — **hy·lo·zo·is·tic** \-zō-'is-tik\ *adj*

hy·men \'hī-mən\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *hymēn* membrane] : a fold of mucous membrane partly closing the orifice of the vagina — **hy·men·al** \-mən-ᵊl\ *adj*

Hymen *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hymēn*] : the Greek god of marriage

¹hy·me·ne·al \ˌhī-mə-'nē-əl\ *adj* [L *hymenaeus* wedding song, wedding, fr. Gk *hymenaios*, fr. *Hymēn*] : NUPTIAL — **hy·me·ne·al·ly** \-'nē-ə-lē\ *adv*

²hymeneal *n* **1** *pl, archaic* : NUPTIALS **2** *archaic* : a wedding hymn

hy·me·ni·um \hī-'mē-nē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ *or* **-ni·ums** [NL, fr. Gk *hymēn* membrane] : a spore-bearing layer in fungi consisting of a group of asci or basidia often interspersed with sterile structures — **hy·me·ni·al** \-nē-əl\ *adj*

¹hy·me·nop·ter·an \ˌhī-mə-'näp-tə-rən\ *adj* : of or relating to hymenoptera

²hymenopteran *n* : HYMENOPTERON

hy·me·nop·ter·on \-tə-ˌrän, -rən\ *n, pl* **-tera** \-rə\ *also* **-ter·ons** [NL *hymenopteron*, fr. Gk, neut. of *hymenopteros* membrane-winged, fr. *hymēn* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : any of an order (Hymenoptera) of highly specialized insects with complete metamorphosis that include the bees, wasps, ants, ichneumon flies, sawflies, gall wasps, and related forms, often associate in large colonies with complex social organization, and have usu. four membranous wings and the abdomen generally borne on a slender pedicel — **hy·me·nop·ter·ous** \-rəs\ *adj*

¹hymn \'him\ *n* [ME *ymne*, fr. OF, fr. L *hymnus* song of praise, fr. Gk *hymnos*] **1 a** : a song of praise to God **b** : a metrical composition adapted for singing in a religious service **2** : a song of praise or joy **3** : something resembling a hymn : PAEAN

²hymn *vb* **hymned** \'himd\; **hymn·ing** \'him-iŋ\ *vt* : to praise or worship in hymns ~ *vi* : to sing a hymn

hym·nal \'him-nəl\ *n* [ME *hymnale*, fr. ML, fr. L *hymnus*] : a collection of church hymns

hym·na·ry \'him-nə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : HYMNAL

hymn·book \'him-ˌbu̇k\ *n* : HYMNAL

hym·no·dy \'him-nəd-ē\ *n* [LL *hymnodia*, fr. Gk *hymnōidia*, fr. *hymnos* + *aeidein* to sing — more at ODE] **1** : hymn singing **2** : hymn writing **3** : the hymns of a time, place, or church

hym·nol·o·gy \him-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *hymnologia* singing of hymns, fr. *hymnos* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : HYMNODY **2** : the study of hymns

hy·oid \'hī-ˌȯid\ *adj* [NL *hyoides* hyoid bone] : of or relating to the hyoid bone

hyoid bone *n* [NL *hyoides*, fr. Gk *hyoeidēs* shaped like the letter upsilon (Y, υ), being the hyoid bone, fr. *y, hy* upsilon] : a bone or complex of bones situated at the base of the tongue and supporting the tongue and its muscles

hy·o·scine \'hī-ə-ˌsēn\ *n* [ISV *hyoscyamine* + *-ine*] : SCOPOLAMINE; *esp* : the levorotatory form of scopolamine

hy·o·scy·a·mine \ˌhī-ə-'sī-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [G *hyoscyamin*, fr. NL *Hyoscyamus* genus of herbs, fr. L, henbane, fr. Gk *hyoskyamos*, lit., swine's bean, fr. *hyos* (gen. of *hys* swine) + *kyamos* bean — more at SOW] : a poisonous crystalline alkaloid $C_{17}H_{23}NO_3$; *esp* : its levorotatory form found esp. in belladonna and henbane and used similarly to atropine

¹hyp \'hip\ *n, archaic* : HYPOCHONDRIA — often used in pl.

²hyp *abbr* hypothesis; hypothetical

hyp- — see HYPO-

hyp·abys·sal \ˌhip-ə-'bis-əl, ˌhī-pə-\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to a fine-grained igneous rock usu. formed at a moderate distance below the surface — **hyp·abys·sal·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

hy·pae·thral \hī-'pē-thrəl\ *adj* [L *hypaethrus* exposed to the open air, fr. Gk *hypaithros*, fr. *hypo-* + *aithēr* ether, air — more at ETHER] **1** : having a roofless central space ⟨~ temple⟩ **2** : open to the sky **3** : OUTDOOR

hy·pan·thi·um \hī-'pan(t)-thē-əm\ *n, pl* **-thia** \-thē-ə\ [NL, fr. *hypo-* + *anth-* + *-ium*] : an enlargement of the floral receptacle bearing on its rim the stamens, petals, and sepals and often enlarging and surrounding the fruits (as in the rose hip) — **hy·pan·thi·al** \-thē-əl\ *adj*

¹hype \'hīp\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] **1** *slang* : HYPODERMIC **2** *slang* : a narcotics addict **3** : DECEPTION, PUT-ON **4** : a statement to promote sales : BLURB

²hype *vt* **hyped; hyp·ing** **1** : to put on : DECEIVE **2 a** : STIMULATE, ENLIVEN — usu. used with *up* **b** : INCREASE ⟨gimmicks designed to ~ attendance at the games⟩ **3** : to promote or publicize extravagantly — **hyped–up** \ˌhīp-'dəp\ *adj*

hyper- *prefix* [ME *iper-*, fr. L *hyper-*, fr. Gk, fr. *hyper* — more at OVER] **1** : above : beyond : SUPER- ⟨*hyper*physical⟩ **2 a** : excessively ⟨*hyper*sensitive⟩ **b** : excessive ⟨*hyper*emia⟩ **3** : that is or exists in a space of more than three dimensions ⟨*hyper*cube⟩ ⟨*hyper*space⟩

hy·per·ac·id \ˌhī-pə-'ras-əd\ *adj* : containing more than the normal amount of acid — **hy·per·acid·i·ty** \-rə-'sid-ət-ē\ *n*

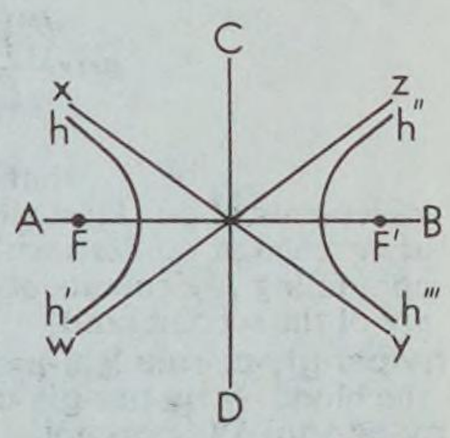
hy·per·ac·tive \ˌhī-pə-'rak-tiv\ *adj* : excessively or pathologically active — **hy·per·ac·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌrak-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*

hy·per·aes·the·sia *var of* HYPERESTHESIA

hy·per·al·do·ste·ron·ism \'hī-pə-ˌral-'däs-tə-ˌrō-ˌniz-əm, -ˌral-dō-stə-'rō-\ *n* : ALDOSTERONISM

hy·per·bar·ic \ˌhī-pər-'bar-ik\ *adj* [*hyper-* + *bar-* + *-ic*] : of, relating to, or utilizing greater than normal pressure esp. of oxygen ⟨~ medicine⟩ — **hy·per·bar·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·per·bo·la \hī-'pər-bə-lə\ *n, pl* **-las** *or* **-lae** \-(ˌ)lē\ [NL, fr. Gk *hyperbolē*] : a plane curve generated by a point so moving that the difference of the distances from two fixed points is a constant : a curve formed by the intersection of a double right circular cone with a plane that cuts both halves of the cone



hyperbola: *AB, CD* axes; *F, F′* foci; *xy, zw* asymptotes; *h, h′, h″, h‴* hyperbola

hy·per·bo·le \hī-'pər-bə-(ˌ)lē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *hyperbolē* excess, hyperbole, hyperbola, fr. *hyperballein* to exceed, fr. *hyper-* + *ballein* to throw — more at DEVIL] : extravagant exaggeration ⟨"mile-high ice-cream cones" is an example of ~⟩ — **hy·per·bo·list** \-ləst\ *n*

¹hy·per·bol·ic \ˌhī-pər-'bäl-ik\ *also* **hy·per·bol·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to hyperbole — **hy·per·bol·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²hyperbolic *also* **hyperbolical** *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being analogous to a hyperbola **2** : of, relating to, or being a space in which more than one line parallel to a given line passes through a point ⟨~ geometry⟩

hyperbolic function *n* : any of a set of six functions analogous to the trigonometric functions but related to the hyperbola in a way similar to that in which the trigonometric functions are related to a circle

hyperbolic paraboloid *n* : a saddle-shaped quadric surface whose sections by planes parallel to one coordinate plane are hyperbolas while those sections by planes parallel to the other two are parabolas if proper orientation of the coordinate axes is assumed

hy·per·bo·lize \hī-'pər-bə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lized; -liz·ing** *vi* : to indulge in hyperbole ~ *vt* : to exaggerate to a hyperbolic degree

hy·per·bo·loid \-ˌlȯid\ *n* : a quadric surface whose sections by planes parallel to one coordinate plane are ellipses while those sections by planes parallel to the other two are hyperbolas if proper orientation of the axes is assumed — **hy·per·bo·loi·dal** \(ˌ)hī-ˌpər-bə-'lȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

¹hy·per·bo·re·an \ˌhī-pər-'bōr-ē-ən, -'bȯr-; -(ˌ)pər-bə-'rē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an extreme northern region : FROZEN **2** : of or relating to any of the arctic peoples

²hyperborean *n* [L *Hyperborei* (pl.), fr. Gk *Hyperboreoi*, fr. *hyper-* + *Boreas*] **1** *often cap* : a member of a people held by the ancient Greeks to live beyond the north wind in a region of perpetual sunshine **2** : an inhabitant of a cool northern climate

hy·per·cal·ce·mia \ˌhī-pər-ˌkal-'sē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : an excess of calcium in the blood — **hy·per·cal·ce·mic** \-'sē-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·cap·nia \-'kap-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + Gk *kapnos* smoke] : the presence of excessive amounts of carbon dioxide in the blood — **hy·per·cap·nic** \-nik\ *adj*

hy·per·cat·a·lex·is \-ˌkat-ᵊl-'ek-səs\ *n, pl* **-lex·es** \-'ek-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *hyper-* + *catalexis*] : the occurrence of an additional syllable after the final complete foot or dipody in a line of verse — **hy·per·cat·a·lec·tic** \-'ek-tik\ *adj*

hy·per·charge \'hī-pər-ˌchärj\ *n* : a quantum characteristic of a closely related group of strongly interacting particles represented by a number equal to twice the average value of the electric charge of the group

hy·per·cho·les·ter·emia \ˌhī-pər-kə-ˌles-tə-'rē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIA — **hy·per·cho·les·ter·emic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·cho·les·ter·ol·emia \-tə-rə-'lē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : the presence of excess cholesterol in the blood — **hy·per·cho·les·ter·ol·emic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·chro·mic anemia \'hī-pər-ˌkrō-mik-\ *n* [NL *hyperchromia* excessive coloring, fr. *hyper-* + Gk *chrōma* color — more at CHROMATIC] : an anemia with increase of hemoglobin in individual red blood cells and reduction in the number of red blood cells

hy·per·com·plex \ˌhī-pər-'käm-ˌpleks\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the most general form of number that extends the complex number to an expression of the same type involving a finite number of units or components in which addition is by components and multiplication does not have all of the properties of real or complex numbers

hy·per·crit·ic \ˌhī-pər-'krit-ik\ *n* [NL *hypercriticus*, fr. *hyper-* + L *criticus* critic] : a carping or unduly censorious critic — **hy·per·crit·i·cism** \-'krit-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*

hy·per·crit·i·cal \-'krit-i-kəl\ *adj* : meticulously or excessively critical : censoriously critical *syn* see CRITICAL — **hy·per·crit·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·per·emia \ˌhī-pə-'rē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : excess of blood in a body part : CONGESTION — **hy·per·emic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·es·the·sia \ˌhī-pə-res-'thē-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + *-esthesia* (as in *anesthesia*)] : unusual or pathological sensitivity of the skin or of a particular sense — **hy·per·es·thet·ic** \-'thet-ik\ *adj*

hy·per·eu·tec·tic \ˌhī-pər-yü-'tek-tik\ *adj* : containing the minor component in excess of that contained in the eutectic mixture

hy·per·eu·tec·toid \-ˌtȯid\ *adj* : containing the minor component in excess of that contained in the eutectoid

hy·per·ex·cit·abil·i·ty \ˌhī-pə-rik-ˌsīt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : the state or condition of being unusually or excessively excitable

hy·per·fo·cal distance \ˌhī-pər-ˌfō-kəl-\ *n* [ISV] : the nearest distance upon which a photographic lens may be focused to produce satisfactory definition at infinity

hy·per·ga·my \hī-'pər-gə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : marriage into an equal or higher caste or social group

hy·per·geo·met·ric distribution \'hī-pər-ˌjē-ə-ˌme-trik-\ *n* : a function of the form

$$f(x) = \frac{\binom{M}{x}\binom{N-M}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}} \text{ where } \binom{M}{x} = \frac{M!}{x!(M-x)!}$$

that gives the probability of obtaining exactly x elements of one kind and $n - x$ elements of another if n elements are chosen at random without replacement from a finite population containing N elements of which M are of the first kind and $N - M$ are of the second kind

hy·per·gly·ce·mia \ˌhī-pər-glī-'sē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : excess of sugar in the blood — **hy·per·gly·ce·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·gol \'hī-pər-ˌgȯl, -ˌgōl\ *n* [G, fr. *hyper-* + *erg-* + *-ol*] : a hypergolic fluid propellant

hy·per·gol·ic \ˌhī-pər-'gäl-ik\ *adj* **1** : igniting upon contact of components without external aid (as a spark) **2** : of, relating to, or using hypergolic fuel — **hy·per·gol·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·per·in·su·lin·ism \ˌhī-pə-'rin(t)-s(ə-)lə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : the presence of excess insulin in the body resulting in hypoglycemia

Hy·pe·ri·on \hī-'pir-ē-ən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Hyperiōn*] : a Titan and the father by Thea of Aurora, Selene, and Helios

hy·per·ir·ri·ta·bil·i·ty \ˌhī-pə-ˌrir-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : abnormally great or uninhibited response to stimuli — **hy·per·ir·ri·ta·ble** \-'rir-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj*

hy·per·ker·a·to·sis \ˌhī-pər-ˌker-ə-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-'tō-ˌsēz\ [NL] : hypertrophy of the corneous layer of the skin — **hy·per·ker·a·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*

hy·per·ki·ne·sia \-kə-'nē-zh(ē-)ə, -kī-\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + Gk *kinēsis* motion—more at KINESIS] : abnormally increased and usu. purposeless and uncontrollable muscular movement

hy·per·ki·ne·sis \-'nē-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + Gk *kinēsis*] : HYPERKINESIA

hy·per·ki·net·ic \-'net-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by hyperkinesia

hy·per·li·pe·mia \ˌhī-pər-lī-'pē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + *lip-* + *-emia*] : the presence of excess fat or lipids in the blood — **hy·per·li·pe·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·lip·id·emia \-ˌlip-ə-'dē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *hyper-* + *lipid* + *-emia*] : HYPERLIPEMIA

hy·per·me·ter \hī-'pər-mət-ər\ *n* [LL *hypermetrus* hypercatalectic, fr. Gk *hypermetros* beyond measure, beyond the meter, fr. *hyper-* + *metron* measure, meter] **1** : a verse marked by hypercatalexis **2** : a period comprising more than two or three cola — **hy·per·met·ric** \ˌhī-pər-'me-trik\ *or* **hy·per·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj*

hy·per·me·tro·pia \ˌhī-pər-mi-'trō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, *hypermetros* + NL *-opia*] : HYPEROPIA — **hy·per·me·tro·pic** \-'trō-pik, -'träp-ik\ *or* **hy·per·me·tro·pi·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **hy·per·met·ro·py** \-'me-trə-pē\ *n*

hy·perm·ne·sia \ˌhī-(ˌ)pərm-'nē-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + *-mnesia* (as in *amnesia*)] : abnormally vivid or complete memory or recall of the past — **hy·perm·ne·sic** \-'nē-zik, -sik\ *adj*

hy·per·morph \'hī-pər-ˌmȯrf\ *n* **1** : ECTOMORPH **2** : a mutant gene having a similar but greater effect than the corresponding wild-type gene — **hy·per·mor·phic** \ˌhī-pər-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* — **hy·per·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n*

hy·per·on \'hī-pə-ˌrän\ *n* [prob. fr. *hyper-* + *-on*] : any of various elementary particles greater in mass than the proton or neutron

hy·per·ope \'hī-pə-ˌrōp\ *n* [back-formation fr. *hyperopia*] : one affected with hyperopia

hy·per·opia \ˌhī-pə-'rō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a condition in which visual images come to a focus behind the retina of the eye and vision is better for distant than for near objects — called also *farsightedness* — **hy·per·opic** \-'rō-pik, -'räp-ik\ *adj*

hy·per·os·to·sis \ˌhī-pə-ˌräs-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-'tō-ˌsēz\ [NL] : excessive growth or thickening of bone tissue — **hy·per·os·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*

hy·per·par·a·site \ˌhī-pər-'par-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* : a parasite that is parasitic upon another parasite — **hy·per·par·a·sit·ic** \-ˌpar-ə-'sit-ik\ *adj* — **hy·per·par·a·sit·ism** \-'par-ə-ˌsīt-ˌiz-əm, -sə-ˌtiz-\ *n*

hy·per·para·thy·roid·ism \-ˌpar-ə-'thī-ˌrȯid-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the presence of excess parathyroid hormone in the body resulting in disturbance of calcium metabolism with increase in serum calcium and decrease in inorganic phosphorus, loss of calcium from bone, and renal damage with frequent kidney-stone formation

hy·per·pha·gia \-'fā-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] : abnormally increased appetite for consumption of food frequently associated with injury to the hypothalamus — **hy·per·phag·ic** \-'faj-ik\ *adj*

hy·per·phys·i·cal \-'fiz-i-kəl\ *adj* : extending, lying beyond, or independent of the physical — **hy·per·phys·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·per·pi·tu·ita·rism \-pə-'t(y)ü-ət-ə-ˌriz-əm, -'t(y)ü-ə-ˌtriz-\ *n* [ISV] : excessive production of growth hormones by the pituitary gland — **hy·per·pi·tu·itary** \-'t(y)ü-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj*

hy·per·plane \'hī-pər-ˌplān\ *n* : a figure in hyperspace corresponding to a plane in ordinary space

hy·per·pla·sia \ˌhī-pər-'plā-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] : an abnormal or unusual increase in the elements composing a part (as tissue cells) — **hy·per·plas·tic** \-'plas-tik\ *adj*

hy·per·ploid \'hī-pər-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] : having a chromosome number slightly greater than an exact multiple of the monoploid number — **hyperploid** *n* — **hy·per·ploi·dy** \-ˌplȯid-ē\ *n*

hy·per·pnea \ˌhī-pər-'nē-ə, -ˌpərp-'nē-\ *n* [NL] : abnormally rapid or deep breathing — **hy·per·pne·ic** \-nē-ik\ *adj*

hy·per·po·lar·ize \ˌhī-pər-'pō-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* : to produce an increase in potential difference across (a biological membrane) ⟨a *hyperpolarized* nerve cell⟩ — **hy·per·po·lar·iza·tion** \-ˌpō-lə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

hy·per·py·ret·ic \-pī-'ret-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to hyperpyrexia

hy·per·py·rex·ia \-'rek-sē-ə\ *n* [NL] : exceptionally high fever (as for a particular disease)

hy·per·sen·si·tive \ˌhī-pər-'sen(t)-sət-iv, -'sen(t)-stiv\ *adj* **1** : excessively or abnormally sensitive **2** : abnormally susceptible to an antigen, drug, or other agent — **hy·per·sen·si·tive·ness** *n* — **hy·per·sen·si·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌsen(t)-sə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*

hy·per·sex·u·al \-'seksh-(ə-)wəl, -'sek-shəl\ *adj* : exhibiting unusual or excessive concern with or indulgence in sexual activity — **hy·per·sex·u·al·i·ty** \-ˌsek-shə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n*

hy·per·son·ic \-'sän-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of or relating to speed five or more times that of sound in air — compare SONIC **2** : moving, capable of moving, or utilizing air currents that move at hypersonic speed ⟨~ wind tunnel⟩ — **hy·per·son·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·per·space \'hī-pər-ˌspās\ *n* **1** : space of more than three dimensions **2** : space other than ordinary euclidean space

hy·per·sthene \'hī-pərs-ˌthēn\ *n* [F *hypersthène*, fr. Gk *hyper-* + *sthenos* strength] : an orthorhombic grayish or greenish black or dark brown pyroxene $(MgFe)SiO_3$ — **hy·per·sthe·nic** \ˌhī-pərs-'then-ik, -'thēn-\ *adj*

hy·per·sur·face \'hī-pər-ˌsər-fəs\ *n* : a figure that is the analogue in hyperspace of a surface in three-dimensional space

hy·per·ten·sion \'hī-pər-ˌten-chən\ *n* [ISV] : abnormally high blood pressure and esp. arterial blood pressure; *also* : the systemic condition accompanying high blood pressure — **hy·per·ten·sive** \ˌhī-pər-'ten(t)-siv\ *adj or n*

hy·per·ther·mia \ˌhī-pər-'thər-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hyper-* + *therm-* + *-ia*] : hyperpyrexia esp. when induced artificially for therapeutic purposes — **hy·per·ther·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·per·thy·roid \-'thī-ˌrȯid\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *hyperthyroidism*] : of or relating to hyperthyroidism

hy·per·thy·roid·ism \-ˌrȯid-ˌiz-əm, -rəd-\ *n* [ISV] : excessive functional activity of the thyroid gland; *also* : the resulting condition marked esp. by increased metabolic rate, enlargement of the thyroid gland, rapid heart rate, and high blood pressure

hy·per·ton·ic \ˌhī-pər-'tän-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : exhibiting excessive tone or tension ⟨a ~ baby⟩ ⟨a ~ bladder⟩ **2** : having a higher osmotic pressure than a surrounding medium or a fluid under comparison ⟨animals that produce a ~ urine⟩ — **hy·per·to·nic·i·ty** \-tə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*

¹hy·per·tro·phy \hī-'pər-trə-fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** [prob. fr. NL *hypertrophia*, fr. *hyper-* + *-trophia* -trophy] **1** : excessive development of an organ or part; *specif* : increase in bulk (as by thickening of muscle fibers) without multiplication of parts **2** : exaggerated growth or complexity — **hy·per·tro·phic** \ˌhī-pər-'trō-fik\ *adj*

²hypertrophy *vb* **-phied; -phy·ing** *vt* : to affect with hypertrophy ~ *vi* : to undergo hypertrophy

hy·per·uri·ce·mia \ˌhī-pər-ˌyůr-ə-'sē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : excess uric acid in the blood

hy·per·ve·loc·i·ty \-və-'läs-ət-ē, -'läs-tē\ *n* : a high or relatively high velocity; *esp* : one greater than 10,000 feet per second

hy·per·ven·ti·la·tion \-ˌvent-ᵊl-'ā-shən\ *n* : excessive ventilation; *specif* : excessive rate and depth of respiration leading to abnormal loss of carbon dioxide from the blood

hy·per·vi·ta·min·osis \-ˌvīt-ə-mə-'nō-səs\ *n, pl* **-oses** \-'nō-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *hyper-* + ISV *vitamin* + NL *-osis*] : an abnormal state resulting from excessive intake of one or more vitamins

hy·pha \'hī-fə\ *n, pl* **hy·phae** \-(ˌ)fē\ [NL, fr. Gk *hyphē* web; akin to Gk *hyphos* web — more at WEAVE] : one of the threads that make up the mycelium of a fungus, increase by apical growth, and are coenocytic or transversely septate — **hy·phal** \-fəl\ *adj*

¹hy·phen \'hī-fən\ *n* [LL & Gk; LL, fr. Gk, fr. *hyph' hen* under one, fr. *hypo* under + *hen*, neut. of *heis* one — more at UP, SAME] **1** : a punctuation mark - used to divide or to compound words, word elements, or numbers — **hy·phen·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²hyphen *vt* : HYPHENATE

hy·phen·ate \'hī-fə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to connect or separate with a hyphen — **hy·phen·ation** \ˌhī-fə-'nā-shən\ *n*

hy·phen·at·ed *adj* [fr. the use of hyphenated words (as German-American) to designate foreign-born citizens of the U.S.] : of, relating to, or being an individual or unit of mixed or diverse background or composition ⟨~ citizens formerly suspected of having conflicting loyalties⟩

hypn- *or* **hypno-** *comb form* [F, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *hypnos* — more at SOMNOLENT] **1 :** sleep ⟨*hypno*phobia⟩ **2 :** hypnotism ⟨*hypno*genesis⟩

hyp·na·go·gic *or* **hyp·no·go·gic** \ˌhip-nə-ˈgäj-ik, -ˈgō-jik\ *adj* [F *hypnagogique*, fr. Gk *hypn-* + *-agōgos* leading, inducing, fr. *agein* to lead — more at AGENT] : of, relating to, or associated with the drowsiness preceding sleep

hyp·no·anal·y·sis \ˌhip-nō-ə-ˈnal-ə-səs\ *n* : the treatment of mental disease by hypnosis and psychoanalytical methods

hyp·no·gen·e·sis \-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the induction of a hypnotic state — **hyp·no·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* — **hyp·no·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hyp·noid \ˈhip-ˌnȯid\ *or* **hyp·noi·dal** \hip-ˈnȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to sleep or hypnosis

hyp·no·pom·pic \ˌhip-nə-ˈpäm-pik\ *adj* [*hypn-* + Gk *pompē* act of sending — more at POMP] : associated with the semiconsciousness preceding waking ⟨~ illusions⟩

hyp·no·sis \hip-ˈnō-səs\ *n, pl* **-no·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] **1 :** a state that resembles sleep but is induced by a hypnotizer whose suggestions are readily accepted by the subject **2 :** any of various conditions that resemble sleep **3 :** HYPNOTISM 1

hyp·no·ther·a·py \ˌhip-nō-ˈther-ə-pē\ *n* **1 :** the treatment of disease by hypnotism **2 :** psychotherapy that facilitates suggestion, reeducation, or analysis by means of hypnosis

¹hyp·not·ic \hip-ˈnät-ik\ *adj* [F or LL; F *hypnotique*, fr. LL *hypnoticus*, fr. Gk *hypnōtikos*, fr. *hypnoun* to put to sleep, fr. *hypnos*] **1 :** tending to produce sleep : SOPORIFIC **2 :** of or relating to hypnosis or hypnotism — **hyp·not·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²hypnotic *n* **1 :** a sleep-inducing agent : SOPORIFIC **2 :** one that is or can be hypnotized

hyp·no·tism \ˈhip-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1 :** the study or act of inducing hypnosis — compare MESMERISM **2 :** HYPNOSIS 1 — **hyp·no·tist** \-təst\ *n*

hyp·no·tize \-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** **1 :** to induce hypnosis in **2 :** to dazzle or overcome by or as if by suggestion ⟨a voice that ~*s* its hearers⟩ ⟨drivers *hypnotized* by speed⟩ — **hyp·no·tiz·able** \-ˌtī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **hyp·no·ti·za·tion** \ˌhip-nət-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **hyp·no·tiz·er** \ˈhip-nə-ˌtī-zər\ *n*

¹hy·po \ˈhī-(ˌ)pō\ *n, pl* **hypos** : HYPOCHONDRIA

²hypo *n, pl* **hypos** [short for *hyposulfite*] : sodium thiosulfate used as a fixing agent in photography

³hypo *n, pl* **hypos** **1 :** HYPODERMIC SYRINGE **2 :** HYPODERMIC INJECTION **3 :** STIMULUS

⁴hypo *vt* : STIMULATE ⟨do everything possible to ~ the economy — Clem Morgello⟩

hypo- *or* **hyp-** *prefix* [ME *ypo-*, fr. OF, fr. LL *hypo-*, *hyp-*, fr. Gk, fr. *hypo* — more at UP] **1 :** under : beneath : down ⟨*hypo*blast⟩ ⟨*hypo*dermic⟩ **2 :** less than normal or normally ⟨*hypo*esthesia⟩ ⟨*hypo*tension⟩ **3 :** in a lower state of oxidation : in a low and usu. the lowest position in a series of compounds ⟨*hypo*nitrous acid⟩ ⟨*hypox*anthine⟩

hy·po·blast \ˈhī-pə-ˌblast\ *n* : the endoderm of an embryo — **hy·po·blas·tic** \ˌhī-pə-ˈblas-tik\ *adj*

hy·po·bran·chi·al \ˌhī-pō-ˈbraŋ-kē-əl\ *adj* : situated below the gills; *specif* : of or relating to the ventral wall of the pharynx — **hypobranchial** *n*

hy·po·cal·ce·mia \-ˌkal-ˈsē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a deficiency of calcium in the blood — **hy·po·cal·ce·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·po·caust \ˈhī-pə-ˌkȯst\ *n* [L *hypocaustum*, fr. Gk *hypokauston*, fr. *hypokaiein* to light a fire under, fr. *hypo-* + *kaiein* to burn — more at CAUSTIC] : an ancient Roman central heating system with underground furnace and tile flues to distribute the heat

hy·po·cen·ter \ˈhī-pə-ˌsent-ər\ *n* **1 :** the point on the earth's surface directly below the center of a nuclear bomb explosion **2 :** the focus of an earthquake — **hy·po·cen·tral** \ˌhī-pə-ˈsen-trəl\ *adj*

hy·po·chlo·rite \ˌhī-pə-ˈklō(ə)r-ˌīt, -ˈklȯ(ə)r-\ *n* : a salt or ester of hypochlorous acid

hypochlorous acid \-ˌklōr-əs-, -ˌklȯr-\ *n* [ISV] : an unstable strongly oxidizing but weak acid HClO obtained in solution along with hydrochloric acid by reaction of chlorine with water and used esp. in the form of salts as an oxidizing agent, bleaching agent, disinfectant, and chlorinating agent

hy·po·chon·dria \ˌhī-pə-ˈkän-drē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. LL, pl., upper abdomen (formerly regarded as the seat of hypochondria), fr. Gk, lit., the parts under the cartilage (of the breastbone), fr. *hypo-* + *chondros* cartilage — more at GRIND] : extreme depression of mind or spirits often centered on imaginary physical ailments; *specif* : HYPOCHONDRIASIS

¹hy·po·chon·dri·ac \-drē-ˌak\ *adj* [F *hypochondriaque*, fr. Gk *hypochondriakos*, fr. *hypochondria*] **1 a :** situated below the costal cartilages **b :** of, relating to, or being the two regions of the abdomen lying on either side of the epigastric region and above the lumbar regions **2 :** affected or produced by hypochondria

²hypochondriac *n* : one affected by hypochondria

hy·po·chon·dri·a·cal \-kən-ˈdrī-ə-kəl, -ˌkän-\ *adj* : HYPOCHONDRIAC 2 — **hy·po·chon·dri·a·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·po·chon·dri·a·sis \-ˈdrī-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *hypochondria* + *-iasis*] : morbid concern about one's health esp. when accompanied by delusions of physical disease

hypochromic anemia \ˌhī-pə-ˌkrō-mik-\ *n* : an anemia marked by deficient hemoglobin and usu. microcytic red blood cells

hy·po·co·rism \hī-ˈpäk-ə-ˌriz-əm; ˌhī-pə-ˈkō(ə)r-ˌiz-, -ˈkȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [LL *hypocorisma*, fr. Gk *hypokorisma*, fr. *hypokorizesthai* to call by pet names, fr. *hypo-* + *korizesthai* to caress, fr. *koros* boy, *korē* girl] **1 :** a pet name **2 :** the use of pet names — **hy·po·co·ris·tic** \ˌhī-pə-kə-ˈris-tik\ *or* **hy·po·co·ris·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **hy·po·co·ris·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hy·po·cot·yl \ˈhī-pə-ˌkät-ᵊl\ *n* [ISV *hypo-* + *cotyl*edon] : the part of the axis of a plant embryo or seedling below the cotyledon — see PLUMULE illustration

hy·poc·ri·sy \hip-ˈäk-rə-sē *also* hī-ˈpäk-\ *n, pl* **-sies** [ME *ypocrisie*, fr. OF, fr. LL *hypocrisis*, fr. Gk *hypokrisis* act of playing a part on the stage, hypocrisy, fr. *hypokrinesthai* to answer, act on the stage, fr. *hypo-* + *krinein* to decide — more at CERTAIN] **1 :** a feigning to be what one is not or to believe what one does not; *esp* : the false assumption of an appearance of virtue or religion **2 :** an act or instance of hypocrisy

hyp·o·crite \ˈhip-ə-ˌkrit\ *n* [ME *ypocrite*, fr. OF, fr. LL *hypocrita*, fr. Gk *hypokritēs* actor, hypocrite, fr. *hypokrinesthai*] : one who affects virtues or qualities he does not have : DISSEMBLER — **hypocrite** *adj*

hyp·o·crit·i·cal \ˌhip-ə-ˈkrit-i-kəl\ *adj* : characterized by hypocrisy ⟨affected a ~ regret⟩; *also* : being a hypocrite ⟨a most ~ liar⟩ — **hyp·o·crit·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn HYPOCRITICAL, SANCTIMONIOUS, PHARISAICAL, CANTING *shared meaning element* : affecting more virtue or religious devotion than one actually possesses

hy·po·cy·cloid \ˌhī-pō-ˈsī-ˌklȯid\ *n* : a curve traced by a point on the circumference of a circle rolling internally on a fixed circle

hy·po·derm \ˈhī-pə-ˌdərm\ *n* [NL *hypoderma*, fr. *hypo-* + *-derma*] : HYPODERMIS 1

hy·po·der·mal \ˌhī-pə-ˈdər-məl\ *adj* **1 :** of or relating to a hypodermis **2 :** lying beneath an outer skin or epidermis ⟨~ infections of cattle⟩

¹hy·po·der·mic \-mik\ *adj* [ISV] **1 :** of or relating to the parts beneath the skin **2 :** adapted for use in or administered by injection beneath the skin **3 :** resembling a hypodermic injection in effect : STIMULATING — **hy·po·der·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²hypodermic *n* **1 :** HYPODERMIC INJECTION **2 :** HYPODERMIC SYRINGE

hypodermic injection *n* : an injection made into the subcutaneous tissues

hypodermic needle *n* **1 :** NEEDLE 1c(2) **2 :** a hypodermic syringe complete with needle

hypodermic syringe *n* : a small syringe used with a hollow needle for injection of material into or beneath the skin

hy·po·der·mis \ˌhī-pə-ˈdər-məs\ *n* [NL] **1 :** the tissue immediately beneath the epidermis of a plant esp. when modified to serve as a supporting and protecting layer **2 :** the cellular layer that underlies and secretes the chitinous cuticle (as of an arthropod) **3 :** SUPERFICIAL FASCIA

hy·po·dip·loid \ˌhī-pō-ˈdip-ˌlȯid\ *adj* : having slightly fewer than the diploid number of chromosomes — **hy·po·dip·loi·dy** \-ˌlȯid-ē\ *n*

hy·po·eu·tec·tic \ˌhī-pō-yü-ˈtek-tik\ *adj* : containing the minor component in an amount less than in the eutectic mixture

hy·po·eu·tec·toid \-ˈtek-ˌtȯid\ *adj* : containing the minor component in an amount less than that contained in the eutectoid

hy·po·gas·tric \ˌhī-pə-ˈgas-trik\ *adj* [F *hypogastrique*, fr. *hypogastre* hypogastric region, fr. Gk *hypogastrion*, fr. *hypo-* + *gastr-*, *gastēr* belly — more at GASTRIC] : of or relating to the lower median region of the abdomen

hy·po·ge·al \ˌhī-pə-ˈjē-əl\ *or* **hy·po·ge·an** \-ˈjē-ən\ *or* **hy·po·ge·ous** \-ˈjē-əs\ *adj* [LL *hypogeus* subterranean, fr. Gk *hypogaios*, fr. *hypo-* + *gē* earth] **1 :** growing or living below the surface of the ground **2** *of a cotyledon* : remaining below the ground while the epicotyl elongates — **hy·po·ge·al·ly** \-ˈjē-ə-lē\ *adv*

hy·po·gene \ˈhī-pə-ˌjēn\ *adj* [*hypo-* + Gk *-genēs* born, produced — more at -GEN] : formed, crystallized, or lying at depths below the earth's surface : PLUTONIC — used of various rocks

hy·po·ge·um \ˌhī-pə-ˈjē-əm\ *n, pl* **-gea** \-ˈjē-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *hypogaion*, fr. neut. of *hypogaios*] : the subterranean part of an ancient building; *also* : an ancient underground burial chamber

hy·po·glos·sal \ˌhī-pə-ˈgläs-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the hypoglossal nerves

hypoglossal nerve *n* : either of the 12th and final pair of cranial nerves which are motor nerves arising from the medulla oblongata and supplying muscles of the tongue in higher vertebrates — called also *hypoglossal*

hy·po·gly·ce·mia \ˌhī-pō-glī-ˈsē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : abnormal decrease of sugar in the blood — **hy·po·gly·ce·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

hy·pog·na·thous \hī-ˈpäg-nə-thəs\ *adj* : having the lower jaw longer than the upper

hy·pog·y·nous \hī-ˈpäj-ə-nəs\ *adj* **1** *of a floral organ* : inserted upon the receptacle or axis below the gynoecium and free from it **2 :** having hypogynous floral organs — **hy·pog·y·ny** \-nē\ *n*

hy·po·lim·ni·on \ˌhī-pō-ˈlim-nē-ˌän, -nē-ən\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-nē-ə\ [NL, fr. *hypo-* + Gk *limnion*, dim. of *limnē* lake — more at LIMNETIC] : the part of a lake below the thermocline made up of water that is stagnant and of essentially uniform temperature except during the period of overturn

hy·po·ma·nia \ˌhī-pə-ˈmā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL] : a mild mania — **hy·po·man·ic** \-ˈman-ik\ *adj*

hy·po·morph \ˈhī-pə-ˌmȯrf\ *n* **1 :** ENDOMORPH **2 :** a mutant gene having a similar but weaker effect than the corresponding wild-type gene — **hy·po·mor·phic** \ˌhī-pə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj*

hy·po·ni·trite \ˌhī-pō-ˈnī-ˌtrīt\ *n* : a salt or ester of hyponitrous acid

hy·po·ni·trous acid \ˌhī-pō-ˌnī-trəs-\ *n* : an explosive crystalline weak acid $H_2N_2O_2$ obtained usu. in the form of its salts

hy·po·para·thy·roid·ism \ˈhī-pō-ˌpar-ə-ˈthī-ˌrȯid-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : deficiency of parathyroid hormone in the body; *also* : the resultant abnormal state marked by low serum calcium and a tendency to chronic tetany

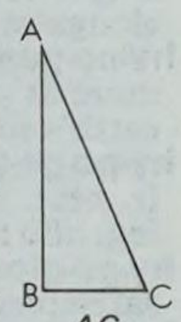
hy·po·phar·ynx \-ˈfar-iŋ(k)s\ *n* [NL] **1 :** an appendage or thickened fold on the floor of the mouth of many insects that resembles a tongue **2 :** the pharyngeal end of the esophagus

hy·poph·y·se·al \(ˌ)hī-ˌpäf-ə-ˈsē-əl\ *also* **hy·po·phys·i·al** \ˌhī-pə-ˈfiz-ē-əl\ *adj* [irreg. fr. NL *hypophysis*] : of or relating to the hypophysis

hy·poph·y·sec·to·mize \(ˌ)hī-ˌpäf-ə-ˈsek-tə-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** : to remove the pituitary body from

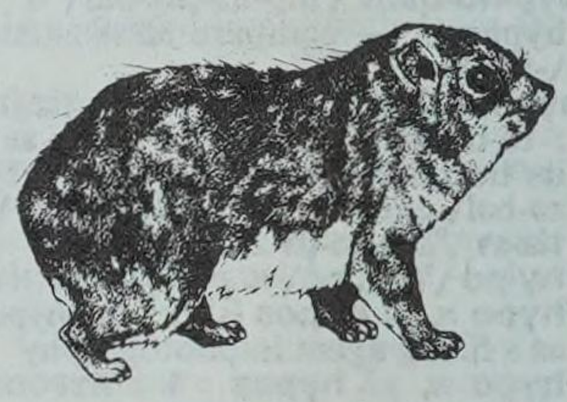
hy·poph·y·sec·to·my \-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : surgical removal of the pituitary body

hy·poph·y·sis \hī-'päf-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-y·ses** \-,sēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, attachment underneath, fr. *hypophyein* to grow beneath, fr. *hypo-* + *phyein* to grow, produce — more at BE] : PITUITARY GLAND
hy·po·pi·tu·ita·rism \,hī-pō-pə-'t(y)ü-ət-ə-,riz-əm, -'t(y)ü-ə-,triz-\ *n* [ISV] : deficient production of growth hormones by the pituitary body — **hy·po·pi·tu·itary** \-'t(y)ü-ə-,ter-ē\ *adj*
hy·po·pla·sia \-'plā-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] : a condition of arrested development in which an organ or part remains below the normal size or in an immature state — **hy·po·plas·tic** \-'plas-tik\ *adj*
hy·po·ploid \'hī-pō-,plȯid\ *adj* : having a chromosome number slightly less than an exact multiple of the monoploid number — **hypoploid** *n* — **hy·po·ploi·dy** \-,plȯid-ē\ *n*
hy·po·sen·si·tize \-'sen(t)-sə-,tīz\ *vt* : to reduce the sensitivity of esp. to an allergen : DESENSITIZE — **hy·po·sen·si·ti·za·tion** \-,sen(t)-sət-ə-'zā-shən, -,sen(t)-stə-'zā-\ *n*
hy·pos·ta·sis \hī-'päs-tə-səs\ *n, pl* **-ta·ses** \-,sēz\ [LL, substance, sediment, fr. Gk, support, foundation, substance, sediment, fr. *hyphistasthai* to stand under, support, fr. *hypo-* + *histasthai* to be standing — more at STAND] **1 a** : something that settles at the bottom of a fluid **b** : the settling of blood in the dependent parts of an organ or body **2** : PERSON 3 **3 a** : the substance or essential nature of an individual **b** : something that is hypostatized **4** [NL, fr. LL] : failure of a gene to produce its usual effect when coupled with another gene that is epistatic toward it — **hy·po·static** \,hī-pə-'stat-ik\ *or* **hy·po·stat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **hy·po·stat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hy·pos·ta·tize \hī-'päs-tə-,tīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [Gk *hypostatos* substantially existing, fr. *hyphistasthai*] : to construe (a conceptual entity) as a real existent : REIFY — **hy·pos·ta·ti·za·tion** \-,päs-tət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*
hy·po·stome \'hī-pə-,stōm\ *n* [ISV *hypo-* + *-stome* (fr. Gk *stoma* mouth) — more at STOMACH] : any of several structures associated with the mouth: as **a** : the labrum of a trilobite or crustacean **b** : the manubrium of a hydrozoan **c** : a rodlike organ that arises at the base of the beak in various mites and ticks
hy·po·style \'hī-pə-,stīl\ *adj* [Gk *hypostylos*, fr. *hypo-* + *stylos* pillar — more at STEER] : having the roof resting on rows of columns — **hypostyle** *n*
hy·po·sul·fite \,hī-pō-'səl-,fīt\ *n* [*hyposulfurous acid*] **1** : THIOSULFATE — used esp. in photography **2** : HYDROSULFITE
hy·po·tac·tic \,hī-pə-'tak-tik\ *adj* [Gk *hypotaktikos*, fr. *hypotassein*] : of or relating to hypotaxis
hy·po·tax·is \-'tak-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, subjection, fr. *hypotassein* to arrange under, fr. *hypo-* + *tassein* to arrange — more at TACTICS] : syntactic subordination (as by a conjunction)
hy·po·ten·sion \'hī-pō-,ten-chən\ *n* [ISV] : deficiency of tension; *specif* : abnormally low blood pressure
[1]hy·po·ten·sive \,hī-pō-'ten(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : characterized by or due to hypotension **2** : causing low blood pressure or a lowering of blood pressure ⟨~ drugs⟩
[2]hypotensive *n* : a person with hypotension
hy·pot·e·nuse \hī-'pät-ᵊn-,(y)üs, -,(y)üz\ *also* **hy·poth·e·nuse** \-'päth-ən-\ *n* [L *hypotenusa*, fr. Gk *hypoteinousa*, fr. fem. of *hypoteinōn*, prp. of *hypoteinein* to subtend, fr. *hypo-* + *teinein* to stretch — more at THIN] : the side of a right-angled triangle that is opposite the right angle



AC
hypotenuse

hy·po·tha·lam·ic \,hī-pō-thə-'lam-ik\ *adj* **1** : located below the thalamus **2** : of or relating to the hypothalamus
hy·po·thal·a·mus \-'thal-ə-məs\ *n* [NL] : a basal part of the diencephalon that lies beneath the thalamus on each side, forms the floor of the third ventricle, and is usu. considered to include vital autonomic regulatory centers
[1]hy·poth·e·cate \hip-'äth-ə-,kāt, hīp-\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [ML *hypothecare* to pledge, fr. LL *hypotheca* pledge, fr. Gk *hypothēkē*, fr. *hypotithenai* to put under, deposit as a pledge] : to pledge without delivery of title or possession; *specif* : to pledge (a ship) by a bottomry bond — **hy·poth·e·ca·tion** \-,äth-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **hy·poth·e·ca·tor** \-'äth-ə-,kāt-ər\ *n*
[2]hy·poth·e·cate \hī-'päth-ə-,kāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [Gk *hypothēkē* suggestion, fr. *hypotithenai*] : HYPOTHESIZE
hy·po·ther·mal \,hī-pō-'thər-məl\ *adj* : of or relating to a hydrothermal metalliferous ore vein deposited at high temperature
hy·po·ther·mia \-'thər-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *hypo-* + *therm-* + *-ia*] : subnormal temperature of the body — **hy·po·ther·mic** \-mik\ *adj*
hy·poth·e·sis \hī-'päth-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-e·ses** \-,sēz\ [Gk, fr. *hypotithenai* to put under, suppose, fr. *hypo-* + *tithenai* to put — more at DO] **1** : a tentative assumption made in order to draw out and test its logical or empirical consequences **2 a** : an assumption or concession made for the sake of argument **b** : an interpretation of a practical situation or condition taken as the ground for action
syn HYPOTHESIS, THEORY, LAW *shared meaning element* : a formulation of a natural principle based on inference from observed data
hy·poth·e·size \-,sīz\ *vb* **-sized; -siz·ing** *vi* : to make a hypothesis ~ *vt* : to adopt as a hypothesis
hy·po·thet·i·cal \,hī-pə-'thet-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : involving logical hypothesis : CONDITIONAL **2** : of or depending on supposition : CONJECTURAL — **hy·po·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hy·po·thy·roid \,hī-pō-'thī-,rȯid\ *adj* : of, relating to, or affected with hypothyroidism
hy·po·thy·roid·ism \-,iz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : deficient activity of the thyroid gland; *also* : a resultant lowered metabolic rate and general loss of vigor
hy·po·ton·ic \,hī-pə-'tän-ik, -pō-\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : having deficient tone or tension ⟨~ children⟩ **2** : having a lower osmotic pressure than a surrounding medium or a fluid under comparison ⟨~ organisms⟩ — **hy·po·ton·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **hy·po·to·nic·i·ty** \-tə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*
hy·pot·ro·phy \hī-'pä-trə-fē\ *n* [ISV] : subnormal growth
hy·po·xan·thine \,hī-pō-'zan-,thēn\ *n* [ISV] : a purine base $C_5H_4N_4O$ found in plant and animal tissues that yields xanthine on oxidation
hyp·ox·emia \,hip-,äk-'sē-mē-ə, ,hī-,päk-\ *n* [NL, fr. *hypo-* + *ox-* + *-emia*] : deficient oxygenation of the blood — **hyp·ox·emic** \-mik\ *adj*
hyp·ox·ia \hip-'äk-sē-ə, hī-'päk-\ *n* [NL, fr. *hypo-* + *ox-*] : a deficiency of oxygen reaching the tissues of the body — **hyp·ox·ic** \-sik\ *adj*
hyps- *or* **hypsi-** *or* **hypso-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *hypsos* height; akin to OE *ūp* up] : height ⟨*hypso*graphy⟩
hyp·sog·ra·phy \hip-'säg-rə-fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** [ISV] **1** : a branch of geography that deals with the measurement and mapping of the varying elevations of the earth's surface **2** : topographic relief or the devices (as color shadings) by which it is indicated on maps
hyp·som·e·ter \hip-'säm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] **1** : an apparatus for estimating elevations in mountainous regions from the boiling points of liquids **2** : any of various instruments for determining the height of trees by triangulation
hyp·som·e·try \hip-'säm-ə-trē\ *n* : the measurement of heights (as with reference to sea level) — **hyp·so·met·ric** \,hip-sə-'me-trik\ *adj*
hy·rax \'hī-,raks\ *n, pl* **hy·rax·es** \-,rak-səz\ *also* **hy·ra·ces** \-rə-,sēz\ [Gk *hyrak-, hyrax* shrewmouse] : any of several small ungulate mammals (order Hyracoidea) characterized by thickset body with short legs and ears and rudimentary tail, feet with soft pads and broad nails, and teeth of which the molars resemble those of the rhinoceros and the incisors those of rodents — called also *coney*


hyrax

hy·son \'hīs-ᵊn\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *hsi*[1] *ch'un*[1], lit., flourishing spring] : a Chinese green tea made from thinly rolled and twisted leaves
hys·sop \'his-əp\ *n* [ME *ysop*, fr. OE *ysope*, fr. L *hyssopus*, fr. Gk *hyssōpos*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *ēzōbh* hyssop] **1** : a plant used in purificatory sprinkling rites by the ancient Hebrews **2** : a European mint (*Hyssopus officinalis*) that has highly aromatic and pungent leaves and is sometimes used as a potherb
hyster- *or* **hystero-** *comb form* [F or L; F *hystér-*, fr. L *hyster-*, fr. Gk, fr. *hystera*] **1** : womb ⟨*hystero*tomy⟩ **2** [NL, fr. *hysteria*] **a** : hysteria ⟨*hystero*genic⟩ **b** : hysteria and ⟨*hystero*neurasthenia⟩
hys·ter·ec·to·mize \,his-tə-'rek-tə-,mīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** : to remove the uterus of by surgery
hys·ter·ec·to·my \-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : surgical removal of the uterus
hys·ter·e·sis \,his-tə-'rē-səs\ *n, pl* **-e·ses** \-,sēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *hysterēsis* shortcoming, fr. *hysterein* to be late, fall short, fr. *hysteros* later — more at OUT] : a retardation of the effect when the forces acting upon a body are changed (as if from viscosity or internal friction); *esp* : a lagging in the values of resulting magnetization in a magnetic material (as iron) due to a changing magnetizing force — **hys·ter·et·ic** \-'ret-ik\ *adj*
hys·te·ria \his-'ter-ē-ə, -'tir-\ *n* [NL, fr. E *hysteric*, adj., fr. L *hystericus*, fr. Gk *hysterikos*, fr. *hystera* womb; fr. the former notion that hysteric women were suffering from disturbances of the womb] **1** : a psychoneurosis marked by emotional excitability and disturbances of the psychic, sensory, vasomotor, and visceral functions **2** : unmanageable fear or emotional excess — **hys·teric** \-'ter-ik\ *n* — **hys·ter·i·cal** \-'ter-i-kəl\ *also* **hysteric** *adj* — **hys·ter·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
hys·ter·ics \-'ter-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a fit of uncontrollable laughter or crying : HYSTERIA
hys·ter·oid \'his-tə-,rȯid\ *adj* : resembling hysteria
hys·ter·on prot·er·on \,his-tə-,rän-'prät-ə-,rän, -tə-rən-'prät-ə-rən\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, lit., (the) later earlier, (the) latter first] **1** : a figure of speech consisting of the reversal of a natural or rational order (as in "then came the thunder and the lightning") **2** : a logical fallacy of assuming as a premise something that follows from what is to be proved
hys·tero·tely \'his-tə-rō-,tel-ē\ *n, pl* **-tel·ies** [Gk *hysteros* later + *telein* to complete, perfect, fr. *telos* end — more at WHEEL] : relatively retarded differentiation of a structure so as to exhibit a form usu. associated with an earlier stage of development
hys·ter·ot·o·my \,his-tə-'rät-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [NL *hysterotomia*, fr. *hyster-* + *-tomia* -tomy] : surgical incision of the uterus; *esp* : CESAREAN
Hz *abbr* hertz

I

[1]i \ˈī\ *n, pl* **i's** *or* **is** \ˈīz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 9th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *i* **2** : ONE — see NUMBER table **3** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *i* **4** : one designated *i* esp. as the 9th in order or class **5** : something shaped like the letter I **6** : a unit vector parallel to the x-axis **7** [abbr. for *incomplete*] **a** : a grade rating a student's work as incomplete **b** : one graded or rated with an I **8** : I FORMATION

[2]i *abbr, often cap* **1** Indian **2** industrial **3** initial **4** intelligence **5** intensity **6** interstate **7** intransitive **8** island; isle **9** Israeli

[3]i *symbol* positive square root of minus one

[1]I \(ˈ)ī, ə\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *ic;* akin to OHG *ih* I, L *ego*, Gk *egō*] : the one who is speaking or writing ⟨~ feel fine⟩ — compare ME, MINE, MY, WE

[2]I \ˈī\ *n, pl* **I's** *or* **Is** \ˈīz\ : someone aware of possessing a personal individuality : SELF

[3]I *symbol* **1** electric current **2** iodine

-i- [ME, fr. OF, fr. L, stem vowel of most nouns and adjectives in combination] — used as a connective vowel to join word elements esp. of Latin origin ⟨matr*i*linear⟩ ⟨rat*i*cide⟩

Ia *or* **IA** *abbr* Iowa

[1]-ia *n suffix* [NL, fr. L & Gk, suffix forming feminine nouns] **1** : pathological condition ⟨hyster*ia*⟩ **2** : genus of plants or animals ⟨Fuchs*ia*⟩ **3** : territory : world : society ⟨suburb*ia*⟩

[2]-ia *n pl suffix* [NL, fr. L (neut. pl. of *-ius*, adj. ending) & Gk, neut. pl. of *-ios*, adj. ending] **1** : higher taxon (as class or order) consisting of (such plants or animals) ⟨Saur*ia*⟩ **2** : things derived from or relating to (something specified) ⟨tabloid*ia*⟩

[3]-ia *pl of* -IUM

IAA *abbr* indoleacetic acid

IAAF *abbr* International Amateur Athletic Federation

IABA *abbr* International Amateur Boxing Association

IACU *abbr* International Association of Catholic Universities

IADB *abbr* Inter-American Defense Board

IAEA *abbr* International Atomic Energy Agency

Ia·go \ē-ˈäg-(ˌ)ō\ *n* : the villain of Shakespeare's tragedy *Othello*

-ial *adj suffix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *-ialis*, fr. *-i-* + *-alis* -al] : [1]-AL ⟨manor*ial*⟩

IALC *abbr* instrument approach and landing chart

IAM *abbr* International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

iamb \ˈī-ˌam(b)\ *or* **iam·bus** \ī-ˈam-bəs\ *n, pl* **iambs** \ˈī-ˌamz\ *or* **iam·bus·es** [L *iambus*, fr. Gk *iambos*] : a metrical foot consisting of one short syllable followed by one long syllable or of one unstressed syllable followed by one stressed syllable (as in *above*) — compare TROCHEE — **iam·bic** \ī-ˈam-bik\ *adj or n*

-ian — see -AN

-iana — see -ANA

IAP *abbr* international airport

IAPF *abbr* Inter-American Peacekeeping Force

IARU *abbr* International Amateur Radio Union

IAS *abbr* indicated airspeed

-i·a·sis \ˈī-ə-səs\ *n suffix, pl* **-i·a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. L, fr. Gk, suffix of action, fr. denominative verbs in *-ian, -iazein*] : disease having characteristics of or produced by (something specified) ⟨hypochondr*iasis*⟩ ⟨ancylostom*iasis*⟩

IATA *abbr* International Air Transport Association

-i·at·ric \ē-ˈa-trik\ *also* **-i·at·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj comb form* [NL *-iatria*] : of or relating to (such) medical treatment or healing ⟨ped*iatric*⟩

-i·at·rics \ē-ˈa-triks\ *n pl comb form but sing or pl in constr* : medical treatment ⟨ped*iatrics*⟩

iat·ro·gen·ic \(ˌ)ī-ˌa-trə-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* [Gk *iatros* + E *-genic*] : induced inadvertently by a physician or his treatment ⟨an ~ rash⟩ — **iat·ro·gen·i·cal·ly** \-ˈjen-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

-i·a·try \ˈī-ə-trē, *in a few words* ē-ˌa-trē\ *n comb form* [F *-iatrie*, fr. NL *-iatria*, fr. Gk *iatreia* art of healing, fr. *iatros* healer, fr. *iasthai* to heal] : medical treatment : healing ⟨pod*iatry*⟩

IAU *abbr* **1** International Association of Universities **2** International Astronomical Union

ib *abbr* ibidem

IB *abbr* **1** in bond **2** incendiary bomb

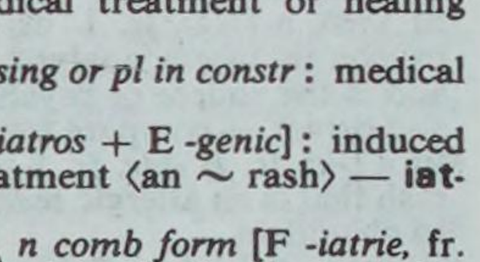
I band \ˈī-\ *n* : an isotropic band of a striated muscle fiber

I beam *n* : an iron or steel beam that is I-shaped in cross section

[1]Ibe·ri·an \ī-ˈbir-ē-ən\ *n* [*Iberia*, ancient region of the Caucasus] : a member of one or more peoples anciently inhabiting the Caucasus in Asia between the Black and Caspian seas — **Iberian** *adj*

[2]Iberian *n* [*Iberia*, peninsula in Europe] **1 a** : a member of one or more Caucasoid peoples anciently inhabiting the peninsula comprising Spain and Portugal and the Basque region about the Pyrenees and prob. related in origin to peoples of northern Africa **b** : a native or inhabitant of Spain or Portugal or the Basque region **2** : one or more of the languages of the ancient Iberians — **Iberian** *adj*

ibex \ˈī-ˌbeks\ *n, pl* **ibex** *or* **ibex·es** [L] **1** : any of several wild goats living chiefly in high mountain areas of the Old World and having large recurved horns transversely ridged in front **2** : a wild goat (*Capra aegagrus*) found in Asia Minor and believed to be the progenitor of the domestic goat



ibex 1

ibid \ˈib-əd\ *abbr* ibidem

ibi·dem \ˈib-ə-ˌdem, ib-ˈīd-əm\ *adv* [L] : in the same place

-ibil·i·ty \ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ — see -ABILITY

ibis \ˈī-bəs\ *n, pl* **ibis** *or* **ibis·es** [L, fr. Gk, fr. Egypt *hby*] : any of several wading birds (family Threskiornithidae) related to the herons but distinguished by a long slender downwardly curved bill

-ible \ə-bəl\ — see -ABLE

IBM *abbr* intercontinental ballistic missile

Ibo \ˈē-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **Ibo** *or* **Ibos** **1** : a member of a Negro people of the area around the lower Niger **2** : a Kwa language used as a language of trade and education in a large area of southern Nigeria

Ib·sen·ism \ˈib-sə-ˌniz-əm, ˈip-\ *n* **1** : dramatic invention or construction characteristic of Ibsen **2** : championship of Ibsen's plays and ideas — **Ib·sen·ite** \-ˌnīt\ *n or adj*

IBY *abbr* International Biological Year

[1]IC *n* : IMMEDIATE CONSTITUENT

[2]IC *n* : INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

[1]-ic \ik\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF *-ique*, fr. L *-icus* — more at -Y] **1** : having the character or form of : being ⟨panoram*ic*⟩ : consisting of ⟨run*ic*⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to ⟨aldermanic⟩ **b** : related to, derived from, or containing ⟨alcohol*ic*⟩ ⟨ole*ic*⟩ **3** : in the manner of : like that of : characteristic of ⟨Byron*ic*⟩ **4** : associated or dealing with ⟨Ved*ic*⟩ : utilizing ⟨electron*ic*⟩ **5** : characterized by : exhibiting ⟨nostalg*ic*⟩ : affected with ⟨allerg*ic*⟩ **6** : caused by ⟨amoeb*ic*⟩ **7** : tending to produce ⟨analges*ic*⟩ **8** : having a valence relatively higher than in compounds or ions named with an adjective ending in *-ous* ⟨ferr*ic* iron⟩

[2]-ic *n suffix* : one having the character or nature of : one belonging to or associated with : one exhibiting or affected by : one that produces

ICA *abbr* **1** International Cooperation Administration **2** International Cooperative Alliance

-i·cal \i-kəl\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. LL *-icalis* (as in *clericalis* clerical, *radicalis* radical)] : -IC ⟨symmetr*ical*⟩ ⟨geolog*ical*⟩ — sometimes differing from *-ic* in that adjectives formed with *-ical* have a wider or more transferred semantic range than corresponding adjectives in *-ic*

ICAO *abbr* International Civil Aviation Organization

Ic·a·rus \ˈik-ə-rəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Ikaros*] : the son of Daedalus who to escape imprisonment flies by means of artificial wings but falls into the sea and drowns when the wax of his wings melts as he flies too near the sun

ICBM \ˌī-ˌsē-(ˌ)bē-ˈem\ *n, pl* **ICBM's** *or* **ICBMs** \-ˈemz\ : an intercontinental ballistic missile

ICC *abbr* **1** Indian Claims Commission **2** International Chamber of Commerce **3** Interstate Commerce Commission

[1]ice \ˈīs\ *n, often attrib* [ME *is*, fr. OE *īs;* akin to OHG *īs* ice, Av *isu*icy] **1 a** : frozen water **b** : a sheet or stretch of ice **2** : a state of coldness (as from formality or reserve) **3** : a substance resembling ice; *esp* : a substance reduced to the solid state by cold ⟨ammonia ~ in the rings of Saturn⟩ **4 a** : a frozen dessert containing a flavoring (as fruit juice); *esp* : one containing no milk or cream **b** *Brit* : a serving of ice cream **5** *slang* : DIAMONDS; *broadly* : JEWELRY **6** : an undercover premium paid to a theater employee for choice theater tickets — **ice·less** \ˈī-sləs\ *adj* — **on ice** **1** : with every likelihood of being won or accomplished **2** : in reserve or safekeeping

[2]ice *vb* **iced; ic·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to coat with or convert into ice **b** : to chill with ice **c** : to supply with ice **2** : to cover with or as if with icing **3** : to put on ice **4** : to shoot (an ice hockey puck) the length of the rink and beyond the opponents' goal line ~ *vi* **1** : to become ice-cold **2 a** : to become covered with ice — often used with *up* **b** : to have ice form inside ⟨the carburetor *iced* up⟩

Ice *abbr* Iceland

ICE *abbr* **1** internal-combustion engine **2** International Cultural Exchange

ice age *n* **1** : a time of widespread glaciation **2** *cap I&A* : the Pleistocene glacial epoch

ice ax *n* : a combination pick and adz with a spiked handle that is used in mountain climbing

ice bag *n* : a waterproof bag to hold ice for local application of cold to the body

ice·berg \ˈīs-ˌbərg\ *n* [prob. part trans. of Dan or Norw *isberg*, fr. *is* ice + *berg* mountain] **1** : a large floating mass of ice detached from a glacier **2** : an emotionally cold person

ice·blink \-ˌbliŋk\ *n* : a glare in the sky over an ice field

ice·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* **1** : a skeleton boat or frame on runners propelled on ice usu. by sails **2** : ICEBREAKER 2

ice·boat·ing \-ˌbōt-iŋ\ *n* : the sport of sailing in iceboats — **ice·boat·er** \-ˌbōt-ər\ *n*

ice·bound \-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : surrounded or obstructed by ice

ice·box \-ˌbäks\ *n* : REFRIGERATOR

ice·break·er \-ˌbrā-kər\ *n* **1** : a structure that protects a bridge pier from floating ice **2** : a ship equipped to make and maintain a channel through ice **3** : MIXER 1c

ice cap *n* **1** : an ice bag shaped to the head **2** : a cover of perennial ice and snow; *specif* : a glacier forming on an extensive area of relatively level land and flowing outward from its center — called also *ice sheet*

ice–cold \ˈī-ˈskōld\ *adj* : extremely cold

ice–cream *adj* : of a color similar to that of vanilla ice cream — usu. used of clothing ⟨an ~ suit⟩

ice cream \(ˈ)ī-ˈskrēm, ˈī-ˌ\ *n* : a sweet, flavored frozen food containing cream or butterfat and usu. eggs

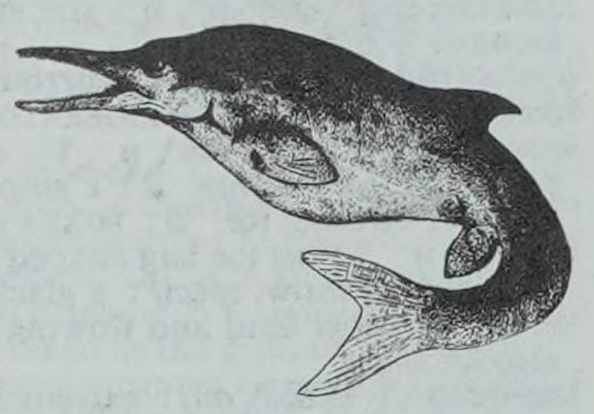
ice–cream chair *n* [fr. its use in ice cream parlors] : a small armless chair with a circular seat for use at a table (as in a sidewalk café)

ice–cream cone *n* : a thin crisp edible cone for holding ice cream; *also* : one filled with ice cream

ice·fall \ˈīs-ˌfȯl\ *n* **1** : a frozen waterfall **2** : the mass of usu. jagged blocks into which a glacier may break when it moves down a steep declivity

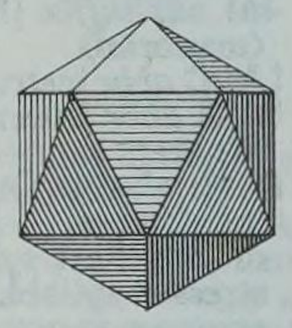
ice field *n* **1** : an extensive sheet of sea ice **2** : ICE CAP

ice floe *n* : a flat free mass of floating sea ice; *broadly* : a large floating fragment of sheet ice
ice fog *n* : a fog composed of ice particles
ice hockey *n* : a game played on an ice rink by two teams of six players on skates whose object is to drive a puck into the opponent's goal with a hockey stick
ice·house \ˈīs-ˌhaůs, ˈī-ˌsaůs\ *n* : a building in which ice is made or stored
ice·kha·na \ˈīs-ˌkän-ə, -ˌkan-\ *n* [*ice* + gym*khana*] : an automobile gymkhana held on a frozen lake
Icel *abbr* Icelandic
[1]Ice·lan·dic \ī-ˈslan-dik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Iceland, the Icelanders, or Icelandic
[2]Icelandic *n* : the North Germanic language of the Icelandic people
Ice·land moss \ˌī-slən(d)-, ˌī-ˌslan(d)-\ *n* : a lichen (*Cetraria islandica*) of mountainous and arctic regions sometimes used in medicine or as food
Iceland poppy *n* : any of various perennial cultivated poppies prob. derived from two species (*Papaver nudicaule* and *P. alpinum*) and characterized by rather small single or double chiefly pastel flowers
Iceland spar *n* : a doubly refracting transparent calcite
ice·man \ˈī-ˌsman\ *n* **1** : a man skilled in traveling on ice **2** : one who sells or delivers ice
ice milk *n* : a sweetened frozen food made of skim milk
ice needle *n* : one of numerous slender ice particles that float in the air in clear cold weather — called also *ice crystal*
Ice·ni \ī-ˈsē-ˌnī\ *n pl* [L] : an ancient British people that under their queen Boadicea revolted against the Romans in A.D. 61 — **Ice·ni·an** \-ˈsē-nē-ən\ *or* **Ice·nic** \-ˈsē-nik, -ˈsen-ik\ *adj*
ice pack *n* : an expanse of pack ice
ice pick *n* : a hand tool ending in a spike for chipping ice
ice plant *n* : an Old World annual herb (*Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*) that is related to the carpetweed, has fleshy foliage covered with glistening papillate dots or vesicles, and is widely naturalized in warm regions; *broadly* : FIG MARIGOLD
ice point *n* : the temperature of 0° centigrade or 273.15° kelvin at which ice is in equilibrium with liquid water under air saturated with water at standard atmospheric pressure
ice show *n* : an entertainment consisting of various exhibitions by ice skaters usu. with musical accompaniment
ice–skate \ˈī(s)-ˌskāt\ *vi* : to skate on ice — **ice skater** *n*
ice skate *n* : a shoe with a metal runner attached for ice-skating
ice storm *n* : a storm in which falling rain freezes on contact
ice water *n* : chilled or iced water esp. for drinking
ICFTU *abbr* International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
ichn- *or* **ichno-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *ichnos*] : footprint : track ⟨*ichn*ology⟩
ich·neu·mon \ik-ˈn(y)ü-mən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *ichneumōn*, lit., tracker, fr. *ichneuein* to track, fr. *ichnos*] **1** : MONGOOSE **2** : ICHNEUMON FLY
ichneumon fly *n* : any of a large superfamily (Ichneumonoidea) of hymenopterous insects whose larvae are usu. internal parasites of other insect larvae and esp. of caterpillars
ichor \ˈī-ˌkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Gk *ichōr*] **1** : an ethereal fluid taking the place of blood in the veins of the ancient Greek gods **2** : a thin watery or blood-tinged discharge — **ichor·ous** \-kə-rəs\ *adj*
ichth *abbr* ichthyology
ichthy- *or* **ichthyo-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *ichthys*; akin to Arm *jukn* fish] : fish ⟨*ichthyic*⟩
ich·thyo·fau·na \ˌik-thē-ō-ˈfȯn-ə, -ˈfän-\ *n* [NL] : the fish life of a region — **ich·thyo·fau·nal** \-ˈfȯn-ᵊl, -ˈfän-\ *adj*
ich·thy·ol·o·gy \ˌik-thē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : a branch of zoology that deals with fishes **2** : a treatise on fishes — **ich·thy·o·log·i·cal** \-thē-ə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ich·thy·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ich·thy·ol·o·gist** \-thē-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
ich·thy·oph·a·gous \ˌik-thē-ˈäf-ə-gəs\ *adj* [Gk *ichthyophagos*, fr. *ichthy-* + *-phagos* -phagous] : eating or subsisting on fish
ich·thy·or·nis \ˌik-thē-ˈȯr-nəs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *ichthy-* + Gk *ornis* bird — more at ERNE] : any of a genus (*Ichthyornis*) of extinct toothed birds
ich·thyo·saur \ˈik-thē-ə-ˌsȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of Gk. *ichthy-* + *sauros* lizard — more at SAURIAN] : any of an order (Ichthyosauria) of extinct marine reptiles with fish-shaped body and elongated snout — **ich·thyo·sau·ri·an** \ˌik-thē-ə-ˈsȯr-ē-ən\ *adj or n*



ichthyosaur

-i·cian \ˈish-ən\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF *-icien*, fr. L *-ica* (as in *rhetorica* rhetoric) + OF *-ien* -ian] : specialist : practitioner ⟨beaut*ician*⟩
ici·cle \ˈī-ˌsik-əl\ *n* [ME *isikel*, fr. *is* ice + *ikel* icicle, fr. OE *gicel*; akin to OHG *ihilla* icicle, MIr *aig* ice] **1** : a pendent mass of ice formed by the freezing of dripping water **2** : an emotionally unresponsive person
[1]ic·ing \ˈī-siŋ\ *n* : a sweet, flavored, and usu. creamy mixture used to coat baked goods (as cupcakes) — called also *frosting*
[2]icing *n* : an act by an ice-hockey player of shooting a puck from within his defensive zone beyond the opponents' goal line
ICJ *abbr* International Court of Justice
ick·er \ˈik-ər\ *n* [deriv. of OE *ēar, eher* — more at EAR] *Scot* : a head of grain
icky \ˈik-ē\ *adj* **ick·i·er; -est** [perh. baby talk alter. of *sticky*] **1** : offensive to the senses or sensibilities : DISTASTEFUL ⟨put off by her ~ triteness —Renata Adler⟩ **2** : lacking sophistication
icon \ˈī-ˌkän\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *eikōn*, fr. *eikenai* to resemble] **1** : a usu. pictorial representation : IMAGE **2** [LGk *eikōn*, fr. Gk] : a conventional religious image typically painted on a small wooden panel and used in the devotions of Eastern Christians **3** : an object of uncritical devotion : IDOL — **icon·ic** \ī-ˈkän-ik\ *adj* — **icon·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ico·nic·i·ty** \ˌī-kə-ˈnis-ət-ē\ *n*
icon- *or* **icono-** *comb form* [Gk *eikon-, eikono-*, fr. *eikon-, eikōn*] : image ⟨*iconol*ater⟩
icon·o·clasm \ī-ˈkän-ə-ˌklaz-əm\ *n* : the doctrine, practice, or attitude of an iconoclast
icon·o·clast \-ˌklast\ *n* [ML *iconoclastes*, fr. MGk *eikonoklastēs*, lit., image destroyer, fr. Gk *eikono-* + *klan* to break — more at HALT] **1** : one who destroys religious images or opposes their veneration **2** : one who attacks established beliefs or institutions — **icon·o·clas·tic** \(ˌ)ī-ˌkän-ə-ˈklas-tik\ *adj* — **icon·o·clas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ico·nog·ra·pher \ˌī-kə-ˈnäg-rə-fər\ *n* : a maker or designer of figures or drawings esp. of a conventional or mechanical type
icon·o·graph·ic \(ˌ)ī-ˌkän-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *or* **icon·o·graph·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to iconography **2** : representing something by pictures or diagrams — **icon·o·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ico·nog·ra·phy \ˌī-kə-ˈnäg-rə-fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** [Gk *eikonographia* sketch, description, fr. *eikonographein* to describe, fr. *eikon-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] **1** : pictorial material relating to or illustrating a subject : a pictorial record of a subject **2** : the traditional or conventional images or symbols associated with a subject and esp. a religious or legendary subject **3** : the imagery or symbolism of a work of art, an artist, or a body of art **4** : ICONOLOGY **5** : a published work dealing with or featuring iconography
ico·nol·a·try \-ˈnäl-ə-trē\ *n* : the worship of images or icons
ico·nol·o·gy \-ˈnäl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *iconologie*, fr. *icono-* icon- + *-logie* -logy] : the study of icons or artistic symbolism — **icon·o·log·i·cal** \(ˌ)ī-ˌkän-ᵊl-ˈäj-i-kəl\ *adj*
icon·o·scope \ī-ˈkän-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [fr. *Iconoscope*, a trademark] : a camera tube containing an electron gun and a photoemissive mosaic screen each cell of which produces a charge proportional to the varying light intensity of the image focused on the screen
ico·nos·ta·sis \ˌī-kə-ˈnäs-tə-səs\ *n, pl* **-ta·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [MGk *eikonostasi*] : a screen or partition with doors and tiers of icons that separates the bema from the nave in Eastern churches
ico·sa·he·dral \(ˌ)ī-ˌkō-sə-ˈhē-drəl, -ˌkäs-ə-\ *adj* : of or having the form of an icosahedron
ico·sa·he·dron \-drən\ *n, pl* **-drons** *or* **-dra** \-drə\ [Gk *eikosaedron*, fr. *eikosi* twenty + *-edron* -hedron — more at VIGESIMAL] : a polyhedron having 20 faces



icosahedron

ICR *abbr* Institute for Cancer Research
-ics \(ˌ)iks\ *n pl suffix but sing or pl in constr* [*-ic* + *-s*; trans. of Gk *-ika*, fr. neut. pl. of *-ikos* -ic] **1** : study : knowledge : skill : practice ⟨linguist*ics*⟩ ⟨electron*ics*⟩ **2** : characteristic actions or activities ⟨acrobat*ics*⟩ **3** : characteristic qualities, operations, or phenomena ⟨mechan*ics*⟩
ICSH *abbr* interstitial cell-stimulating hormone
ic·ter·ic \ik-ˈter-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or affected with jaundice
ic·ter·us \ˈik-tə-rəs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *ikteros*; akin to Gk *iktis*, a yellow bird] : JAUNDICE
ic·tus \ˈik-təs\ *n* [L, fr. *ictus*, pp. of *icere* to strike; akin to Gk *aichmē* lance] : the recurring stress or beat in a rhythmic or metrical series of sounds
ICU *abbr* intensive care unit
icy \ˈī-sē\ *adj* **ic·i·er; -est** **1 a** : covered with, abounding in, or consisting of ice **b** : intensely cold **2** : characterized by coldness : FRIGID ⟨an ~ stare⟩ — **ic·i·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv* — **ic·i·ness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*
[1]id \ˈid\ *n* [NL, fr. L, it] : the one of the three divisions of the psyche in psychoanalytic theory that is completely unconscious and is the source of psychic energy derived from instinctual needs and drives — compare EGO, SUPEREGO
[2]id *n* [*-id*, fr. F *-ide*, fr. L *-id-, -is*, fem. patronymic suffix] : a skin rash that is an allergic reaction to an agent causing an infection
[3]id *abbr* idem
ID *abbr* **1** Idaho **2** identification **3** industrial design **4** inner diameter **5** inside dimensions **6** intelligence department **7** internal diameter **8** intradermal
[1]-id \əd, (ˌ)id\ *n suffix* [in sense 1, fr. L *-ides*, masc. patronymic suffix, fr. Gk *-idēs*; in sense 2, fr. It *-ide*, fr. L *-id-, is*, fem. patronymic suffix, fr. Gk] **1** : one belonging to a (specified) dynastic line ⟨Fatim*id*⟩ **2** : meteor associated with or radiating from a (specified) constellation or comet ⟨Perse*id*⟩
[2]-id *n suffix* [prob. fr. L *-id-, -is*, fem. patronymic suffix, fr. Gk] : body : particle ⟨energ*id*⟩
I'd \(ˌ)īd\ : I had : I should : I would
-i·dae \ə-ˌdē\ *n pl suffix* [NL, fr. L, fr. Gk *-idai*, pl. of *-idēs*] : members of the family of — in names of zoological families ⟨Fel*idae*⟩
ID card \ˈī-ˈdē-\ *n* : a card bearing identifying data (as age or organizational membership) about the individual whose name appears thereon — called also *identification card, identity card*
-ide \ˌīd\ *also* **-id** \əd, (ˌ)id\ *n suffix* [G & F; G *-id*, fr. F *-ide* (as in *oxide*)] **1** : binary chemical compound — added to the contracted name of the nonmetallic or more electronegative element ⟨hydrogen sulf*ide*⟩ or radical ⟨cyan*ide*⟩ **2** : chemical compound derived from or related to another (usu. specified) compound ⟨anhydr*ide*⟩ ⟨glucos*ide*⟩
idea \ī-ˈdē-ə, ˈīd-(ˌ)ē-ə, *esp South* ˈīd-ē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *idein* to see — more at WIT] **1 a** : a transcendent entity that is a real pattern of which existing things are imperfect representations **b** : a standard of perfection : IDEAL **c** : a plan for action : DESIGN **2** *archaic* : a visible representation of a conception : a replica of a pattern **3 a** *obs* : an image recalled by memory **b** : an indefinite or unformed conception **c** : an entity (as a thought, concept, sensation, or image) actually or potentially present to consciousness **4** : a formulated thought or opinion **5** : whatever is known or supposed about something ⟨a child's ~ of time⟩ **6** : the central meaning or chief end of a particular action or situation **7** *Christian Science* : an image in Mind — **idea·less** \ī-ˈdē-ə-ləs\ *adj*

syn IDEA, CONCEPT, CONCEPTION, THOUGHT, NOTION, IMPRESSION *shared meaning element* : what exists in the mind as a representation (as of something comprehended) or as a formulation (as of a plan). IDEA is equally applicable to a mental image or formulation of something seen or known or imagined, to a pure abstraction, or to something assumed or vaguely sensed ⟨that's not my *idea* of a good time⟩ ⟨try to get an *idea* of the complexity of the problem⟩ CONCEPT in precise use applies to a generic idea conceived by the mind after acquaintance with instances of a category ⟨the child as he grows develops such *concepts* as "chair", "dog", and "house"⟩ but in frequent, if sometimes criticized use *concept* is applicable to any formulated and widely accepted idea of what a thing should be ⟨we must expand the *concept* of conservation to meet the imperious problems of the new age —J. F. Kennedy⟩ CONCEPTION, though often interchangeable with *concept* in the latter's more general use, can distinctively stress the process of imagining and formulating ⟨too often a writer's *conception* exceeds his capacity for execution⟩ THOUGHT is likely to suggest the result of reflection, meditation, or reasoning rather than of imagining ⟨a child's *thought* about God⟩ NOTION can apply to a vague, tentative, or chance idea ⟨most of us retain the *notion* that all technical change is progress, is necessarily good —R. M. Hutchins⟩ but in precise use it can come close to *concept* in suggesting a general or universal idea ⟨arriving at the *notion* of law —Irving Babbitt⟩ or to *conception* in denoting the meaning content assigned by the mind to a term ⟨[they] have no adequate *notion* of what we mean by causation —Edward Sapir⟩ IMPRESSION usually implies the presence of external stimulation that gives rise to an often vague idea ⟨I had an *impression* that the door opened softly⟩

[1]ide·al \ī-'dē(-ə)l\ *adj* [F or LL; F *idéal*, fr. LL *idealis*, fr. L *idea*] **1 a** : existing as a mental image or in fancy or imagination only; *broadly* : lacking practicality **b** : relating to or constituting mental images, ideas, or conceptions **2 a** : of, relating to, or embodying an ideal **b** : conforming exactly to an ideal, law, or standard : PERFECT **3** : existing as an archetypal idea **4** : of or relating to philosophical idealism

[2]ideal *n* **1** : a standard of perfection, beauty, or excellence **2** : one regarded as exemplifying an ideal and often taken as a model for imitation **3** : an ultimate object or aim of endeavor : GOAL **4** : a subset of a mathematical ring that is closed under addition and subtraction and contains the products of any given element of the subset with each element of the ring ⟨the integers ending in 0 are an ~ in the ring of all integers⟩ ***syn*** see MODEL — **ide·al·less** \ī-'dē(-ə)l-ləs\ *adj*

ide·al·ism \ī-'dē-(ə-),liz-əm\ *n* **1 a** (1) : a theory that ultimate reality lies in a realm transcending phenomena (2) : a theory that the essential nature of reality lies in consciousness or reason **b** (1) : a theory that only the perceptible is real (2) : a theory that only mental states or entities are knowable **2 a** : the practice of forming ideals or living under their influence **b** : something that is idealized **3** : literary or artistic theory or practice that affirms the preeminent value of imagination as compared with faithful copying of nature — compare REALISM

[1]ide·al·ist \-(ə-)ləst\ *n* **1 a** : an adherent of a philosophical theory of idealism **b** : an artist or author who advocates or practices idealism in art or writing **2** : one guided by ideals; *esp* : one that places ideals before practical considerations

[2]idealist *adj* : IDEALISTIC

ide·al·is·tic \(,)ī-,dē-(ə-)'lis-tik\ *adj* : of or relating to idealists or idealism — **ide·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ide·al·i·ty \,īd-ē-'al-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being ideal **b** : existence only in idea **2** : something imaginary or idealized

ide·al·ize \ī-'dē-(ə-),līz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to give an ideal form or value to **2** : to treat idealistically ~ *vi* **1** : to form ideals **2** : to work idealistically — **ide·al·iza·tion** \-,dē-(ə-)lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ide·al·iz·er** \-'dē-(ə-),lī-zər\ *n*

ide·al·ly \ī-'dē-ə-lē, -'dē(-ə)l-lē\ *adv* **1** : in idea or imagination : MENTALLY **2** : in relation to an exemplar **3 a** : conformably to or in respect to an ideal : PERFECTLY **b** : for best results ⟨~, the counselor should vary his techniques for each applicant —T. M. Martinez⟩ **c** : in accordance with an ideal or typical standard : CLASSICALLY

ideal point *n* : a point added to the plane or to space to eliminate special cases; *specif* : the point at infinity added in projective geometry as the assumed intersection of two parallel lines

ide·ate \'īd-ē-,āt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vt* : to form an idea or conception of ~ *vi* : to form an idea

ide·ation \,īd-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the capacity for or the act of forming or entertaining ideas

ide·ation·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or produced by ideation; *broadly* : consisting of or referring to ideas or thoughts of objects not immediately present to the senses — **ide·ation·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

idem \'īd-,em, 'ēd-, 'id-\ *pron* [L, same — more at IDENTITY] : something previously mentioned : SAME

idem·po·tent \ī-'dem-pət-ənt\ *adj* [ISV *idem-* (fr. L *idem* same) + L *potent-, potens* having power — more at POTENT] : relating to or being a mathematical quantity which is not zero and every positive power of which equals itself — **idempotent** *n*

iden·tic \ī-'dent-ik, ə-\ *adj* : IDENTICAL: as **a** : constituting a diplomatic action or expression in which two or more governments follow precisely the same course or employ an identical form **b** : constituting an action or expression in which a government follows precisely the same course or employs identical forms with reference to two or more other governments

iden·ti·cal \ī-'dent-i-kəl, ə-\ *adj* [prob. fr. ML *identicus*, fr. LL *identitas*] **1** : being the same : SELFSAME ⟨the ~ place we stopped before⟩ **2** : having such close resemblance as to be essentially the same ⟨~ hats⟩ ⟨the copy was ~ with the original⟩ **3 a** : having the same cause or origin ⟨the infections appeared to be ~⟩ **b** : MONOZYGOTIC ***syn*** **1** see SAME ***ant*** diverse **2** see SIMILAR ***ant*** different — **iden·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **iden·ti·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

iden·ti·fi·ca·tion \ī-,dent-ə-fə-'kā-shən, ə-\ *n* **1 a** : an act of identifying : the state of being identified **b** : evidence of identity **2 a** : psychological orientation of the self in regard to something (as a person or group) with a resulting feeling of close emotional association **b** : a mental mechanism whereby the individual attains gratification, emotional support, or relief from stress by consciously or unconsciously attributing to himself the characteristics of another person or a particular group ***syn*** see RECOGNITION

identification card *n* : ID CARD

iden·ti·fi·er \ī-'dent-ə-,fī(-ə)r, ə-\ *n* : one that identifies

iden·ti·fy \ī-'dent-ə-,fī, ə-\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to cause to be or become identical **b** : to conceive as united (as in spirit, outlook, or principle) ⟨groups that are *identified* with conservation⟩ **2 a** : to establish the identity of **b** : to determine the taxonomic position of (a biological specimen) ~ *vi* **1** : to be or become the same **2** : to practice psychological identification ⟨~ with the hero of a novel⟩ — **iden·ti·fi·able** \-,fī-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **iden·ti·fi·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

iden·ti·ty \ī-'den(t)-ət-ē, ə-'den(t)-\ *n, pl* **-ties** [MF *identité*, fr. LL *identitat-, identitas*, irreg. fr. L *idem* same, fr. *is* that — more at ITERATE] **1 a** : sameness of essential or generic character in different instances **b** : sameness in all that constitutes the objective reality of a thing : ONENESS **2 a** : the distinguishing character or personality of an individual : INDIVIDUALITY **b** : the relation established by psychological identification ⟨a symbolic act . . . marking ~ and participation in a collective action —Paul Jacobs⟩ **3** : the condition of being the same with something described or asserted ⟨establish the ~ of stolen goods⟩ **4** : an equation that is satisfied for all values of the symbols **5** : IDENTITY ELEMENT

identity card *n* : ID CARD

identity crisis *n* : psychosocial confusion and maladjustment that arises esp. in adolescents when unable to attain psychological identification because of conflicting demands and pressures : personal anomie

identity element *n* : an element (as 0 in the group of integers under addition) that leaves any element of the set to which it belongs unchanged when combined with it by a specified operation (as addition or multiplication)

identity matrix *n* : a square matrix with numeral 1's along the principal diagonal and 0's elsewhere

ideo- *comb form* [F *idéo-*, fr. Gk *idea*] : idea ⟨*ideo*gram⟩

ideo·gram \'īd-ē-ə-,gram, 'id-\ *n* **1** : a picture or symbol used in a system of writing to represent a thing or an idea but not a particular word or phrase for it; *esp* : one that represents not the object pictured but some thing or idea that the object pictured is supposed to suggest **2** : LOGOGRAM — **ideo·gram·ic** *or* **ideo·gram·mic** \,īd-ē-ə-'gram-ik, ,id-\ *adj* — **ideo·gram·mat·ic** \-ē-ō-grə-'mat-ik\ *adj*

ideo·graph \'īd-ē-ə-,graf, 'id-\ *n* : IDEOGRAM — **ideo·graph·ic** \,īd-ē-ə-'graf-ik, ,id-\ *adj* — **ideo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ide·og·ra·phy \,īd-ē-'äg-rə-fē, ,id-\ *n* **1** : the use of ideograms **2** : the representation of ideas by graphic symbols

ideo·log·i·cal \,īd-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl, ,id-\ *also* **ideo·log·ic** \-'läj-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or based on ideology **2** : relating to or concerned with ideas — **ideo·log·i·cal·ly** \-'läj-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ideo·logue \'īd-ē-ə-,lȯg, -,läg\ *n* [F *idéologue*, back-formation fr. *idéologie*] **1** : an impractical idealist : THEORIST **2** : an advocate or adherent of a particular ideology

ide·ol·o·gy \-'äl-ə-jē\ *also* **ide·al·o·gy** \-'äl-ə-jē, -'al-\ *n, pl* **-gies** [F *idéologie*, fr. *idéo-* ideo- + *-logie* -logy] **1** : visionary theorizing **2 a** : a systematic body of concepts esp. about human life or culture **b** : a manner or the content of thinking characteristic of an individual, group, or culture **c** : the integrated assertions, theories, and aims that constitute a sociopolitical program — **ide·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

ideo·mo·tor \,īd-ē-ə-'mōt-ər, ,id-\ *adj* [ISV] : not reflex but resulting from the impingement of ideas on the system

ides \'īdz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [MF, fr L *idus*] : the 15th day of March, May, July, or October or the 13th day of any other month in the ancient Roman calendar; *broadly* : this day and the seven days preceding it

-i·din \əd-ən, -ᵊn\ *or* **-i·dine** \ə-,dēn\ *n suffix* [ISV *-ide* + *-in, -ine*] : chemical compound related in origin or structure to another compound ⟨tolu*idine*⟩ ⟨guan*idine*⟩

idio- *comb form* [Gk, fr. *idios* — more at IDIOT] : one's own : personal : separate : distinct ⟨*idio*blast⟩

id·io·blast \'id-ē-ə-,blast\ *n* [ISV] : a plant cell (as a sclereid) that differs markedly from neighboring cells — **id·io·blas·tic** \,id-ē-ə-'blas-tik\ *adj*

id·i·o·cy \'id-ē-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : extreme mental deficiency commonly due to incomplete or abnormal development of the brain **2** : something notably stupid or foolish ⟨the sort of ~ into which all forms of censorship fall —R. L. Weaver⟩

id·io·graph·ic \,id-ē-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to or dealing with the concrete, individual, or unique

id·io·lect \'id-ē-ə-,lekt\ *n* [*idio-* + *-lect* (as in *dialect*)] : the language or speech pattern of one individual at a particular period of his life — **id·io·lec·tal** \,id-ē-ə-'lek-tᵊl\ *adj*

id·i·om \'id-ē-əm\ *n* [MF & LL; MF *idiome*, fr. LL *idioma* individual peculiarity of language, fr. Gk *idiōmat-, idiōma*, fr. *idiousthai* to appropriate, fr. *idios*] **1 a** : the language peculiar to a people or to a district, community, or class : DIALECT **b** : the syntactical, grammatical, or structural form peculiar to a language **2** : an expression in the usage of a language that is peculiar to itself either grammatically (as *no, it wasn't me*) or in having a meaning that cannot be derived from the conjoined meanings of its elements (as

Monday week for "the Monday a week after next Monday") **3 :** a style or form of artistic expression that is characteristic of an individual, a period or movement, or a medium or instrument ⟨the modern jazz ~⟩

id·i·om·at·ic \ˌid-ē-ə-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* **1 :** of, relating to, or conforming to idiom **2 :** peculiar to a particular group, individual, or style — **id·i·om·at·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **id·i·om·at·ic·ness** \-ik-nəs\ *n*

id·io·mor·phic \ˌid-ē-ə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* [Gk *idiomorphos*, fr. *idio-* + *-morphos* -morphous] : having the proper form or shape — used of minerals whose crystalline growth has not been interfered with — **id·io·mor·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

id·io·path·ic \ˌid-ē-ə-ˈpath-ik\ *adj* **1 :** peculiar to the individual **2 :** arising spontaneously or from an obscure or unknown cause : PRIMARY — **id·io·path·i·cal·ly** \-ˈpath-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

id·io·plasm \ˈid-ē-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : a part of protoplasm once held to function specif. in hereditary transmission — compare TROPHOPLASM — **id·io·plas·mat·ic** \ˌid-ē-ə-ˌplaz-ˈmat-ik\ *or* **id·io·plas·mic** \-ˈplaz-mik\ *adj*

id·io·syn·cra·sy \ˌid-ē-ə-ˈsiŋ-krə-sē\ *n, pl* **-sies** [Gk *idiosynkrasia*, fr. *idio-* + *synkerannynai* to blend, fr. *syn-* + *kerannynai* to mingle, mix — more at CRATER] **1 :** characteristic peculiarity of habit or structure **2 a :** a peculiarity of constitution or temperament **b :** individual hypersensitiveness (as to a drug or food) ***syn*** see ECCENTRICITY — **id·io·syn·crat·ic** \ˌid-ē-ō-(ˌ)sin-ˈkrat-ik\ *adj* — **id·io·syn·crat·i·cal·ly** \-ˈkrat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

id·i·ot \ˈid-ē-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. L *idiota* ignorant person, fr. Gk *idiōtēs* one in a private station, layman, ignorant person, fr. *idios* one's own, private; akin to L *sed, se* without, *sui* of oneself] **1 :** a person afflicted with idiocy; *esp* : a feebleminded person having a mental age not exceeding three years and requiring complete custodial care **2 :** a silly or foolish person ***syn*** see FOOL — **idiot** *adj*

id·i·ot·ic \ˌid-ē-ˈät-ik\ *also* **id·i·ot·i·cal** \-ˈät-i-kəl\ *adj* **1 :** characterized by idiocy **2 :** showing complete lack of thought or common sense : FOOLISH — **id·i·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **id·i·ot·i·cal·ness** \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n*

[1]id·i·o·tism \ˈid-ē-ə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* [MF *idiotisme*, fr. L *idiotismus* common speech, fr. Gk *idiōtismos*, fr. *idiōtēs*] **1** *obs* : IDIOM 1 **2 :** IDIOM 2

[2]id·i·ot·ism \ˈid-ē-ət-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [*idiot* + *-ism*] *archaic* : IDIOCY

idiot sa·vant \ˈē-ˌdyō-sä-ˈvä⁽ⁿ⁾\ *n, pl* **idiots savants** \-ˌdyō-sä-ˈvä⁽ⁿ⁾(z)\ *or* **idiot savants** \-ˈvä⁽ⁿ⁾(z)\ [F, lit., learned idiot] : a mentally defective person who exhibits exceptional skill or brilliance in some limited field

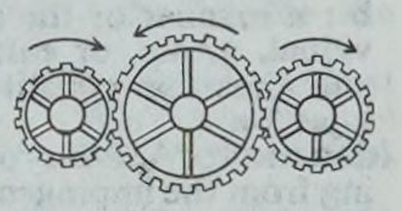
-id·i·um \ˈid-ē-əm\ *n suffix, pl* **-id·i·ums** *or* **-id·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *-idion*, dim. suffix] : small one ⟨anther*idium*⟩

[1]idle \ˈīd-ᵊl\ *adj* **idler** \ˈīd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\; **idlest** \ˈīd-ləst, -ᵊl-əst\ [ME *idel*, fr. OE *īdel*; akin to OHG *ītal* worthless] **1 :** lacking worth or basis : USELESS ⟨~ rumor⟩ **2 :** not occupied or employed: as **a :** having no employment : INACTIVE ⟨~ workmen⟩ **b :** not turned to appropriate use ⟨~ funds⟩ **c :** not scheduled to compete ⟨the team will be ~ tomorrow⟩ **3 a :** SHIFTLESS, LAZY ⟨~ fellows⟩ **b :** having no evident lawful means of support ⟨the charge of being an ~ person⟩ ***syn*** **1** see VAIN **2** see INACTIVE ***ant*** busy — **idle·ness** \ˈīd-ᵊl-nəs\ *n* — **idly** \ˈīd-lē\ *adv*

[2]idle *vb* **idled; idling** \ˈīd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vi* **1 a :** to spend time in idleness **b :** to move idly **2 :** to run disconnected so that power is not used for useful work ⟨the engine is *idling*⟩ ~ *vt* **1 :** to pass in idleness **2 :** to make idle ⟨workers *idled* by a strike⟩ **3 :** to cause to idle — **idler** \ˈīd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

idler pulley *n* : a guide or tightening pulley for a belt or chain

idler wheel *n* **1 :** a wheel, gear, or roller used to transfer motion or to guide or support something **2 :** IDLER PULLEY



idler wheel 1

idlesse \ˈīd-ləs, īd-ˈles\ *n* [*idle* + ME *-esse* (as in *richesse* wealth) — more at RICHES] : the quality or state of being idle : IDLENESS

ido·crase \ˈīd-ə-ˌkrās, ˈid-, -ˌkrāz\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *eidos* + *krasis* mixture fr. *kerannynai* to mix — more at CRATER] : a mineral $Ca_{10}(Mg,Fe)_2Al_4Si_9O_{34}(OH)_4$ that is a complex silicate of calcium, magnesium, iron, and aluminum

idol \ˈīd-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *idole*, fr. LL *idolum*, fr. Gk *eidōlon* phantom, idol; akin to Gk *eidos* form — more at IDYLL] **1 :** a representation or symbol of an object of worship; *broadly* : a false god **2 a :** a likeness of something **b** *obs* : PRETENDER, IMPOSTOR **3 :** a form or appearance visible but without substance ⟨an enchanted phantom, a lifeless ~ —P. B. Shelley⟩ **4 :** an object of passionate devotion ⟨a movie ~⟩ **5 :** a false conception : FALLACY

idol·a·ter \ī-ˈdäl-ət-ər\ *n* [ME *idolatrer*, fr. MF *idolatre*, fr. LL *idololatres*, fr. Gk *eidōlolatrēs*, fr. *eidōlon* + *-latrēs* -later] **1 :** a worshiper of idols **2 :** a person that admires or loves intensely and often blindly an object not usu. a subject of worship

idol·a·trous \ī-ˈdäl-ə-trəs\ *adj* **1 :** of or relating to idolatry **2 :** having the character of idolatry ⟨the religion of ~ nationalism — Aldous Huxley⟩ **3 :** given to idolatry — **idol·a·trous·ly** *adv* — **idol·a·trous·ness** *n*

idol·a·try \-trē\ *n, pl* **-tries** **1 :** the worship of a physical object as a god **2 :** immoderate attachment or devotion to something

idol·ize \ˈīd-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to worship idolatrously; *broadly* : to love or admire to excess ⟨the common people whom he so *idolized* —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to practice idolatry — **idol·iza·tion** \ˌīd-ᵊl-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **idol·iz·er** \ˈīd-ᵊl-ˌī-zər\ *n*

IDP *abbr* **1** integrated data processing **2** international driving permit

idyll *or* **idyl** \ˈīd-ᵊl, *Brit also* ˈid-\ *n* [L *idyllium*, fr. Gk *eidyllion*, fr. dim. of *eidos* form; akin to Gk *idein* to see — more at WIT] **1 a :** a simple descriptive work either in poetry or prose that deals with rustic life or pastoral scenes or suggests a mood of peace and contentment **b :** a narrative poem (as Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*) treating an epic, romantic, or tragic theme **2 a :** a lighthearted carefree episode that is a fit subject for an idyll **b :** a romantic interlude **3 :** a pastoral or romantic musical composition — **idyl·lic** \ī-ˈdil-ik\ *adj* — **idyl·li·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

idyll·ist \ˈīd-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : a composer of idylls

i.e. \ˌthat-ˈiz, (ˌ)ī-ˈē\ *abbr* [L *id est*] that is

IE *abbr* industrial engineer

-ie *also* **-y** \ē\ *n suffix* [ME] **1 :** little one : dear little one ⟨bird*ie*⟩ ⟨sonn*y*⟩ — sometimes in names of articles of apparel ⟨pant*ie*⟩ **2 :** one belonging to : one having to do with ⟨town*y*⟩ **3 :** one of (such) a kind or quality ⟨cut*ie*⟩ ⟨tough*ie*⟩

IEA *abbr* International Education Association

IEEE *abbr* Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

-ier — see -ER

[1]if \(ˌ)if, əf\ *conj* [ME, fr. OE *gif*; akin to OHG *ibu* if] **1 a :** in the event that **b :** allowing that **c :** on condition that **2 :** WHETHER ⟨asked ~ the mail had come⟩ **3** — used as a function word to introduce an exclamation expressing a wish ⟨~ it would only rain⟩ **4 :** even though ⟨an interesting ~ untenable argument⟩ — **if anything** : on the contrary even : perhaps even ⟨*if anything*, you ought to apologize⟩

[2]if \ˈif\ *n* **1 :** CONDITION, STIPULATION ⟨the question . . . depends on too many ~*s* to allow an answer —*Encounter*⟩ **2 :** SUPPOSITION

IF *abbr* intermediate frequency

IFC *abbr* International Finance Corporation

-if·er·ous \ˈif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj comb form* [ME, fr. L *-ifer*, fr. *-i-* + *-fer* -ferous] : -FEROUS

if·fy \ˈif-ē\ *adj* [*[1]if*] : abounding in contingencies or unknown qualities or conditions ⟨the situation is far too ~ for any predictions — *N.Y. Times*⟩ — **if·fi·ness** *n*

IFIP *abbr* International Federation for Information Processing

IFO *abbr* identified flying object

-i·form \ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj comb form* [MF & L; MF *-iforme*, fr. L *-iformis*, fr. *-i-* + *-formis* -form] : -FORM ⟨rami*form*⟩

I formation *n* : an offensive football formation in which the set backs line up in a line directly behind the quarterback — compare T FORMATION

IFR *abbr* instrument flight rules

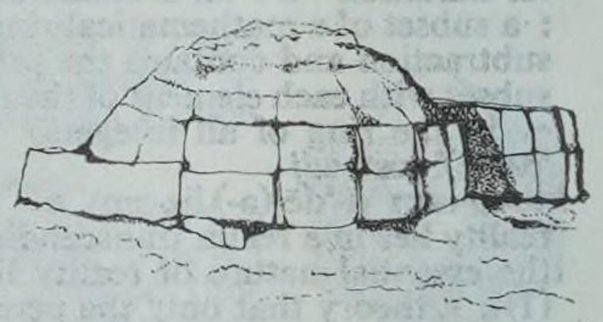
-i·fy \ə-ˌfī\ *vb suffix* [ME *-ifien*, fr. OF *-ifier*, fr. L *-ificare*, fr. *-i-* + *-ficare* -fy] : -FY

Ig *abbr* immunoglobulin

IG *abbr* inspector general

Ig·bo \ˈig-(ˌ)bō\ *var of* IBO

ig·loo \ˈig-(ˌ)lü\ *n, pl* **igloos** [Esk *iglu, igdlu* house] **1 :** an Eskimo dwelling often made of snow blocks and in the shape of a dome **2 :** a building or structure shaped like a dome



igloo 1

ig·neous \ˈig-nē-əs\ *adj* [L *igneus*, fr. *ignis* fire; akin to Skt *agni* fire] **1 :** of, relating to, or resembling fire : FIERY **2 a :** relating to, resulting from, or suggestive of the intrusion or extrusion of magma or the activity of volcanoes **b :** formed by solidification of magma ⟨~ rock⟩

ig·nes·cent \ig-ˈnes-ᵊnt\ *adj* **1 :** capable of emitting sparks **2 :** VOLATILE

igni- *comb form* [L, fr. *ignis*] : fire : burning ⟨*igni*tron⟩

ig·nis fat·u·us \ˌig-nəs-ˈfach-(ə-)wəs\ *n, pl* **ig·nes fat·ui** \-ˌnēz-ˈfach-ə-ˌwī\ [ML, lit., foolish fire] **1 :** a light that sometimes appears in the night over marshy ground and is often attributable to the combustion of gas from decomposed organic matter **2 :** a deceptive goal or hope

ig·nite \ig-ˈnīt\ *vb* **ig·nit·ed; ig·nit·ing** [L *ignitus*, pp. of *ignire* to ignite, fr. *ignis*] *vt* **1 :** to subject to fire or intense heat; *esp* : to render luminous by heat **2 a :** to set afire; *also* : KINDLE **b :** to cause (a fuel mixture) to burn **3 :** to heat up : EXCITE ⟨oppression that *ignited* the hatred of the people⟩ ~ *vi* **1 :** to catch fire **2 :** to begin to glow ***syn*** see LIGHT — **ig·nit·able** *also* **ig·nit·ible** \-ˈnīt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ig·nit·er** *or* **ig·ni·tor** \-ˈnīt-ər\ *n*

ig·ni·tion \ig-ˈnish-ən\ *n* **1 :** the act or action of igniting : KINDLING **2 :** the process or means (as an electric spark) of igniting a fuel mixture

ig·ni·tron \ig-ˈnī-ˌträn\ *n* : a mercury-containing rectifier tube in which the arc is struck again at the beginning of each cycle by a special electrode separately energized by an auxiliary circuit

ig·no·ble \ig-ˈnō-bəl\ *adj* [L *ignobilis*, fr. *in-* + *nobilis* noble] **1 :** of low birth or common origin : PLEBEIAN **2 :** characterized by baseness or meanness ***syn*** see MEAN ***ant*** noble, magnanimous — **ig·no·bil·i·ty** \ˌig-nō-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ig·no·ble·ness** \ig-ˈnō-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ig·no·bly** \-blē *also* -bə-lē\ *adv*

ig·no·min·i·ous \ˌig-nə-ˈmin-ē-əs\ *adj* **1 :** marked with or characterized by disgrace or shame : DISHONORABLE **2 :** deserving of shame or infamy : DESPICABLE **3 :** HUMILIATING, DEGRADING ⟨suffered an ~ defeat⟩ — **ig·no·min·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **ig·no·min·i·ous·ness** *n*

ig·no·mi·ny \ˈig-nə-ˌmin-ē, -mə-nē; ig-ˈnäm-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [MF or L; MF *ignominie*, fr. L *ignominia*, fr. *ig-* (as in *ignorare* to be ignorant of, ignore) + *nomin-, nomen* name, repute — more at NAME] **1 :** deep personal humiliation and disgrace **2 :** disgraceful or dishonorable conduct, quality, or action ***syn*** see DISGRACE

ig·no·ra·mus \ˌig-nə-ˈrā-məs\ *n* [*Ignoramus*, ignorant lawyer in *Ignoramus* (1615), play by George Ruggle] : an utterly ignorant person : DUNCE

ig·no·rance \ˈig-n(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* : the state of being ignorant

ig·no·rant \ˈig-n(ə-)rənt\ *adj* **1 a :** destitute of knowledge or education ⟨an ~ society⟩; *also* : lacking knowledge or comprehension of the thing specified ⟨parents ~ of modern mathematics⟩ **b :** resulting from or showing lack of knowledge or intelligence ⟨~ errors⟩ **2 :** UNAWARE, UNINFORMED — **ig·no·rant·ly** *adv* — **ig·no·rant·ness** *n*

syn IGNORANT, ILLITERATE, UNLETTERED, UNTUTORED, UNLEARNED *shared meaning element* : not having knowledge ***ant*** cognizant (*of something*), conversant, informed

ig·no·ra·tio elen·chi \ˌig-nə-ˌrät-ē-ˌō-i-ˈleŋ-ˌkē\ *n* [L, lit., ignorance of proof] : a fallacy in logic of supposing a point proved or dis-

proved by an argument proving or disproving something not at issue

ig·nore \ig-'nō(ə)r, -'nȯ(ə)r\ *vt* **ig·nored; ig·nor·ing** [obs. *ignore* to be ignorant of, fr. F *ignorer*, fr. L *ignorare*, fr. *ignarus* ignorant, unknown, fr. *in-* + *gnoscere, noscere* to know — more at KNOW] **1** : to refuse to take notice of **2** : to reject (a bill of indictment) as ungrounded ***syn*** see NEGLECT ***ant*** heed, acknowledge — **ig·nor·able** \-'nōr-ə-bəl, -'nȯr-\ *adj* — **ig·nor·er** *n*

Igo·rot \ˌē-gə-'rōt\ *n, pl* **Igorot** *or* **Igorots** **1** : a member of any of several related peoples of northwestern Luzon, Philippines **2** : any of the Austronesian languages of the Igorot

Igraine \i-'grān\ *n* : the wife of Uther and mother of Arthur in Arthurian legend

igua·na \i-'gwän-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. Arawak *iwana*] : any of various large herbivorous typically dark-colored tropical American lizards (family Iguanidae) that have a serrated dorsal crest and are important as human food in their native habitat; *broadly* : any of various large lizards



iguana

iguan·odon \i-'gwän-ə-ˌdän\ *n* [NL *Iguanodont-, Iguanodon*, genus name] : any of a genus (*Iguanodon*) of gigantic herbivorous dinosaurs from the early Cretaceous of Belgium and England

IGY *abbr* International Geophysical Year

IHD *abbr* International Hydrological Decade

IHP *abbr* indicated horsepower

IHS \ˌī-ˌā-'ches\ [LL, part transliteration of Gk IHΣ, abbreviation for IHΣOYΣ *Iēsous* Jesus] — used as a Christian symbol and monogram for *Jesus*

ike·ba·na \ˌik-ā-'bän-ə, ˌik-i-, ˌēk-\ *n* [Jap, fr. *ikeru* to keep alive, arrange + *hana* flower] : the Japanese art of flower arranging that emphasizes form and balance

ikon *var of* ICON

IL *abbr* Illinois

il- — see IN-

ILA *abbr* International Longshoremen's Association

ilang–ilang \ˌē-ˌläŋ-'ē-ˌläŋ\ *n* [Tag] **1** : a tree (*Canangium odoratum*) of the custard-apple family of the Malay archipelago, the Philippines, and adjacent areas that has very fragrant greenish yellow flowers **2** : a perfume distilled from the flowers of the ilang-ilang tree

ile- *also* **ileo-** *comb form* [NL *ileum*] **1** : ileum ⟨*ile*itis⟩ **2** : ileal and ⟨*ileo*cecal⟩

[1]-ile \ˌəl, ˌī(ə)l, ˌīl, (ˌ)il\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *-ilis*] : of, relating to, or capable of ⟨contract*ile*⟩

[2]-ile *n suffix* [prob. fr. *-ile* (as in *quartile*, n.)] : segment of a (specified) size in a frequency distribution ⟨dec*ile*⟩

il·e·itis \ˌil-ē-'īt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the ileum

il·e·um \'il-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **il·ea** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, groin, viscera] : the last division of the small intestine extending between the jejunum and large intestine — **il·e·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

il·e·us \'il-ē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *eileos*, fr. *eilyein* to roll — more at VOLUBLE] : mechanical or functional obstruction of the bowel

ilex \'ī-ˌleks\ *n* [L] **1** : a southern European evergreen oak (*Quercus ilex*) — called also *holm oak* **2** : HOLLY 1

ILGWU *abbr* International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

il·i·ac \'il-ē-ˌak\ *also* **il·i·al** \'il-ē-əl\ *adj* [LL *iliacus*, fr. L *ilium*] : of, relating to, or located near the ilium

Il·i·ad \'il-ē-əd, -ē-ˌad\ *n* [*Iliad*, ancient Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, fr. L *Iliad-, Ilias*, fr. Gk] **1** : a long narrative; *esp* : an epic in the Homeric tradition **2 a** : a series of exploits regarded as suitable for an epic **b** : a series of miseries or disastrous events — **Il·i·ad·ic** \ˌil-ē-'ad-ik\ *adj*

ilio- *comb form* [NL *ilium*] : iliac and ⟨*ilio*lumbar⟩

il·i·um \'il-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **il·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L *ilium, ileum*] : the dorsal, upper, and largest one of the three bones composing either lateral half of the pelvis

[1]ilk \'ilk\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *ilca*, fr. a prehistoric compound whose constituents are akin respectively to Goth *is* he (akin to L *is* he, that) and OE *gelīc* like — more at ITERATE, LIKE] *chiefly Scot* : SAME — used with *that* esp. in the names of landed families

[2]ilk *n* : SORT, KIND ⟨the rejection of these books or others of like ~ —Kathleen Molz⟩

[3]ilk *pron* [ME, adj. & pron., fr. OE *ylc, ælc* — more at EACH] *chiefly Scot* : EACH

il·ka \'il-kə\ *adj* [ME, fr. *ilk* + *a* (indef. art.)] *chiefly Scot* : EACH, EVERY

[1]ill \'il\ *adj* **worse** \'wərs\; **worst** \'wərst\ [ME, fr. ON *illr*] **1 a** *chiefly Scot* : IMMORAL, VICIOUS **b** : resulting from, accompanied by, or indicative of an evil or malevolent intention ⟨~ deeds⟩ **c** : attributing evil or an objectionable quality ⟨held an ~ opinion of his neighbors⟩ **2 a** : causing suffering or distress ⟨~ weather⟩ **b** (1) : not normal or sound ⟨~ health⟩ (2) : not in good health; *also* : NAUSEATED **3 a** : not suited to circumstances or not to one's advantage : UNLUCKY ⟨an ~ omen⟩ **b** : involving difficulty : HARD ⟨an ~ man to please⟩ **4 a** : not meeting an accepted standard ⟨~ manners⟩ **b** *archaic* : notably unskillful or inefficient **5 a** : UNFRIENDLY, HOSTILE ⟨~ feeling⟩ **b** : HARSH, CRUEL ⟨~ treatment⟩ ***syn*** see BAD ***ant*** good

[2]ill *adv* **worse; worst** **1 a** : with displeasure or hostility **b** : in a harsh manner **c** : so as to reflect unfavorably ⟨spoke ~ of his neighbors⟩ **2** : in a reprehensible manner **3** : HARDLY, SCARCELY ⟨can ~ afford such extravagances⟩ **4 a** : in an unfortunate manner : BADLY, UNLUCKILY ⟨~ fares the land . . . where wealth accumulates, and men decay —Oliver Goldsmith⟩ **b** : in a faulty, inefficient, or unpleasant manner — often used in combination ⟨the methods used may be *ill*-adapted to the aims in view —R. M. Hutchins⟩

[3]ill *n* **1** : the reverse of good : EVIL **2 a** : MISFORTUNE, DISTRESS **b** (1) : AILMENT, SICKNESS (2) : something that disturbs or afflicts : TROUBLE ⟨economic and social ~s⟩ **3** : something that reflects unfavorably ⟨spoke no ~ of him⟩

[4]ill *abbr* illustrated; illustration; illustrator

Ill *abbr* Illinois

I'll \(ˌ)ī(ə)l\ : I will : I shall

ill–ad·vised \ˌil-əd-'vīzd\ *adj* : resulting from or showing lack of wise and sufficient counsel or deliberation ⟨an ~ decision⟩ — **ill–ad·vis·ed·ly** \-'vī-zəd-lē\ *adv*

il·la·tion \il-'ā-shən\ *n* [LL *illation-, illatio*, fr. L, action of bringing in, fr. *illatus* (pp. of *inferre* to bring in), fr. *in-* + *latus*, pp. of *ferre* to carry — more at TOLERATE, BEAR] **1** : the action of inferring : INFERENCE **2** : a conclusion inferred

[1]il·la·tive \'il-ət-iv, il-'āt-\ *n* **1** : a word (as *therefore*) or phrase (as *as a consequence*) introducing an inference **2** : ILLATION 2

[2]illative *adj* : INFERENTIAL — **il·la·tive·ly** *adv*

il·laud·able \(')il-'(l)ȯd-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *illaudabilis*, fr. *in-* + *laudabilis* laudable] : deserving no praise — **il·laud·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

ill–be·ing \'il-'bē-iŋ\ *n* : a condition of being deficient in health, happiness, or prosperity

ill–bod·ing \-'bōd-iŋ\ *adj* : boding evil : INAUSPICIOUS

ill–bred \-'bred\ *adj* **1** : badly brought up or showing bad upbringing : IMPOLITE **2** : inferior by reason of being the offspring of badly matched parents

il·le·gal \(')il-'(l)ē-gəl\ *adj* [F or ML; F *illégal*, fr. ML *illegalis*, fr. L *in-* + *legalis* legal] : not according to or authorized by law : UNLAWFUL; *also* : not sanctioned by official rules (as of a game) — **il·le·gal·i·ty** \ˌil-i-'gal-ət-ē\ *n* — **il·le·gal·ly** \(')il-'(l)ē-gə-lē\ *adv*

il·le·gal·ize \(')il-'(l)ē-gə-ˌlīz\ *vt* : to make or declare illegal — **il·le·gal·iza·tion** \(ˌ)il-ˌ(l)ē-gə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

il·leg·i·ble \(')il-'(l)ej-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not legible : UNDECIPHERABLE ⟨~ writing⟩ — **il·leg·i·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)il-ˌ(l)ej-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **il·leg·i·bly** \(')il-'(l)ej-ə-blē\ *adv*

il·le·git·i·ma·cy \ˌil-i-'jit-ə-mə-sē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being illegitimate **2** : BASTARDY 2

il·le·git·i·mate \-'jit-ə-mət\ *adj* **1** : not recognized as lawful offspring; *specif* : born of parents not married to each other **2** : not rightly deduced or inferred : ILLOGICAL **3** : departing from the regular : ERRATIC **4 a** : not sanctioned by law : ILLEGAL **b** : not authorized by good usage **c** *of a taxon* : published either validly or invalidly but not in accordance with the rules of the relevant international code — **il·le·git·i·mate·ly** *adv*

ill–fat·ed \'il-'fāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : having or destined to an evil fate : UNFORTUNATE ⟨an ~ expedition⟩ **2** : that causes or marks the beginning of misfortune

ill–fa·vored \-'fā-vərd\ *adj* **1** : unattractive in physical appearance; *esp* : having an ugly face **2** : OFFENSIVE, OBJECTIONABLE ***syn*** see UGLY ***ant*** well-favored, fair

ill–got·ten \-'gät-ᵊn\ *adj* : acquired by illicit or improper means ⟨~ gains⟩

ill–hu·mored \'il-'(h)yü-mərd\ *adj* : SURLY, IRRITABLE — **ill–humored·ly** *adv*

il·lib·er·al \(')il-'(l)ib(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *illiberalis* ignoble, stingy, fr. L *in-* + *liberalis* liberal] : not liberal: as **a** *archaic* (1) : lacking a liberal education **a** (2) : lacking culture and refinement **b** : not requiring the background of a liberal arts education ⟨trades and other ~ occupations⟩ **c** *archaic* : not generous : STINGY **d** (1) : not broad-minded : BIGOTED **d** (2) : opposed to liberalism — **il·lib·er·al·i·ty** \(ˌ)il-ˌib -ə-'ral-ət-ē\ *n* — **il·lib·er·al·ly** \(')il-'(l)ib(-ə)-rə-lē\ *adv* — **il·lib·er·al·ness** \-rəl-nəs\ *n*

il·lib·er·al·ism \-rə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : opposition to or lack of liberalism

il·lic·it \(')il-'(l)is-ət\ *adj* [L *illicitus*, fr. *in-* + *licitus* lawful — more at LICIT] : not permitted : UNLAWFUL ⟨~ love affairs⟩ — **il·lic·it·ly** *adv*

il·lim·it·able \(')il-'(l)im-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being limited or bounded : MEASURELESS ⟨the ~ reaches of space and time⟩ — **il·lim·it·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)il-ˌ(l)im-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **il·lim·it·able·ness** \(')il-'(l)im-ət-ə-bəl-nəs \ *n* — **il·lim·it·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

Il·li·nois \ˌil-ə-'nȯi *also* -'nȯiz\ *n, pl* **Illinois** [F, of Algonquian origin; akin to Shawnee *hilenawe* man] **1** *pl* : a confederacy of Amerindian peoples of Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin **2** : a member of any of the Illinois peoples

il·liq·uid \(')il-'(l)ik-wəd\ *adj* **1** : not being cash or readily convertible into cash ⟨~ holdings⟩ **2** : deficient in liquid assets ⟨the position of the banks . . . was extremely ~. Deposits and cash reserves were falling, advances increasing —J. S. G. Wilson⟩ — **il·li·quid·i·ty** \ˌil-(ˌ)(l)ik-'wid-ət-ē\ *n*

il·lite \'il-ˌīt\ *n* [*Illinois*, U.S.A.] : a group of clay minerals having essentially the crystal structure of muscovite; *also* : one of these minerals — **il·lit·ic** \il-'it-ik\ *adj*

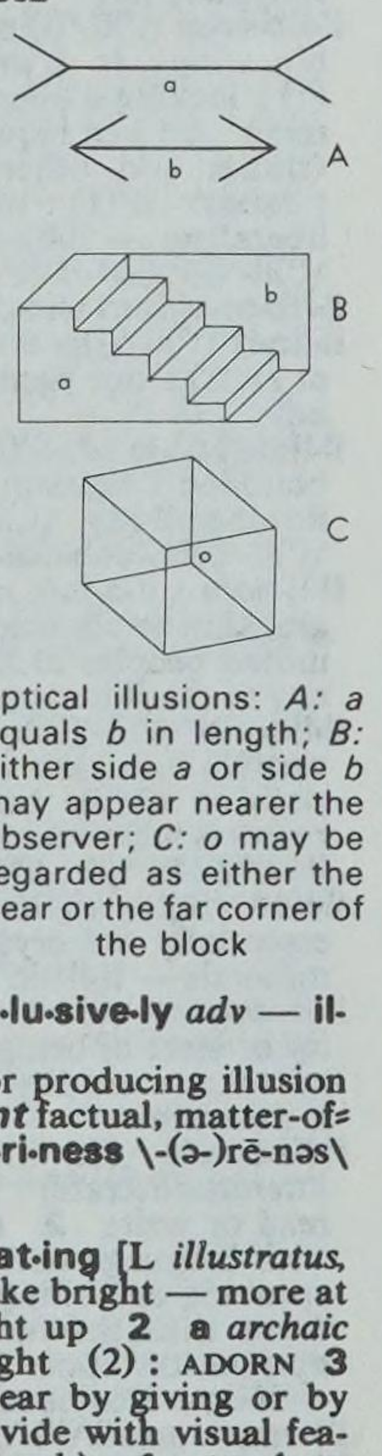
il·lit·er·a·cy \(')il-'(l)it-ə-rə-sē, -'(l)i-trə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being illiterate; *esp* : inability to read or write **2** : a mistake or crudity (as in speaking) made by or typical of one who is illiterate

il·lit·er·ate \(')il-'(l)it-ə-rət, -'(l)i-trət\ *adj* [L *illiteratus*, fr. *in-* + *litteratus* literate] **1** : having little or no education; *esp* : unable to read or write **2 a** : showing or marked by a lack of familiarity with language and literature **b** : violating approved patterns of speaking or writing **3** : showing or marked by a lack of acquaintance with the fundamentals of a particular field of knowledge ***syn*** see IGNORANT ***ant*** literate — **illiterate** *n* — **il·lit·er·ate·ly** *adv* — **il·lit·er·ate·ness** *n*

ill–man·nered \'il-'man-ərd\ *adj* : having bad manners : RUDE

ill–na·tured \-'nā-chərd\ *adj* **1** : MALEVOLENT, SPITEFUL **2** : having a bad disposition : CROSS, SURLY — **ill–na·tured·ly** *adv*

ill·ness \'il-nəs\ *n* **1** *obs* **a** : WICKEDNESS **b** : UNPLEASANTNESS **2** : an unhealthy condition of body or mind : SICKNESS
il·log·ic \(')il-'(l)äj-ik\ *n* [back-formation fr. *illogical*] : the quality or state of being illogical : ILLOGICALITY
il·log·i·cal \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : not observing the principles of logic **2** : devoid of logic : SENSELESS — **il·log·i·cal·i·ty** \(,)il-,(l)äj-ə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **il·log·i·cal·ly** \(')il-'(l)äj-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **il·log·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*
ill–sort·ed \'il-'sȯrt-əd\ *adj* **1** : not well matched ⟨he and his wife were an ~ pair —Lord Byron⟩ **2** *Scot* : much displeased
ill–starred \-'stärd\ *adj* : ILL-FATED, UNLUCKY ⟨an ~ venture⟩
ill–tem·pered \-'tem-pərd\ *adj* : ILL-NATURED, QUARRELSOME — **ill–tem·pered·ly** \-lē\ *adv*
ill–treat \-'trēt\ *vt* : to treat cruelly or improperly : MALTREAT — **ill–treat·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
il·lume \il-'üm\ *vt* **il·lumed; il·lum·ing** : ILLUMINATE
il·lu·mi·nance \-mə-nən(t)s\ *n* : ILLUMINATION 2
il·lu·mi·nant \-nənt\ *n* : an illuminating device or substance
[1]il·lu·mi·nate \il-'ü-mə-nət\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : brightened with light **2** *archaic* : intellectually or spiritually enlightened
[2]il·lu·mi·nate \-,nāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *illuminatus*, pp. of *illuminare*, fr. *in-* + *luminare* to light up, fr. *lumin-*, *lumen* light — more at LUMINARY] **1 a** (1) : to supply or brighten with light (2) : to make luminous or shining **b** : to enlighten spiritually or intellectually **c** *archaic* : to set alight **d** : to subject to radiation **2** : to make clear : ELUCIDATE ⟨~s a point by reference to current life —J. F. T. Bugental⟩ **3** : to make illustrious or resplendent **4** : to decorate (as a manuscript) with gold or silver or brilliant colors or with often elaborate designs or miniature pictures — **il·lu·mi·nat·ing·ly** \-,nāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **il·lu·mi·na·tor** \-,nāt-ər\ *n*
[3]il·lu·mi·nate \-nət\ *n, archaic* : one having or claiming unusual enlightenment
il·lu·mi·na·ti \il-,ü-mə-'nät-ē\ *n pl* [It & NL; It, fr. NL, fr. L, pl. of *illuminatus*] **1** *cap* : any of various groups claiming special religious enlightenment **2** : persons who are or who claim to be unusually enlightened
il·lu·mi·na·tion \il-,ü-mə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of illuminating or state of being illuminated: as **a** : spiritual or intellectual enlightenment **b** (1) : a lighting up (2) : decorative lighting or lighting effects **c** : decoration by the art of illuminating **2** : the luminous flux per unit area on an intercepting surface at any given point **3** : one of the decorative features used in the art of illuminating or in decorative lighting
il·lu·mi·na·tive \il-'ü-mə-,nāt-iv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or producing illumination : ILLUMINATING
il·lu·mine \il-'ü-mən\ *vt* **-mined; -min·ing** : ILLUMINATE — **il·lu·min·able** \-mə-nə-bəl\ *adj*
il·lu·mi·nism \-mə-,niz-əm\ *n* **1** : belief in or claim to a personal enlightenment not accessible to mankind in general **2** *cap* : beliefs or claims viewed as forming doctrine or principles of Illuminati — **il·lu·mi·nist** \-nəst\ *n*
ill–us·age \'il-'yü-sij, -zij\ *n* : harsh, unkind, or abusive treatment
ill–use \-'yüz\ *vt* : to use badly : MALTREAT, ABUSE
il·lu·sion \il-'ü-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *illusion-*, *illusio*, fr. L, action of mocking, fr. *illusus*, pp. of *illudere* to mock at, fr. *in-* + *ludere* to play, mock — more at LUDICROUS] **1 a** *obs* : the action of deceiving **b** (1) : the state or fact of being intellectually deceived or misled : MISAPPREHENSION (2) : an instance of such deception **2 a** (1) : a misleading image presented to the vision (2) : something that deceives or misleads intellectually **b** (1) : perception of something objectively existing in such a way as to cause misinterpretation of its actual nature (2) : HALLUCINATION 1 (3) : a pattern capable of reversible perspective **3** : a fine plain transparent bobbinet or tulle usu. made of silk and used for veils, trimmings, and dresses ***syn*** see DELUSION — **il·lu·sion·al** \-'üzh-nəl, -ən-[ə]l\ *adj*



optical illusions: *A: a* equals *b* in length; *B:* either side *a* or side *b* may appear nearer the observer; *C: o* may be regarded as either the near or the far corner of the block

il·lu·sion·ary \il-'ü-zhə-,ner-ē\ *adj* : ILLUSORY ***syn*** see APPARENT ***ant*** factual, matter-of-fact
il·lu·sion·ism \il-'ü-zhə-,niz-əm\ *n* : the use of artistic techniques (as perspective or shading) to create the illusion of reality esp. in a work of art — **il·lu·sion·ist** \-'üzh-(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj* — **il·lu·sion·is·tic** \-,ü-zhə-'nis-tik\ *adj*
il·lu·sive \il-'ü-siv, -'ü-ziv\ *adj* : ILLUSORY — **il·lu·sive·ly** *adv* — **il·lu·sive·ness** *n*
il·lu·so·ry \il-'üs-(ə-)rē, -'üz-\ *adj* : based on or producing illusion : DECEPTIVE ⟨~ hopes⟩ ***syn*** see APPARENT ***ant*** factual, matter-of-fact — **il·lu·so·ri·ly** \-(ə-)rə-lē\ *adv* — **il·lu·so·ri·ness** \-(ə-)rē-nəs\ *n*
illust *or* **illus** *abbr* illustrated; illustration
il·lus·trate \'il-əs-,trāt, il-'əs-\ *vb* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** [L *illustratus*, pp. of *illustrare*, fr. *in-* + *lustrare* to purify, make bright — more at LUSTER] *vt* **1** *obs* **a** : ENLIGHTEN **b** : to light up **2 a** *archaic* : to make illustrious **b** *obs* (1) : to make bright (2) : ADORN **3 a** : to make clear : CLARIFY **b** : to make clear by giving or by serving as an example or instance **c** : to provide with visual features intended to explain or decorate ⟨~ a book⟩ **4** : to show clearly : DEMONSTRATE ~ *vi* : to give an example or instance — **il·lus·tra·tor** \'il-əs-,trāt-ər, il-'əs-\ *n*
il·lus·tra·tion \,il-əs-'trā-shən, il-,əs-\ *n* **1 a** : the action of illustrating : the condition of being illustrated **b** *archaic* : the action of making illustrious or honored or distinguished **2** : something that serves to illustrate: as **a** : an example or instance that helps make something clear **b** : a picture or diagram that helps make something clear or attractive ***syn*** see INSTANCE — **il·lus·tra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-[ə]l\ *adj*
il·lus·tra·tive \il-'əs-trət-iv\ *adj* : serving, tending, or designed to illustrate ⟨~ examples⟩ — **il·lus·tra·tive·ly** *adv*
il·lus·tri·ous \il-'əs-trē-əs\ *adj* [L *illustris*, prob. back-formation fr. *illustrare*] **1** : notably or brilliantly outstanding because of dignity or achievements or actions : EMINENT **2** *archaic* **a** : shining brightly with light **b** : clearly evident ***syn*** see FAMOUS ***ant*** infamous — **il·lus·tri·ous·ly** *adv* — **il·lus·tri·ous·ness** *n*
il·lu·vi·al \(')il-'ü-vē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by illuviation or illuviated materials or areas
il·lu·vi·ate \-vē-,āt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to undergo illuviation
il·lu·vi·a·tion \(,)il-,ü-vē-'ā-shən\ *n* [*in-* + *-luviation* (as in *eluviation*)] : accumulation of dissolved or suspended soil materials in one area or horizon as a result of eluviation from another
il·lu·vi·um \(')il-'ü-vē-əm\ *n, pl* **-vi·ums** *or* **-via** \-vē-ə\ [NL, fr. *in-* + *-luvium* (as in *alluvium*)] : material leached from one soil horizon and deposited in another
ill will *n* : unfriendly feeling ***syn*** see MALICE ***ant*** goodwill, charity
ill–wish·er \'il-,wish-ər, -'wish-\ *n* : one that wishes ill to another
il·ly \'il-(l)ē\ *adv* : not wisely or well : BADLY, ILL ⟨his ~ concealed pride —Della Lutes⟩
Il·lyr·i·an \il-'ir-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of ancient Illyria **2** : the poorly attested Indo-European languages of the Illyrians — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Illyrian** *adj*
il·men·ite \'il-mə-,nīt\ *n* [G *ilmenit*, fr. *Ilmen* range, Ural Mts., U.S.S.R.] : a usu. massive iron-black mineral $FeTiO_3$ composed of iron, titanium, and oxygen
ILO *abbr* International Labor Organization
Ilo·ca·no *or* **Ilo·ka·no** \,ē-lə-'kän-(,)ō, ,il-ə-\ *n, pl* **Ilocano** *or* **Ilocanos** *or* **Ilokano** *or* **Ilokanos** **1 a** : a major people of northern Luzon in the Philippines **b** : a member of this people **2** : the Austronesian language of the Ilocano people
ILS *abbr* instrument landing system
IM *abbr* intramural
im- — see IN-
I'm \(,)īm\ : I am
[1]im·age \'im-ij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, short for *imagene*, fr. L *imagin-*, *imago*; akin to L *imitari* to imitate] **1** : a reproduction or imitation of the form of a person or thing; *esp* : an imitation in solid form : STATUE **2 a** : the optical counterpart of an object produced by an optical device (as a lens or mirror) or an electronic device **b** : a likeness of an object produced on a photographic material **3 a** : exact likeness : SEMBLANCE ⟨God created man in his own ~ —Gen 1:27 (RSV)⟩ **b** : a person strikingly like another person ⟨he is the ~ of his father⟩ **4 a** : a tangible or visible representation : INCARNATION ⟨he is the ~ of filial devotion⟩ **b** *archaic* : an illusory form : APPARITION **5 a** (1) : a mental picture of something not actually present : IMPRESSION (2) : a mental conception held in common by members of a group and symbolic of a basic attitude and orientation ⟨a disorderly courtroom can seriously tarnish a community's ~ of justice —Herbert Brownell⟩ **b** : IDEA, CONCEPT **6** : a vivid or graphic representation or description **7** : FIGURE OF SPEECH **8** : a popular conception (as of a person, institution, or nation) projected esp. through the mass media ⟨promoting a corporate ~ of brotherly love and concern —R. C. Buck⟩ **9** : a set of values of a mathematical function (as a homomorphism) that corresponds to a particular subset of the domain
[2]image *vb* **im·aged; im·ag·ing** *vt* **1** : to describe or portray in language esp. in a vivid manner **2** : to call up a mental picture of : IMAGINE **3 a** : REFLECT, MIRROR **b** : to make appear : PROJECT **4 a** : to create a representation of; *also* : to form an image of **b** : to represent symbolically ~ *vi* : to form an image
image orthicon *n* : a highly sensitive television image tube that uses secondary emission and electron multiplication to produce the output signal
im·ag·ery \'im-ij-(ə-)rē\ *n* **1** : the product of image makers : IMAGES; *also* : the art of making images **2** : figurative language **3** : mental images; *esp* : the products of imagination
image tube *n* : an electron tube in which incident electromagnetic radiation (as light or infrared) produces a visible image on its fluorescent screen duplicating the original pattern of radiation — called also *image converter*
imag·in·able \im-'aj-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being imagined : CONCEIVABLE — **imag·in·able·ness** *n* — **imag·in·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
[1]imag·i·nal \im-'aj-ən-[ə]l\ *adj* [*imagine* + *-al*] : of or relating to imagination, images, or imagery
[2]ima·gi·nal \im-'ā-gən-[ə]l, -'äg-ən-\ *adj* [NL *imagin-*, *imago*] : of or relating to the insect imago
imag·i·nary \im-'aj-ə-,ner-ē\ *adj* **1** : existing only in imagination : lacking factual reality **2** : containing or relating to the imaginary unit — **imag·i·nari·ly** \im-,aj-ə-'ner-ə-lē\ *adv* — **imag·i·nari·ness** \-'aj-ə-,ner-ē-nəs\ *n*
syn IMAGINARY, FANCIFUL, VISIONARY, FANTASTIC, CHIMERICAL *shared meaning element* : unreal or unbelievable ***ant*** real, actual
imaginary number *n* : a complex number (as 2 + 3i) whose imaginary part is not zero — called also *imaginary*
imaginary part *n* : the part of a complex number (as *3i* in *2+3i*) that has the imaginary unit as a factor
imaginary unit *n* : the positive square root of minus 1 : +
imag·i·na·tion \im-,aj-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or power of forming a mental image of something not present to the senses or never before wholly perceived in reality **2 a** : creative ability **b** : ability to confront and deal with a problem : RESOURCEFULNESS **3 a** : a creation of the mind; *esp* : an idealized or poetic creation **b** : fanciful or empty assumption **4** : popular or traditional belief or conception
syn IMAGINATION, FANCY, FANTASY *shared meaning element* : the power to form mental images of things not before one
imag·i·na·tive \im-'aj-(ə-)nət-iv, -'aj-ə-,nāt-\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or characterized by imagination **b** : devoid of truth : FALSE **2** : given to imagining : having a lively imagination **3** : of or relating to images; *esp* : showing a command of imagery — **imag·i·na·tive·ly** *adv* — **imag·i·na·tive·ness** *n*

imag·ine \im-'aj-ən\ *vb* **imag·ined; imag·in·ing** \-'aj-(ə-)niŋ\ [ME *imaginen*, fr. MF *imaginer*, fr. L *imaginari*, fr. *imagin-*, *imago* image] *vt* **1** : to form a mental image of (something not present) **2** *archaic* : PLAN, SCHEME **3** : SUPPOSE, GUESS ⟨I ~ it will rain⟩ **4** : to form a notion of without sufficient basis : FANCY ⟨~*s* himself to be the reformer of the world⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to use the imagination **2** : SUPPOSE, THINK ***syn*** see THINK

im·ag·ism \'im-ij-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap* : a 20th century movement in poetry advocating free verse and the expression of ideas and emotions through clear precise images — **im·ag·ist** \-ij-əst\ *n* — **imagist** *or* **im·ag·is·tic** \ˌim-ij-'is-tik\ *adj* — **im·ag·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ima·go \im-'ā-(ˌ)gō, -'äg-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **imagoes** *or* **ima·gi·nes** \-'ā-gəˌnēz, -'äg-ə-\ [NL, fr. L, image] **1** : an insect in its final, adult, sexually mature, and typically winged state **2** : an idealized mental image of another person or the self

imam \i-'mäm, -'mam\ *n* [Ar *imām*] **1** : the prayer leader of a mosque **2** *cap* : a Muslim leader of the line of Ali held by Shiites to be the divinely appointed, sinless, infallible successors of Muhammad **3** : any of various rulers that claim descent from Muhammad and exercise spiritual and temporal leadership over a Muslim region

imam·ate \-ˌāt\ *n, often cap* **1** : the office of an imam **2** : the region or country ruled over by an imam

ima·ret \i-'mär-ət\ *n* [Turk] : an inn or hospice in Turkey

im·bal·ance \(')im-'bal-ən(t)s\ *n* : lack of balance: as **a** : lack of functional balance between body parts or its effect **b** : lack of balance between segments of a nation's economy **c** (1) : numerical disproportion between males and females in a population **c** (2) : numerical disproportion between racial elements (as in a school)

im·be·cile \'im-bə-səl, -ˌsil\ *n* [F *imbécile*, fr. *imbécile* weak, weak-minded, fr. L *imbecillus*] **1** : a mentally deficient person; *esp* : a feebleminded person having a mental age of three to seven years and requiring supervision in the performance of routine daily tasks of caring for himself **2** : FOOL, IDIOT ***syn*** see FOOL — **imbecile** *or* **im·be·cil·ic** \ˌim-bə-'sil-ik\ *adj* — **im·be·cile·ly** \'im-bə-sə(l)-lē, -ˌsil-lē\ *adv*

im·be·cil·i·ty \ˌim-bə-'sil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being imbecile or an imbecile **2** **a** : utter foolishness; *also* : FUTILITY **b** : something that is foolish or nonsensical

imbed *var of* EMBED

im·bibe \im-'bīb\ *vb* **im·bibed; im·bib·ing** [in sense 1, fr. ME *enbiben*, fr. MF *embiber*, fr. L *imbibere* to drink in, conceive, fr. *in-* + *bibere* to drink; in other senses, fr. L *imbibere* — more at POTABLE] *vt* **1** *archaic* : SOAK, STEEP **2** **a** : to receive into the mind and retain ⟨~ moral principles⟩ **b** : to assimilate or take into solution **3** **a** : DRINK **b** : to take in or up ⟨a sponge ~*s* moisture⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : DRINK 2 **2** **a** : to take in liquid **b** : to absorb or assimilate moisture, gas, light, or heat ***syn*** see ABSORB ***ant*** ooze, exude — **im·bib·er** *n*

im·bi·bi·tion \ˌim-bə-'bish-ən\ *n* : the act or action of imbibing; *esp* : the taking up of fluid by a colloidal system resulting in swelling — **im·bi·bi·tion·al** \-'bish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

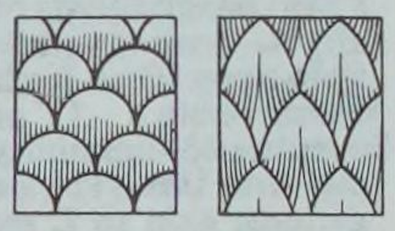
imbitter *var of* EMBITTER

imbosom *var of* EMBOSOM

¹im·bri·cate \'im-bri-kət\ *adj* [LL *imbricatus*, pp. of *imbricare* to cover with pantiles, fr. L *imbric-*, *imbrex* pantile, fr. *imbr-*, *imber* rain; akin to Gk *ombros* rain] : lying lapped over each other in regular order ⟨~ scales⟩ — **im·bri·cate·ly** *adv*

²im·bri·cate \'im-brə-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** : OVERLAP; *esp* : to overlap like roof tiles

im·bri·ca·tion \ˌim-brə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an overlapping of edges (as of tiles or scales) **2** : a decoration or pattern showing imbrication



imbrication 2

im·bro·glio \im-'brōl-(ˌ)yō\ *n, pl* **-glios** [It, fr. *imbrogliare* to entangle, fr. MF *embrouiller* — more at EMBROIL] **1** : a confused mass **2** **a** : an intricate or complicated situation (as in a drama or novel) **b** : an acutely painful or embarrassing misunderstanding **c** : a violently confused or bitterly complicated altercation : EMBROILMENT

imbrown *var of* EMBROWN

im·brue \im-'brü\ *vt* **im·brued; im·bru·ing** [ME *enbrewen*, prob. fr. MF *abrevrer*, *embevrer* to soak, drench, deriv. of L *bibere* to drink — more at POTABLE] : DRENCH, STAIN

im·brute \-'brüt\ *vb* **im·bruted; im·brut·ing** *vi* : to sink to the level of a brute ~ *vt* : to degrade to the level of a brute

im·bue \-'byü\ *vt* **im·bued; im·bu·ing** [L *imbuere*] **1** : to tinge or dye deeply **2** : to cause to become penetrated : PERMEATE ⟨a man *imbued* with a strong sense of duty⟩ ***syn*** see INFUSE

IMCO *abbr* Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization

imdtly *abbr* immediately

IMF *abbr* International Monetary Fund

im·id·az·ole \ˌim-ə-'daz-ˌōl\ *n* [ISV] : a white crystalline heterocyclic base $C_3H_4N_2$ that is an antimetabolite related to histidine; *broadly* : any of various derivatives of this

im·ide \'im-ˌīd\ *n* [ISV, alter. of *amide*] : a compound containing the NH group that is derived from ammonia by replacement of two hydrogen atoms by a metal or an equivalent of acid radicals — compare AMIDE — **im·id·ic** \im-'id-ik\ *adj*

im·i·do \'im-ə-ˌdō\ adj : relating to or containing the group NH or a substituted group NR united to one or two radicals of acid character

im·ine \'im-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV, alter. of *amine*] : a compound containing the NH group that is derived from ammonia by replacement of two hydrogen atoms by a hydrocarbon radical or other nonacid organic radical

im·i·no \'im-ə-ˌnō\ *adj* : relating to or containing the group NH or a substituted group NR united to a radical other than an acid radical

imip·ra·mine \im-'ip-rə-ˌmēn\ *n* [*imi*de + *pr*opyl + *amine*] : an antidepressant drug $C_{19}H_{24}N_2$

imit *abbr* imitative

im·i·ta·ble \'im-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable or worthy of being imitated or copied

im·i·tate \'im-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *imitatus*, pp. of *imitari* — more at IMAGE] **1** : to follow as a pattern, model, or example **2** : to produce a copy of : REPRODUCE **3** : to be or appear like : RESEMBLE **4** : MIMIC, COUNTERFEIT ⟨can ~ his father's booming voice⟩ ***syn*** see COPY — **im·i·ta·tor** \-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

¹im·i·ta·tion \ˌim-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of imitating **2** : something produced as a copy : COUNTERFEIT **3** : a literary work designed to reproduce the style of another author **4** : the repetition in a voice part of the melodic theme, phrase, or motive previously found in another part **5** : participation by a sensible object in a transcendent idea **6** **a** : the execution of an act supposedly as a direct response to the perception of another person performing the act **b** : the assumption of the modes of behavior observed in other individuals — **im·i·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

²imitation *adj* : resembling something else that is usu. genuine and of better quality : not real ⟨~ leather⟩

im·i·ta·tive \'im-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* **1** **a** : marked by imitation ⟨acting is an ~ art⟩ **b** : reproducing or representing a natural sound : ONOMATOPOEIC ⟨"hiss" is an ~ word⟩ **c** : exhibiting mimicry **2** : inclined to imitate **3** : imitating something superior : COUNTERFEIT — **im·i·ta·tive·ly** *adv* — **im·i·ta·tive·ness** *n*

im·mac·u·la·cy \im-'ak-yə-lə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being immaculate

im·mac·u·late \im-'ak-yə-lət\ *adj* [ME *immaculat*, fr. L *immaculatus*, fr. *in-* + *maculatus*, pp. of *maculare* to stain — more at MACULATE] **1** : having no stain or blemish : PURE **2** : containing no flaw or error **3** **a** : spotlessly clean **b** : having no colored spots or marks ⟨petals ~⟩ — **im·mac·u·late·ly** *adv* — **im·mac·u·late·ness** *n*

Immaculate Conception *n* **1** : the conception of the Virgin Mary in which as decreed in Roman Catholic dogma her soul was preserved free from original sin by divine grace **2** : December 8 observed as a Roman Catholic festival in commemoration of the Immaculate Conception

im·mane \im-'ān\ *adj* [L *immanis*, fr. *in-* + *manus* good — more at MATURE] *archaic* : HUGE; *also* : monstrous in character

im·ma·nence \'im-ə-nən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being immanent : INHERENCE

im·ma·nen·cy \-nən-sē\ *n* : IMMANENCE

im·ma·nent \-nənt\ *adj* [LL *immanent-*, *immanens*, prp. of *immanēre* to remain in place, fr. L *in-* + *manēre* to remain — more at MANSION] : remaining or operating within a domain of reality or realm of discourse : INHERENT; *specif* : existing in consciousness or the mind and not in an extra-mental world — compare TRANSCENDENT — **im·ma·nent·ly** *adv*

im·ma·nent·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : any of several theories according to which God or an abstract mind or spirit is immanent in the world — **im·ma·nent·ist** \-nənt-əst, -ˌnent-\ *n* — **im·ma·nent·is·tic** \ˌim-ə-nənt-'is-tik\ *adj*

im·ma·te·ri·al \ˌim-ə-'tir-ē-əl\ *adj* [ME *immateriel*, fr. MF, fr. LL *immaterialis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *materialis* material] **1** : not consisting of matter : INCORPOREAL **2** : of no substantial consequence : UNIMPORTANT — **im·ma·te·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv* — **im·ma·te·ri·al·ness** *n*

im·ma·te·ri·al·ism \-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : a theory that external bodies are in essence mental — **im·ma·te·ri·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n*

im·ma·te·ri·al·i·ty \ˌim-ə-ˌtir-ē-'al-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being immaterial **2** : something immaterial

im·ma·te·ri·al·ize \-'tir-ē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* : to make immaterial or incorporeal

im·ma·ture \ˌim-ə-'t(y)u̇(ə)r *also* -'chu̇(ə)r\ *adj* [L *immaturus*, fr. *in-* + *maturus* mature] **1** *archaic* : PREMATURE **2** **a** : lacking complete growth, differentiation, or development ⟨a thin ~ soil⟩ **b** (1) : having the potential capacity to attain a definitive form or state : CRUDE, UNFINISHED ⟨a vigorous but ~ school of art⟩ (2) *of a topographic feature* : predictably due to undergo further changes — used esp. of valleys and drainages while most of the area is well above baselevel **c** : exhibiting less than an expected degree of maturity ⟨emotionally ~ adults⟩ — **immature** *n* — **im·ma·ture·ly** *adv* — **im·ma·ture·ness** *n* — **im·ma·tu·rity** \-'t(y)u̇r-ət-ē *also* -'chu̇r-\ *n*

im·mea·sur·able \(')im-'(m)ezh-(ə-)rə-bəl, -'(m)ezh-ər-bəl, -'(m)āzh-\ *adj* : incapable of being measured; *broadly* : indefinitely extensive — **im·mea·sur·able·ness** *n* — **im·mea·sur·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

im·me·di·a·cy \im-'ēd-ē-ə-sē, *Brit often* -'ē-jə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being immediate; *esp* : absence of a mediating agent **2** : something that is immediate — usu. used in pl.

im·me·di·ate \im-'ēd-ē-ət, *Brit often* -'ē-jit\ *adj* [LL *immediatus*, fr. L *in-* + LL *mediatus* intermediate — more at MEDIATE] **1** **a** : acting or being without the intervention of another object, cause, or agency : DIRECT ⟨the ~ cause of death⟩ **b** : present to the mind independently of other states or factors ⟨~ awareness⟩ **c** : involving or derived from a single premise ⟨an ~ inference⟩ **2** : being next in line or relation ⟨only the ~ family was present⟩ **3** **a** : made or done at once : INSTANT ⟨an ~ need⟩ **b** (1) *of time* : near to or related to the present ⟨the ~ past⟩ (2) : of or relating to the here and now : CURRENT ⟨too busy with ~ concerns to worry about the future⟩ **4** **a** : existing without intervening space or substance ⟨bring the chemicals into ~ contact very carefully⟩

b : being near at hand ⟨the ~ neighborhood⟩ **5** : directly touching or concerning a person or thing ⟨the child's ~ world is the classroom⟩

immediate constituent *n* : any of the meaningful constituents directly forming a larger linguistic construction (as a phrase or sentence)

[1]im·me·di·ate·ly *adv* **1** : in direct connection or relation : DIRECTLY ⟨the parties ~ involved in the case⟩ ⟨the house ~ beyond this one⟩ **2** : without interval of time : STRAIGHTWAY

[2]immediately *conj* : as soon as

im·me·di·ate·ness *n* : IMMEDIACY 1

im·med·i·ca·ble \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)ed-i-kə-bəl\ *adj* [L *immedicabilis*, fr. *in-* + *medicabilis* medicable] : INCURABLE ⟨wounds ~ —John Milton⟩ — **im·med·i·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

Im·mel·mann \ˈim-əl-mən\ *n* [Max *Immelmann*] : a turn in which an airplane in flight is first made to complete half of a loop and is then rolled half of a complete turn — called also *Immelmann turn*

im·me·mo·ri·al \ˌim-ə-ˈmōr-ē-əl, -ˈmȯr-\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *immémorial*, fr. MF, fr. *in-* + *memorial*] : extending beyond the reach of memory, record, or tradition ⟨existing from time ~⟩ — **im·me·mo·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

im·mense \im-ˈen(t)s\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *immensus* immeasurable, fr. *in-* + *mensus*, pp. of *metiri* to measure — more at MEASURE] **1** : marked by greatness esp. in size or degree; *esp* : transcending ordinary means of measurement ⟨the ~ and boundless universe⟩ **2** : supremely good : EXCELLENT ⟨her portrayal of the role was ~⟩ ***syn*** see HUGE ***ant*** minute — **im·mense·ly** *adv* — **im·mense·ness** *n*

im·men·si·ty \im-ˈen(t)-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being immense **2** : something immense

im·men·su·ra·ble \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)en(t)s-(ə-)rə-bəl, -ˈ(m)ench-(ə-)rə-\ *adj* [LL *immensurabilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *mensurabilis* measurable] : IMMEASURABLE

im·merge \im-ˈərj\ *vi* **im·merged; im·merg·ing** [L *immergere*] : to plunge into or immerse oneself in something — **im·mer·gence** \-ˈər-jən(t)s\ *n*

im·merse \im-ˈərs\ *vt* **im·mersed; im·mers·ing** [L *immersus*, pp. of *immergere*, fr. *in-* + *mergere* to merge] **1** : to plunge into something that surrounds or covers; *esp* : to plunge or dip into a fluid **2** : to baptize by immersion **3** : ENGROSS, ABSORB ⟨completely *immersed* in his work⟩

im·mersed *adj, of a plant* : growing wholly under water

im·mers·ible \im-ˈər-sə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being totally submerged in water without damage to the heating element ⟨an ~ electric frying pan⟩

im·mer·sion \im-ˈər-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1** : an act of immersing : a state of being immersed; *specif* : baptism by complete submersion of the person in water **2** : disappearance of a celestial body behind or into the shadow of another

im·mesh \im-ˈesh\ *var of* ENMESH

im·me·thod·i·cal \ˌim-ə-ˈthäd-i-kəl\ *adj* : not methodical — **im·me·thod·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

im·mi·grant \ˈim-i-grənt\ *n* : one that immigrates: **a** : a person who comes to a country to take up permanent residence **b** : a plant or animal that becomes established in an area where it was previously unknown ***syn*** see EMIGRANT — **immigrant** *adj*

im·mi·grate \ˈim-ə-ˌgrāt\ *vb* **-grat·ed; -grat·ing** [L *immigratus*, pp. of *immigrare* to remove, go in, fr. *in-* + *migrare* to migrate] *vi* : to enter and usu. become established; *esp* : to come into a country of which one is not a native for permanent residence ~ *vt* : to bring in or send as immigrants — **im·mi·gra·tion** \ˌim-ə-ˈgrā-shən\ *n* — **im·mi·gra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

im·mi·nence \ˈim-ə-nən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being imminent **2** : something imminent; *esp* : impending evil or danger

im·mi·nen·cy \-nən-sē\ *n* : IMMINENCE 1

im·mi·nent \ˈim-ə-nənt\ *adj* [L *imminent-, imminens*, prp. of *imminēre* to project, threaten, fr. *in-* + *-minēre* (akin to L *mont-, mons* mountain) — more at MOUNT] **1** : ready to take place; *esp* : hanging threateningly over one's head ⟨was in ~ danger of being run over⟩ **2** : IMMANENT — **im·mi·nent·ly** *adv* — **im·mi·nent·ness** *n*

im·min·gle \im-ˈiŋ-gəl\ *vb* : BLEND, INTERMINGLE

im·mis·ci·ble \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)is-ə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of mixing or attaining homogeneity — **im·mis·ci·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌ(m)is-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·mis·ci·bly** \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)is-ə-blē\ *adv*

im·mit·i·ga·ble \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)it-i-gə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *immitigabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *mitigare* to mitigate] : not capable of being mitigated — **im·mit·i·ga·ble·ness** *n* — **im·mit·i·ga·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

im·mit·tance \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)it-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [*im*pedance + ad*mittance*] : electrical admittance or impedance

im·mix \im-ˈiks\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *immixed* mixed in, fr. ME *immixte*, fr. L *immixtus*, pp. of *immiscēre*, fr. *in-* + *miscēre* to mix — more at MIX] : to mix intimately : COMMINGLE — **im·mix·ture** \-ˈiks-chər\ *n*

im·mo·bile \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)ō-bəl, -ˌbēl, -ˌbīl\ *adj* [ME *in-mobill*, fr. L *immobilis*, fr. *in-* + *mobilis* mobile] **1** : incapable of being moved : FIXED **2** : not moving : MOTIONLESS ⟨keep the patient ~⟩ — **im·mo·bil·i·ty** \ˌim-(ˌ)ō-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

im·mo·bi·lize \im-ˈō-bə-ˌlīz\ *vt* : to make immobile: as **a** : to prevent freedom of movement or effective use of ⟨the planes were *immobilized* by bad weather⟩ **b** : to reduce or eliminate motion of (the body or a part) by mechanical means or by strict bed rest **c** : to withhold (money or capital) from circulation — **im·mo·bi·li·za·tion** \-ˌō-bə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **im·mo·bi·liz·er** \-ˈō-bə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

im·mod·er·a·cy \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)äd-(ə-)rə-sē\ *n* : lack of moderation

im·mod·er·ate \-(ə-)rət\ *adj* [ME *immoderat*, fr. L *immoderatus*, fr. *in-* + *moderatus*, pp. of *moderare* to moderate] : exceeding just, usual, or suitable bounds ⟨~ pride⟩ ⟨an ~ appetite⟩ ***syn*** see EXCESSIVE ***ant*** moderate — **im·mod·er·ate·ly** *adv* — **im·mod·er·ate·ness** *n* — **im·mod·er·a·tion** \(ˌ)im-ˌäd-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

im·mod·est \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)äd-əst\ *adj* [L *immodestus*, fr. *in-* + *modestus* modest] : not modest; *specif* : not conforming to the sexual mores of a particular time or place — **im·mod·est·ly** *adv* — **im·mod·es·ty** \-ə-stē\ *n*

im·mo·late \ˈim-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *immolatus*, pp. of *immolare*, fr. *in-* + *mola* spelt grits; fr. the custom of sprinkling victims with sacrificial meal; akin to L *molere* to grind — more at MILL] **1** : to offer in sacrifice; *esp* : to kill as a sacrificial victim **2** : KILL, DESTROY — **im·mo·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*

im·mo·la·tion \ˌim-ə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of immolating : the state of being immolated **2** : something that is immolated

im·mor·al \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)ȯr-əl, -ˈ(m)är-\ *adj* : not moral; *broadly* : conflicting with generally or traditionally held moral principles — **im·mor·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

syn IMMORAL, UNMORAL, NONMORAL, AMORAL *shared meaning element* : not moral. In spite of their common element of meaning these words are rarely interchangeable without serious loss of precision. IMMORAL implies a positive and active opposition to what is *moral* and may designate whatever is discordant with accepted ethical principles or the dictates of conscience ⟨*immoral* conduct⟩ or, in weakened use, with accepted social custom or general practice ⟨refusal to acknowledge the boundaries set by convention is the source of frequent denunciations of art as *immoral* —John Dewey⟩ *Unmoral, nonmoral,* and *amoral* all, in contrast to *immoral,* imply a passive negation of what is moral. UNMORAL can imply a lack of ethical perception and moral awareness ⟨infants and idiots are *unmoral* and without moral responsibility⟩ or it can come close to *conscienceless* in implying disregard of moral principles ⟨the great *unmoral* power of the modern industrial revolution —F. L. Wright⟩ Occasionally, it, along with *nonmoral* and *amoral,* implies that the thing qualified is not a fit subject for ethical judgment. While *nonmoral* and *amoral* are frequently interchangeable, NONMORAL may be preferred when what is qualified is patently outside the realm of moral judgments, and AMORAL can be applied discriminatively to something not customarily or universally so exempt; thus, life in the abstract is a *nonmoral* concept but a particular human life may well be *amoral;* perspective is a *nonmoral* aspect of painting but a painter's approach is likely to be *amoral,* even though some critics consider the result *immoral.* ***ant*** moral

im·mor·al·ist \-ə-ləst\ *n* : an advocate of immorality

im·mo·ral·i·ty \ˌim-(ˌ)ō-ˈral-ət-ē, ˌim-ə-ˈral-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being immoral; *esp* : UNCHASTITY **2** : an immoral act or practice

[1]im·mor·tal \(ˈ)im-ˈȯrt-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *immortalis*, fr. *in-* + *mortalis* mortal] **1** : exempt from death ⟨the ~ gods⟩ **2** : connected with or relating to immortality **3** : exempt from oblivion : IMPERISHABLE ⟨~ fame⟩ — **im·mor·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

[2]immortal *n* **1 a** : one exempt from death **b** *pl, often cap* : the gods of the Greek and Roman pantheon **2 a** : a person whose fame is lasting **b** *cap* : any of the 40 members of the Académie Française

im·mor·tal·i·ty \ˌim-ˌȯr-ˈtal-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being immortal: **a** : unending existence **b** : lasting fame

im·mor·tal·ize \im-ˈȯrt-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make immortal — **im·mor·tal·iza·tion** \-ˌȯrt-ᵊl-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **im·mor·tal·iz·er** \-ˈȯrt-ᵊl-ˌī-zər\ *n*

im·mor·telle \ˌim-ˌȯr-ˈtel\ *n* [F, fr. fem. of *immortel* immortal, fr. L *immortalis*] : EVERLASTING 3

im·mo·tile \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)ōt-ᵊl, -ˈ(m)ō-ˌtīl\ *adj* : lacking motility — **im·mo·til·i·ty** \ˌim-ō-ˈtil-ət-ē\ *n*

[1]im·mov·able \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)ü-və-bəl\ *adj* **1** : incapable of being moved; *broadly* : not moving or not intended to be moved **2 a** : STEADFAST, UNYIELDING **b** : not capable of being moved emotionally — **im·mov·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌ(m)ü-və-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·mov·able·ness** \(ˈ)im-ˈ(m)ü-və-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·mov·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

[2]immovable *n* **1** : one that cannot be moved **2** *pl* : real property

immun *abbr* immunity; immunization

im·mune \im-ˈyün\ *adj* [L *immunis*, fr. *in-* + *munia* services, obligations; akin to L *munus* service] **1 a** : FREE, EXEMPT ⟨~ from further taxation⟩ **b** : marked by protection ⟨some criminal leaders are ~ from arrest⟩ **2** : not susceptible or responsive ⟨~ to all pleas⟩; *esp* : having a high degree of resistance to a disease ⟨~ to diphtheria⟩ **3 a** : having or producing antibodies to a corresponding antigen ⟨an ~ serum⟩ **b** : produced in response to the presence of a corresponding antigen ⟨~ agglutinins⟩ **c** : concerned with or involving immunity ⟨~ globulins⟩ ⟨an ~ response⟩ — **immune** *n*

im·mu·ni·ty \im-ˈyü-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being immune; *specif* : a condition of being able to resist a particular disease esp. through preventing development of a pathogenic microorganism or by counteracting the effects of its products

im·mu·nize \ˈim-yə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** : to make immune — **im·mu·ni·za·tion** \ˌim-yə-nə-ˈzā-shən *also* im-ˌyü-nə-\ *n*

immuno- *comb form* [ISV, fr. *immune*] : immunity ⟨*immuno*genetics⟩

im·mu·no·as·say \ˌim-yə-nō-ˈas-ˌā, im-ˌyü-nō-, -a-ˈsā\ *n* : the identification of a substance (as a protein) through its capacity to act as an antigen — **im·mu·no·as·say·able** \-a-ˈsā-ə-bəl\ *adj*

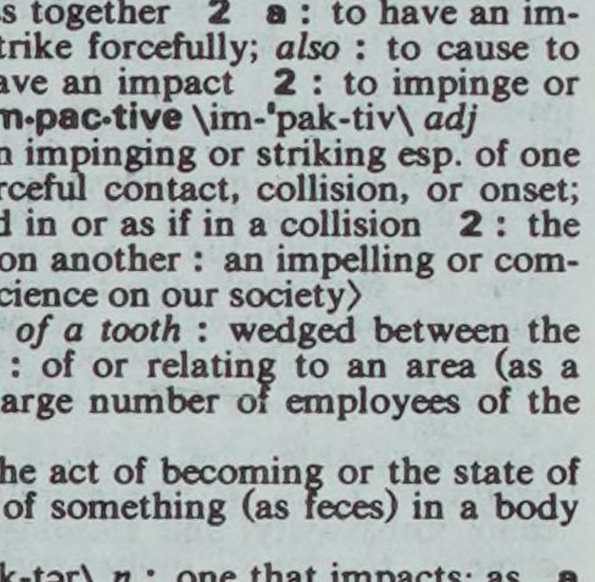
im·mu·no·chem·is·try \-ˈkem-ə-strē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of chemistry that deals with the chemical aspects of immunology — **im·mu·no·chem·i·cal** \-ˈkem-i-kəl\ *adj* — **im·mu·no·chem·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

im·mu·no·dif·fu·sion \-dif-ˈyü-zhən\ *n* : the separation of an antigen complex into discrete parts through differences in ability to pass through a semipermeable membrane or migrate through a medium

im·mu·no·elec·tro·pho·re·sis \ˈim-yə-nō-ə-ˌlek-trə-fə-ˈrē-səs, im-ˈyü-nō-\ *n, pl* **-re·ses** \-ˌsēz\ : electrophoretic separation of proteins followed by identification through specific immunologic reactions — **im·mu·no·elec·tro·pho·ret·ic** \-ˈret-ik\ *adj* — **im·mu·no·elec·tro·pho·ret·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

im·mu·no·flu·o·res·cence \-(ˌ)flü(-ə)r-ˈes-ᵊn(t)s, -flōr-, -flȯr-\ *n* : antibody demonstration by use of a fluorescent dye to label the antibody — **im·mu·no·flu·o·res·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*

im·mu·no·gen·e·sis \-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* : immunity production — **im·mu·no·gen·ic** \-'jen-ik\ *adj* — **im·mu·no·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **im·mu·no·ge·nic·i·ty** \-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*
im·mu·no·ge·net·ics \-jə-'net-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of immunology concerned with the interrelations of heredity, disease, and the immune system and its components (as antibodies) — **im·mu·no·ge·net·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **im·mu·no·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
im·mu·no·glob·u·lin \-'gläb-yə-lən\ *n* : a protein (as an antibody) made up of light chains and heavy chains usu. linked by disulfide bonds
im·mu·no·he·ma·tol·o·gy \-ˌhē-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of immunology that deals with the immunologic properties of blood — **im·mu·no·he·ma·to·log·ic** \-ˌhē-mət-ᵊl-'äj-ik\ *or* **im·mu·no·he·ma·to·log·i·cal** \-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj*
immunol *abbr* immunology
im·mu·nol·o·gy \ˌim-yə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a science that deals with the phenomena and causes of immunity — **im·mu·no·log·ic** \-yən-ᵊl-'äj-ik\ *or* **im·mu·no·log·i·cal** \-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **im·mu·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **im·mu·nol·o·gist** \ˌim-yə-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*
im·mu·no·pa·thol·o·gy \ˌim-yə-nō-pə-'thäl-ə-jē, im-ˌyü-nō-, -pa-\ *n* : a branch of medicine that deals with immunologic abnormalities and disease — **im·mu·no·path·o·log·ic** \-ˌpath-ə-'läj-ik\ *or* **im·mu·no·path·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **im·mu·no·pa·thol·o·gist** \-pə-'thäl-ə-jəst, -pa-\ *n*
im·mu·no·re·ac·tive \-rē-'ak-tiv\ *adj* : reacting to particular antigens or haptens ⟨serum ~ insulin⟩ — **im·mu·no·re·ac·tiv·i·ty** \-(ˌ)rē-ˌak-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*
im·mu·no·sup·pres·sion \-sə-'presh-ən\ *n* : suppression (as by drugs) of natural immune responses — **im·mu·no·sup·pres·sant** \-'pres-ᵊnt\ *n or adj* — **im·mu·no·sup·pres·sive** \-'pres-iv\ *adj*
im·mu·no·ther·a·py \-'ther-ə-pē\ *n* [ISV] : treatment of or prophylaxis against disease by means of antigens or antigenic preparations
im·mure \im-'yu̇(ə)r\ *vt* **im·mured; im·mur·ing** [ML *immurare*, fr. L *in-* + *murus* wall — more at MUNITION] **1 a** : to enclose within or as if within walls **b** : IMPRISON **2** : to build into a wall; *esp* : to entomb in a wall — **im·mure·ment** \-'yu̇(ə)r-mənt\ *n*
im·mu·ta·ble \(ˌ)im-'(m)yüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *immutabilis*, fr. *in-* + *mutabilis* mutable] : not capable of or susceptible to change — **im·mu·ta·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌ(m)yüt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·mu·ta·ble·ness** \(ˌ)im-'(m)yüt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·mu·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
[1]imp \'imp\ *n* [ME *impe*, fr. OE *impa*, fr. *impian* to imp] **1** *obs* : SHOOT, BUD; *also* : GRAFT **2 a** : a small demon : FIEND **b** : a mischievous child : URCHIN
[2]imp *vt* [ME *impen*, fr. OE *impian;* akin to OHG *impfōn* to graft; both from a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *imputare*, fr. L *in-* + *putare* to prune — more at PAVE] **1** *archaic* : to graft or repair (a wing, tail, or feather) with a feather to improve a falcon's flying capacity **2** : to equip with wings
[3]imp *abbr* **1** imperative **2** imperfect **3** imperial **4** import; imported
[1]im·pact \im-'pakt\ *vb* [L *impactus*, pp. of *impingere* to push against — more at IMPINGE] *vt* **1 a** : to fix firmly by or as if by packing or wedging **b** : to press together **2 a** : to have an impact on : impinge on **b** : to strike forcefully; *also* : to cause to strike forcefully ~ *vi* **1** : to have an impact **2** : to impinge or make contact esp. forcefully — **im·pac·tive** \im-'pak-tiv\ *adj*
[2]im·pact \'im-ˌpakt\ *n* **1 a** : an impinging or striking esp. of one body against another **b** : a forceful contact, collision, or onset; *also* : the impetus communicated in or as if in a collision **2** : the force of impression of one thing on another : an impelling or compelling effect ⟨the ~ of modern science on our society⟩
im·pact·ed \im-'pak-təd\ *adj* **1** *of a tooth* : wedged between the jawbone and another tooth **2** : of or relating to an area (as a school district) inhabited by a large number of employees of the federal government
im·pac·tion \im-'pak-shən\ *n* : the act of becoming or the state of being impacted; *esp* : lodgment of something (as feces) in a body passage or cavity
im·pac·tor *or* **im·pact·er** \im-'pak-tər\ *n* : one that impacts: as **a** : a machine or part that operates by striking blows **b** : an instrument for collecting samples of suspended particles (as dust in air) by directing a stream of the suspension onto a surface or into a liquid
im·paint \im-'pānt\ *vt, obs* : PAINT, DEPICT
im·pair \im-'pa(ə)r, -'pe(ə)r\ *vt* [ME *empeiren*, fr. MF *empeirer* fr. (assumed) VL *impejorare*, fr. L *in-* + LL *pejorare* to make worse — more at PEJORATIVE] : to make worse by or as if by diminishing in some material respect ⟨his health was ~*ed* by overwork⟩ ⟨the strike seriously ~*ed* community services⟩ ***syn*** see INJURE ***ant*** improve, amend — **im·pair·er** *n* — **im·pair·ment** \-'pa(ə)r-mənt\ *n*
im·pa·la \im-'pal-ə, -'päl-\ *n* [Zulu] : a large brownish African antelope (*Aepyceros melampus*) that in the male has slender lyrate horns



impala

im·pale \im-'pā(ə)l\ *vt* **im·paled; im·pal·ing** [MF & ML; MF *empaler*, fr. ML *impalare*, fr. L *in-* + *palus* stake — more at POLE] **1** : to pierce with or as if with something pointed; *esp* : to torture or kill by fixing on a sharp stake **2** : to join coats of arms on a heraldic shield divided vertically by a pale — **im·pale·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
im·pal·pa·ble \(ˈ)im-'pal-pə-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : incapable of being felt by touch : INTANGIBLE ⟨the ~ aura of power that emanated from him —Osbert Sitwell⟩ **b** : so finely divided that no grains or grit can be felt ⟨rock worn to an ~ powder⟩ **2** : not readily discerned by the mind — **im·pal·pa·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpal-pə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·pal·pa·bly** \(ˌ)im-'pal-pə-blē\ *adv*
im·pan·el \im-'pan-ᵊl\ *vt* : to enroll in or on a panel ⟨~ a jury⟩
im·par·a·dise \im-'par-ə-ˌdīs, -ˌdīz\ *vt* **-dised; -dis·ing** : ENRAPTURE
im·par·i·ty \(ˈ)im-'par-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [LL *imparitas*, fr. L *impar* unequal, fr. *in-* + *par* equal] : INEQUALITY, DISPARITY
im·part \im-'pärt\ *vt* [MF & L; MF *impartir*, fr. L *impartire*, fr. *in-* + *partire* to divide, part] **1** : to give, convey, or grant from or as if from a store ⟨his assurance ~*ed* authority to his words⟩ ⟨the flavor ~*ed* by herbs⟩ **2** : to communicate the knowledge of : DISCLOSE ***syn*** see COMMUNICATE — **im·part·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **im·par·ta·tion** \ˌim-ˌpär-'tā-shən\ *n* — **im·part·ment** \im-'pärt-mənt\ *n*
im·par·tial \(ˈ)im-'pär-shəl\ *adj* : not partial or biased : treating or affecting all equally ***syn*** see FAIR ***ant*** partial — **im·par·tial·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpär-shē-'al-ət-ē, -ˌpär-'shal-\ *n* — **im·par·tial·ly** \(ˈ)im-'pärsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
im·par·ti·ble \(ˈ)im-'pärt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *impartibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *partibilis* divisible, fr. L *partire*] : not partible : not subject to partition — **im·par·ti·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
im·pass·able \(ˈ)im-'pas-ə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being passed, traveled, crossed, or surmounted — **im·pass·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpas-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·pass·able·ness** \(ˈ)im-'pas-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·pass·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
im·passe \'im-ˌpas, im-'\ *n* [F, fr. *in-* + *passer* to pass] **1** : an impassable road or way : CUL-DE-SAC **2 a** : a predicament affording no obvious escape **b** : DEADLOCK
im·pas·si·ble \(ˈ)im-'pas-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *impassibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *passibilis* passible] **1 a** : incapable of suffering or of experiencing pain **b** : inaccessible to injury **2** : incapable of feeling : IMPASSIVE — **im·pas·si·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpas-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·pas·si·bly** \(ˈ)im-'pas-ə-blē\ *adv*
im·pas·sion \im-'pash-ən\ *vt* **im·pas·sioned; im·pas·sion·ing** \-(ə-)niŋ\ [prob. fr. It *impassionare*, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *passione* passion, fr. LL *passion-, passio*] : to arouse the feelings or passions of
im·pas·sioned *adj* : filled with passion or zeal : showing great warmth or intensity of feeling
syn IMPASSIONED, PASSIONATE, ARDENT, FERVENT, FERVID, PERFERVID *shared meaning element* : showing intense feeling ***ant*** unimpassioned
im·pas·sive \(ˈ)im-'pas-iv\ *adj* **1 a** *archaic* : unsusceptible to pain **b** : unsusceptible to physical feeling : INSENSIBLE **c** : unsusceptible to or destitute of emotion : APATHETIC **2** : giving no sign of feeling or emotion : EXPRESSIONLESS — **im·pas·sive·ly** *adv* — **im·pas·sive·ness** *n* — **im·pas·siv·i·ty** \ˌim-ˌpas-'iv-ət-ē\ *n*
syn IMPASSIVE, STOIC, PHLEGMATIC, APATHETIC, STOLID *shared meaning element* : unresponsive to what might normally excite interest or emotion ***ant*** responsive
im·paste \im-'pāst\ *vt* [It *impastare*, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *pasta* paste, fr. LL] *obs* : to make into a paste or crust
im·pas·to \im-'pas-(ˌ)tō, -'päs-\ *n* [It, fr. *impastare*] **1** : the thick application of a pigment to a canvas or panel in painting; *also* : the body of pigment so applied **2** : raised decoration on ceramic ware usu. of slip or enamel — **im·pas·toed** \-(ˌ)tōd\ *adj*
im·pa·tience \(ˈ)im-'pā-shən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being impatient
im·pa·tiens \im-'pā-shənz, -shən(t)s\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, impatient] : any of a widely distributed genus (*Impatiens*, family Balsaminaceae, the jewelweed family) of watery-juiced annual herbs with irregular spurred or saccate flowers and dehiscent capsules
im·pa·tient \(ˈ)im-'pā-shənt\ *adj* [ME *impacient*, fr. MF, fr. L *impatient-, impatiens*, fr. *in-* + *patient-, patiens* patient] **1 a** : not patient : restless or short of temper esp. under irritation, delay, or opposition **b** : INTOLERANT ⟨~ of delay⟩ **2** : prompted or marked by impatience ⟨an ~ reply⟩ **3** : eagerly desirous : ANXIOUS ⟨~ to see his sweetheart⟩ — **im·pa·tient·ly** *adv*
im·pawn \im-'pȯn, -'pän\ *vt, archaic* : to put in pawn : PLEDGE
[1]im·peach \im-'pēch\ *vt* [ME *empechen*, fr. MF *empeechier* to hinder, fr. LL *impedicare* to fetter, fr. L *in-* + *pedica* fetter, fr. *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] **1 a** : to bring an accusation against **b** : to charge with a crime or misdemeanor; *specif* : to charge (a public official) before a competent tribunal with misconduct in office **2** : to cast doubt on; *esp* : to challenge the credibility or validity of ⟨~ the testimony of a witness⟩ — **im·peach·able** \-'pē-chə-bəl\ *adj* — **im·peach·ment** \-'pēch-mənt\ *n*
[2]impeach *n, obs* : CHARGE, IMPEACHMENT
im·pearl \im-'pər(-ə)l\ *vt* [prob. fr. MF *emperler*, fr. *en-* + *perle* pearl] : to form into pearls; *also* : to form of or adorn with pearls
im·pec·ca·ble \(ˈ)im-'pek-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *impeccabilis*, fr. *in-* + *peccare* to sin] **1** : not capable of sinning or liable to sin **2** : free from fault or blame : FLAWLESS ⟨spoke ~ French⟩ — **im·pec·ca·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpek-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·pec·ca·bly** \(ˈ)im-'pek-ə-blē\ *adv*
im·pe·cu·nious \ˌim-pi-'kyü-nyəs, -nē-əs\ *adj* [*in-* + obs. E *pecunious* (rich), fr. ME, fr. L *pecuniosus*, fr. *pecunia* money — more at FEE] : having very little or no money usu. habitually : PENNILESS — **im·pe·cu·ni·os·i·ty** \-ˌkyü-nē-'äs-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·pe·cu·nious·ly** *adv* — **im·pe·cu·nious·ness** *n*
im·ped·ance \im-'pēd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : something that impedes : HINDRANCE: as **a** : the apparent opposition in an electrical circuit to the flow of an alternating current that is analogous to the actual electrical resistance to a direct current and that is the ratio of effective electromotive force to the effective current **b** : the ratio of the pressure to the volume displacement at a given surface in a sound-transmitting medium

im·pede \im-'pēd\ *vt* **im·ped·ed; im·ped·ing** [L *impedire*, fr. *in-* + *ped-*, *pes* foot — more at FOOT] : to interfere with or slow the progress of ***syn*** see HINDER ***ant*** assist, promote — **im·ped·er** *n*

im·ped·i·ment \im-'ped-ə-mənt\ *n* **1** : something that impedes; *esp* : an organic obstruction to speech **2** : a bar or hindrance (as lack of sufficient age) to a lawful marriage

im·ped·i·men·ta \(,)im-,ped-ə-'ment-ə\ *n pl* [L, pl. of *impedimentum* impediment, fr. *impedire*] **1** : APPURTENANCES, EQUIPMENT ⟨silver candlesticks, diamond tiaras and other comforting ~ of a more stable past —*Life*⟩ **2** : things that impede

im·pel \im-'pel\ *vt* **im·pelled; im·pel·ling** [L *impellere*, fr. *in-* + *pellere* to drive — more at FELT] **1** : to urge or drive forward or on by or as if by the exertion of strong moral pressure : FORCE **2** : to impart motion to : PROPEL ***syn*** see MOVE

im·pel·ler *also* **im·pel·lor** \im-'pel-ər\ *n* **1** : one that impels **2** : ROTOR; *also* : a blade of a rotor

im·pend \im-'pend\ *vi* [L *impendēre*, fr. *in-* + *pendēre* to hang — more at PENDANT] **1** *archaic* : to hang suspended **2 a** : to hover threateningly : MENACE **b** : to be about to occur

im·pen·dent \im-'pen-dənt\ *adj* : being near at hand : APPROACHING

im·pen·e·tra·bil·i·ty \(,)im-,pen-ə-trə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being impenetrable **2** : the inability of two portions of matter to occupy the same space at the same time

im·pen·e·tra·ble \(')im-'pen-ə-trə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *impenetrabel*, fr. MF *impenetrable*, fr. L *impenetrabilis*, fr. *in-* + *penetrabilis* penetrable] **1 a** : incapable of being penetrated or pierced **b** : inaccessible to knowledge, reason, or sympathy : IMPERVIOUS **2** : incapable of being comprehended : INSCRUTABLE **3** : having the property of impenetrability — **im·pen·e·tra·ble·ness** *n* — **im·pen·e·tra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

im·pen·i·tence \(')im-'pen-ə-tən(t)s\ *n, archaic* : the quality or state of being impenitent

im·pen·i·tent \-tənt\ *adj* [LL *impaenitent-, impaenitens*, fr. L *in-* + *paenitent-, paenitens* penitent] : not penitent — **im·pen·i·tent·ly** *adv*

[1]im·per·a·tive \im-'per-ət-iv\ *adj* [LL *imperativus*, fr. L *imperatus*, pp. of *imperare* to command — more at EMPEROR] **1 a** : of, relating to, or constituting the grammatical mood that expresses the will to influence the behavior of another **b** : expressive of a command, entreaty, or exhortation **c** : having power to restrain, control, and direct **2** : not to be avoided or evaded : URGENT ⟨an ~ duty⟩ ***syn*** see MASTERFUL — **im·per·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **im·per·a·tive·ness** *n*

[2]imperative *n* **1** : the imperative mood or a verb form or verbal phrase expressing it **2** : something that is imperative: as **a** : COMMAND, ORDER **b** : RULE, GUIDE **c** : an obligatory act or duty **d** : an imperative judgment or proposition

im·pe·ra·tor \,im-pə-'rät-ər, -'rā-,tȯ(ə)r\ *n* [L — more at EMPEROR] : a commander in chief or emperor of the ancient Romans — **im·per·a·to·ri·al** \(,)im-,per-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj*

im·per·ceiv·able \,im-pər-'sē-və-bəl\ *adj, archaic* : IMPERCEPTIBLE

im·per·cep·ti·ble \,im-pər-'sep-tə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. ML *imperceptibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *perceptibilis* perceptible] : not perceptible by a sense or by the mind : extremely slight, gradual, or subtle — **im·per·cep·ti·bil·i·ty** \-,sep-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·per·cep·ti·bly** \-'sep-tə-blē\ *adv*

im·per·cep·tive \,im-pər-'sep-tiv\ *adj* : not perceptive — **im·per·cep·tive·ness** *n*

im·per·cip·i·ence \-'sip-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being unperceptive

im·per·cip·i·ent \-ənt\ *adj* : not percipient : UNPERCEPTIVE

imperf *abbr* **1** imperfect **2** imperforate

[1]im·per·fect \(')im-'pər-fikt\ *adj* [ME *imperfit*, fr. MF *imparfait*, fr. L *imperfectus*, fr. *in-* + *perfectus* perfect] **1** : not perfect: as **a** : DEFECTIVE **b** *of a flower* : having stamens or pistils but not both **c** : lacking or not involving sexual reproduction ⟨the ~ stage of a fungus⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense used to designate a continuing state or an incomplete action esp. in the past **3** : not enforceable at law — **im·per·fect·ly** \-fik-(t)lē\ *adv* — **im·per·fect·ness** \-fik(t)-nəs\ *n*

[2]imperfect *n* : an imperfect tense; *also* : the verb form expressing it

imperfect fungus *n* : a fungus (order Fungi Imperfecti) of which only the conidial stage is known

im·per·fec·tion \,im-pər-'fek-shən\ *n* : the quality or state of being imperfect; *also* : FAULT, BLEMISH

im·per·fec·tive \,im-pər-'fek-tiv *also* (')im-'pər-fik-\ *adj, of a verb form or aspect* : expressing action as incomplete or without reference to completion or as reiterated — compare PERFECTIVE

im·per·fo·rate \(')im-'pər-f(ə-)rət, -fə-,rāt\ *adj* **1** : having no opening or aperture; *specif* : lacking the usual or normal opening **2** *of a stamp or a sheet of stamps* : lacking perforations or rouletting

[1]im·pe·ri·al \im-'pir-ē-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *imperialis*, fr. L *imperium* command, empire] **1 a** : of, relating to, or befitting an empire or an emperor **b** (1) : of or relating to the United Kingdom as distinguished from the constituent parts (2) : of or relating to the British Commonwealth and Empire **2 a** : SOVEREIGN **b** : REGAL, IMPERIOUS **3** : of superior or unusual size or excellence **4** : belonging to the official British series of weights and measures — see WEIGHT table — **im·pe·ri·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

[2]imperial *n* **1** *cap* : an adherent or soldier of the Holy Roman emperor **2** : EMPEROR **3** : a size of paper usu. 23 x 31 inches **4** [fr. the beard worn by Napoleon III] : a pointed beard growing below the lower lip **5** : something of unusual size or excellence



imperial 4

im·pe·ri·al·ism \im-'pir-ē-ə-,liz-əm\ *n* **1** : imperial government, authority, or system **2** : the policy, practice, or advocacy of extending the power and dominion of a nation esp. by direct territorial acquisitions or by gaining indirect control over the political or economic life of other areas — **im·pe·ri·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj* — **im·pe·ri·al·is·tic** \-,pir-ē-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj* — **im·pe·ri·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

imperial moth *n* : a large American moth (*Eacles imperialis*) marked with yellow, lilac, or purplish brown

im·per·il \im-'per-əl\ *vt* **-iled** *or* **-illed; -il·ing** *or* **-il·ling** : to bring into peril : ENDANGER — **im·per·il·ment** \-əl-mənt\ *n*

im·pe·ri·ous \im-'pir-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *imperiosus*, fr. *imperium*] **1** : befitting or characteristic of one of eminent rank or attainments : COMMANDING, DOMINANT ⟨an ~ manner⟩ **b** : marked by arrogant assurance : DOMINEERING ⟨her ~ arbitrariness⟩ **2** : intensely compelling : URGENT ⟨the ~ problems of the new age —J. F. Kennedy⟩ ***syn*** see MASTERFUL ***ant*** abject — **im·pe·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **im·pe·ri·ous·ness** *n*

im·per·ish·able \(')im-'per-ish-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : not perishable or subject to decay **2** : enduring permanently ⟨~ fame⟩ — **im·per·ish·abil·i·ty** \(,)im-,per-ish-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **imperishable** *n* — **im·per·ish·able·ness** \(')im-'per-ish-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·per·ish·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

im·pe·ri·um \im-'pir-ē-əm\ *n* [L — more at EMPIRE] **1 a** : supreme power or absolute dominion : CONTROL **b** : EMPIRE **2** : the right to command or to employ the force of the state : SOVEREIGNTY

im·per·ma·nence \(')im-'pərm(-ə)-nən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being impermanent

im·per·ma·nen·cy \-nən-sē\ *n* : IMPERMANENCE

im·per·ma·nent \-nənt\ *adj* : not permanent : TRANSIENT — **im·per·ma·nent·ly** *adv*

im·per·me·able \(')im-'pər-mē-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *impermeabilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *permeabilis* permeable] : not permitting passage (as of a fluid) through its substance : IMPERVIOUS — **im·per·me·abil·i·ty** \(,)im-,pər-mē-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·per·me·able·ness** \(')im-'pər-mē-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·per·meably** \-blē\ *adv*

im·per·mis·si·ble \,im-pər-'mis-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not permissible — **im·per·mis·si·bil·i·ty** \-,mis-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·per·mis·si·bly** \-'mis-ə-blē\ *adv*

im·per·son·al \(')im-'pərs-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* [LL *impersonalis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *personalis* personal] **1 a** : denoting the verbal action of an unspecified agent and hence used with no expressed subject (as *methinks*) or with a merely formal subject (as *rained* in *it rained*) **b** *of a pronoun* : INDEFINITE **2 a** : having no personal reference or connection ⟨~ criticism⟩ **b** : not engaging the human personality or emotions ⟨the machine as compared with the hand tool is an ~ agency —John Dewey⟩ **c** : not existing as a person : not having personality — **im·per·son·al·i·ty** \(,)im-,pərs-ᵊn-'al-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·per·son·al·ly** \(')im-'pərs-nə-lē, -ᵊn-ə-lē\ *adv*

im·per·son·al·ize \(')im-'pərs-nə-,līz, -ᵊn-ə-\ *vt* : to make impersonal — **im·per·son·al·iza·tion** \(,)im-,pərs-nə-lə-'zā-shən, -ᵊn-ə-\ *n*

im·per·son·ate \im-'pərs-ᵊn-,āt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to assume or act the character of : PERSONATE — **im·per·son·ation** \-,pərs-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n* — **im·per·son·ator** \-'pərs-ᵊn-,āt-ər\ *n*

im·per·ti·nence \(')im-'pərt-ᵊn-ən(t)s, -'pərt-nən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being impertinent: as **a** : IRRELEVANCE, INAPPROPRIATENESS **b** : INCIVILITY, INSOLENCE **2** : an instance of impertinence

im·per·ti·nen·cy \-ən-sē, -nən-\ *n, pl* **-cies** : IMPERTINENCE

im·per·ti·nent \(')im-'pərt-ᵊn-ənt, -'pərt-nənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *impertinent-, impertinens*, fr. L *in-* + *pertinent-, pertinens*, prp. of *pertinēre* to pertain] **1** : not pertinent : IRRELEVANT **2** : not restrained within due or proper bounds esp. of propriety or good taste ⟨~ curiosity⟩; *also* : given to or characterized by insolent rudeness ⟨an ~ answer⟩ — **im·per·ti·nent·ly** *adv*

syn IMPERTINENT, OFFICIOUS, MEDDLESOME, INTRUSIVE, OBTRUSIVE *shared meaning element* : inclined to thrust oneself into the affairs of others

im·per·turb·able \,im-pər-'tər-bə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *imperturbabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *perturbare* to perturb] : marked by extreme calm, impassivity, and steadiness : SERENE ***syn*** see COOL ***ant*** choleric, touchy — **im·per·turb·abil·i·ty** \-,tər-bə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·per·turb·ably** \-'tər-bə-blē\ *adv*

im·per·vi·ous \(')im-'pər-vē-əs\ *adj* [L *impervius*, fr. *in-* + *pervius* pervious] **1 a** : not allowing entrance or passage : IMPENETRABLE ⟨a coat ~ to rain⟩ **b** : not capable of being damaged or harmed ⟨a carpet ~ to rough treatment⟩ **2** : not capable of being affected or disturbed ⟨~ to criticism⟩ — **im·per·vi·ous·ly** *adv* — **im·per·vi·ous·ness** *n*

im·pe·tig·i·nous \,im-pə-'tij-ə-nəs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling impetigo

im·pe·ti·go \,im-pə-'tē-(,)gō, -'tī-\ *n* [L, fr. *impetere* to attack — more at IMPETUS] : an acute contagious skin disease characterized by vesicles, pustules, and yellowish crusts

im·pe·trate \'im-pə-,trāt\ *vt* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** [L *impetratus*, pp. of *impetrare*, fr. *in-* + *patrare* to accomplish — more at PERPETRATE] **1** : to obtain by request or entreaty **2** : to ask for : ENTREAT — **im·pe·tra·tion** \,im-pə-'trā-shən\ *n*

im·pet·u·os·i·ty \im-,pech-ə-'wäs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being impetuous **2** : an impetuous action or impulse

im·pet·u·ous \im-'pech-(ə-)wəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *impetueux*, fr. LL *impetuosus*, fr. L *impetus*] **1** : marked by force and violence of movement or action ⟨an ~ wind⟩ **2** : marked by impulsive vehemence or passion ⟨an ~ temperament⟩ ***syn*** see PRECIPITATE — **im·pet·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **im·pet·u·ous·ness** *n*

im·pe·tus \'im-pət-əs\ *n* [L, assault, impetus, fr. *impetere* to attack, fr. *in-* + *petere* to go to, seek — more at FEATHER] **1 a** : a driving force : IMPULSE **b** : INCENTIVE, STIMULUS **2** : the property possessed by a moving body in virtue of its mass and its motion — used of bodies moving suddenly or violently to indicate the origin and intensity of the motion

im·pi·ety \(')im-'pī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** **1** : the quality or state of being impious : IRREVERENCE **2** : an impious act

im·pinge \im-'pinj\ *vb* **im·pinged; im·ping·ing** [L *impingere*, fr. *in-* + *pangere* to fasten, drive in — more at PACT] *vi* **1** : to strike or dash esp. with a sharp collision ⟨I heard the rain ~ upon the earth

—James Joyce〉 **2** : to come into a relationship as if impinging : make an impression 〈waiting for the germ of a new idea to ~ upon my mind —Phyllis Bentley〉 **3** : ENCROACH, INFRINGE 〈~ on other people's rights〉 ~ *vt* : to cause (as a gas or a flame) to strike — **im·pinge·ment** \-'pinj-mənt\ *n*

im·pi·ous \'im-pē-əs, (')im-'pī-\ *adj* [L *impius*, fr. *in-* + *pius* pious] : not pious : lacking in reverence or proper respect (as for God or one's parents) : IRREVERENT — **im·pi·ous·ly** *adv*

imp·ish \'im-pish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or befitting an imp; *esp* : MISCHIEVOUS — **imp·ish·ly** *adv* — **imp·ish·ness** *n*

im·pla·ca·ble \(')im-'plak-ə-bəl, -'plā-kə-\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *implacabilis*, fr. *in-* + *placabilis* placable] : not placable : not capable of being appeased, significantly changed, or mitigated 〈an ~ enemy〉 — **im·pla·ca·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌplak-ə-'bil-ət-ē, -ˌplā-kə-\ *n* — **im·pla·ca·ble·ness** \(')im-'plak-ə-bəl-nəs, -'plā-kə-\ *n* — **im·pla·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

[1]im·plant \im-'plant\ *vt* **1 a** : to fix or set securely or deeply 〈a ruby ~*ed* in the idol's forehead〉 **b** : to set permanently in the consciousness or habit patterns : INCULCATE **2** : to insert in a living site (as for growth, slow release, or formation of an organic union) 〈subcutaneously ~*ed* hormone pellets〉 — **im·plant·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **im·plan·ta·tion** \ˌim-ˌplan-'tā-shən\ *n* — **im·plant·er** \im-'plant-ər\ *n*

[2]im·plant \'im-ˌplant\ *n* : something (as a graft or pellet) implanted in tissue

im·plau·si·ble \(')im-'plȯ-zə-bəl\ *adj* : not plausible : provoking disbelief — **im·plau·si·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌplȯ-zə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·plau·si·bly** \(')im-'plȯ-zə-blē\ *adv*

im·plead \im-'plēd\ *vt* [ME *empleden*, fr. MF *emplaider*, fr. OF *emplaidier*, fr. *en-* + *plaidier* to plead] : to sue or prosecute at law

[1]im·ple·ment \'im-plə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *implementum* action of filling up, fr. L *implēre* to fill up, fr. *in-* + *plēre* to fill — more at FULL] **1** : an article serving to equip 〈the ~*s* of religious worship〉 **2** : a tool or utensil forming part of equipment for work **3** : one that serves as an instrument or tool 〈the partnership agreement does not seem to be a very potent ~ —H. B. Hoffman〉

[2]im·ple·ment \-ˌment\ *vt* **1** : to carry out : ACCOMPLISH; *esp* : to give practical effect to and ensure of actual fulfillment by concrete measures 〈plans not yet ~*ed* due to lack of funds〉 **2** : to provide instruments or means of expression for — **im·ple·men·tal** \ˌim-plə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* — **im·ple·men·ta·tion** \ˌim-plə-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n*

im·pli·cate \'im-plə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *implicatus*, pp. of *implicare* — more at EMPLOY] **1** *archaic* : to fold or twist together : ENTWINE **2** : to involve as a consequence, corollary, or natural inference : IMPLY **3 a** : to bring into intimate or incriminating connection **b** : to involve in the nature or operation of something ***syn*** see INVOLVE

im·pli·ca·tion \ˌim-plə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of implicating : the state of being implicated **b** : close connection; *esp* : an incriminating involvement **2 a** : the act of implying : the state of being implied **b** (1) : a logical relation between two propositions that fails to hold only if the first is true and the second is false (2) : a logical relationship between two propositions in which if the first is true the second is true (3) : a statement exhibiting a relation of implication **3** : something implied — **im·pli·ca·tive** \'im-plə-ˌkāt-iv, im-'plik-ət-\ *adj* — **im·pli·ca·tive·ly** *adv* — **im·pli·ca·tive·ness** *n*

im·plic·it \im-'plis-ət\ *adj* [L *implicitus*, pp. of *implicare*] **1 a** : capable of being understood from something else though unexpressed : IMPLIED 〈an ~ assumption〉 **b** : involved in the nature or essence of something though not revealed, expressed, or developed : POTENTIAL 〈a sculptor may see different figures ~ in a block of stone —John Dewey〉 **2** : being without doubt or reserve : UNQUESTIONING, ABSOLUTE — **im·plic·it·ly** *adv* — **im·plic·it·ness** *n*

implicit differentiation *n* : the process of finding the derivative of a dependent variable in an implicit function by differentiating each term separately, by expressing the derivative of the dependent variable as a symbol, and by solving the resulting expression for the symbol

implicit function *n* : a mathematical function that is not expressed with the dependent variable on one side of an equation and the one or more independent variables on the other 〈in the expression $x^2 + 3xy + y^2 = 0$, y is an *implicit function* of x〉

im·plode \im-'plōd\ *vb* **im·plod·ed; im·plod·ing** [*in-* + *-plode* (as in *explode*)] *vi* **1 a** : to burst inward 〈a blow causing a vacuum tube to ~〉 **b** : to undergo violent compression 〈massive stars which ~〉 **2 a** : CENTRALIZE **b** : INTEGRATE ~ *vt* : to cause to implode

im·plore \im-'plō(ə)r, -'plȯ(ə)r\ *vt* **im·plored; im·plor·ing** [MF or L; MF *implorer*, fr. L *implorare*, fr. *in-* + *plorare* to cry out] **1** : to call upon in supplication : BESEECH **2** : to call or pray for earnestly : ENTREAT ***syn*** see BEG

im·plo·sion \im-'plō-zhən\ *n* [*in-* + *-plosion* (as in *explosion*)] **1** : the action of imploding **2** : the inrush of air in forming a suction stop **3** : the act or action of bringing to or as if to a center; *also* : INTEGRATION 〈this ~ of cultures makes realistic for the first time the age-old vision of a world culture —Kenneth Keniston〉 — **im·plo·sive** \-'plō-siv, -ziv\ *adj or n*

im·ply \im-'plī\ *vt* **im·plied; im·ply·ing** [ME *emplien*, fr. MF *emplier*, fr. L *implicare*] **1** *obs* : ENFOLD, ENTWINE **2** : to involve or indicate by inference, association, or necessary consequence rather than by direct statement 〈rights ~ obligations〉 **3** : to contain potentially **4** : to express indirectly 〈his silence *implied* consent〉 ***syn*** see SUGGEST ***ant*** express

im·po·lite \ˌim-pə-'līt\ *adj* [L *impolitus*, fr. *in-* + *politus* polite] : not polite : RUDE — **im·po·lite·ly** *adv* — **im·po·lite·ness** *n*

im·pol·i·tic \(')im-'päl-ə-ˌtik\ *adj* : not politic : UNWISE — **im·po·lit·i·cal** \ˌim-pə-'lit-i-kəl\ *adj* — **im·po·lit·i·cal·ly** \-'lit-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **im·pol·i·tic·ly** \(')im-'päl-ə-ˌtik-lē\ *adv*

im·pon·der·a·ble \(')im-'pän-d(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [ML *imponderabilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *ponderabilis* ponderable] : not ponderable : incapable of being weighed or evaluated with exactness — **im·pon·der·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpän-d(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **imponderable** *n* — **im·pon·der·able·ness** \(')im-'pän-d(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·pon·der·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

im·pone \im-'pōn\ *vt* **im·poned; im·pon·ing** [L *imponere* to put upon, fr. *in-* + *ponere* to put — more at POSITION] *obs* : WAGER, BET

[1]im·port \im-'pō(ə)rt, -'pȯ(ə)rt, 'im-ˌ\ *vb* [ME *importen*, fr. L *importare* to bring into, fr. *in-* + *portare* to carry — more at FARE] *vt* **1 a** : to bear or convey as meaning or portent : SIGNIFY **b** *archaic* : EXPRESS, STATE **c** : IMPLY **2** : to bring from a foreign or external source; *esp* : to bring (as merchandise) into a place or country from another country **3** *archaic* : to be of importance to : CONCERN ~ *vi* : to be of consequence : MATTER — **im·port·able** \im-'pōrt-ə-bəl, -'pȯrt-, 'im-ˌ\ *adj* — **im·port·er** *n*

[2]im·port \'im-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* **1** : PURPORT, SIGNIFICATION **2** : IMPORTANCE; *esp* : relative importance 〈it is hard to determine the ~ of this decision〉 **3** : something that is imported **4** : IMPORTATION ***syn*** see MEANING, IMPORTANCE

im·por·tance \im-'pȯrt-ᵊn(t)s, *oftenest in South* -ən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of being important : CONSEQUENCE **b** : an important aspect or bearing : SIGNIFICANCE **2** *obs* : IMPORT, MEANING **3** *obs* : IMPORTUNITY **4** *obs* : a weighty matter
syn IMPORTANCE, CONSEQUENCE, MOMENT, WEIGHT, SIGNIFICANCE, IMPORT *shared meaning element* : a quality or aspect felt to have great worth, significance, or influence ***ant*** unimportance

im·por·tan·cy \-ᵊn-sē, -ən-\ *n, archaic* : IMPORTANCE

im·por·tant \im-'pȯrt-ᵊnt, -ənt\ *adj* [MF, fr. OIt *importante*, fr. L *important-*, *importans*, prp. of *importare*] **1** : marked by or indicative of significant worth or consequence : valuable in content or relationship **2** : giving evidence of a feeling of self-importance **3** *obs* : IMPORTUNATE, URGENT — **im·por·tant·ly** *adv*

im·por·ta·tion \ˌim-ˌpōr-'tā-shən, -ˌpȯr-, -pər-\ *n* **1** : the act or practice of importing **2** : something imported

imported cabbageworm *n* : a small cosmopolitan white butterfly (*Pieris rapae*) or its larva which is a pest of cruciferous plants and esp. cabbage

imported fire ant *n* : a small brown So. American fire ant (*Solenopsis saevissima richteri*) that is a destructive pest in the southeastern U.S.

im·por·tu·nate \im-'pȯrch-(ə-)nət\ *adj* **1** : TROUBLESOME **2** : troublesomely urgent : overly persistent in request or demand — **im·por·tu·nate·ly** *adv* — **im·por·tu·nate·ness** *n*

[1]im·por·tune \ˌim-pər-'t(y)ün, im-'pȯr-chən\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *importun*, fr. L *importunus*, fr. *in-* + *-portunus* (as in *opportunus* fit) — more at OPPORTUNE] : IMPORTUNATE — **im·por·tune·ly** *adv*

[2]importune *vb* **-tuned; -tun·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to press or urge with troublesome persistence **b** *archaic* : to request or beg for urgently **2** : ANNOY, TROUBLE ~ *vi* : to beg, urge, or solicit persistently or troublesomely ***syn*** see BEG — **im·por·tun·er** *n*

im·por·tu·ni·ty \ˌim-pər-'t(y)ü-nət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being importunate

im·pose \im-'pōz\ *vb* **im·posed; im·pos·ing** [MF *imposer*, fr. L *imponere*, lit., to put upon (perf. indic. *imposui*), fr. *in-* + *ponere* to put — more at POSITION] *vt* **1 a** : to establish or apply as compulsory : LEVY 〈~ a tax〉 **b** : to establish or make prevail by force 〈*imposed* himself as their leader〉 **2 a** *archaic* : PLACE, SET **b** : to arrange (typeset or plated pages) in order for printing as a signature **3** : to palm off 〈~ fake antiques on the public〉 **4** : to force into the company or on the attention of another 〈~ oneself on others〉 ~ *vi* **1** : to take unwarranted advantage of something 〈*imposed* on his good nature〉 **2** : to practice deception — **im·pos·er** *n*

im·pos·ing \im-'pō-ziŋ\ *adj* : impressive because of size, bearing, dignity, or grandeur : COMMANDING ***syn*** see GRAND ***ant*** unimposing — **im·pos·ing·ly** \-ziŋ-lē\ *adv*

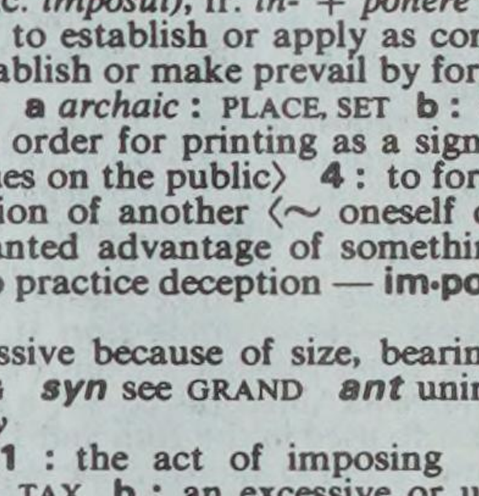
im·po·si·tion \ˌim-pə-'zish-ən\ *n* **1** : the act of imposing **2** : something imposed: as **a** : LEVY, TAX **b** : an excessive or uncalled-for requirement or burden **3** : DECEPTION

im·pos·si·bil·i·ty \(ˌ)im-ˌpäs-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being impossible **2** : something impossible

im·pos·si·ble \(')im-'päs-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *impossibilis*, fr. *in-* + *possibilis* possible] **1 a** : incapable of being or of occurring **b** : felt to be incapable of being done, attained, or fulfilled : insuperably difficult : HOPELESS **2 a** : extremely undesirable : UNACCEPTABLE **b** : extremely awkward or difficult to deal with — **im·pos·si·ble·ness** *n* — **im·pos·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

[1]im·post \'im-ˌpōst\ *n* [MF, fr. ML *impositum*, fr. L, neut. of *impositus*, pp. of *imponere*] : something imposed or levied : TAX

[2]impost *n* [F *imposte*, deriv. of L *impositus*] : a block, capital, or molding from which an arch springs — see ARCH illustration



1 imposts

im·pos·tor *or* **im·pos·ter** \im-'päs-tər\ *n* [LL *impostor*, fr. *impostus*, pp.] : one that assumes an identity or title not his own for the purpose of deception

im·pos·tume \im-'päs-ˌchüm\ *or* **im·pos·thume** \-ˌth(y)üm\ *n* [ME *emposteme*, deriv. of Gk *apostēma*, fr. *aphistanai* to remove, fr. *apo-* + *histanai* to cause to stand — more at STAND] *archaic* : ABSCESS

im·pos·ture \im-'päs-chər\ *n* [LL *impostura*, fr. L *impositus*, *impostus*, pp. of *imponere*] **1** : the act or

practice of deceiving by means of an assumed character or name **2** : an instance of imposture ⟨his behavior was an ~ of true piety⟩ ***syn*** IMPOSTURE, FRAUD, SHAM, FAKE, HUMBUG, COUNTERFEIT *shared meaning element* : a thing made to seem other than it is

im·po·tence \'im-pət-ən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being impotent

im·po·ten·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : IMPOTENCE

im·po·tent \'im-pət-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *impotent-*, *impotens*, fr. *in-* + *potent-*, *potens* potent] **1 a** : not potent : lacking in power, strength, or vigor : HELPLESS **b** : unable to copulate; *broadly* : STERILE — usu. used in males **2** *obs* : incapable of self-restraint : UNGOVERNABLE ***syn*** see STERILE ***ant*** virile, potent — **impotent** *n* — **im·po·tent·ly** *adv*

im·pound \im-'paůnd\ *vt* **1 a** : to shut up in or as if in a pound : CONFINE **b** : to seize and hold in the custody of the law **2** : to collect and confine (water) in or as if in a reservoir

im·pound·ment \-'paůn(d)-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of impounding : the state of being impounded **2** : a body of water formed by impounding

im·pov·er·ish \im-'päv-(ə-)rish\ *vt* [ME *enpoverisen*, fr. MF *empovriss-*, stem of *empovrir*, fr. *en-* + *povre* poor — more at POOR] **1** : to make poor **2** : to deprive of strength, richness, or fertility by depleting or draining of something essential ***syn*** see DEPLETE — **im·pov·er·ish·er** *n* — **im·pov·er·ish·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

im·pov·er·ished *adj* : POOR, DEPRIVED

im·prac·ti·ca·ble \(')im-'prak-ti-kə-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : not practicable : incapable of being performed or accomplished by the means employed or at command **b** : IMPASSABLE ⟨an ~ road⟩ **2** *archaic* : INTRACTABLE, UNMANAGEABLE — **im·prac·ti·ca·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌprak-ti-kə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·prac·ti·ca·ble·ness** \(')im-'prak-ti-kə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·prac·ti·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

im·prac·ti·cal \(')im-'prak-ti-kəl\ *adj* : not practical: as **a** : not wise to put into or keep in practice or effect **b** : incapable of dealing sensibly or prudently with practical matters **c** : IMPRACTICABLE **d** : IDEALISTIC — **im·prac·ti·cal·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌprak-ti-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·prac·ti·cal·ly** \(')im-'prak-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **im·prac·ti·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

im·pre·cate \'im-pri-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *imprecatus*, pp. of *imprecari*, fr. *in-* + *precari* to pray — more at PRAY] *vt* : to invoke evil on : CURSE ~ *vi* : to utter curses

im·pre·ca·tion \ˌim-pri-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of imprecating **2** : CURSE — **im·pre·ca·to·ry** \'im-pri-kə-ˌtōr-ē, im-'prek-ə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

im·pre·cise \ˌim-pri-'sīs\ *adj* : not precise : INEXACT, VAGUE — **im·pre·cise·ly** *adv* — **im·pre·cise·ness** *n* — **im·pre·ci·sion** \-'sizh-ən\ *n*

[1]im·preg·na·ble \im-'preg-nə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *imprenable*, fr. MF, fr. *in-* + *prenable* vulnerable to capture, fr. *prendre* to take — more at PRIZE] **1** : incapable of being taken by assault : UNCONQUERABLE **2** : being beyond criticism or question : UNASSAILABLE — **im·preg·na·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)im-ˌpreg-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·preg·na·ble·ness** \im-'preg-nə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·preg·na·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

[2]impregnable *adj* : capable of being impregnated

im·preg·nant \im-'preg-nənt\ *n* : a substance used for impregnating another substance

[1]im·preg·nate \im-'preg-nət\ *adj* : being filled or saturated

[2]im·preg·nate \im-'preg-ˌnāt, 'im-ˌ\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [LL *impraegnatus*, pp. of *impraegnare*, fr. L *in-* + *praegnas* pregnant] **1 a** (1) : to make pregnant (2) : to introduce sperm cells into **b** : FERTILIZE **2 a** : to cause to be filled, imbued, permeated, or saturated **b** : to permeate thoroughly : INTERPENETRATE ***syn*** see SOAK — **im·preg·na·tion** \(ˌ)im-ˌpreg-'nā-shən\ *n* — **im·preg·na·tor** \im-'preg-ˌnāt-ər, 'im-ˌ\ *n*

im·pre·sa \im-'prā-zə, -sə\ *n* [It, lit., undertaking] : a device with a motto used in the 16th and 17th centuries; *broadly* : EMBLEM

im·pre·sa·rio \ˌim-prə-'sär-ē-ˌō, -'sar-, -'zär-\ *n, pl* **-ri·os** [It, fr. *impresa* undertaking, fr. *imprendere* to undertake, fr. (assumed) VL *imprehendere* — more at EMPRISE] **1** : the projector, manager, or conductor of an opera or concert company **2** : one who puts on or sponsors an entertainment (as a television show or sports event) **3** : MANAGER, DIRECTOR

[1]im·press \im-'pres\ *vb* [ME *impressen*, fr. L *impressus*, pp. of *imprimere*, fr. *in-* + *premere* to press — more at PRESS] *vt* **1 a** : to apply with pressure so as to imprint **b** : to produce (as a mark) by pressure **c** : to mark by or as if by pressure or stamping **2 a** : to produce a vivid impression of **b** : to affect esp. forcibly or deeply : INFLUENCE **3 a** : TRANSFER, TRANSMIT **b** : to transmit (force or motion) by pressure; *esp* : to apply (as voltage) to a circuit from an outside source ~ *vi* : to produce an impression ***syn*** see AFFECT

[2]im·press \'im-ˌpres *also* im-'\ *n* **1** : the act of impressing **2 a** : a mark made by pressure : IMPRINT **b** : an image of something formed by or as if by pressure; *esp* : SEAL **c** : a product of pressure or influence **3** : a characteristic or distinctive mark : STAMP ⟨the ~ of a fresh and vital intelligence is stamped . . . in his work — Lytton Strachey⟩ **4** : IMPRESSION, EFFECT ⟨made his strongest ~ upon the country by his . . . two speeches —G. H. Haynes⟩

[3]im·press \im-'pres\ *vt* [*in-* + *press*] **1** : to levy or take by force for public service; *esp* : to force into naval service **2 a** : to procure or enlist by forcible persuasion **b** : FORCE ⟨~*ed* him into a white coat for the Christmas festivities —Nancy Hale⟩

[4]im·press \'im-ˌpres *also* im-'\ *n* : IMPRESSMENT

im·press·ible \im-'pres-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being impressed : SENSITIVE — **im·press·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌpres-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·press·ibly** \'pres-ə-blē\ *adv*

im·pres·sion \im-'presh-ən\ *n* **1** : the act of impressing: as **a** : an affecting by stamping or pressing **b** : a communicating of a mold, trait, or character by an external force or influence **2** : the effect produced by impressing: as **a** : a stamp, form, or figure resulting from physical contact **b** : an imprint of the teeth and adjacent portions of the jaw for use in dentistry **c** : an esp. marked influence or effect on feeling, sense, or mind **3 a** : a characteristic, trait, or feature resulting from some influence ⟨the ~ on behavior produced by the social milieu⟩ **b** : an effect of alteration or improvement ⟨the settlement left little ~ on the wilderness⟩ **c** : a telling image impressed on the senses or the mind **4 a** : the amount of pressure with which an inked printing surface deposits its ink on the paper **b** : one instance of the meeting of a printing surface and the material being printed; *also* : a single print or copy so made **c** : all the copies of a publication (as a book) printed in one continuous operation from a single makeready **5** : a usu. indistinct or imprecise notion or remembrance **6 a** : the first coat of color in painting **b** : a coat of paint for ornament or preservation **7** : an imitation or representation of salient features in an artistic or theatrical medium; *esp* : an imitation in caricature of a noted personality as a form of theatrical entertainment ***syn*** see IDEA — **im·pres·sion·al** \-'presh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

im·pres·sion·able \im-'presh-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being easily impressed: **a** : easily influenced **b** : easily molded : PLASTIC — **im·pres·sion·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpresh-(ə-)nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·pres·sion·able·ness** \-'presh-(ə-)nə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **im·pres·sion·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

im·pres·sion·ism \im-'presh-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** *often cap* : a theory or practice in painting esp. among French painters of about 1870 of depicting the natural appearances of objects by means of dabs or strokes of primary unmixed colors in order to simulate actual reflected light **2 a** : the depiction of scene, emotion, or character by details intended to achieve a vividness or effectiveness more by evoking subjective and sensory impressions than by recreating an objective reality **b** : a style of musical composition designed to create vague impressions and moods through rich and varied harmonies and timbres **3** : a practice of presenting and elaborating one's subjective reactions to a work of art

im·pres·sion·ist \im-'presh-(ə-)nəst\ *n* **1** *often cap* : one (as a painter) who practices or adheres to the theories of impressionism **2** : an entertainer who does impressions

im·pres·sion·is·tic \(ˌ)im-ˌpresh-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj* **1** *or* **im·pres·sion·ist** \im-'presh-(ə-)nəst\ : of, relating to, or constituting impressionism **2** : based on or involving impression as distinct from knowledge or fact ⟨mankind has often had to resort to ~, intuitive truth —R. H. Wolf⟩ — **im·pres·sion·is·ti·cal·ly** \(ˌ)im-ˌpresh-ə-'nis-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

im·pres·sive \im-'pres-iv\ *adj* : making or tending to make a marked impression : stirring deep feeling esp. of awe or admiration ***syn*** see MOVING ***ant*** unimpressive — **im·pres·sive·ly** *adv* — **im·pres·sive·ness** *n*

im·press·ment \im-'pres-mənt\ *n* : the act of seizing for public use or of impressing into public service

im·pres·sure \im-'presh-ər\ *n, archaic* : a mark made by pressure : IMPRESSION

im·prest \'im-ˌprest\ *n* [obs. *imprest* (to lend), prob. fr. It *imprestare*] : a loan or advance of money

im·pri·ma·tur \ˌim-prə-'mä-ˌtů(ə)r, im-'prim-ə-ˌt(y)ů(ə)r\ *n* [NL, let it be printed, fr. *imprimere* to print, fr. L, to imprint, impress — more at IMPRESS] **1 a** : a license to print or publish esp. by Roman Catholic episcopal authority **b** : approval of a publication under circumstances of official censorship **2** : SANCTION, APPROVAL ⟨placed his ~ on the . . . ensemble's work —Howard Taubman⟩

im·pri·mis \im-'prī-məs, -'prē-\ *adv* [ME *imprimis*, fr. L *in primis* among the first (things)] : in the first place — used to introduce a list of items or considerations

[1]im·print \im-'print, 'im-ˌ\ *vt* **1** : to mark by or as if by pressure : IMPRESS **2 a** : to fix indelibly or permanently (as on the memory)

[2]im·print \'im-ˌprint\ *n* [MF *empreinte*, fr. fem. of *empreint*, pp. of *empreindre* to imprint, fr. L *imprimere*] : something imprinted or printed: as **a** : a mark or depression made by pressure ⟨the fossil ~ of a dinosaur's foot⟩ **b** : a publisher's name often with address and date of publication printed at the foot of a title page **c** : an indelible distinguishing effect or influence ⟨their work bears a sort of regional ~ —Malcolm Cowley⟩

im·print·ing \'im-ˌprint-iŋ, im-'\ *n* : a rapid learning process that takes place early in the life of a social animal (as a greylag goose) and establishes a behavior pattern (as recognition of and attraction to its own kind or a substitute)

im·pris·on \im-'priz-ᵊn\ *vt* [ME *imprisonen*, fr. OF *emprisoner*, fr. *en-* + *prison*] : to put in or as if in prison : CONFINE — **im·pris·on·able** \-'priz-ᵊn-ə-bəl, -'priz-nə-\ *adj* — **im·pris·on·ment** \im-'priz-ən-mənt\ *n*

im·prob·a·bil·i·ty \(ˌ)im-ˌpräb-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being improbable **2** : something improbable

im·prob·a·ble \(')im-'präb(-ə)-bəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *improbabilis*, fr. *in-* + *probabilis* probable] : unlikely to be true or to occur — **im·prob·a·ble·ness** *n* — **im·prob·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

[1]im·promp·tu \im-'präm(p)-(ˌ)t(y)ü\ *adj* [F, fr. *impromptu* extemporaneously, fr. L *in promptu* in readiness] **1** : made or done on or as if on the spur of the moment : IMPROVISED **2** : composed or uttered without previous preparation : EXTEMPORANEOUS ⟨a short ~ speech⟩ — **impromptu** *adv*

[2]impromptu *n* **1** : something that is impromptu **2** : a musical composition suggesting improvisation

im·prop·er \(')im-'präp-ər\ *adj* [MF *impropre*, fr. L *improprius*, fr. *in-* + *proprius* proper] : not proper: as **a** : not in accord with fact, truth, or right procedure : INCORRECT ⟨~ inference⟩ **b** : not regularly or normally formed or not properly so called **c** : not suited to the circumstances, design, or end ⟨~ medicine⟩ **d** : not in accord with propriety, modesty, good manners, or good taste ***syn*** see INDECOROUS ***ant*** proper — **im·prop·er·ly** *adv* — **im·prop·er·ness** *n*

improper fraction *n* : a fraction whose numerator is equal to, larger than, or of equal or higher degree than the denominator

improper integral *n* : a definite integral whose region of integration includes a point at which the integrand is undefined or tends to infinity or whose region of integration does not have all limits finite

im·pro·pri·ety \ˌim-p(r)ə-'prī-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** [F or LL; F *impropriété*, fr. LL *improprietat-*, *improprietas*, fr. L *improprius*] **1** : the

quality or state of being improper **2** : an improper or indecorous act or remark; *esp* : an unacceptable use of a word or of language

im·prov·able \im-'prü-və-bəl\ *adj* : capable of improving or being improved — **im·prov·abil·i·ty** \-ˌprü-və-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·prov·ably** \-'prü-və-blē\ *adv*

im·prove \im-'prüv\ *vb* **im·proved; im·prov·ing** [AF *emprouer* to invest profitably, fr. OF *en-* + *prou* advantage, fr. LL *prode* — more at PROUD] *vt* **1 a** : to enhance in value or quality : make better **b** : to increase the value of (land or property) by betterment (as cultivation or the erection of buildings) **c** : to grade and drain (a road) and apply surfacing material other than pavement **2** *archaic* : EMPLOY, USE **3** : to use to good purpose ~ *vi* **1** : to advance or make progress in what is desirable **2** : to make useful additions or amendments ⟨the movie version ~*s* on the original play⟩ — **im·prov·er** *n*

syn IMPROVE, BETTER, HELP, AMELIORATE *shared meaning element* : to make more acceptable or bring nearer to some standard ***ant*** impair, worsen

im·prove·ment \im-'prüv-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of improving **2 a** : the state of being improved; *esp* : enhanced value or excellence **b** : an instance of such improvement : something that enhances value or excellence

im·prov·i·dence \(')im-'präv-əd-ən(t)s, -ə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being improvident

im·prov·i·dent \-əd-ənt, -ə-ˌdent\ *adj* [LL *improvident-, improvidens*, fr. L *in-* + *provident-, providens* provident] : not provident : not foreseeing and providing for the future — **im·prov·i·dent·ly** *adv*

im·pro·vi·sa·tion \(ˌ)im-ˌpräv-ə-'zā-shən, ˌim-prə-və-\ *n* **1** : the act or art of improvising **2** : something (as a musical or dramatic composition) improvised — **im·pro·vi·sa·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

im·prov·i·sa·tor \im-'präv-ə-ˌzāt-ər\ *n* : one that improvises — **im·prov·i·sa·to·ri·al** \(ˌ)im-ˌpräv-ə-zə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **im·pro·vi·sa·to·ry** \im-'präv-ə-zə-ˌtōr-ē, ˌim-prə-'vī-zə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

im·pro·vi·sa·to·re \(ˌ)im-ˌpräv-ə-zə-'tōr-ē, ˌim-prə-ˌvē-zə-, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-to·ri** \-'tōr-ē, -'tȯr-\ *or* **-tores** [It *improvvisatore*, fr. *improvvisare*] : one that improvises (as verse) usu. extemporaneously

im·pro·vise \ˌim-prə-'vīz, 'im-prə-ˌ\ *vb* **-vised; -vis·ing** [F *improviser*, fr. It *improvvisare*, fr. *improvviso* sudden, fr. L *improvisus*, lit., unforeseen, fr. *in-* + *provisus*, pp. of *providēre* to see ahead — more at PROVIDE] *vt* **1** : to compose, recite, or sing extemporaneously : EXTEMPORIZE **2** : to make, invent, or arrange offhand **3** : to fabricate out of what is conveniently on hand ~ *vi* : to improvise something — **im·pro·vis·er** *or* **im·pro·vi·sor** \-'vī-zər, -ˌvī-\ *n*

im·pru·dence \(')im-'prüd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being imprudent **2** : an imprudent act

im·pru·dent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *imprudent-, imprudens*, fr. *in-* + *prudent-, prudens* prudent] : not prudent : lacking discretion — **im·pru·dent·ly** *adv*

im·pu·dence \'im-pyəd-ən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being impudent

im·pu·dent \-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *impudent-, impudens*, fr. *in-* + *pudent-, pudens*, prp. of *pudēre* to feel shame] **1** *obs* : lacking modesty **2** : marked by contemptuous or cocky boldness or disregard of others : INSOLENT — **im·pu·dent·ly** *adv*

im·pu·dic·i·ty \ˌim-pyü-'dis-ət-ē\ *n* : lack of modesty : SHAMELESSNESS

im·pugn \im-'pyün\ *vt* [ME *impugnen*, fr. MF *impugner*, fr. L *impugnare*, fr. *in-* + *pugnare* to fight — more at PUGNACIOUS] **1** *obs* **a** : ASSAIL **b** : RESIST **2** : to assail by words or arguments : oppose or attack as false or lacking integrity ⟨~ a rival's motives⟩ ***syn*** see DENY ***ant*** authenticate, advocate — **im·pugn·able** \-'pyü-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **im·pugn·er** \-nər\ *n*

im·puis·sance \(')im-'pwis-ᵊn(t)s, (')im-'pyü-ə-sən(t)s; ˌim-pyü-'is-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [MF, fr. *in-* + *puissance*] : WEAKNESS, POWERLESSNESS

im·puis·sant \-ᵊnt, -sənt\ *adj* [F] : WEAK, POWERLESS

¹im·pulse \'im-ˌpəls\ *n* [L *impulsus*, fr. *impulsus*, pp. of *impellere* to impel] **1 a** : the act of driving onward with sudden force : IMPULSION **b** : motion produced by such an impulsion : IMPETUS **c** : a wave of excitation transmitted through tissues and esp. nerve fibers and muscles that results in physiological activity or inhibition **2 a** : a force so communicated as to produce motion suddenly **b** : INCENTIVE **c** : INSPIRATION, MOTIVATION **3 a** : a sudden spontaneous inclination or incitement to some usu. unpremeditated action **b** : a propensity or natural tendency usu. other than rational **4 a** : the product of the average value of a force and the time during which it acts being a quantity equal to the change in momentum produced by the force **b** : PULSE 4a ***syn*** see MOTIVE

²im·pulse \'im-ˌpəls, im-'\ *vt* **im·pulsed; im·puls·ing** : to give an impulse to

impulse buying *n* : the buying of merchandise on impulse

im·pul·sion \im-'pəl-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of impelling : the state of being impelled **b** : an impelling force **c** : an onward tendency derived from an impulsion : IMPETUS **2** : IMPULSE 3a **3** : COMPULSION 2

im·pul·sive \im-'pəl-siv\ *adj* **1** : having the power of or actually driving or impelling **2** : actuated by or prone to act on impulse **3** : acting momentarily ***syn*** see SPONTANEOUS ***ant*** deliberate — **im·pul·sive·ly** *adv* — **im·pul·sive·ness** *n*

im·pu·ni·ty \im-'pyü-nət-ē\ *n* [MF or L; MF *impunité*, fr. L *impunitat-, impunitas*, fr. *impune* without punishment, fr. *in-* + *poena* pain] : exemption or freedom from punishment, harm, or loss

im·pure \(')im-'pyu̇(ə)r\ *adj* [F & L; F, fr. L *impurus*, fr. *in-* + *purus* pure] : not pure: as **a** : LEWD, UNCHASTE **b** : containing something unclean : FOUL ⟨~ water⟩ **c** : ritually unclean **d** : marked by an intermixture of foreign elements or by substandard, incongruous, or objectionable locutions **e** : mixed or impregnated with an extraneous and usu. inferior substance : ADULTERATED ⟨an ~ chemical⟩ **f** : MIXED, BASTARD ⟨an ~ style of ornamentation⟩ — **im·pure·ly** *adv* — **im·pure·ness** *n*

im·pu·ri·ty \(')im-'pyu̇r-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being impure **2** : something that is impure or makes something else impure

im·pu·ta·tion \ˌim-pyə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of imputing: as **a** : ATTRIBUTION, ASCRIPTION **b** : ACCUSATION **c** : INSINUATION **2** : something imputed — **im·pu·ta·tive** \im-'pyüt-ət-iv\ *adj* — **im·pu·ta·tive·ly** *adv*

im·pute \im-'pyüt\ *vt* **im·puted; im·put·ing** [ME *inputen*, fr. L *imputare*, fr. *in-* + *putare* to consider — more at PAVE] **1** : to lay the responsibility or blame for often falsely or unjustly : CHARGE **2** : to credit to a person or a cause : ATTRIBUTE ⟨our vices as well as our virtues have been *imputed* to bodily derangement —B. N. Cardozo⟩ ***syn*** see ASCRIBE — **im·put·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpyüt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **im·put·able** \-'pyüt-ə-bəl\ *adj*

¹in \(')in, ən, ᵊn\ *prep* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *in* in, L *in*, Gk *en*] **1 a** — used as a function word to indicate inclusion, location, or position within limits ⟨~ the lake⟩ ⟨wounded ~ the leg⟩ ⟨~ the summer⟩ **b** : INTO 1 ⟨went ~ the house⟩ **2** — used as a function word to indicate means or instrumentality ⟨written ~ pencil⟩ ⟨bound ~ leather⟩ **3 a** — used as a function word to indicate limitation, qualification, or circumstance ⟨alike ~ some respects⟩ ⟨left ~ a hurry⟩ **b** : INTO 2a ⟨broke ~ pieces⟩ **4** — used as a function word to indicate purpose ⟨said ~ reply⟩ **5** — used as a function word to indicate the larger member of a ratio ⟨one ~ six is eligible⟩

²in \'in\ *adv* **1 a** (1) : to or toward the inside esp. of a house or other building ⟨come ~⟩ (2) : to or toward some destination or particular place ⟨flew ~ on the first plane⟩ (3) : at close quarters : NEAR ⟨play close ~⟩ **b** : so as to incorporate ⟨mix ~ the flour⟩ — often used in combination ⟨built-*in* bookcases⟩ **c** : to or at its place ⟨fit a piece ~⟩ **2 a** : within a particular place; *esp* : within the customary place of residence or business **b** : in the position of participant, insider, or officeholder **c** (1) : on good terms (2) : in a specified relation ⟨~ bad with the boss⟩ (3) : in a position of assured or definitive success **d** : in vogue or season **e** *of an oil well* : in production **f** : in one's presence, possession, or control ⟨after harvests are ~⟩ — **in for** : certain to experience ⟨*in for* a rude awakening⟩

³in \'in\ *adj* **1 a** : that is located inside or within ⟨the ~ part⟩ **b** : that is in position, operation, or power ⟨the ~ party⟩ **c** : INSIDE 2 **2** : that is directed or bound inward : INCOMING ⟨the ~ train⟩ **3 a** : keenly aware of and responsive to what is new and smart ⟨the ~ crowd⟩ **b** : extremely fashionable ⟨the ~ thing to do⟩

⁴in \'in\ *n* **1** : one who is in office or power or on the inside ⟨a matter of ~*s* versus outs⟩ **2** : INFLUENCE, PULL ⟨enjoyed some sort of ~ with the commandant —Henriette Roosenburg⟩

⁵in *abbr* **1** inch **2** inlet

In *symbol* indium

IN *abbr* Indiana

¹in- *or* **il-** *or* **im-** *or* **ir-** *prefix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L; akin to OE *un-*] : not : NON-, UN- — usu. *il-* before *l* ⟨*il*logical⟩ and *im-* before *b, m,* or *p* ⟨*im*balance⟩ ⟨*im*moral⟩ ⟨*im*practical⟩ and *ir-* before *r* ⟨*ir*reducible⟩ and *in-* before other sounds ⟨*in*conclusive⟩

²in- *or* **il-** *or* **im-** *or* **ir-** *prefix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L, fr. *in* in, into] **1** : in : within : into : toward : on ⟨*il*luviation⟩ ⟨*im*mingle⟩ ⟨*ir*radiance⟩ — usu. *il-* before *l, im-* before *b, m,* or *p, ir-* before *r,* and *in-* before other sounds **2** : ¹EN- ⟨*im*brute⟩ ⟨*im*peril⟩ ⟨*in*spirit⟩

¹-in \ən, ᵊn, ˌin\ *n suffix* [F *-ine*, fr. L *-īna*, fem. of *-īnus* of or belonging to — more at -EN] **1 a** : neutral chemical compound ⟨insul*in*⟩ **b** : enzyme ⟨pancreat*in*⟩ **c** : antibiotic ⟨penicill*in*⟩ **2** : ²-INE 1a, 1b ⟨epinephr*in*⟩ **3** : pharmaceutical product ⟨niac*in*⟩

²-in \-ˌin\ *comb form* [²*in* (as in *sit-in*)] **1** : organized public protest by means of or in favor of : demonstration ⟨teach-*in*⟩ ⟨love-*in*⟩ **2** : public group activity ⟨sing-*in*⟩

-i·na \'ē-nə\ *n suffix* [prob. fr. It *-ina*, dim. suffix, fr. L *-īna*] : musical instrument ⟨concert*ina*⟩

in·abil·i·ty \ˌin-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *inabilite*, fr. MF *inhabilité*, fr. *in-* + *habilité* ability] : lack of sufficient power, resources, or capacity ⟨his ~ to do math⟩

in ab·sen·tia \ˌin-ab-'sen-ch(ē-)ə\ *adv* [L] : in absence ⟨gave him the award *in absentia*⟩

in·ac·ces·si·ble \ˌin-ik-'ses-ə-bəl, (ˌ)in-ˌak-\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *inaccessibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *accessibilis* accessible] : not accessible — **in·ac·ces·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌses-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ac·ces·si·bly** \-'ses-ə-blē\ *adv*

in·ac·cu·ra·cy \(')in-'ak-yə-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being inaccurate **2** : MISTAKE, ERROR

in·ac·cu·rate \-yə-rət\ *adj* : not accurate : FAULTY — **in·ac·cu·rate·ly** \-yə-rət-lē, -yərt-\ *adv*

in·ac·tion \(')in-'ak-shən\ *n* : lack of action or activity : IDLENESS

in·ac·ti·vate \(')in-'ak-tə-ˌvāt\ *vt* : to make inactive — **in·ac·ti·va·tion** \(ˌ)in-ˌak-tə-'vā-shən\ *n*

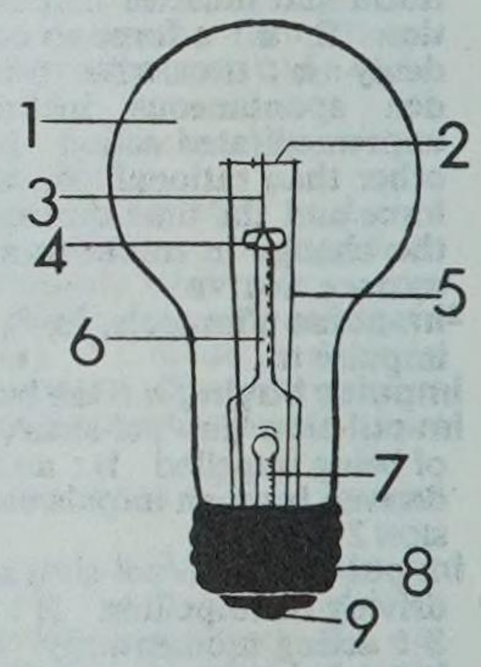
in·ac·tive \(')in-'ak-tiv\ *adj* : not active: as **a** (1) : SEDENTARY **a** (2) : INDOLENT, SLUGGISH **b** (1) : being out of use **b** (2) : relating to members of the armed forces who are not performing or available for military duties **b** (3) *of a disease* : QUIESCENT **c** (1) : chemically inert **c** (2) : optically neutral in polarized light **d** : biologically inert esp. because of the loss of some quality (as infectivity or antigenicity) — **in·ac·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·ac·tiv·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌak-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*

syn INACTIVE, IDLE, INERT, PASSIVE, SUPINE *shared meaning element* : not engaged in work or activity ***ant*** active, live

in·ad·e·qua·cy \(')in-'ad-i-kwə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being inadequate **2** : INSUFFICIENCY, DEFICIENCY

in·ad·e·quate \-kwət\ *adj* : not adequate : INSUFFICIENT — **in·ad·e·quate·ly** *adv* — **in·ad·e·quate·ness** *n*

in·ad·mis·si·ble \ˌin-əd-ˈmis-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not admissible — **in·ad·mis·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌmis-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ad·mis·si·bly** \-ˈmis-ə-blē\ *adv*
in·ad·ver·tence \ˌin-əd-ˈvərt-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ML *inadvertentia*, fr. L *in-* + *advertent-*, *advertens*, prp. of *advertere* to advert] **1** : the fact or action of being inadvertent : INATTENTION **2** : a result of inattention : OVERSIGHT
in·ad·ver·ten·cy \-ᵊn-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : INADVERTENCE
in·ad·ver·tent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [back-formation of *inadvertence*] **1** : not turning the mind to a matter : INATTENTIVE **2** : UNINTENTIONAL — **in·ad·ver·tent·ly** *adv*
in·ad·vis·able \ˌin-əd-ˈvī-zə-bəl\ *adj* : not advisable — **in·ad·vis·abil·i·ty** \-ˌvī-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*
-i·nae \ˈī-(ˌ)nē\ *n pl suffix* [NL *-īnae*, fr. L, fem. pl. of *-īnus*] : members of the subfamily of — in all names of zoological subfamilies in recent classifications ⟨Fel*inae*⟩
in·alien·able \(ˌ)in-ˈāl-yə-nə-bəl, -ˈā-lē-ə-nə-\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *inaliénable*, fr. *in-* + *aliénable* alienable] : incapable of being alienated, surrendered, or transferred ⟨~ rights⟩ — **in·alien·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌāl-yə-nə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -ˌā-lē-ə-nə-\ *n* — **in·alien·ably** \(ˈ)in-ˈāl-yə-nə-blē, -ˈā-lē-ə-nə-\ *adv*
in·al·ter·able \(ˈ)in-ˈȯl-t(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : not alterable : UNALTERABLE — **in·al·ter·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌȯl-t(ə-)rə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·al·ter·able·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈ ȯl-t(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·al·ter·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·amo·ra·ta \in-ˌam-ə-ˈrät-ə\ *n* [It *innamorata*, fr. fem. of *innamorato*, pp. of *innamorare* to inspire with love, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *amore* love, fr. L *amor* — more at AMOROUS] : a woman with whom one is in love or has intimate relations
in–and–in \ˌin-ən-ˈ(d)in\ *adv or adj* : in repeated generations of the same or closely related stock ⟨families . . . of one blood through mating or marrying ~ —F. H. Giddings⟩ ⟨this freak of color in range-bred horses is the result of ~ breeding —Andy Adams⟩
¹inane \in-ˈān\ *adj* **inan·er; -est** [L *inanis*] **1** : EMPTY, INSUBSTANTIAL **2** : lacking significance, meaning, or point : SILLY ***syn*** see INSIPID — **inane·ly** *adv* — **inane·ness** \-ˈān-nəs\ *n*
²inane *n* : void or empty space ⟨a voyage into the limitless ~ —V. G. Childe⟩
in·an·i·mate \(ˈ)in-ˈan-ə-mət\ *adj* [LL *inanimatus*, fr. L *in-* + *animatus*, pp. of *animare* to animate] **1** : not animate: **a** : not endowed with life or spirit **b** : lacking consciousness or power of motion **2** : not animated or lively : DULL — **in·an·i·mate·ly** *adv* — **in·an·i·mate·ness** *n*
in·a·ni·tion \ˌin-ə-ˈnish-ən\ *n* : the quality or state of being empty: **a** : the loss of vitality that results from lack of food and water **b** : the absence or loss of social, moral, or intellectual vitality or vigor : LETHARGY
inan·i·ty \in-ˈan-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being inane: as **a** : lack of substance : EMPTINESS **b** : vapid, pointless, or fatuous character : SHALLOWNESS **2** : something that is inane
in·ap·par·ent \ˌin-ə-ˈpar-ənt, -ˈper-\ *adj* : not apparent — **in·ap·par·ent·ly** *adv*
in·ap·peas·able \ˌin-ə-ˈpē-zə-bəl\ *adj* : UNAPPEASABLE
in·ap·pe·tence \(ˈ)in-ˈap-ət-ən(t)s\ *n* : loss or lack of appetite
in·ap·pli·ca·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈap-li-kə-bəl *also* ˌin-ə-ˈplik-ə-\ *adj* : not applicable : IRRELEVANT — **in·ap·pli·ca·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌap-li-kə-ˈbil-ət-ē *also* ˌin-ə-ˌplik-ə-\ *n* — **in·ap·pli·ca·bly** \(ˈ)in-ˈap-li-kə-blē *also* ˌin-ə-ˈplik-ə-\ *adv*
in·ap·po·site \(ˈ)in-ˈap-ə-zət\ *adj* : not apposite — **in·ap·po·site·ly** *adv* — **in·ap·po·site·ness** *n*
in·ap·pre·cia·ble \ˌin-ə-ˈprē-shə-bəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *inappréciable*, fr. MF *inappreciable*, fr. *in-* + *appreciable*] : too small to be perceived ⟨an ~ difference in the temperature⟩ — **in·ap·pre·cia·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ap·pre·cia·tive \ˌin-ə-ˈprē-shət-iv *also* -shē-ˌāt-\ *adj* : not appreciative — **in·ap·pre·cia·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·ap·pre·cia·tive·ness** *n*
in·ap·proach·able \ˌin-ə-ˈprō-chə-bəl\ *adj* : not approachable : INACCESSIBLE
in·ap·pro·pri·ate \ˌin-ə-ˈprō-prē-ət\ *adj* : not appropriate : UNSUITABLE — **in·ap·pro·pri·ate·ly** *adv* — **in·ap·pro·pri·ate·ness** *n*
in·apt \(ˈ)in-ˈapt\ *adj* : not apt: **a** : not suitable **b** : INEPT — **in·apt·ly** \-ˈap-(t)lē\ *adv* — **in·apt·ness** \-ˈap(t)-nəs\ *n*
in·ap·ti·tude \-ˈap-tə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* : lack of aptitude
in·ar·gu·able \(ˈ)in-ˈär-gyə-wə-bəl\ *adj* : not arguable — **in·ar·gu·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ar·tic·u·late \ˌin-(ˌ)är-ˈtik-yə-lət\ *adj* [LL *inarticulatus*, fr. L *in-* + *articulatus*, pp. of *articulare* to utter distinctly — more at ARTICULATE] **1 a** *of a sound* : uttered or formed without the definite articulations of intelligible speech **b** (1) : incapable of speech esp. under stress of emotion : MUTE (2) : incapable of being expressed by speech ⟨~ fear⟩ (3) : not voiced or expressed : UNSPOKEN ⟨society functions on many ~ premises⟩ **2** : incapable of giving coherent, clear, or effective expression to one's ideas or feelings **3** [NL *inarticulatus*, fr. L *in-* + NL *articulatus* articulate] : lacking a shell hinge — used esp. of a brachiopod — **in·ar·tic·u·late·ly** *adv* — **in·ar·tic·u·late·ness** *n*
in·ar·tis·tic \ˌin-är-ˈtis-tik\ *adj* **1** : not conforming to the principles of art **2** : not appreciative of art — **in·ar·tis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
in·as·much as \ˌin-əz-ˌməch-əz\ *conj* **1** : in the degree that : insofar as **2** : in view of the fact that : SINCE
in·at·ten·tion \ˌin-ə-ˈten-chən\ *n* : failure to pay attention : DISREGARD
in·at·ten·tive \-ˈtent-iv\ *adj* : not attentive — **in·at·ten·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·at·ten·tive·ness** *n*
in·au·di·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈȯd-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *inaudibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *audibilis* audible] : not audible — **in·au·di·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌȯd-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·au·di·bly** \(ˈ)in-ˈȯd-ə-blē\ *adv*
¹in·au·gu·ral \in-ˈȯ-gyə-rəl, -g(ə-)rəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an inauguration **2** : marking a beginning : first in a projected series
²inaugural *n* **1** : an inaugural address **2** : INAUGURATION
in·au·gu·rate \in-ˈȯ-g(y)ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *inauguratus*, pp. of *inaugurare*, lit., to practice augury, fr. *in-* + *augurare* to augur; fr. the rites connected with augury] **1** : to induct into an office with suitable ceremonies **2 a** : to dedicate ceremoniously : observe formally the beginning of **b** : to bring about the beginning of ***syn*** see BEGIN — **in·au·gu·ra·tor** \-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
in·au·gu·ra·tion \-ˌȯ-g(y)ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* : an act of inaugurating; *esp* : a ceremonial induction into office
Inauguration Day *n* : January 20 following a presidential election on which the president of the U.S. is inaugurated
in·aus·pi·cious \ˌin-ˌȯ-ˈspish-əs\ *adj* : not auspicious — **in·aus·pi·cious·ly** *adv* — **in·aus·pi·cious·ness** *n*
in·au·then·tic \ˌin-ˌȯ-ˈthent-ik\ *adj* : not authentic — **in·au·thentic·i·ty** \ˌin-ˌȯ-ˌthen-ˈtis-ət-ē, -thən-\ *n*
¹in–be·tween \ˌin-bi-ˈtwēn\ *n* : INTERMEDIATE ⟨for the novice, expert, or ~⟩
²in–between *adj* : INTERMEDIATE ⟨took an ~ stand on the issue⟩
¹in between *adv* : BETWEEN ⟨neither liberal nor conservative but something *in between*⟩
²in between *prep* : BETWEEN ⟨likes wine before, after, and *in between* meals⟩
¹in·board \ˈin-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *adv* **1** : inside the line of a ship's bulwarks or hull : toward the center line of a ship **2** : toward the inside **3** : in a position closer or closest to the longitudinal axis of an aircraft
²inboard *adj* : located, moving, or being inboard ⟨an ~ engine⟩; *also* : having an inboard engine ⟨~ boats⟩
in·born \ˈin-ˈbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* **1** : born in or with one : NATURAL **2** : HEREDITARY, INHERITED ***syn*** see INNATE
in·bound \ˈin-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* : inward bound
in·bounds \ˌin-ˌbau̇n(d)z\ *adj* : of or relating to putting a basketball in play by passing it onto the court from out of bounds ⟨~ pass⟩
inbounds line *n* : either of two broken lines running the length of a football field at right angles to the yard lines and dividing the field into three parts
in·breathe \ˈin-ˈbrēth\ *vt* : to breathe (something) in : INHALE
in·bred \ˈin-ˈbred\ *adj* **1** : rooted and ingrained in one's nature as deeply as if implanted by heredity ⟨an ~ love of freedom⟩ **2 a** : produced by selective breeding **b** [fr. pp. of *inbreed*] : subjected to or produced by inbreeding ***syn*** see INNATE
in·breed \ˈin-ˈbrēd\ *vt* **-bred** \-ˈbred\; **-breed·ing** : to subject to or engage in inbreeding — **in·breed·er** \-ˌbrēd-ər\ *n*
in·breed·ing \ˈin-ˌbrēd-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the interbreeding of closely related individuals esp. to preserve and fix desirable characters of and to eliminate unfavorable characters from a stock **2** : confinement to a narrow range or a local or limited field of choice
in·built \ˈin-ˈbilt\ *adj* : BUILT-IN
inc *abbr* **1** incomplete **2** incorporated **3** increase
In·ca \ˈiŋ-kə\ *n* [Sp, fr. Quechua *inka* king, prince] **1 a** : a member of the Quechuan peoples of Peru maintaining an empire until the Spanish conquest **b** : a king or noble of this empire **2** : a member of any people under Inca influence — **In·ca·ic** \in-ˈkā-ik\ *adj* — **In·can** \ˈiŋ-kən\ *adj*
in·cal·cu·la·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈkal-kyə-lə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being calculated: as **a** : very great **b** : UNPREDICTABLE, UNCERTAIN — **in·cal·cu·la·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkal-kyə-lə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·cal·cu·la·bly** \(ˈ)in-ˈkal-kyə-lə-blē\ *adv*
in·ca·les·cence \ˌin-kə-ˈles-ᵊn(t)s, ˌiŋ-\ *n* [L *incalescere* to become warm, fr. *in-* + *calescere* to become warm, fr. *calēre* to be warm — more at LEE] : a growing warm or ardent — **in·ca·les·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*
in camera *adv* [NL, lit., in a chamber] : in private : SECRETLY
in·can·desce \ˌin-kən-ˈdes\ *vb* **-desced; -desc·ing** [L *incandescere*] *vi* : to be or become incandescent ~ *vt* : to cause to become incandescent
in·can·des·cence \ˌin-kən-ˈdes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being incandescent; *esp* : emission by a hot body of radiation that makes it visible
in·can·des·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [prob. fr. F, fr. L *incandescent-*, *incandescens*, prp. of *incandescere* to become hot, fr. *in-* + *candescere* to become hot, fr. *candēre* to glow — more at CANDID] **1 a** : white, glowing, or luminous with intense heat **b** : strikingly bright, radiant, or clear **c** : marked by brilliance esp. of expression ⟨~ wit⟩ **d** : characterized by glowing zeal : ARDENT ⟨~ affection⟩ **2 a** : of, relating to, or being light produced by incandescence **b** : producing light by incandescence — **in·can·des·cent·ly** *adv*
incandescent lamp *n* : an electric lamp in which a filament gives off light when heated to incandescence by an electric current



incandescent lamp: *1* gas or vacuum, *2* filament, *3* support, *4* button, *5* inner leads, *6* button rod, *7* exhaust tube, *8* base shell, *9* solder

in·can·ta·tion \ˌin-ˌkan-ˈtā-shən\ *n* [ME *incantacioun*, fr. MF *incantation*, fr. LL *incantation-*, *incantatio*, fr. L *incantatus*, pp. of *incantare* to enchant — more at ENCHANT] : a use of spells or verbal charms spoken or sung as a part of a ritual of magic; *also* : a written or recited formula of words designed to produce a particular effect — **in·can·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·can·ta·to·ry** \in-ˈkant-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
in·ca·pa·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈkā-pə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. *in-* + *capable*] **1** : lacking capacity, ability, or qualification for the purpose or end in view: as **a** *archaic* : not able to take in, hold, or keep **b** *archaic* : not receptive **c** : not being in a state or of a kind to admit : INSUSCEPTIBLE **d** : not able or fit for the doing or performance : INCOMPETENT **2** : lacking legal qualification or power (as by reason of mental incompetence) : DISQUALIFIED — **in·ca·pa·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkā-pə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ca·pa·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈkā-pə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·ca·pa·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ca·pac·i·tate \ˌin-kə-ˈpas-ə-ˌtāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** **1** : to deprive of capacity or natural power : DISABLE **2** : to make legally

incapable or ineligible — **in·ca·pac·i·ta·tion** \-ˌpas-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n* — **in·ca·pac·i·ta·tor** \-ˈpas-ə-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

in·ca·pac·i·ty \ˌin-kə-ˈpas-ət-ē, -ˈpas-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [F *incapacité*, fr. MF, fr. *in-* + *capacité* capacity] : the quality or state of being incapable; *esp* : lack of physical or intellectual power or of natural or legal qualifications

in·car·cer·ate \in-ˈkär-sə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *incarceratus*, pp. of *incarcerare*, fr. *in-* + *carcer* prison] **1** : to put in prison **2** : to subject to confinement — **in·car·cer·a·tion** \(ˌ)in-ˌkär-sə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

in·car·di·na·tion \(ˌ)in-ˌkärd-ᵊn-ˈā-shən\ *n* [LL *incardination-, incardinatio*, fr. *incardinatus*, pp. of *incardinare* to ordain as chief priest, fr. *in-* ²*in-* + *cardinalis* principal — more at CARDINAL] : the formal acceptance by a diocese of a clergyman from another diocese

¹**in·car·na·dine** \in-ˈkär-nə-ˌdīn, -ˌdēn, -dən\ *adj* [MF *incarnadin*, fr. OIt *incarnadino*, fr. *incarnato* flesh-colored, fr. LL *incarnatus*] **1** : of the color flesh **2** : RED; *esp* : BLOODRED

²**incarnadine** *vt* **-dined; -din·ing** : to make incarnadine : REDDEN

¹**in·car·nate** \in-ˈkär-nət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* [ME *incarnat*, fr. LL *incarnatus*, pp. of *incarnare* to incarnate, fr. L *in-* + *carn-, caro* flesh — more at CARNAL] **1 a** : invested with bodily and esp. human nature and form **b** : made manifest or comprehensible : EMBODIED ⟨a fiend ~⟩ **2** : INCARNADINE ⟨~ clover⟩

²**in·car·nate** \in-ˈkär-ˌnāt, ˈin-ˌ\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** : to make incarnate: as **a** : to give bodily form and substance to **b** (1) : to give a concrete or actual form to : ACTUALIZE ⟨scientific laws were ~ in the Machine —Stringfellow Barr⟩ **b** (2) : to constitute an embodiment or type of ⟨no one culture ~*s* every important human value —Denis Goulet⟩

in·car·na·tion \ˌin-ˌkär-ˈnā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of incarnating : the state of being incarnate **2 a** (1) : the embodiment of a deity or spirit in some earthly form (2) *cap* : the union of divinity with humanity in Jesus Christ **b** : a concrete or actual form of a quality or concept; *esp* : a person showing a trait or typical character to a marked degree ⟨she is the ~ of goodness⟩ **3** : time passed in a particular bodily form or state ⟨in another ~ he might be a first vice-president —Walter Teller⟩

incase *var of* ENCASE

in·cau·tion \(ˌ)in-ˈkȯ-shən\ *n* : lack of caution : HEEDLESSNESS

in·cau·tious \-shəs\ *adj* : lacking in caution : CARELESS — **in·cau·tious·ly** *adv* — **in·cau·tious·ness** *n*

in·cen·di·a·rism \in-ˈsen-dē-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : incendiary action or behavior

¹**in·cen·di·ary** \in-ˈsen-dē-ˌer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [L *incendiarius*, fr. *incendium* conflagration, fr. *incendere*] **1 a** : a person who deliberately sets fire to a building or other property **b** : an incendiary agent (as a bomb) **2** : a person who excites factions, quarrels, or sedition : AGITATOR

²**incendiary** *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving a deliberate burning of property **2** : tending to excite or inflame : INFLAMMATORY ⟨~ speeches⟩ **3 a** : igniting combustible materials spontaneously **b** : relating to, being, or involving the use of a missile containing chemicals that ignite on bursting or on contact

¹**in·cense** \ˈin-ˌsen(t)s\ *n* [ME *encens*, fr. OF, fr. LL *incensum*, fr. L, neut. of *incensus*, pp. of *incendere* to set on fire, fr. *in-* + *-cendere* to burn; akin to L *candēre* to glow — more at CANDID] **1** : material used to produce a fragrant odor when burned **2** : the perfume exhaled from some spices and gums when burned; *broadly* : a pleasing scent **3** : pleasing attention : FLATTERY ***syn*** see FRAGRANCE

²**incense** *vt* **in·censed; in·cens·ing** **1** : to apply or offer incense to **2** : to perfume with incense

³**in·cense** \in-ˈsen(t)s\ *vt* **in·censed; in·cens·ing** [ME *encensen*, fr. MF *incenser*, fr. L *incensus*] **1** *archaic* : to cause (a passion or emotion) to become aroused **2** : to arouse the extreme anger or indignation of

in·cen·tive \in-ˈsent-iv\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *incentivum*, fr. neut. of *incentivus* stimulating, fr. L, setting the tune, fr. *incentus*, pp. of *incinere* to set the tune, fr. *in-* + *canere* to sing — more at CHANT] : something that incites or has a tendency to incite to determination or action ***syn*** see MOTIVE — **incentive** *adj*

in·cept \in-ˈsept\ *vt* [L *in-* + *-ceptus*, fr. *captus*, pp. of *capere* to take] : to take in; *esp* : INGEST — **in·cep·tor** \-ˈsep-tər\ *n*

in·cep·tion \in-ˈsep-shən\ *n* [L *inception, inceptio*, fr. *inceptus*, pp. of *incipere* to begin, fr. *in-* + *capere* to take — more at HEAVE] : an act, process, or instance of beginning : COMMENCEMENT ***syn*** see ORIGIN

¹**in·cep·tive** \in-ˈsep-tiv\ *n* : an inchoative verb

²**inceptive** *adj* **1** : of or relating to a beginning **2** : INCHOATIVE 2 — **in·cep·tive·ly** *adv*

in·cer·ti·tude \(ˈ)in-ˈsərt-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *incertitudo*, fr. L *in-* + LL *certitudo* certitude] : UNCERTAINTY: **a** : absence of assurance or confidence : DOUBT **b** : the quality or state of being unstable or insecure

in·ces·san·cy \(ˈ)in-ˈses-ᵊn-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being incessant

in·ces·sant \(ˈ)in-ˈses-ᵊnt\ *adj* [ME *incessaunt*, fr. LL *incessant-, incessans*, fr. L *in-* + *cessant-, cessans*, prp. of *cessare* to delay — more at CEASE] : continuing or following without interruption : UNCEASING ***syn*** see CONTINUOUS ***ant*** intermittent — **in·ces·sant·ly** *adv*

in·cest \ˈin-ˌsest\ *n* [ME, fr. L *incestum*, fr. neut. of *incestus* impure, fr. *in-* + *castus* pure — more at CASTE] : sexual intercourse between persons so closely related that they are forbidden by law to marry; *also* : the statutory crime of such a relationship

in·ces·tu·ous \in-ˈses(h)-chə-wəs\ *adj* **1** : constituting or involving incest **2** : guilty of incest — **in·ces·tu·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·ces·tu·ous·ness** *n*

¹**inch** \ˈinch\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ynce*, fr. L *uncia* — more at OUNCE] **1** : a unit of length equal to $1/36$ yard — see WEIGHT table **2** : a small amount, distance, or degree ⟨is like cutting a dog's tail off by ~*es* —Milton Friedman⟩ **3** *pl* : STATURE, HEIGHT **4 a** : a fall (as of rain or snow) sufficient to cover a surface or to fill a gauge to the depth of one inch **b** : a degree of atmospheric or other pressure sufficient to balance the weight of a column of liquid (as mercury) one inch high in a barometer or manometer **c** : WATER-INCH — **every inch** : to the utmost degree ⟨looks *every inch* a winner⟩ — **within an inch of one's life** : in a very thorough manner : SOUNDLY ⟨trounced him *within an inch of his life*⟩

²**inch** *vi* : to move by small degrees ⟨the long line of people ~*ing* up the stairs⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause to move slowly ⟨sooner or later they begin ~*ing* prices back up —*Forbes*⟩

³**inch** *n* [ME, fr. ScGael *innis*] *chiefly Scot* : ISLAND

inched \ˈincht\ *adj* : measuring a specified number of inches

-inch·er \ˈin-chər\ *comb form* : one that has a dimension of a specified number of inches

in chief *adv* : heading a staff : LEADING — usu. used in combination ⟨general-*in-chief*⟩ ⟨physician-*in-chief*⟩

inch·meal \ˈinch-ˌmēl, -ˈmē(ə)l\ *adv* [¹*inch* + *-meal* (as in *piecemeal*)] : little by little : GRADUALLY

in·cho·ate \in-ˈkō-ət, ˈin-kə-ˌwāt\ *adj* [L *inchoatus*, pp. of *inchoare*, lit., to hitch up, fr. *in-* + *cohum* strap fastening a plow beam to the yoke] : being only partly in existence or operation; *esp* : imperfectly formed or formulated ⟨misty, ~ suspicions that all is not well with the nation —J. M. Perry⟩ — **in·cho·ate·ly** *adv* — **in·cho·ate·ness** *n*

in·cho·ative \in-ˈkō-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : INITIAL, FORMATIVE ⟨the ~ stages⟩ **2** : denoting the beginning of an action, state, or occurrence — used of verbs — **inchoative** *n* — **in·cho·ative·ly** *adv*

inch·worm \ˈinch-ˌwərm\ *n* : LOOPER 1

in·ci·dence \ˈin(t)-səd-ən(t)s, -sə-ˌden(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : an act or the fact or manner of falling upon or affecting : OCCURRENCE **b** : rate of occurrence or influence ⟨a high ~ of crime⟩ **2 a** : the arrival of something (as a projectile or a ray of light) at a surface **b** : ANGLE OF INCIDENCE

¹**in·ci·dent** \ˈin(t)-səd-ənt, -sə-ˌdent\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *incident-, incidens*, fr. L, prp. of *incidere* to fall into, fr. *in-* + *cadere* to fall — more at CHANCE] **1 a** : an occurrence of an action or situation that is a separate unit of experience : HAPPENING **b** : an accompanying minor occurrence or condition : CONCOMITANT **2** : an action likely to lead to grave consequences esp. in matters diplomatic ⟨a serious border ~⟩ **3** : something dependent on or subordinate to something else of greater or principal importance ***syn*** see OCCURRENCE

²**incident** *adj* **1** : occurring or likely to occur esp. as a minor consequence or accompaniment ⟨the confusion ~ to moving day⟩ **2** : dependent on or relating to another thing in law **3** : falling or striking on something ⟨~ light rays⟩

¹**in·ci·den·tal** \ˌin(t)-sə-ˈdent-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : occurring merely by chance or without intention or calculation **2** : being likely to ensue as a chance or minor consequence ⟨social obligations ~ to his job⟩ ***syn*** see ACCIDENTAL ***ant*** essential

²**incidental** *n* **1** : something that is incidental **2** *pl* : minor items (as of expense) that are not particularized

in·ci·den·tal·ly \-ˈdent-ᵊl-ē, *esp for 2* -ˈdent-lē\ *adv* **1** : by chance : CASUALLY **2** : by way of interjection or digression : PARENTHETICALLY

incidental music *n* : descriptive music played during a play to project a mood (as for a battle, a storm, or a death scene) or to accompany stage action

in·cin·er·ate \in-ˈsin-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *incineratus*, pp. of *incinerare*, fr. L *in-* + *ciner-, cinis* ashes; akin to Gk *konis* dust, ashes] : to cause to burn to ashes — **in·cin·er·a·tion** \-ˌsin-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*

in·cin·er·a·tor \in-ˈsin-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* : one that incinerates; *esp* : a furnace or a container for incinerating waste materials

in·cip·i·ence \in-ˈsip-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* : INCIPIENCY

in·cip·i·en·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : the state or fact of being incipient : BEGINNING

in·cip·i·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [L *incipient-, incipiens*, prp. of *incipere* to begin — more at INCEPTION] : beginning to come into being or to become apparent : COMMENCING ⟨an ~ solar system⟩ ⟨evidence of ~ racial tension⟩ — **in·cip·i·ent·ly** *adv*

in·ci·pit \ˈin(t)-sə-pət, ˈiŋ-kə-ˌpit\ *n* [L, it begins, fr. *incipere*] : the first part : BEGINNING; *specif* : the opening words of a text of a medieval manuscript or early printed book

in·cise \in-ˈsīz, -ˈsīs\ *vt* **in·cised; in·cis·ing** [MF or L; MF *inciser*, fr. L *incisus*, pp. of *incidere*, fr. *in-* + *caedere* to cut — more at CONCISE] **1** : to cut into **2 a** : to carve figures, letters, or devices into : ENGRAVE **b** : to carve (as an inscription) into a surface

in·cised *adj* **1 a** : cut in : ENGRAVED; *esp* : decorated with incised figures **b** *of a wound* : made or as if made with a sharp knife **2** : having a margin that is deeply and sharply notched ⟨an ~ leaf⟩

in·ci·sion \in-ˈsizh-ən\ *n* **1 a** : a marginal notch (as in a leaf) **b** : CUT, GASH; *specif* : an incised wound made esp. in surgery into the body **2** : an act of incising **3** : the quality or state of being incisive

in·ci·sive \in-ˈsī-siv\ *adj* : impressively direct and decisive (as in manner or presentation) ⟨~ writing⟩ — **in·ci·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·ci·sive·ness** *n*

syn INCISIVE, TRENCHANT, CLEAR-CUT, CUTTING, BITING, CRISP *shared meaning element* : having or manifesting or suggesting a keen alertness of mind

in·ci·sor \in-ˈsī-zər\ *n* : a tooth adapted for cutting; *esp* : one of the cutting teeth in mammals in front of the canines — see TOOTH illustration

in·ci·ta·tion \ˌin-ˌsī-ˈtā-shən, ˌin(t)-sə-\ *n* **1** : an act of inciting : STIMULATION **2** : something that incites to action : INCENTIVE

in·cite \in-ˈsīt\ *vt* **in·cit·ed; in·cit·ing** [MF *inciter*, fr. L *incitare*, fr. *in-* + *citare* to put in motion — more at CITE] : to move to action

: stir up : spur on : urge on — **in·cit·ant** \-ˈsīt-ᵊnt\ *n* — **in·cite·ment** \-mənt\ *n* — **in·cit·er** *n*
syn INCITE, INSTIGATE, ABET, FOMENT *shared meaning element* : to spur to action or excite into activity ***ant*** restrain
in·ci·vil·i·ty \ˌin(t)-səˈvil-ət-ē\ *n* [MF *incivilité*, fr. LL *incivilitat-, incivilitas*, fr. *incivilis*, fr. L *in-* + *civilis* civil] **1** : the quality or state of being uncivil **2** : a rude or discourteous act
incl *abbr* including; inclusive
in·clem·en·cy \(ˈ)in-ˈklem-ən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being inclement
in·clem·ent \(ˈ)in-ˈklem-ənt\ *adj* [L *inclement-, inclemens*, fr. *in-* + *clement-, clemens* clement] : lacking clemency: as **a** : physically severe : STORMY ⟨~ weather⟩ **b** *archaic* : severe in temper or action : UNMERCIFUL — **in·clem·ent·ly** *adv*
in·clin·able \inˈklī-nə-bəl\ *adj* : having a tendency or inclination; *also* : disposed to favor or think well of
in·cli·na·tion \ˌin-klə-ˈnā-shən, ˌiŋ-\ *n* **1** : an act or the action of bending or inclining: as **a** : BOW, NOD **b** : a tilting of something **2** **a** *obs* : natural disposition : CHARACTER **b** : a particular disposition of mind or character : PROPENSITY; *esp* : LIKING ⟨had little ~ for housekeeping⟩ **3** **a** : a deviation from the true vertical or horizontal : SLANT; *also* : the degree of such deviation **b** : an inclined surface : SLOPE **c** (1) : the angle determined by two lines or planes (2) : the angle made by a line with the x-axis measured counterclockwise from the positive direction of that axis **4** : a tendency to a particular aspect, state, character, or action ⟨the clutch has an ~ to slip⟩ — **in·cli·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹in·cline \inˈklīn\ *vb* **in·clined; in·clin·ing** [ME *inclinen*, fr. MF *incliner*, fr. L *inclinare*, fr. *in-* + *clinare* to lean — more at LEAN] *vi* **1** : to bend the head or body forward : BOW **2** : to lean, tend, or become drawn toward an opinion or course of conduct **3** : to deviate from a line, direction, or course; *specif* : to deviate from the vertical or horizontal ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to stoop or bow : BEND **2** : to have influence on : PERSUADE ⟨his love of books *inclined* him toward a literary career⟩ **3** : to give a bend or slant to — **in·clin·er** *n*
syn **1** see SLANT
2 INCLINE, BIAS, DISPOSE, PREDISPOSE *shared meaning element* : to influence one to have or take an attitude toward something ***ant*** disincline
²in·cline \ˈin-ˌklīn\ *n* : an inclined plane : GRADE, SLOPE
in·clined \inˈklīnd, *2 also* ˈin-ˌ\ *adj* **1** : having inclination, disposition, or tendency **2** **a** : having a leaning or slope **b** : making an angle with a line or plane
inclined plane *n* : a plane surface that makes an oblique angle with the plane of the horizon
in·clin·ing \inˈklī-niŋ\ *n* **1** : INCLINATION **2** *archaic* : PARTY, FOLLOWING
in·cli·nom·e·ter \ˌin-klə-ˈnäm-ət-ər, ˌiŋ-; ˌin-ˌklī-\ *n* **1** : an apparatus for determining the direction of the earth's magnetic field with reference to the plane of the horizon **2** : a machinist's clinometer **3** : an instrument for indicating the inclination to the horizontal of an axis of a ship or an airplane
in·clip \inˈklip\ *vt, archaic* : CLASP, ENCLOSE
inclose, inclosure *var of* ENCLOSE, ENCLOSURE
in·clude \inˈklüd\ *vt* **in·clud·ed; in·clud·ing** [ME *includen*, fr. L *includere*, fr. *in-* + *claudere* to close — more at CLOSE] **1** : to shut up : ENCLOSE **2** : to take in or comprise as a part of a larger aggregate or principle — **in·clud·able** *or* **in·clud·ible** \-ˈklüd-ə-bəl\ *adj*
syn INCLUDE, COMPREHEND, EMBRACE, INVOLVE *shared meaning element* : to contain within as part of a whole ***ant*** exclude
in·clud·ed *adj* : that is enclosed or embraced; *esp* : not projecting beyond the mouth of the corolla — used of a stamen or pistil
in·clu·sion \inˈklü-zhən\ *n* [L *inclusion-, inclusio*, fr. *inclusus*, pp. of *includere*] **1** : the act of including : the state of being included **2** : something that is included: as **a** : a gaseous, liquid, or solid foreign body enclosed in a mass (as of a mineral) **b** : a passive product of cell activity (as a starch grain) within the protoplasm **3** : a relation between two classes that obtains when all members of the first are also members of the second — compare MEMBERSHIP 3
inclusion body *n* : a rounded or oval intracellular body that consists of elementary bodies in a matrix, is characteristic of some virus diseases, and is believed to represent a stage in the multiplication of the virus
in·clu·sive \inˈklü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1** **a** : broad in orientation or scope **b** : covering or intended to cover all items, costs, or services **2** : comprehending the stated limits or extremes ⟨from Monday to Friday ~⟩ — **in·clu·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·clu·sive·ness** *n*
inclusive disjunction *n* : a statement of a logical proposition expressing alternatives that usu. takes the form *p* v *q* meaning *p* or *q* or both — see TRUTH TABLE table
inclusive of *prep* : taking into account ⟨the cost of building *inclusive of* materials⟩
in·co·erc·ible \ˌin-kō-ˈər-sə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being controlled, checked, or confined
incog *abbr* incognito
in·cog·i·tant \inˈkäj-ət-ənt\ *adj* [L *incogitant-, incogitans*, fr. *in-* + *cogitant-, cogitans*, prp. of *cogitare* to cogitate] : THOUGHTLESS, INCONSIDERATE
in·cog·ni·ta \ˌin-ˌkäg-ˈnēt-ə, in-ˈkäg-nət-ə\ *adv or adj* [It, fem. of *incognito*] : INCOGNITO — used only of a woman — **incognita** *n*
¹in·cog·ni·to \ˌin-ˌkäg-ˈnēt-(ˌ)ō, in-ˈkäg-nə-ˌtō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. L *incognitus* unknown, fr. *in-* + *cognitus*, pp. of *cognoscere* to know — more at COGNITION] : with one's identity concealed
²incognito *n, pl* **-tos** **1** : one appearing or living incognito **2** : the state or disguise of an incognito or incognita
in·cog·ni·zant \(ˈ)in-ˈkäg-nə-zənt\ *adj* : lacking awareness or consciousness — **in·cog·ni·zance** \-zən(t)s\ *n*
in·co·her·ence \ˌin-kō-ˈhir-ən(t)s, -ˈher-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being incoherent **2** : something that is incoherent
in·co·her·ent \-ənt\ *adj* : lacking coherence: as **a** : lacking cohesion : LOOSE **b** : lacking orderly continuity, arrangement, or relevance : INCONSISTENT — **in·co·her·ent·ly** *adv*
in·com·bus·ti·ble \ˌin-kəm-ˈbəs-tə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, prob. fr. MF, fr. *in-* + *combustible*] : not combustible : incapable of being burned — **in·com·bus·ti·bil·i·ty** \-ˌbəs-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **incombustible** *n*
in·come \ˈin-ˌkəm\ *n* **1** : a coming in : ENTRANCE, INFLUX ⟨fluctuations in the nutrient ~ of a body of water⟩ **2** : a gain or recurrent benefit usu. measured in money that derives from capital or labor; *also* : the amount of such gain received in a period of time ⟨a small yearly ~⟩
income account *n* : a financial statement of a business showing the details of revenues, costs, expenses, losses, and profits for a given period — called also *income statement*
income bond *n* : a bond that pays interest at a rate based on the issuer's earnings
income tax \ˌin-(ˌ)kəm-\ *n* : a tax on the net income of an individual or a business
¹in·com·ing \ˈin-ˌkəm-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of coming in : ARRIVAL **2** : INCOME — usu. used in pl.
²incoming *adj* **1** **a** : coming in : ARRIVING ⟨an ~ ship⟩ **b** : taking a new place or position ⟨the ~ president⟩ **c** : received at a usual, proper, or designated destination ⟨~ mail⟩ **2** : just starting or beginning ⟨the ~ freshman⟩
in·com·men·su·ra·ble \ˌin-kə-ˈmen(t)s(-ə)-rə-bəl, -ˈmench(-ə)-\ *adj* : not commensurable; *broadly* : lacking a common basis of comparison in respect to a quality normally subject to comparison — **in·com·men·su·ra·bil·i·ty** \-ˌmen(t)s(-ə)-rə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -ˌmench(-ə)-\ *n* — **incommensurable** *n* — **in·com·men·su·ra·bly** \-ˈmen(t)s(-ə)-rə-blē, -ˈmench(-ə)-\ *adv*
in·com·men·su·rate \-ˈmen(t)s(-ə)-rət, -ˈmench(-ə)-\ *adj* : not commensurate: as **a** : INCOMMENSURABLE **b** : INADEQUATE **c** : DISPROPORTIONATE
in·com·mode \ˌin-kə-ˈmōd\ *vt* **-mod·ed; -mod·ing** [MF *incommoder*, fr. L *incommodare*, fr. *incommodus* inconvenient, fr. *in-* + *commodus* convenient — more at COMMODE] : to give inconvenience or distress to : DISTURB
in·com·mo·di·ous \ˌin-kə-ˈmōd-ē-əs\ *adj* : not commodious : INCONVENIENT — **in·com·mo·di·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·com·mo·di·ous·ness** *n*
in·com·mod·i·ty \-ˈmäd-ət-ē\ *n* : a source of inconvenience : DISADVANTAGE
in·com·mu·ni·ca·ble \ˌin-kə-ˈmyü-ni-kə-bəl\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *incommunicabilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *communicabilis* communicable] : not communicable: as **a** : incapable of being communicated or imparted **b** : UNCOMMUNICATIVE — **in·com·mu·ni·ca·bil·i·ty** \-ˌmyü-ni-kə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·com·mu·ni·ca·bly** \-ˈmyü-ni-kə-blē\ *adv*
in·com·mu·ni·ca·do \-ˌmyü-nə-ˈkäd-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [Sp *incommunicado*, fr. pp. of *incommunicar* to deprive of communication, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *comunicar* to communicate, fr. L *communicare*] : without means of communication; *also* : in solitary confinement
in·com·mu·ni·ca·tive \-ˈmyü-nə-ˌkāt-iv, -ni-kət-\ *adj* : UNCOMMUNICATIVE
in·com·mut·able \ˌin-kə-ˈmyüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incommutabilis*, fr. *in-* + *commutabilis* commutable] : not commutable: as **a** : not interchangeable **b** : UNCHANGEABLE — **in·com·mut·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·com·pa·ra·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈkäm-p(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *incomparabilis*, fr. *in-* + *comparabilis* comparable] **1** : eminent beyond comparison : MATCHLESS **2** : not suitable for comparison — **in·com·pa·ra·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkäm-p(ə-)rə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·com·pa·ra·bly** \(ˈ)in-ˈkäm-p(ə-)rə-blē\ *adv*
in·com·pat·i·bil·i·ty \ˌin-kəm-ˌpat-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** **a** : the quality or state of being incompatible **b** : lack of interfertility between two plants **2** *pl* : mutually antagonistic things or qualities
in·com·pat·i·ble \ˌin-kəm-ˈpat-ə-bəl\ *adj* [MF & ML; MF, fr. ML *incompatibilis*, fr. L *in-* + ML *compatibilis* compatible] **1** : incapable of being held by one person at one time — used of offices that make conflicting demands on the holder **2** **a** : incapable of association because incongruous, discordant, or disagreeing ⟨~ colors⟩ **b** : unsuitable for use together because of undesirable chemical or physiological effects ⟨~ drugs⟩ **c** : not both true ⟨~ propositions⟩ **d** : incapable of blending into a stable homogeneous mixture — **incompatible** *n* — **in·com·pat·i·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·com·pe·tence \(ˈ)in-ˈkäm-pət-ən(t)s\ *n* : the state or fact of being incompetent
in·com·pe·ten·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : INCOMPETENCE
in·com·pe·tent \(ˈ)in-ˈkäm-pət-ənt\ *adj* [MF *incompétent*, fr. *in-* + *compétent* competent] **1** : lacking the qualities needed for effective action **2** : not legally qualified **3** : inadequate to or unsuitable for a particular purpose — **incompetent** *n* — **in·com·pe·tent·ly** *adv*
in·com·plete \ˌin-kəm-ˈplēt\ *adj* [ME *incompleet*, fr. LL *incompletus*, fr. L *in-* + *completus* complete] : not complete : UNFINISHED: as **a** : lacking a part; *esp* : lacking one or more sets of floral organs **b** *of a football pass* : not legally caught — **in·com·plete·ly** *adv* — **in·com·plete·ness** *n*
in·com·pli·ant \ˌin-kəm-ˈplī-ənt\ *adj* : not compliant or pliable : UNYIELDING
in·com·pre·hen·si·ble \(ˌ)in-ˌkäm-pri-ˈhen(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incomprehensibilis*, fr. *in-* + *comprehensibilis* comprehensible] **1** *archaic* : having or subject to no limits **2** : impossible to comprehend : UNINTELLIGIBLE — **in·com·pre·hen·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌhen(t)-səˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·com·pre·hen·si·ble·ness** *n* — **in·com·pre·hen·si·bly** \-ˈhen(t)-sə-blē\ *adv*
in·com·pre·hen·sion \-ˈhen-chən\ *n* : lack of comprehension or understanding
in·com·press·ible \in-kəm-ˈpres-ə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of or resistant to compression — **in·com·press·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌpres-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·com·press·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·com·put·able \ˌin-kəm-ˈpyüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not computable : very great — **in·com·put·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·con·ceiv·able \ˌin-kən-ˈsē-və-bəl\ *adj* : not conceivable: as **a** : impossible to comprehend **b** : UNBELIEVABLE — **in·con·ceiv·**

abil·i·ty \-ˌsē-və-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·con·ceiv·able·ness** \-ˈsē-və-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·con·ceiv·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·con·cin·ni·ty \ˌin-kən-ˈsin-ət-ē\ *n* [L *inconcinnitas*, fr. *in-* + *concinnitas* concinnity] : lack of suitability or congruity : INELEGANCE
in·con·clu·sive \ˌin-kən-ˈklü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* : leading to no conclusion or definite result — **in·con·clu·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·con·clu·sive·ness** *n*
in·con·dens·able \ˌin-kən-ˈden(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being condensed
in·con·dite \in-ˈkän-dət, -ˌdīt\ *adj* [L *inconditus*, fr. *in-* + *conditus*, pp. of *condere* to put together, fr. *com-* + *-dere* to put — more at DO] : badly put together : CRUDE
in·con·for·mi·ty \ˌin-kən-ˈfȯr-mət-ē\ *n* : NONCONFORMITY
in·con·gru·ence \ˌin-kən-ˈgrü-ən(t)s, (ˌ)in-ˈkäŋ-grə-wən(t)s\ *n* : INCONGRUITY
in·con·gru·ent \-ənt, -wənt\ *adj* [L *incongruent-, incongruens*, fr. *in-* + *congruent-, congruens* congruent] : not congruent ⟨~ triangles⟩ — **in·con·gru·ent·ly** *adv*
in·con·gru·ity \ˌin-kən-ˈgrü-ət-ē, -ˌkän-\ *n, pl* **-ities** **1** : the quality or state of being incongruous **2** : something that is incongruous
in·con·gru·ous \(ˌ)in-ˈkäŋ-grə-wəs\ *adj* [LL *incongruus*, fr. L *in-* + *congruus* congruous] : lacking congruity: as **a** : not harmonious : INCOMPATIBLE ⟨~ colors⟩ **b** : not conforming : DISAGREEING ⟨conduct ~ with his principles⟩ **c** : inconsistent within itself ⟨an ~ story⟩ **d** : lacking propriety : UNSUITABLE ⟨~ manners⟩ — **in·con·gru·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·con·gru·ous·ness** *n*
in·con·scient \(ˌ)in-ˈkän-chənt\ *adj* [prob. fr. F, fr. *in-* + *conscient* mindful, fr. L *conscient-, consciens*, prp. of *conscire* to be conscious — more at CONSCIENCE] : UNCONSCIOUS, MINDLESS
in·con·sec·u·tive \ˌin-kən-ˈsek-(y)ət-iv\ *adj* : not consecutive
in·con·se·quence \(ˌ)in-ˈkän(t)-sə-ˌkwen(t)s, -si-kwən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being inconsequent
in·con·se·quent \-ˌkwent, -kwənt\ *adj* [LL *inconsequent-, inconsequens*, fr. L *in-* + *consequent-, consequens* consequent] **1 a** : lacking reasonable sequence : ILLOGICAL **b** : INCONSECUTIVE **2** : IRRELEVANT **3** : INCONSEQUENTIAL 2 — **in·con·se·quent·ly** *adv*
in·con·se·quen·tial \(ˌ)in-ˌkän(t)-sə-ˈkwen-chəl\ *adj* **1 a** : ILLOGICAL **b** : IRRELEVANT **2** : of no significance : UNIMPORTANT — **in·con·se·quen·ti·al·i·ty** \-ˌkwen-chē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·con·se·quen·tial·ly** \-ˈkwench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
in·con·sid·er·able \ˌin-kən-ˈsid-ər-(ə-)bəl, -ˈsid-rə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. *in-* + *considerable*, fr. ML *considerabilis* considerable] : not considerable : TRIVIAL — **in·con·sid·er·able·ness** *n* — **in·con·sid·er·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·con·sid·er·ate \ˌin-kən-ˈsid-(ə-)rət\ *adj* [L *inconsideratus*, fr. *in-* + *consideratus* considerate] **1** : not adequately considered : ILL-ADVISED **2 a** : HEEDLESS, THOUGHTLESS **b** : careless of the rights or feelings of others — **in·con·sid·er·ate·ly** *adv* — **in·con·sid·er·ate·ness** *n* — **in·con·sid·er·ation** \-ˌsid-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n*
in·con·sis·tence \ˌin-kən-ˈsis-tən(t)s\ *n* : INCONSISTENCY
in·con·sis·ten·cy \ˌin-kən-ˈsis-tən-sē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being inconsistent **2** : an instance of being inconsistent
in·con·sis·tent \-tənt\ *adj* : lacking consistency: as **a** : not compatible with another fact or claim ⟨~ statements⟩ **b** : containing incompatible elements ⟨an ~ argument⟩ **c** : incoherent or illogical in thought or actions : CHANGEABLE **d** : not satisfiable by the same set of values for the unknowns ⟨~ equations⟩ ⟨~ inequalities⟩ — **in·con·sis·tent·ly** *adv*
in·con·sol·able \ˌin-kən-ˈsō-lə-bəl\ *adj* [L *inconsolabilis*, fr. *in-* + *consolabilis* consolable] : incapable of being consoled : DISCONSOLATE — **in·con·sol·able·ness** *n* — **in·con·sol·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·con·so·nance \(ˌ)in-ˈkän(t)-s(ə-)nən(t)s\ *n* : lack of consonance or harmony : DISAGREEMENT
in·con·so·nant \-s(ə-)nənt\ *adj* : not consonant : DISCORDANT
in·con·spic·u·ous \ˌin-kən-ˈspik-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *inconspicuus*, fr. *in-* + *conspicuus* conspicuous] : not readily noticeable — **in·con·spic·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·con·spic·u·ous·ness** *n*
in·con·stan·cy \(ˌ)in-ˈkän(t)-stən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being inconstant
in·con·stant \-stənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *inconstant-, inconstans*, fr. *in-* + *constant-, constans* constant] : likely to change frequently without apparent or cogent reason — **in·con·stant·ly** *adv*
syn INCONSTANT, FICKLE, CAPRICIOUS, MERCURIAL, UNSTABLE *shared meaning element* : lacking firmness or steadiness (as in purpose or devotion) or indicative of such lack. INCONSTANT implies an incapacity for steadiness and an inherent tendency to change ⟨swear not by the moon, the *inconstant* moon, that monthly changes in her circled orb —Shak.⟩ FICKLE suggests unreliability because of perverse changeability and incapacity for steadfastness ⟨lordly patrons are *fickle* and their favor not to be relied on —Aldous Huxley⟩ CAPRICIOUS suggests motivation by sudden whim or fancy and stresses unpredictability ⟨the *capricious* fluttering of . . . butterflies —Ludwig Bemelmans⟩ MERCURIAL implies a rapid changeability of mood and suggests the mobility of spilled quicksilver ⟨I was ardent in my temperament; quick, *mercurial*, impetuous — Washington Irving⟩ UNSTABLE implies an incapacity for maintaining a fixed position or relationship and, when applied to persons, suggests a lack of emotional balance ⟨*unstable* as water, thou shalt not excel —Gen 49:4 (AV)⟩ ***ant*** constant
in·con·sum·able \ˌin-kən-ˈsü-mə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being consumed — **in·con·sum·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·con·test·able \ˌin-kən-ˈtes-tə-bəl\ *adj* [F, fr. *in-* + *contestable*, fr. *contester* to contest] : not contestable : INDISPUTABLE — **in·con·test·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtes-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·con·test·ably** \-ˈtes-tə-blē\ *adv*
in·con·ti·nence \(ˌ)in-ˈkänt-ᵊn-ən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being incontinent: as **a** : failure to restrain sexual appetite : UNCHASTITY **b** : inability of the body to control the evacuative functions
in·con·ti·nen·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : INCONTINENCE
1in·con·ti·nent \(ˌ)in-ˈkänt-ᵊn-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *incontinent-, incontinens*, fr. *in-* + *continent-, continens* continent] : not continent: as **a** : lacking self-restraint **b** : not being under control ⟨that play . . . is singularly ~ and full of loose ends — *Times Lit. Supp.*⟩
2incontinent *adv* : 1INCONTINENTLY
1in·con·ti·nent·ly *adv* : without delay : IMMEDIATELY
2incontinently *adv* : in an incontinent or unrestrained manner: as **a** : without moral restraint : LEWDLY **b** : without due or reasonable consideration
in·con·trol·la·ble \ˌin-kən-ˈtrō-lə-bəl\ *adj* : UNCONTROLLABLE
in·con·tro·vert·ible \(ˌ)in-ˌkän-trə-ˈvərt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not open to question : INDISPUTABLE ⟨~ evidence⟩ — **in·con·tro·vert·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*
1in·con·ve·nience \ˌin-kən-ˈvē-nyən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being inconvenient **2** : something that is inconvenient
2inconvenience *vt* : to subject to inconvenience : put to trouble
in·con·ve·nien·cy \ˌin-kən-ˈvē-nyən-sē\ *n* : INCONVENIENCE
in·con·ve·nient \ˌin-kən-ˈvē-nyənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *inconvenient-, inconveniens*, fr. *in-* + *convenient-, conveniens* convenient] : not convenient esp. in giving trouble or annoyance : INOPPORTUNE — **in·con·ve·nient·ly** *adv*
in·con·vert·ible \-ˈvərt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. LL *inconvertibilis*, fr. L *in-* + *convertibilis* convertible] : not convertible: as **a** *of paper money* : not exchangeable on demand for specie **b** *of a currency* : not exchangeable for a foreign currency — **in·con·vert·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌvərt-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·con·vert·ibly** \-ˈvərt-ə-blē\ *adv*
in·con·vinc·ible \ˌin-kən-ˈvin(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being convinced
in·co·or·di·nate \ˌin-kō-ˈȯrd-nət, -ᵊn-ət, -ᵊn-ˌāt\ *also* **in·co·or·di·nat·ed** \-ˈȯrd-ᵊn-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* : not coordinate
in·co·or·di·na·tion \-ˌȯrd-ᵊn-ˈā-shən\ *n* : lack of coordination esp. of muscular movements resulting from loss of voluntary control
1in·cor·po·rate \in-ˈkȯr-pə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [ME *incorporaten*, fr. LL *incorporatus*, pp. of *incorporare*, fr. L *in-* + *corpor-, corpus* body — more at MIDRIFF] *vt* **1 a** : to unite thoroughly with or work indistinguishably into something already existent **b** : to admit to membership in a corporate body **2 a** : to blend or combine thoroughly to form a consistent whole **b** : to form into a legal corporation **3** : to give material form to : EMBODY ~ *vi* **1** : to unite in or as one body **2** : to form or become a corporation — **in·cor·po·ra·ble** \-p(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* — **in·cor·po·ra·tion** \ˌkȯr-pə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* — **in·cor·po·ra·tive** \-ˈkȯr-pə-ˌrāt-iv, -p(ə-)rət-\ *adj* — **in·cor·po·ra·tor** \-pə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
2in·cor·po·rate \in-ˈkȯr-p(ə-)rət\ *adj* : INCORPORATED
in·cor·po·rat·ed \-pə-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : united in one body **2** : formed into a legal corporation
in·cor·po·re·al \ˌin-(ˌ)kȯr-ˈpōr-ē-əl, -ˈpȯr-\ *adj* [L *incorporeus*, fr. *in-* + *corporeus* corporeal] **1** : not corporeal : having no material body or form **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a right that is based upon property (as bonds or patents) which has no intrinsic value — **in·cor·po·re·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·cor·po·re·ity \(ˌ)in-ˌkȯr-pə-ˈrē-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being incorporeal : IMMATERIALITY
in·cor·rect \ˌin-kə-ˈrekt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *incorrectus*, fr. *in-* + *correctus* correct] **1** *obs* : not corrected or chastened **2 a** : INACCURATE, FAULTY **b** : not true : WRONG **3** : UNBECOMING, IMPROPER — **in·cor·rect·ly** \-ˈrek-(t)lē\ *adv* — **in·cor·rect·ness** \-ˈrek(t)-nəs\ *n*
in·cor·ri·gi·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈkȯr-ə-jə-bəl, -ˈkär-\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *incorrigibilis*, fr. L *in-* + *corrigere* to correct — more at CORRECT] : incapable of being corrected or amended: as **a** (1) : not reformable : DEPRAVED **a** (2) : DELINQUENT **b** : not manageable : UNCONTROLLABLE **c** : UNALTERABLE, DETERMINED — **in·cor·ri·gi·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkȯr-ə-jə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -ˌkär-\ *n* — **incorrigible** *n* — **in·cor·ri·gi·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈkȯr-ə-jə-bəl-nəs, -ˈkär-\ *n* — **in·cor·ri·gi·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·cor·rupt \ˌin-kə-ˈrəpt\ *also* **in·cor·rupt·ed** \-ˈrəp-təd\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incorruptus*, fr. *in-* + *corruptus* corrupt] : free from corruption: as **a** *obs* : not affected with decay **b** : not defiled or depraved : UPRIGHT **c** : free from error — **in·cor·rupt·ly** \-ˈrəp-(t)lē\ *adv* — **in·cor·rupt·ness** \-ˈrəp(t)-nəs\ *n*
in·cor·rupt·ible \ˌin-kə-ˈrəp-tə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of corruption: as **a** : not subject to decay or dissolution **b** : incapable of being bribed or morally corrupted — **in·cor·rupt·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌrəp-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **incorruptible** *n* — **in·cor·rupt·ibly** \-ˈrəp-tə-blē\ *adv*
in·cor·rup·tion \ˌin-kə-ˈrəp-shən\ *n, archaic* : the quality or state of being free from physical decay
incr *abbr* increase; increased
1in·crease \in-ˈkrēs, ˈin-ˌ\ *vb* **in·creased; in·creas·ing** [ME *encresen*, fr. MF *encreistre*, fr. L *increscere*, fr. *in-* + *crescere* to grow — more at CRESCENT] *vi* **1** : to become progressively greater (as in size, amount, number, or intensity) **2** : to multiply by the production of young ~ *vt* **1** : to make greater : AUGMENT **2** *obs* : ENRICH — **in·creas·able** \-ˈkrē-sə-bəl, -ˌkrē-\ *adj* — **in·creas·er** *n*
syn INCREASE, ENLARGE, AUGMENT, MULTIPLY *shared meaning element* : to become or to make greater or more numerous ***ant*** decrease
2in·crease \ˈin-ˌkrēs, in-ˈ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of increasing: as **a** : addition or enlargement in size, extent, quantity **b** *obs* : PROPAGATION **2** : something that is added to an original stock by augmentation or growth (as offspring, produce, profit)
in·creas·ing·ly \in-ˈkrē-siŋ-lē, ˈin-ˌkrē-\ *adv* : to an increasing degree
in·cre·ate \ˌin-krē-ˈāt, in-ˈkrē-ət\ *adj* [ME *increat*, fr. LL *increatus*, fr. L *in-* + *creatus*, pp. of *creare* to create — more at CRESCENT] : not created
in·cred·i·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈkred-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incredibilis*, fr. *in-* + *credibilis* credible] : too extraordinary and improbable to be be-

lieved; *also* : hard to believe — **in·cred·ibil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkred-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·cred·i·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈkred-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·cred·i·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·cre·du·li·ty \ˌin-kri-ˈd(y)ü-lət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being incredulous : DISBELIEF *syn* see UNBELIEF

in·cred·u·lous \(ˈ)in-ˈkrej-ə-ləs\ *adj* [L *incredulus*, fr. *in-* + *credulus* credulous] **1** : unwilling to admit or accept what is offered as true : not credulous : SKEPTICAL **2** : expressing incredulity **3** *obs* : INCREDIBLE — **in·cred·u·lous·ly** *adv*

in·cre·ment \ˈiŋ-krə-mənt, ˈin-\ *n* [ME, fr. L *incrementum*, fr. *increscere*] **1** : an increase esp. in quantity or value : ENLARGEMENT; *also* : QUANTITY **2** **a** : something gained or added **b** : one of a series of regular consecutive additions **c** : a minute increase in quantity **3** : a positive or negative change in the value of one or more of a set of variables — **in·cre·men·tal** \ˌiŋ-krə-ˈment-ᵊl, ˌin-\ *adj* — **in·cre·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

in·cre·men·tal·ism \ˌiŋ-krə-ˈment-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a policy or advocacy of a policy of political or social change in small increments : GRADUALISM — **in·cre·men·tal·ist** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*

incremental repetition *n* : repetition in each stanza (as of a ballad) of part of the preceding stanza usu. with a slight change in wording for dramatic effect

in·cres·cent \in-ˈkres-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *increscent-*, *increscens*, prp. of *increscere*] : becoming gradually greater : WAXING ⟨the ~ moon⟩

in·crim·i·nate \in-ˈkrim-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [LL *incriminatus*, pp. of *incriminare*, fr. L *in-* + *crimin-*, *crimen* crime] : to charge with or involve in a crime or fault — **in·crim·i·na·tion** \-ˌkrim-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* — **in·crim·i·na·to·ry** \-ˈkrim-(ə-)nə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

in·cross \ˈin-ˌkrȯs\ *n* : an individual produced by crossing inbred lines of the same breed or strain

in·cross·bred \ˈin-ˈkrȯs-ˌbred\ *n* : an individual produced by crossing inbred lines of separate breeds or strains

incrust *var of* ENCRUST

in·crus·ta·tion \ˌin-ˌkrəs-ˈtā-shən\ *n* [L *incrustation-*, *incrustatio*, fr. *incrustatus*, pp. of *incrustare* to encrust] **1** : the act of encrusting : the state of being encrusted **2** **a** : a crust or hard coating **b** : a growth or accumulation (as of habits, opinions, or customs) resembling a crust **3** **a** : OVERLAY a **b** : INLAY

in·cu·bate \ˈiŋ-kyə-ˌbāt, ˈin-\ *vb* **-bat·ed; -bat·ing** [L *incubatus*, pp. of *incubare*, fr. *in-* + *cubare* to lie — more at HIP] *vt* **1** : to sit upon (eggs) so as to hatch by the warmth of the body; *also* : to maintain (as an embryo or a chemically active system) under conditions favorable for hatching, development, or reaction **2** : to cause (as an idea) to develop ~ *vi* **1** : to sit on eggs **2** : to undergo incubation — **in·cu·ba·tive** \-ˌbāt-iv\ *adj* — **in·cu·ba·to·ry** \-kyə-bə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-; -ˌbāt-ə-rē\ *adj*

in·cu·ba·tion \ˌiŋ-kyə-ˈbā-shən, ˌin-\ *n* **1** : the act or process of incubating **2** : the period between the infection of an individual by a pathogen and the manifestation of the disease it causes — **in·cu·ba·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

in·cu·ba·tor \ˈiŋ-kyə-ˌbāt-ər, ˈin-\ *n* : one that incubates: as **a** : an apparatus by which eggs are hatched artificially **b** : an apparatus for the maintenance of controlled conditions esp. for the cultivation of microorganisms or the housing of premature or sick babies

in·cu·bus \ˈiŋ-kyə-bəs, ˈin-\ *n, pl* **-bi** \-ˌbī, -ˌbē\ *also* **-bus·es** [ME, fr. LL, fr. L *incubare*] **1** : an evil spirit that lies on persons in their sleep; *esp* : one that has sexual intercourse with women while they are sleeping — compare SUCCUBUS **2** : NIGHTMARE 2 **3** : one that oppresses or burdens like a nightmare

in·cul·cate \in-ˈkəl-ˌkāt, ˈin-(ˌ)\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *inculcatus*, pp. of *inculcare*, lit., to tread on, fr. *in-* + *calcare* to trample, fr. *calc-*, *calx* heel — more at CALK] : to teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions — **in·cul·ca·tion** \ˌin-(ˌ)kəl-ˈkā-shən\ *n* — **in·cul·ca·tor** \in-ˈkəl-ˌkāt-ər, ˈin-(ˌ)\ *n*

in·cul·pa·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈkəl-pə-bəl\ *adj* : free from guilt : BLAMELESS

in·cul·pate \in-ˈkəl-ˌpāt, ˈin-(ˌ)\ *vt* **pat·ed; -pat·ing** [LL *inculpatus*, fr. L *in-* + *culpatus*, pp. of *culpare* to blame — more at CULPABLE] : INCRIMINATE — **in·cul·pa·tion** \ˌin-(ˌ)kəl-ˈpā-shən\ *n* — **in·cul·pa·to·ry** \in-ˈkəl-pə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

in·cult \in-ˈkəlt\ *adj* [L *incultus*, fr. *in-* + *cultus*, pp. of *colere* to cultivate — more at WHEEL] : COARSE, UNCULTURED

in·cum·ben·cy \in-ˈkəm-bən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being incumbent **2** : something that is incumbent : DUTY **3** : the sphere of action or period of office of an incumbent

¹in·cum·bent \in-ˈkəm-bənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *incumbent-*, *incumbens*, prp. of *incumbere* to lie down on, fr. *in-* + *-cumbere* to lie down; akin to L *cubare* to lie — more at HIP] : the holder of an office or ecclesiastical benefice

²incumbent *adj* **1** **a** : lying or resting on something else **b** *of a geologic stratum* : lying over other material : SUPERIMPOSED **2** : imposed as a duty : OBLIGATORY **3** : occupying a specified office **4** **a** *archaic* : bending over : OVERHANGING **b** *archaic* : IMMINENT **c** : bent over so as to rest on or touch an underlying surface

incumber *var of* ENCUMBER

in·cu·na·ble \in-ˈkyü-nə-bəl\ *n* [F, fr. NL *incunabulum*] : INCUNABULUM

in·cu·nab·u·lum \ˌin-kyə-ˈnab-yə-ləm, ˌiŋ-\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L *incunabula*, pl., swaddling clothes, cradle, fr. *in-* + *cunae* cradle — more at CEMETERY] **1** : a book printed before 1501 **2** : a work of art or of industry of an early period

in·cur \in-ˈkər\ *vt* **in·curred; in·cur·ring** [L *incurrere*, lit., to run into, fr. *in* + *currere* to run — more at CURRENT] : to become liable or subject to : bring down upon oneself ⟨persons who adopt a child ~ great responsibilities⟩
syn INCUR, CONTRACT, CATCH *shared meaning element* : to bring (as something unwanted) upon oneself

in·cur·able \(ˈ)in-ˈkyůr-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *incurabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *curabilis* curable] : not curable — **in·cur·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkyůr-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **incurable** *n* — **in·cur·able·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈkyůr-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·cur·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·cu·ri·ous \(ˈ)in-ˈkyůr-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *incuriosus*, fr. *in-* + *curiosus* curious] : lacking a normal or usual curiosity : UNINTERESTED ⟨a blank ~ stare⟩ *syn* see INDIFFERENT *ant* curious, inquisitive — **in·cu·ri·os·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌkyůr-ē-ˈäs-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·cu·ri·ous·ly** \(ˈ)in-ˈkyůr-ē-əs-lē\ *adv* — **in·cu·ri·ous·ness** *n*

in·cur·rence \in-ˈkər-ən(t)s, -ˈkə-rən(t)s\ *n* : the act or process of incurring

in·cur·rent \-ənt, -rənt\ *adj* [L *incurrent-*, *incurrens*, prp. of *incurrere*] : giving passage to a current that flows inward

in·cur·sion \in-ˈkər-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *incursion-*, *incursio*, fr. *incursus*, pp. of *incurrere*] **1** : a hostile entrance into a territory : RAID **2** : an entering in or into ⟨his only ~ into the arts⟩

in·cur·vate \ˈin-ˌkər-ˌvāt, (ˈ)in-ˈkər-\ *vt* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** : to cause to curve inward : BEND — **in·cur·vate** \ˈin-ˌkər-ˌvāt, (ˈ)in-ˈkər-vət\ *adj* — **in·cur·va·tion** \ˌin-ˌkər-ˈvā-shən\ *n* — **in·cur·va·ture** \(ˈ)in-ˈkər-və-ˌchů(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)ů(ə)r\ *n*

in·curve \(ˈ)in-ˈkərv, ˈin-ˌ\ *vt* [L *incurvare*, fr. *in-* + *curvare* to curve, fr. *curvus* curved — more at CROWN] : to bend so as to curve inward

in·cus \ˈiŋ-kəs\ *n, pl* **in·cu·des** \iŋ-ˈkyüd-(ˌ)ēz, ˈiŋ-kyə-ˌdēz\ [NL, fr. L, anvil, fr. *incudere*] : the middle of a chain of three small bones in the ear of a mammal — called also *anvil*; see EAR illustration

in·cuse \in-ˈkyüz, -ˈkyüs\ *adj* [L *incusus*, pp. of *incudere* to stamp, strike, fr. *in-* + *cudere* to beat — more at HEW] : formed by stamping or punching in — used chiefly of old coins or features of their design

ind *abbr* **1** independent **2** index **3** industrial; industry

¹Ind \ˈind, ˈīnd\ *n* **1** *archaic* : India **2** *obs* : Indies

²Ind *abbr* **1** Indian **2** Indiana

IND *abbr* investigational new drug

ind- *or* **indi-** *or* **indo-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. L *indicum* — more at INDIGO] **1** : indigo ⟨*indoxyl*⟩ **2** : resembling indigo (as in color) ⟨*indophenol*⟩

Ind- *or* **Indo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *Indos* India] **1** : India or the East Indies ⟨*Indophile*⟩ ⟨*Indo-Briton*⟩ **2** : Indo-European ⟨*Indo-Hittite*⟩

in·da·ba \in-ˈdäb-ə\ *n* [Zulu *in-daba* affair] *chiefly South Africa* : CONFERENCE, PARLEY

in·da·gate \ˈin-də-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *indagatus*, pp. of *indagare*, fr. *indago* act of enclosing, investigation, fr. OL *indu* in + L *agere* to drive — more at INDIGENOUS, AGENT] : to search into : INVESTIGATE — **in·da·ga·tion** \ˌin-də-ˈgā-shən\ *n* — **in·da·ga·tor** \ˈin-də-ˌgāt-ər\ *n*

ind·a·mine \ˈin-də-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV *ind-* + *amine*] : any of a series of organic bases of which the simplest has the formula $C_{12}H_{11}N_3$ and which form salts that are unstable blue and green dyes

IndE *abbr* industrial engineer

in·debt·ed \in-ˈdet-əd\ *adj* [ME *indetted*, fr. OF *endeté*, pp. of *endeter* to involve in debt, fr. *en-* + *dete* debt] **1** : owing money **2** : owing gratitude or recognition to another : BEHOLDEN

in·debt·ed·ness *n* **1** : the condition of being indebted **2** : something (as an amount of money) that is owed

in·de·cen·cy \(ˈ)in-ˈdēs-ᵊn-sē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being indecent **2** : something (as a word or action) that is indecent

in·de·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *indécent*, fr. L *indecent-*, *indecens*, fr. *in-* + *decent-*, *decens* decent] : not decent; *esp* : grossly unseemly or offensive to manners or morals *syn* see INDECOROUS *ant* decent — **in·de·cent·ly** *adv*

indecent assault *n* : an immoral act or series of acts exclusive of rape committed against another person without consent

indecent exposure *n* : intentional exposure of part of one's body (as the genitals) in a place where such exposure is likely to be an offense against the generally accepted standards of decency in a community

in·de·ci·pher·able \ˌin-di-ˈsī-f(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being deciphered

in·de·ci·sion \ˌin-di-ˈsizh-ən\ *n* [F *indécision*, fr. *indécis* undecided, fr. LL *indecisus*, fr. L *in-* + *decisus*, pp. of *decidere* to decide] : a wavering between two or more possible courses of action : IRRESOLUTION

in·de·ci·sive \ˌin-di-ˈsī-siv\ *adj* **1** : not decisive : INCONCLUSIVE **2** : marked by or prone to indecision : IRRESOLUTE **3** : not clearly marked out : INDEFINITE — **in·de·ci·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·de·ci·sive·ness** *n*

in·de·clin·able \ˌin-di-ˈklī-nə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. LL *indeclinabilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *declinabilis* capable of being inflected, fr. L *declinare* to inflect — more at DECLINE] : having no grammatical inflections

in·de·com·pos·able \ˌin-ˌdē-kəm-ˈpō-zə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being broken up into component parts

in·de·co·rous \(ˈ)in-ˈdek-(ə-)rəs; ˌin-di-ˈkōr-əs, -ˈkȯr-\ *adj* [L *indecorus*, fr. *in-* + *decorus* decorous] : not decorous — **in·de·co·rous·ly** *adv* — **in·de·co·rous·ness** *n*
syn INDECOROUS, IMPROPER, UNSEEMLY, INDECENT, UNBECOMING, INDELICATE *shared meaning element* : not conforming to what is accepted as right, fitting, or in good taste *ant* decorous

in·de·co·rum \ˌin-di-ˈkōr-əm, -ˈkȯr-\ *n* [L, neut. of *indecorus*] **1** : something that is indecorous **2** : lack of decorum : IMPROPRIETY

in·deed \in-ˈdēd\ *adv* **1** : without any question : TRULY, UNDENIABLY — often used interjectionally to express irony or disbelief or surprise **2** : in reality **3** : all things considered : as a matter of fact

indef *abbr* indefinite

in·de·fat·i·ga·ble \ˌin-di-ˈfat-i-gə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *indefatigabilis*, fr. *in-* + *defatigare* to fatigue, fr. *de* down + *fatigare* to fatigue — more at DE-] : incapable of being fatigued : UNTIRING — **in·de·fa·ti·ga·bil·i·ty** \-ˌfat-i-gə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·de·fat·i·ga·ble·ness** \-ˈfat-i-gə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·de·fat·i·ga·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·de·fea·si·ble \-ˈfē-zə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being annulled or voided or undone ⟨an ~ right⟩ — **in·de·fea·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌfē-zə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·de·fea·si·bly** \-ˈfē-zə-blē\ *adv*

in·de·fec·ti·ble \-ˈfek-tə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : not subject to failure or decay : LASTING **2** : free of faults : FLAWLESS — **in·de·fec·ti·bil·i·ty** \-ˌfek-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·de·fec·ti·bly** \-ˈfek-tə-blē\ *adv*

in·de·fen·si·ble \-ˈfen(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** **a** : incapable of being maintained as right or valid : UNTENABLE **b** : incapable of being

justified or excused : INEXCUSABLE **2** : incapable of being protected against physical attack — **in·de·fen·si·bil·i·ty** \-ˌfen(t)-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·de·fen·si·bly** \-ˈfen(t)-sə-blē\ *adv*

in·de·fin·able \-ˈfī-nə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being precisely described or analyzed — **in·de·fin·abil·i·ty** \-ˌfī-nə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **indefinable** *n* — **in·de·fin·able·ness** \-ˈfī-nə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·de·fin·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·def·i·nite \(ˈ)in-ˈdef-(ə-)nət\ *adj* [L *indefinitus*, fr. *in-* + *definitus* definite] : not definite: as **a** : typically designating an unidentified or not immediately identifiable person or thing ⟨the ~ articles *a* and *an*⟩ **b** : not precise : VAGUE **c** : having no exact limits — **indefinite** *n* — **in·def·i·nite·ly** *adv* — **in·def·i·nite·ness** *n*

indefinite integral *n* : a function whose derivative is a given function

in·de·his·cent \ˌin-di-ˈhis-ᵊnt\ *adj* : remaining closed at maturity ⟨~ fruits⟩ — **in·de·his·cence** \-ᵊn(t)s\ *n*

in·del·i·ble \in-ˈdel-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ML *indelibilis*, alter. of L *indelebilis*, fr. *in-* + *delēre* to delete] **1** : that cannot be removed, washed away, or erased **2** : making marks that cannot easily be removed ⟨an ~ pencil⟩ — **in·del·i·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌdel-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·del·i·bly** \in-ˈdel-ə-blē\ *adv*

in·del·i·ca·cy \-kə-sē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being indelicate **2** : something that is indelicate

in·del·i·cate \(ˈ)in-ˈdel-i-kət\ *adj* : not delicate: **a** (1) : lacking in or offending against propriety : IMPROPER **a** (2) : verging on the indecent : COARSE **b** : marked by a lack of feeling for the sensibilities of others : TACTLESS ***syn*** see INDECOROUS ***ant*** delicate, refined — **in·del·i·cate·ly** *adv* — **in·del·i·cate·ness** *n*

in·dem·ni·fi·ca·tion \in-ˌdem-nə-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of indemnifying **b** : the condition of being indemnified **2** : INDEMNITY 2b

in·dem·ni·fy \in-ˈdem-nə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [L *indemnis* unharmed, fr. *in-* + *damnum* damage] **1** : to secure against hurt, loss, or damage **2** : to make compensation to for incurred hurt, loss, or damage ***syn*** see PAY — **in·dem·ni·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*

in·dem·ni·ty \in-ˈdem-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : security against hurt, loss, or damage **b** : exemption from incurred penalties or liabilities **2 a** : INDEMNIFICATION 1 **b** : something that indemnifies

in·de·mon·stra·ble \ˌin-di-ˈmän(t)-strə-bəl, (ˌ)in-ˈdem-ən-strə-\ *adj* : incapable of being demonstrated : not subject to proof — **in·de·mon·stra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·dene \ˈin-ˌdēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. *indole*] : a liquid hydrocarbon C_9H_8 obtained from coal tar and used esp. in making resins

¹in·dent \in-ˈdent\ *vb* [ME *indenten*, fr. MF *endenter*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *dent* tooth, fr. L *dent-, dens* — more at TOOTH] *vt* **1 a** : to cut or otherwise divide (a document carrying two or more copies) to produce sections with irregular edges that can be matched for authentication **b** : to draw up (as a deed) in two or more exactly corresponding copies **2 a** : to notch the edge of : make jagged **b** : to cut into for the purpose of mortising or dovetailing **3** : INDENTURE **4** : to set (as a line of a paragraph) in from the margin **5** : to join together by or as if by mortises or dovetails **6** *chiefly Brit* : to order by an indent ~ *vi* **1** *obs* : to make a formal or express agreement **2** : to form an indentation **3** *chiefly Brit* : to make out an indent for something — **in·dent·er** *n* — **indent on** **1** *chiefly Brit* : to make a requisition on **2** *chiefly Brit* : to draw on

²in·dent \in-ˈdent, ˈin-ˌ\ *n* **1 a** : INDENTURE 1 **b** : a certificate issued by the U.S. at the close of the American Revolution for the principal or interest on the public debt **2** *chiefly Brit* **a** : an official requisition **b** : a purchase order for goods esp. when sent from a foreign country **3** : INDENTION

³in·dent \in-ˈdent\ *vt* [ME *endenten*, fr. *en-* + *denten* to dent] **1** : to force inward so as to form a depression **2** : to form a dent in — **in·dent·er** *n*

⁴in·dent \in-ˈdent, ˈin-ˌ\ *n* : INDENTATION

in·den·ta·tion \ˌin-ˌden-ˈtā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an angular cut in an edge : NOTCH **b** : a recess in a surface **2** : the action of indenting : the condition of being indented **3** : DENT **4** : INDENTION 2b

in·den·tion \in-ˈden-chən\ *n* **1** *archaic* : INDENTATION 1 **2 a** : the action of indenting : the condition of being indented **b** : the blank space produced by indenting

¹in·den·ture \in-ˈden-chər\ *n* **1 a** (1) : a document or a section of a document that is indented (2) : a formal or official document usu. executed in two or more copies (3) : a contract binding one person to work for another for a given period of time — usu. used in pl. **b** : a formal certificate (as an inventory or voucher) prepared for purposes of control **c** : a document stating the terms under which a security (as a bond) is issued **2** : INDENTATION 1 **3** [³*indent*] : DENT

²indenture *vt* **in·den·tured; in·den·tur·ing** \-ˈdench-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to bind (as an apprentice) by indentures **2** *archaic* : to make a dent in

indentured servant *n* : a person who binds himself by indentures to work for another for a specified time esp. in return for payment of his travel expenses and maintenance

in·de·pen·dence \ˌin-də-ˈpen-dən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being independent : FREEDOM **2** *archaic* : COMPETENCE 1

Independence Day *n* : a day set aside for public celebration of an anniversary connected with the beginnings of national independence; *specif* : July 4 observed as a legal holiday in the U.S. in commemoration of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776

in·de·pen·den·cy \ˌin-də-ˈpen-dən-sē\ *n* **1** : INDEPENDENCE 1 **2** *cap* : the Independent polity or movement **3** : an independent political unit

¹in·de·pen·dent \ˌin-də-ˈpen-dənt\ *adj* **1** : not dependent: as **a** (1) : not subject to control by others : SELF-GOVERNING (2) : not affiliated with a larger controlling unit **b** (1) : not requiring or relying on something else : not contingent ⟨an ~ conclusion⟩ (2) : not looking to others for one's opinions or for guidance in conduct (3) : not bound by or committed to a political party **c** (1) : not requiring or relying on others (as for care or livelihood) ⟨~ of his parents⟩ (2) : being enough to free one from the necessity of working for a living ⟨a man of ~ means⟩ **d** (1) : refusing to accept help from or to be under obligation to others (2) : showing a desire for freedom ⟨an ~ manner⟩ **e** (1) : having linear independence ⟨an ~ set of vectors⟩ (2) : having the property that the joint probability (as of events or samples) or the joint probability density function (as of random variables) equals the product of the probabilities or probability density functions of separate occurrence **2** *cap* : of or relating to the Independents **3 a** : MAIN 5 ⟨the ~ clause⟩ **b** : neither deducible from nor incompatible with another statement ⟨~ postulates⟩ ***syn*** see FREE ***ant*** dependent — **in·de·pen·dent·ly** *adv*

²independent *n* **1** *cap* : a sectarian of an English religious movement for congregational autonomy originating in the late 16th century, giving rise to Congregationalists, Baptists, and Friends, and forming one of the major political groupings of the period of Cromwell **2** : one that is independent; *esp, often cap* : one that is not bound by or definitively committed to a political party

independent assortment *n* : formation of combinations of chromosomes in meiosis with one of each diploid pair of homologous chromosomes passing at random into each gamete independently of each other pair; *also* : the similar process when genes on different pairs of homologous chromosomes are considered

independent variable *n* : a mathematical variable whose value determines that of one or more other variables in a function ⟨in $z = x^2 + 3xy + y^2$, x and y are *independent variables*⟩

in–depth \(ˌ)in-ˌdepth\ *adj* : COMPREHENSIVE, THOROUGH ⟨an ~ study⟩

in·de·scrib·able \ˌin-di-ˈskrī-bə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : that cannot be described ⟨an ~ sensation⟩ **2** : surpassing description ⟨~ joy⟩ — **in·de·scrib·able·ness** *n* — **in·de·scrib·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·de·struc·ti·ble \-ˈstrək-tə-bəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. LL *indestructibilis*, fr. L *in-* + *destructus*, pp. of *destruere* to tear down — more at DESTROY] : not destructible — **in·de·struc·ti·bil·i·ty** \-ˌstrək-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·de·struc·ti·ble·ness** \-ˈstrək-tə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·de·struc·ti·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·de·ter·min·able \ˌin-di-ˈtərm-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : incapable of being definitely decided or settled **2** : incapable of being definitely fixed or ascertained — **in·de·ter·min·able·ness** n — **in·de·ter·min·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·de·ter·mi·na·cy \-ˈtərm-(ə-)nə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being indeterminate

indeterminacy principle *n* : UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE

in·de·ter·mi·nate \ˌin-di-ˈtərm-(ə-)nət\ *adj* [ME *indeterminat*, fr. LL *indeterminatus*, fr. L *in-* + *determinatus*, pp. of *determinare* to determine] **1 a** : not definitely or precisely determined or fixed : VAGUE **b** : not known in advance **c** : not leading to a definite end or result **2** : having an infinite number of solutions ⟨a system of ~ equations⟩ **3** : being one of the seven undefined mathematical expressions

$$\frac{0}{0},\ \frac{\infty}{\infty},\ \infty \cdot 0,\ 1^{\infty},\ 0^{0},\ \infty^{0},\ \infty - \infty$$

4 : RACEMOSE — **in·de·ter·mi·nate·ly** *adv* — **in·de·ter·mi·nate·ness** *n* — **in·de·ter·mi·na·tion** \-ˌtər-mə-ˈnā-shən\ *n*

in·de·ter·min·ism \-ˈtər-mə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a theory that the will is free and that deliberate choice and actions are not determined by or predictable from antecedent causes **b** : a theory that holds that not every event has a cause **2** : the quality or state of being indeterminate; *esp* : UNPREDICTABILITY — **in·de·ter·min·ist** \-ˈtərm-(ə-)nəst\ *n* — **in·de·ter·min·is·tic** \-ˌtər-mə-ˈnis-tik\ *adj*

¹in·dex \ˈin-ˌdeks\ *n, pl* **in·dex·es** *or* **in·di·ces** \-də-ˌsēz\ [L *indic-, index*, fr. *indicare* to indicate] **1** : a list (as of bibliographical information or citations to a body of literature) arranged usu. in alphabetical order of some specified datum (as author, subject, or keyword): as **a** : a list of items (as topics or names) treated in a printed work that gives for each item the page number where it may be found **b** : THUMB INDEX **c** : a bibliographical analysis of groups of publications that is usu. published periodically **2 a** : a device (as the pointer on a scale or the gnomon of a sundial) that serves to indicate a value or quantity **b** : something (as a physical feature or a mode of expression) that points toward a particular fact or conclusion ⟨the fertility of the land is an ~ of the country's wealth⟩ **3** : a list of restricted or prohibited material; *specif, cap* : a list of books the reading of which is prohibited or restricted for Roman Catholics by the church authorities **4** *pl usu indices* : a number or symbol or expression (as an exponent) associated with another to indicate a mathematical operation to be performed or to indicate use or position in an arrangement ⟨the *indices* 2 and 3 locate the element a_{23} in the second row and third column of a determinant⟩ **5** : a character ☞ used to direct attention to a note or paragraph — called also *fist* **6 a** : a ratio or other number derived from a series of observations and used as an indicator or measure (as of a condition, property, or phenomenon); *specif* : INDEX NUMBER **b** : the ratio of one dimension of a thing (as an anatomical structure) to another dimension — **in·dex·i·cal** \in-ˈdek-si-kəl\ *adj*

²index *vt* **1 a** : to provide with an index **b** : to list in an index **2** : to serve as an index of ~ *vi* : to index something — **in·dex·er** *n*

index finger *n* : FOREFINGER

index fossil *n* : a fossil usu. with a narrow time range and wide spatial distribution that is used in the identification of related geologic formations

index number *n* : a number used to indicate change in magnitude (as of cost or price) as compared with the magnitude at some specified time usu. taken as 100

index of refraction : the ratio of the velocity of radiation (as light) in the first of two media to its velocity in the second as it passes from one into the other
indi- — see IND-
In·dia \'in-dē-ə\ — a communications code word for the letter *i*
india ink *n, often cap 1st I* **1** : a solid black pigment (as specially prepared lampblack) used in drawing and lettering **2** : a fluid ink consisting usu. of a fine suspension of india ink in a liquid
In·dia·man \'in-dē-ə-mən\ *n* : a merchant ship formerly used in trade with India; *esp* : a large sailing ship used in this trade
In·di·an \'in-dē-ən, *nonstandard* 'in-jən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of the subcontinent of India or of the East Indies **2 a** [fr. the belief held by Columbus that the lands he discovered were part of Asia] : AMERICAN INDIAN **b** : one of the native languages of American Indians — **Indian** *adj*
Indian agent *n* : an official representative of the U.S. federal government to American Indian tribes esp. on reservations
Indian club *n* : a usu. wooden club shaped like a large bottle or tenpin that is swung for gymnastic exercise
Indian corn *n* **1** : a tall widely cultivated American cereal grass (*Zea mays*) bearing seeds on elongated ears **2** : the ears of Indian corn; *also* : its edible seeds
Indian file *n* : SINGLE FILE
Indian giver *n* : one that gives something to another and then takes it back or expects an equivalent in return — **Indian giving** *n*
Indian hemp *n* **1** : an American dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*) with milky juice, tough fibrous bark, and an emetic and cathartic root **2** : HEMP 1
Indian licorice *n* : ROSARY PEA 1
Indian meal *n* : CORNMEAL
Indian paintbrush *n* **1** : any of a genus (*Castilleja*) of herbaceous plants of the figwort family that have brightly colored bracts — called also *painted cup* **2** : ORANGE HAWKWEED
Indian pipe *n* : a waxy white leafless saprophytic herb (*Monotropa uniflora* of the family Monotropaceae, the Indian-pipe family) of Asia and the U.S.


Indian pipe

Indian pudding *n* : a pudding made chiefly of cornmeal, milk, and molasses
Indian red *n* **1 a** : a yellowish red earth containing hematite and used as a pigment **b** : any of various light red to purplish brown pigments made by calcining iron salts **2** : a strong or moderate reddish brown
Indian sign *n* : HEX, SPELL
Indian summer *n* **1** : a period of warm or mild weather in late autumn or early winter **2** : a happy or flourishing period occurring toward the end of something ⟨life in the *Indian summer* of Czarist Russia —John Davenport⟩
Indian tobacco *n* **1** : an American wild lobelia (*Lobelia inflata*) with small blue flowers **2** : a wild tobacco (*Nicotiana rustica*) **3** : a common cat's-foot (*Antennaria plantaginifolia*) of eastern No. America
In·di·an–wres·tle \'in-dē-ən-ˌres-əl, -ˌras-\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *Indian wrestling*] : to engage in Indian wrestling
Indian wrestling *n* **1** : wrestling in which two wrestlers lie side by side on their backs in reversed position locking their near arms and raising and locking the corresponding legs and attempt to force each other's leg down and turn the other wrestler on his face **2** : wrestling in which two wrestlers stand face to face gripping usu. their right hands and setting the outsides of the corresponding feet together and attempt to force each other off balance **3** : ARM WRESTLING
India paper *n* **1** : a thin absorbent paper used esp. for proving inked intaglio surfaces (as steel engravings) **2** : a thin tough opaque printing paper
india rubber *n, often cap I* : ¹RUBBER 2a
indic *abbr* indicative
In·dic \'in-dik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the subcontinent of India : INDIAN **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the Indian branch of the Indo-European languages — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Indic** *n*
in·di·can \'in-də-ˌkan\ *n* [L *indicum* indigo — more at INDIGO] **1** : a glucoside $C_{14}H_{17}NO_6$ occurring esp. in the indigo plant and being a source of natural indigo **2** : an indigo-forming substance $C_8H_7NO_4S$ found as a salt in urine and other animal fluids
in·di·cant \'in-di-kənt\ *n* : something that serves to indicate
in·di·cate \'in-də-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *indicatus*, pp. of *indicare*, fr. *in-* + *dicare* to proclaim, dedicate — more DICTION] **1 a** : to point out or point to **b** : to be a sign, symptom, or index of ⟨the high fever ~*s* a serious conditon⟩ **c** : to demonstrate or suggest the necessity or advisability of ⟨*indicated* the need for a new school⟩ **2** : to state or express briefly : SUGGEST ⟨*indicated* his desire to cooperate⟩
in·di·ca·tion \ˌin-də-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of indicating **2 a** : something that serves to indicate **b** : something that is indicated as advisable or necessary **3** : the degree indicated on a graduated instrument : READING — **in·di·ca·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹in·dic·a·tive \in-'dik-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a verb form or set of verb forms that represents the denoted act or state as an objective fact ⟨the ~ mood⟩ ⟨an ~ verb form⟩ **2** : serving to indicate ⟨actions ~ of fear⟩ — **in·dic·a·tive·ly** *adv*
²indicative *n* **1** : the indicative mood of a language **2** : a form in the indicative mood
in·di·ca·tor \'in-də-ˌkāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that indicates: as **a** : an index hand (as on a dial) : POINTER **b** (1) : a pressure gauge (2) : an instrument for automatically making a diagram that indicates the pressure in and volume of the working fluid of an engine throughout the cycle **c** : a dial that registers something (as the movement of an elevator) **2 a** : a substance (as litmus) used to show visually (as by change of color) the condition of a solution with respect to the presence of a particular material (as a free acid or alkali) **b** : TRACER 4b **3** : an organism or ecological community so strictly associated with particular environmental conditions that its presence is indicative of the existence of these conditions — **in·dic·a·to·ry** \in-'dik-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
indices *pl of* INDEX
in·di·cia \in-'dish-(ē-)ə\ *n pl* [L, pl. of *indicium* sign, fr. *indicare*] **1** : distinctive marks : INDICATIONS **2** : postal markings often imprinted on mail or on labels to be affixed to mail
in·dict \in-'dīt\ *vt* [alter. of earlier *indite*, fr. ME *inditen*, fr. AF *enditer*, fr. OF, to write down — more at INDITE] **1** : to charge with some offense : ACCUSE **2** : to charge with a crime by the finding or presentment of a jury (as a grand jury) in due form of law — **in·dict·er** *or* **in·dict·or** \-'dīt-ər\ *n*
in·dict·able \-'dīt-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : subject to being indicted : liable to indictment **2** : making one liable to indictment ⟨an ~ offense⟩
in·dic·tion \in-'dik-shən\ *n* [ME *indiccioun*, fr. LL *indiction-, indictio*, fr. L, proclamation, fr. *indictus*, pp. of *indicere* to proclaim, fr. *in-* + *dicere* to say — more at DICTION] : a 15-year cycle used as a chronological unit in several ancient and medieval systems
in·dict·ment \in-'dīt-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : the action or the legal process of indicting **b** : the state of being indicted **2** : a formal written statement framed by a prosecuting authority and found by a jury (as a grand jury) charging a person with an offense
in·dif·fer·ence \in-'dif-ərn(t)s, -'dif-(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality, state, or fact of being indifferent **2 a** *archaic* : lack of difference or distinction between two or more things **b** : absence of compulsion to or toward one thing or another
in·dif·fer·en·cy \-ərn-sē, -(ə-)rən-sē\ *n, archaic* : INDIFFERENCE
in·dif·fer·ent \in-'dif-ərnt, -'dif-(ə-)rənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, regarded as neither good nor bad, fr. L *indifferent-, indifferens*, fr. *in-* + *different-, differens*, prp. of *differre* to be different — more at DIFFERENT] **1** : marked by impartiality : UNBIASED **2 a** : that does not matter one way or the other **b** : that has nothing that calls for sanction or condemnation in either observance or neglect : of no importance or value one way or the other **3 a** : marked by no special liking for or dislike of something ⟨was ~ about which book he was given⟩ **b** : marked by a lack of interest in or concern about something : APATHETIC ⟨was ~ to suffering and poverty⟩ **4** : being neither excessive nor defective **5 a** : being neither good nor bad : MEDIOCRE **b** : being neither right nor wrong **6** : characterized by lack of active quality : NEUTRAL **7 a** : not differentiated **b** : capable of development in more than one direction; *esp* : not yet embryologically determined — **in·dif·fer·ent·ly** *adv*
syn INDIFFERENT, UNCONCERNED, INCURIOUS, ALOOF, DETACHED, DISINTERESTED *shared meaning element* : not showing or feeling interest ***ant*** avid
in·dif·fer·ent·ism \-ərnt-ˌiz-əm, -(ə-)rənt-\ *n* : INDIFFERENCE; *specif* : belief that all religions are equally valid — **in·dif·fer·ent·ist** \-əst\ *n*
in·di·gence \'in-di-jən(t)s\ *n* : a level of poverty in which real hardship and deprivation are suffered and comforts of life are wholly lacking ***syn*** see POVERTY
in·di·gene \'in-də-ˌjēn\ *also* **in·di·gen** \-di-jən, -də-ˌjen\ *n* [L *indigena*] : NATIVE
in·dig·e·nous \in-'dij-ə-nəs\ *adj* [LL *indigenus*, fr. L *indigena*, n., native, fr. OL *indu, endo* in, within (akin to L *in* and to L *de* down) + L *gignere* to beget — more at DE-, KIN] **1** : having originated in and being produced, growing, or living naturally in a particular region or environment **2** : INNATE, INBORN ***syn*** see NATIVE ***ant*** naturalized, exotic — **in·dig·e·nous·ly** *adv* — **in·dig·e·nous·ness** *n*
in·di·gent \'in-di-jənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *indigent-, indigens*, prp. of *indigēre* to need, fr. OL *indu* + L *egēre* to need; akin to OHG *ekrōdi* thin] **1** : suffering from indigence : IMPOVERISHED **2 a** *archaic* : DEFICIENT **b** *archaic* : totally lacking in something specified — **indigent** *n*
in·di·gest·ed \ˌin-(ˌ)dī-'jes-təd, -də-\ *adj* : not carefully thought out or arranged : FORMLESS
in·di·gest·ible \-'jes-tə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *indigestibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *digestibilis* digestible] : not digestible : not easily digested — **in·di·gest·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌjes-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **indigestible** *n*
in·di·ges·tion \-'jes(h)-chən\ *n* **1** : inability to digest or difficulty in digesting something **2** : a case or attack of indigestion
in·dign \in-'dīn\ *adj* [ME *indigne*, fr. MF, fr. L *indignus*] **1** *archaic* : UNWORTHY, UNDESERVING **2** *obs* : UNBECOMING, DISGRACEFUL
in·dig·nant \in-'dig-nənt\ *adj* [L *indignant-, indignans*, prp. of *indignari* to be indignant, fr. *indignus* unworthy, fr. *in-* + *dignus* worthy — more at DECENT] : filled with or marked by indignation ⟨became ~ at the accusation⟩ — **in·dig·nant·ly** *adv*
in·dig·na·tion \ˌin-dig-'nā-shən\ *n* : anger aroused by something unjust, unworthy, or mean ***syn*** see ANGER
in·dig·ni·ty \in-'dig-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [L *indignitat-, indignitas*, fr. *indignus*] **1** *obs* : lack or loss of dignity or honor **2 a** : an act that offends against a person's dignity or self-respect : INSULT **b** : humiliating treatment
in·di·go \'in-di-ˌgō\ *n, pl* **-gos** *or* **-goes** [It dial., fr. L *indicum*, fr. Gk *indikon*, fr. neut. of *indikos* Indic, fr. *Indos* India] **1 a** : a blue vat dye obtained from plants (as indigo plants) **b** : the principal coloring matter $C_{16}H_{10}N_2O_2$ of natural indigo usu. synthesized as a blue powder with a coppery luster **c** : any of several blue vat dyes derived from or closely related to indigo **2** : a variable color averaging a dark grayish blue **3** : INDIGO PLANT
indigo bunting *n* : a common small finch (*Passerina cyanea*) of the eastern U.S. of which the male is largely indigo-blue
indigo plant *n* : a plant that yields indigo; *esp* : any of a genus (*Indigofera*) of leguminous herbs
indigo snake *n* : a large harmless blue-black snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) of the southern U.S. — called also *gopher snake*
in·di·go·tin \in-'dig-ət-ən, ˌin-di-'gōt-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV *indigo* + connective *-t-* + *-in*] : INDIGO 1b

in·di·rect \ˌin-də-ˈrekt, -(ˌ)dī-\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *indirectus*, fr. L *in-* + *directus* direct] : not direct: as **a** (1) : deviating from a direct line or course : ROUNDABOUT **a** (2) : not going straight to the point ⟨an ~ accusation⟩ **b** : not straightforward and open : DECEITFUL **c** : not directly aimed at or achieved ⟨~ consequences⟩ **d** : stating what a real or supposed original speaker said with changes in wording that conform the statement grammatically to the sentence in which it is included ⟨~ discourse⟩ **e** : not effected by the action of the people or the electorate ⟨~ government representation⟩ — **in·di·rect·ly** \-ˈrek-(t)lē\ *adv* — **in·di·rect·ness** \-ˈrek(t)-nəs\ *n*

indirect cost *n* : a cost that is not identifiable with a specific product, function, or activity

indirect evidence *n* : evidence that establishes immediately collateral facts from which the main fact may be inferred : CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

indirect fire *n* : gunfire by indirect aiming at a target not visible from the gun

in·di·rec·tion \ˌin-də-ˈrek-shən, -(ˌ)dī-\ *n* **1 a** : lack of straightforwardness and openness : DECEITFULNESS **b** : something (as an act or statement) marked by lack of straightforwardness ⟨hated diplomatic ~*s* —*Rev. of Reviews*⟩ **2 a** : indirect action or procedure **b** : lack of direction : AIMLESSNESS

indirect lighting *n* : lighting in which the light emitted by a source is diffusely reflected (as by the ceiling)

indirect object *n* : a grammatical object representing the secondary goal of the action of its verb ⟨*her* in "I gave her the book" is an *indirect object*⟩

indirect proof *n* : REDUCTIO AD ABSURDUM

indirect tax *n* : a tax exacted from a person other than the one on whom the ultimate burden of the tax is expected to fall

in·dis·cern·ible \ˌin-dis-ˈər-nə-bəl, -diz-\ *adj* : incapable of being discerned : not recognizable as distinct

in·dis·ci·plin·able \(ˌ)in-ˌdis-ə-ˈplin-ə-bəl; (ˈ)in-ˈdis-ə-plən-\ *adj* : not subject to or capable of being disciplined

in·dis·ci·pline \(ˈ)in-ˈdis-ə-plən\ *n* : lack of discipline

in·dis·ci·plined \-ˌplənd, -(ˌ)plind\ *adj* : lacking in discipline : WILD

in·dis·cov·er·able \ˌin-dis-ˈkəv-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : not discoverable

in·dis·creet \ˌin-dis-ˈkrēt\ *adj* [ME *indiscrete*, fr. MF & LL; MF *indiscret*, fr. LL *indiscretus*, fr. L, indistinguishable, fr. *in-* + *discretus*, pp. of *discernere* to separate — more at DISCERN] : not discreet : IMPRUDENT — **in·dis·creet·ly** *adv* — **in·dis·creet·ness** *n*

in·dis·crete \ˌin-dis-ˈkrēt, (ˈ)in-ˈdis-ˌ\ *adj* [L *indiscretus*] : not separated into distinct parts ⟨an ~ mass⟩

in·dis·cre·tion \ˌin-dis-ˈkresh-ən\ *n* **1** : lack of discretion : IMPRUDENCE **2** : something (as an act or remark) marked by lack of discretion; *specif* : an act at variance with the accepted morality of a society

in·dis·crim·i·nate \ˌin-dis-ˈkrim-(ə-)nət\ *adj* **1 a** : not marked by careful distinction : deficient in discrimination and discernment ⟨~ reading habits⟩ **b** : HAPHAZARD, RANDOM ⟨their language is an ~ mixture of French and English⟩ **2 a** : PROMISCUOUS, UNRESTRAINED ⟨~ sexual behavior⟩ **b** : HETEROGENEOUS, CONFUSED ⟨clothes tossed in an ~ heap⟩ — **in·dis·crim·i·nate·ly** *adv* — **in·dis·crim·i·nate·ness** *n*

syn INDISCRIMINATE, WHOLESALE, SWEEPING *shared meaning element* : including all or nearly all within the range of choice, operation, or effectiveness ***ant*** discriminate, selective

in·dis·crim·i·nat·ing \-ˈkrim-ə-ˌnāt-iŋ\ *adj* : not discriminating — **in·dis·crim·i·nat·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

in·dis·crim·i·na·tion \-ˌkrim-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* : lack of discrimination

in·dis·cuss·ible \ˌin-dis-ˈkəs-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being discussed

in·dis·pens·able \ˌin-dis-ˈpen(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : not subject to being set aside or neglected ⟨an ~ obligation⟩ **2** : absolutely necessary : ESSENTIAL ⟨carbon dioxide is ~ for plants⟩ — **in·dis·pens·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpen(t)-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **indispensable** *n* — **in·dis·pens·able·ness** \-ˈpen(t)-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·dis·pens·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·dis·pose \ˌin-dis-ˈpōz\ *vt* **-posed; -pos·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *indisposed*] **1 a** : to make unfit : DISQUALIFY **b** : to make averse : DISINCLINE **2** *archaic* : to cause to be in poor physical health

in·dis·posed \-ˈpōzd\ *adj* **1** : slightly ill **2** : AVERSE

in·dis·po·si·tion \(ˌ)in-ˌdis-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* : the condition of being indisposed: **a** : DISINCLINATION **b** : a usu. slight illness

in·dis·put·able \ˌin-dis-ˈpyüt-ə-bəl, (ˈ)in-ˈdis-pyət-\ *adj* [LL *indisputabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *disputabilis* disputable] : not disputable : UNQUESTIONABLE ⟨~ proof⟩ — **in·dis·put·able·ness** *n* — **in·dis·put·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·dis·so·cia·ble \ˌin-dis-ˈō-sh(ē-)ə-bəl, -sē-ə-\ *adj* : not dissociated : INSEPARABLE — **in·dis·so·cia·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·dis·sol·u·ble \ˌin-dis-ˈäl-yə-bəl\ *adj* : not dissoluble: as **a** : incapable of being annulled, undone, or broken : PERMANENT ⟨an ~ contract⟩ **b** : incapable of being dissolved, decomposed, or disintegrated — **in·dis·sol·u·bil·i·ty** \-ˌäl-yə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·dis·sol·u·ble·ness** \-ˈäl-yə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·dis·sol·u·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·dis·tinct \ˌin-dis-ˈtiŋ(k)t\ *adj* [L *indistinctus*, fr. *in-* + *distinctus* distinct] : not distinct: as **a** : not sharply outlined or separable : BLURRED ⟨~ figures in the fog⟩ **b** : FAINT, DIM ⟨an ~ light in the distance⟩ **c** : not clearly recognizable or understandable : UNCERTAIN — **in·dis·tinct·ly** \-ˈtiŋ(k)-tlē, -ˈtiŋ-klē\ *adv* — **in·dis·tinct·ness** \-ˈtiŋt-nəs, -ˈtiŋk-nəs\ *n*

in·dis·tinc·tive \-ˈtiŋ(k)-tiv\ *adj* : lacking distinctive qualities

in·dis·tin·guish·able \ˌin-dis-ˈtiŋ-(g)wish -ə-bəl\ *adj* : not distinguishable: as **a** : indeterminate in shape or structure **b** : not clearly recognizable or understandable **c** : lacking identifying or individualizing qualities — **in·dis·tin·guish·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtiŋ-(g)wish-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·dis·tin·guish·able·ness** \-ˈtiŋ-(g)wish-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·dis·tin·guish·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·dite \in-ˈdīt\ *vt* **in·dit·ed; in·dit·ing** [ME *enditen*, fr. OF *enditer* to write down, proclaim, fr. (assumed) VL *indictare* to proclaim, fr. L *indictus*, pp. of *indicere* to proclaim, fr. *in-* + *dicere* to say — more at DICTION] **1 a** : to make up : COMPOSE ⟨~ a poem⟩ **b** : to give literary or formal expression to **c** : to put down in writing ⟨~ a message⟩ **2** *obs* : DICTATE — **in·dit·er** *n*

in·di·um \ˈin-dē-əm\ *n* [ISV *ind-* + NL *-ium*] : a malleable fusible silvery metallic element that is chiefly trivalent, occurs esp. in sphalerite ores, and is used as a plating for bearings, in alloys melting at a low temperature, and in the making of transistors — see ELEMENT table

indiv *abbr* individual

in·di·vert·ible \ˌin-də-ˈvərt-ə-bəl, -(ˌ)dī-\ *adj* : not to be diverted or turned aside — **in·di·vert·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*

¹in·di·vid·u·al \ˌin-də-ˈvij-(ə-)wəl, -ˈvij-əl\ *adj* [ML *individualis*, fr. L *individuus* indivisible, fr. *in-* + *dividuus* divided, fr. *dividere* to divide] **1** *obs* : INSEPARABLE **2 a** : of, relating to, or distinctively associated with an individual ⟨~ turns of phrase that identify his writing⟩ **b** : being an individual or existing as an indivisible whole **c** : intended for one person ⟨an ~ serving⟩ **3** : existing as a distinct entity : SEPARATE **4** : having marked individuality ⟨an ~ style⟩ ***syn*** **1** see SPECIAL ***ant*** general **2** see CHARACTERISTIC ***ant*** common — **in·di·vid·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²individual *n* **1 a** : a particular being or thing as distinguished from a class, species, or collection: as (1) : a single human being as contrasted with a social group or institution ⟨though he works with ~*s* . . . he is always aware of the world which surrounds his patient —Norman Mailer⟩ (2) : a single organism as distinguished from a group **b** : a particular person ⟨an odd ~⟩ **2** : an indivisible entity **3** : the reference of a name or variable of the lowest logical type in a calculus

in·di·vid·u·al·ism \ˌin-də-ˈvij-(ə-)wə-ˌliz-əm, -ˈvij-ə-ˌliz-\ *n* **1 a** (1) : a doctrine that the interests of the individual are or ought to be ethically paramount; *also* : conduct guided by such a doctrine (2) : the conception that all values, rights, and duties originate in individuals **b** : a theory maintaining the political and economic independence of the individual and stressing individual initiative, action, and interests; *also* : conduct or practice guided by such a theory **2 a** : INDIVIDUALITY **b** : an individual peculiarity : IDIOSYNCRASY

in·di·vid·u·al·ist \-ləst\ *n* **1** : one that pursues a markedly independent course in thought or action **2** : one that advocates or practices individualism — **individualist** *or* **in·di·vid·u·al·is·tic** \-ˌvij-(ə-)wə-ˈlis-tik, -ˌvij-ə-ˈlis-\ *adj* — **in·di·vid·u·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ˈlis-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

in·di·vid·u·al·i·ty \-ˌvij-ə-ˈwal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : total character peculiar to and distinguishing an individual from others **b** : PERSONALITY **2** *archaic* : the quality or state of being indivisible : INSEPARABILITY **3** : INDIVIDUAL, PERSON **4** : separate or distinct existence

in·di·vid·u·al·ize \-ˈvij-(ə-)wə-ˌlīz, -ˈvij-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make individual in character **2** : to treat or notice individually : PARTICULARIZE **3** : to adapt to the needs or special circumstances of an individual ⟨efforts to ~ teaching according to student ability and interest⟩ — **in·di·vid·u·al·iza·tion** \-ˌvij-(ə-)wə-lə-ˈzā-shən, -ˌvij-ə-lə-\ *n*

individual medley *n* : a swimming race in which each contestant swims each quarter of the course with a different stroke

in·di·vid·u·ate \ˌin-də-ˈvij-ə-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** **1** : to give individuality to **2** : to form into a distinct entity

in·di·vid·u·a·tion \-ˌvij-ə-ˈwā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of individuating: as **a** (1) : the development of the individual from the universal (2) : the determination of the individual in the general **b** : the process by which individuals in society become differentiated from one another **c** : regional differentiation along a primary embryonic axis **2** : the state of being individuated; *specif* : INDIVIDUALITY

in·di·vis·i·ble \ˌin-də-ˈviz-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *indivisibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *divisibilis* divisible] : not divisible — **in·di·vis·i·bil·i·ty** \-ˌviz-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **indivisible** *n* — **in·di·vis·i·ble·ness** \-ˈviz-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·di·vis·i·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

indn *abbr* indication

indo- — see IND-

Indo- — see IND-

In·do–Ar·y·an \ˌin-dō-ˈar-ē-ən, -ˈer-; -ˈär-yən\ *n* **1** : a member of one of the peoples of India of Aryan speech and physique **2** : one of the early Indo-European invaders of Persia, Afghanistan, and India **3** : the Indo-European languages of India and Pakistan as a group — **Indo–Aryan** *adj*

In·do–Chi·nese \-ˌchī-ˈnēz, -ˈnēs\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Indochina **2** : SINO-TIBETAN — **Indo–Chinese** *adj*

in·doc·ile \(ˈ)in-ˈdäs-əl *also* -ˌīl, *esp Brit* -ˈdō-ˌsīl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *indocilis*, fr. *in-* + *docilis* docile] : unwilling or indisposed to be taught or disciplined : INTRACTABLE — **in·do·cil·i·ty** \ˌin-dä-ˈsil-ət-ē, -dō-\ *n*

in·doc·tri·nate \in-ˈdäk-trə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [prob. fr. ME *endoctrinen*, fr. MF *endoctriner*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *doctrine*] **1** : to instruct esp. in fundamentals or rudiments : TEACH **2** : to imbue with a usu. partisan or sectarian opinion, point of view, or principle — **in·doc·tri·na·tion** \(ˌ)in-ˌdäk-trə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* — **in·doc·tri·na·tor** \in-ˈdäk-trə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*

In·do–Eu·ro·pe·an \ˌin-dō-ˌyůr-ə-ˈpē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting the Indo-European languages — **Indo–European** *n*

Indo–European languages *n pl* : a family of languages comprising those spoken in most of Europe and in the parts of the world colonized by Europeans since 1500 and also in Persia, the subcontinent of India, and some other parts of Asia

In·do–Ger·man·ic \ˌin-dō-jər-ˈman-ik\ *n* : INDO-EUROPEAN — **Indo–Germanic** *adj*

INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

BRANCH		GROUP	LANGUAGES AND MAJOR DIALECTS[1]			PROVENIENCE
			ANCIENT	MEDIEVAL	MODERN	
GERMANIC		East		*Gothic*		eastern Europe
		North		*Old Norse*	Icelandic	Iceland
					Faeroese	Faeroe Islands
					Norwegian	Norway
					Swedish	Sweden
					Danish	Denmark
		West		*Old High German*	German	Germany, Switzerland, Austria
				Middle High German		
					Yiddish	Germany, eastern Europe
				Old Saxon	Low German	northern Germany
				Middle Low German		
				Middle Dutch	Dutch	Netherlands
					Afrikaans	South Africa
				Middle Flemish	Flemish	Belgium
				Old Frisian	Frisian	Netherlands, Germany
				Old English	English	England
				Middle English		
CELTIC		Continental	*Gaulish*			Gaul
		Goidelic		*Old Irish*	Irish Gaelic	Ireland
				Middle Irish		
					Scottish Gaelic	Scotland
					Manx	Isle of Man
		Brythonic		*Old Welsh*	Welsh	Wales
				Middle Welsh		
				Old Cornish	*Cornish*	Cornwall
				Middle Breton	Breton	Brittany
ITALIC		Osco-Umbrian	*Oscan, Sabellian Umbrian*			ancient Italy
		Latinian or Romance[2]	*Venetic, Faliscan, Lanuvian, Praenestine* Latin			ancient Italy
					Portuguese	Portugal
					Spanish	Spain
					Judeo-Spanish	Mediterranean lands
					Catalan	Spain (Catalonia)
				Old Provencal	Provençal	southern France
				Old French	French	France, Belgium, Switzerland
				Middle French		
					Haitian Creole	Haiti
					Italian	Italy, Switzerland
					Rhaeto-Romanic	Switzerland, Italy
					Sardinian	Sardinia
					Dalmatian	Adriatic Coast
					Rumanian	Rumania, Balkans
Scantily recorded and of uncertain affinities within Indo-European			*Ligurian, Messapian, Illyrian, Thracian, Phrygian*			ancient Italy Balkans Asia Minor
Albanian					Albanian	Albania, southern Italy
Greek or Hellenic			Greek	Greek	Greek	Greece, the eastern Mediterranean
BALTO-SLAVIC	Baltic			*Old Prussian*		East Prussia
					Lithuanian	Lithuania
					Latvian	Latvia
	Slavic	South		Old Church Slavonic		
					Slovene	Yugoslavia
					Serbo-Croatian	Yugoslavia
					Macedonian	Macedonia
					Bulgarian	Bulgaria
		West		*Old Czech*	Czech, Slovak	Czechoslovakia
					Polish, Kashubian	Poland
					Wendish, *Polabian*	Germany
		East		*Old Russian*	Russian	Russia
					Ukrainian	Ukraine
					Belorussian	White Russia
Armenian				Armenian	Armenian	Asia Minor, Caucasus
Anatolian			*Hittite, Lydian, Lycian* *Luwian* *Palaic* *Hieroglyphic Hittite*			ancient Asia Minor
INDO-IRANIAN	Iranian	West	*Old Persian*	*Pahlavi*		Persia
				Persian	Persian	Persia (Iran)
					Kurdish	Persia, Iraq, Turkey
					Baluchi	Pakistan
					Tajiki	central Asia
		East	Avestan			ancient Persia
				Sogdian		central Asia
				Khotanese		central Asia
					Pashto	Afghanistan, Pakistan
					Ossetic	Caucasus
	Indic	Dard			Shina, Khowar, Kafiri	upper Indus valley
					Kashmiri	Kashmir
		Sanskritic	Sanskrit, Pali *Prakrits*	*Prakrits*		India
					Lahnda	western Punjab
					Sindhi	Sind
					Panjabi	Punjab
					Rajasthani	Rajasthan
					Gujarati	Gujarat
					Marathi	western India
					Konkani	western India
					Oriya	Orissa
					Bengali	Bengal
					Assamese	Assam
					Bihari	Bihar
					Hindi	northern India
					Urdu	Pakistan, India
					Nepali	Nepal
					Sinhalese	Ceylon
					Romany	uncertain
Tocharian				*Tocharian A* *Tocharian B*		central Asia

[1] Italics denote dead languages. Languages listed in roman type in the ancient or medieval column are those which survive only in some special use, as in literary composition or liturgy.

[2] Romance is normally applied only to medieval and modern languages; Latinian is normally applied only to ancient languages.

In·do–Hit·tite \-'hi-ˌtīt\ *n* **1** : a language family including Indo-European and Anatolian **2** : a hypothetical parent language of Indo-European and Anatolian — **Indo–Hittite** *adj*
In·do–Ira·ni·an \-ir-'ā-nē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or constituting a subfamily of the Indo-European languages that consists of the Indic and the Iranian branches — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Indo–Iranian** *n*
in·dole \'in-ˌdōl\ *n* [ISV *ind-* + *-ole*] : a crystalline compound C_8H_7N that is a decomposition product of proteins containing tryptophan, often formed by reduction distillation of indigo, and used in perfumes; *also* : a derivative of indole
in·dole-ace·tic acid \'in-ˌdōl-ə-ˌsēt-ik-\ *n* : a crystalline plant hormone $C_{10}H_9NO_2$ that promotes growth and rooting of plants — called also *heteroauxin*
in·dole-bu·tyr·ic acid \-byü-ˌtir-ik-\ *n* : a crystalline acid $C_{12}H_{13}NO_2$ similar to indoleacetic acid in its effects on plants
in·do·lence \'in-də-lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : a condition of causing little or no pain **2** : indisposition to labor : SLOTH
in·do·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [LL *indolent-, indolens* insensitive to pain, fr. L *in-* + *dolent-, dolens*, prp. of *dolēre* to feel pain — more at CONDOLE] **1 a** : causing little or no pain **b** : slow to develop or heal **2 a** : averse to activity, effort, or movement : habitually lazy **b** : conducing to or encouraging laziness ⟨~ heat⟩ **c** : exhibiting indolence ⟨an ~ sigh⟩ ***syn*** see LAZY ***ant*** industrious — **in·do·lent·ly** *adv*
in·do·meth·a·cin \ˌin-dō-'meth-ə-sən\ *n* [*indole* + *meth-* + *acetic acid* + *-in*] : a nonsteroidal analgesic drug $C_{19}H_{16}ClNO_4$ used esp. in treating arthritis
in·dom·i·ta·ble \in-'däm-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *indomitabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *domitare* to tame — more at DAUNT] : incapable of being subdued : UNCONQUERABLE ⟨~ courage⟩ — **in·dom·i·ta·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌdäm-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·dom·i·ta·ble·ness** \in-'däm-ət-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·dom·i·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
Indon *abbr* Indonesia; Indonesian
In·do·ne·sian \ˌin-də-'nē-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of the Malay archipelago **2 a** : a native or inhabitant of the Republic of Indonesia **b** : the language based on Malay that is the national language of the Republic of Indonesia — **Indonesian** *adj*
in·door \ˌin-ˌdō(ə)r, -ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the interior of a building **2** : done, living, or belonging within doors ⟨an ~ sport⟩
in·doors \(')in-'dō(ə)rz, -'dȯ(ə)rz\ *adv* : in or into a building
in·do·phe·nol \ˌin-dō-'fē-ˌnōl, ˌin-(ˌ)dō-fi-'\ *n* [ISV] : any of various blue or green dyes
indorse *var of* ENDORSE
in·dox·yl \in-'däk-səl\ *n* [ISV *ind-* + hydr*oxyl*] : a crystalline compound C_8H_7NO found in plants and animals or synthesized as a step in indigo manufacture
in·draft \'in-ˌdraft, -ˌdräft\ *n* **1** : a drawing or pulling in **2** : an inward flow or current (as of air or water)
in·drawn \'in-ˌdrȯn\ *adj* **1** : drawn in **2** : ALOOF, RESERVED
in·du·bi·ta·ble \(')in-'d(y)ü-bət-ə-bəl\ *adj* [F or L; F, fr. L *indubitabilis*, fr. *in-* + *dubitabilis* dubitable] : too evident to be doubted : UNQUESTIONABLE — **in·du·bi·ta·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌdyü-bət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·du·bi·ta·ble·ness** \(')in-'d(y)ü-bət-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·du·bi·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·duce \in-'d(y)üs\ *vt* **in·duced; in·duc·ing** [ME *inducen*, fr. L *inducere*, fr. *in-* + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] **1 a** : to lead on : move by persuasion or influence **b** : to call forth or bring about by influence or stimulation **2 a** : EFFECT, CAUSE **b** : to cause the formation of **c** : to produce (as an electric current) by induction **d** : to arouse by indirect stimulation ⟨~ a contrast color⟩ **3** : to determine by induction; *specif* : to infer from particulars — compare DEDUCE — **in·duc·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌd(y)ü-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·duc·ible** \-'d(y)ü-sə-bəl\ *adj*
syn INDUCE, PERSUADE, PREVAIL, GET *shared meaning element* : to move one to act or decide in a certain way
in·duce·ment \in-'d(y)ü-smənt\ *n* **1** : the act or process of inducing **2** : a motive or consideration that leads one to action or to additional or more effective actions ⟨prizes offered as ~*s* to students to do better work⟩ **3** : matter presented by way of introduction or background to explain the principal allegations of a legal cause, plea, or defense ***syn*** see MOTIVE
in·duc·er \-'d(y)ü-sər\ *n* : one that induces; *specif* : a substance that is capable of activating a structural gene by combining with and inactivating a genetic repressor
in·duct \in-'dəkt\ *vt* [ME *inducten*, fr. ML *inductus*, pp. of *inducere*, fr. L] **1** : to put in formal possession (as of a benefice or office) : INSTALL ⟨was ~*ed* as president of the college⟩ **2 a** : to admit as a member ⟨~*ed* into a scholastic society⟩ **b** : INTRODUCE, INITIATE **c** : to enroll for military training or service (as under a selective-service act) **3** : LEAD, CONDUCT
in·duc·tance \in-'dək-tən(t)s\ *n* **1** : a property of an electric circuit by which an electromotive force is induced in it by a variation of current either (1) in the circuit itself or (2) in a neighboring circuit **2** : a circuit or a device possessing inductance
in·duct·ee \(ˌ)in-ˌdək-'tē, in-'dək-ˌ\ *n* : a person inducted into military service
in·duc·tion \in-'dək-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of inducting (as into office) **b** : an initial experience : INITIATION **c** : the formality by which a civilian is inducted into military service **2 a** : the act, process, or result or an instance of reasoning from a part to a whole, from particulars to generals, or from the individual to the universal **b** : mathematical demonstration of the validity of a law concerning all the positive integers by proving that it holds for the first integer and that if it holds for all the integers preceding a given integer it must hold for the next following integer **3** : a preface, prologue, or introductory scene esp. of an early English play **4 a** : the act of bringing forward or adducing (as facts or particulars) **b** : the act of causing or bringing on or about **c** : the process by which an electrical conductor becomes electrified when near a charged body, by which a magnetizable body becomes magnetized when in a magnetic field or in the magnetic flux set up by a magnetomotive force, or by which an electromotive force is produced in a circuit by varying the magnetic field linked with the circuit **d** : the inspiration of the fuel-air charge from the carburetor into the combustion chamber of an internal-combustion engine **e** : the sum of the processes by which the fate of embryonic cells is determined and morphogenetic differentiation brought about
induction coil *n* : an apparatus for obtaining intermittent high voltage consisting of a primary coil through which the direct current flows, an interrupter, and a secondary coil of a larger number of turns in which the high voltage is induced
induction heating *n* : heating of material by means of an electric current that is caused to flow through the material or its container by electromagnetic induction
in·duc·tive \in-'dək-tiv\ *adj* **1** : leading on : INDUCING **2** : of, relating to, or employing mathematical or logical induction ⟨~ reasoning⟩ **3** : of or relating to inductance or electrical induction **4** : INTRODUCTORY **5** : involving the action of an embryological inductor : tending to produce induction — **in·duc·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·duc·tive·ness** *n*
in·duc·tor \in-'dək-tər\ *n* **1** : one that inducts **2 a** : a part of an electrical apparatus that acts upon another or is itself acted upon by induction **b** : REACTOR 2 **3** : ORGANIZER 2
indue *var of* ENDUE
in·dulge \in-'dəlj\ *vb* **in·dulged; in·dulg·ing** [L *indulgēre* to be complaisant] *vt* **1 a** : to give free rein to **b** : to take unrestrained pleasure in : GRATIFY **2 a** : to yield to the desire of : HUMOR **b** : to treat with excessive leniency, generosity, or consideration ~ *vi* : to indulge oneself — **in·dulg·er** *n*
syn INDULGE, PAMPER, HUMOR, SPOIL, BABY, MOLLYCODDLE *shared meaning element* : to show undue favor to a person or his wishes ***ant*** discipline
[1]in·dul·gence \in-'dəl-jən(t)s\ *n* **1** : remission of part or all of the temporal and esp. purgatorial punishment that according to Roman Catholicism is due for sins whose eternal punishment has been remitted and whose guilt has been pardoned (as through the sacrament of penance) **2** : the act of indulging : the state of being indulgent ⟨treated her moody child with ~⟩ **3 a** : an indulgent act **b** : an extension of time for payment or performance granted as a favor **4 a** : the act of indulging in something : the thing indulged in **b** : SELF-INDULGENCE
[2]indulgence *vt* **-genced; -genc·ing** : to attach an indulgence to ⟨*indulgenced* prayers⟩
in·dul·gent \in-'dəl-jənt\ *adj* [L *indulgent-, indulgens*, prp. of *indulgēre*] : indulging or characterized by indulgence : LENIENT — **in·dul·gent·ly** *adv*
in·du·line \'in-d(y)ə-ˌlēn\ *n* [ISV *ind-* + *-ule* + *-ine*] : any of numerous blue or violet dyes related to the safranines
in·dult \'in-ˌdəlt, in-'\ *n* [ME (Sc), fr. ML *indultum*, fr. LL, grant, fr. L, neut. of *indultus*, pp. of *indulgēre*] : a special often temporary dispensation granted in the Roman Catholic Church
[1]in·du·rate \'in-d(y)ə-rət, in-'d(y)ür-ət\ *adj* : physically or morally hardened
[2]in·du·rate \'in-d(y)ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *induratus*, pp. of *indurare*, fr. *in-* + *durare* to harden, fr. *durus* hard — more at DURING] *vt* **1** : to make unfeeling, stubborn, or obdurate **2** : to make hardy : INURE **3 a** : to make hard ⟨great heat ~*s* clay⟩ **b** : to increase the fibrous elements of ⟨*indurated* tissue⟩ **4** : to establish firmly : CONFIRM ~ *vi* **1** : to grow hard : HARDEN **2** : to become established — **in·du·ra·tion** \ˌin-d(y)ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **in·du·ra·tive** \'in-d(y)ə-ˌrāt-iv, in-'d(y)ür-ət-\ *adj*
indus *abbr* industrial; industry
in·du·si·um \in-'d(y)ü-z(h)ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-sia** \-z(h)ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, tunic] : an investing outgrowth or membrane: as **a** : an outgrowth of a fern frond that invests the sori **b** : the annulus of a fungus esp. when large and full
[1]in·dus·tri·al \in-'dəs-trē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to industry **2** : characterized by highly developed industries ⟨an ~ nation⟩ **3** : engaged in industry ⟨the ~ classes⟩ **4** : derived from human industry ⟨~ wealth⟩ **5** : used in industry ⟨~ diamonds⟩ — **in·dus·tri·al·ly** \-trē-ə-lē\ *adv*
[2]industrial *n* **1 a** : one that is employed in industry **b** : a company engaged in industrial production or service **2** : a stock or bond issued by an industrial corporation or enterprise
industrial arts *n pl but sing in constr* : a subject taught in elementary and secondary schools that aims at developing manual skill and familiarity with tools and machines
industrial engineering *n* : engineering that deals with the development and application of cost and work standards for the various operations involved in manufacture
in·dus·tri·al·ism \in-'dəs-trē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : social organization in which industries and esp. large-scale industries are dominant
in·dus·tri·al·ist \-ləst\ *n* : one owning or engaged in the management of an industry : MANUFACTURER
in·dus·tri·al·ize \in-'dəs-trē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to make industrial ⟨~ an agricultural region⟩ ~ *vi* : to become industrial — **in·dus·tri·al·iza·tion** \-ˌdəs-trē-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
industrial melanism *n* : genetically determined melanism esp. in insect populations that occurs in areas darkened by industrial pollutants
industrial park *n* : an area that is at a distance from the center of a city and that is designed esp. for a community of industries and businesses
industrial psychology *n* : the application of the findings and methods of experimental, clinical, and social psychology to industrial problems (as personnel selection and training) — **industrial psychologist** *n*

industrial relations *n pl* : the dealings or relationships of a usu. large business or industrial enterprise with its own workers, with labor in general, with governmental agencies, or with the public
industrial revolution *n* : a rapid major change in an economy (as in England in the late 18th century) marked by the general introduction of power-driven machinery or by an important change in the prevailing types and methods of use of such machines
industrial school *n* : a school specializing in the teaching of industrial arts; *specif* : a public institution of this kind for juvenile delinquents
industrial sociology *n* : sociological analysis directed at institutions and social relationships within and largely controlled or affected by industry
industrial union *n* : a labor union that admits to membership workmen in an industry irrespective of their occupation or craft — compare CRAFT UNION
in·dus·tri·ous \in-'dəs-trē-əs\ *adj* **1** *obs* : SKILLFUL, INGENIOUS **2** : persistently active : ZEALOUS **3** : constantly, regularly, or habitually occupied : DILIGENT ***syn*** see BUSY ***ant*** slothful, indolent — **in·dus·tri·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·dus·tri·ous·ness** *n*
in·dus·try \'in-(,)dəs-trē\ *n, pl* **-tries** [MF *industrie* skill, employment involving skill, fr. L *industria* diligence, fr. *industrius* diligent, fr. OL *indostruus*, fr. *indu* in + *-struus* (akin to L *struere* to build) — more at INDIGENOUS, STRUCTURE] **1** : diligence in an employment or pursuit **2 a** : systematic labor esp. for the creation of value **b** : a department or branch of a craft, art, business, or manufacture; *esp* : one that employs a large personnel and capital esp. in manufacturing **c** : a distinct group of productive or profit-making enterprises ⟨the automobile ~⟩ **d** : manufacturing activity as a whole ⟨the nation's ~⟩ ***syn*** see BUSINESS
in·dwell \(')in-'dwel\ *vi* : to exist as an inner activating spirit, force, or principle ~ *vt* : to exist within as an activating spirit, force, or principle — **in·dwell·er** *n*
in·dwell·ing \'in-,dwel-iŋ\ *adj* : left within a bodily organ or passage esp. to promote drainage — used of an implanted tube (as a catheter)
1-ine \,īn, ən, (,)in, ,ēn\ *adj suffix* **1** [ME *-in, -ine*, fr. MF&L; MF *-in*, fr. L *-īnus* — more at -EN] : of or relating to ⟨estuar*ine*⟩ **2** [ME *-in, -ine*, fr. MF&L; MF *-in*, fr. L *-ĭnus*, fr. Gk *-inos* — more at -EN] : made of : like ⟨opal*ine*⟩
2-ine \,ēn, 'ēn, ən, (,)in\ *n suffix* [ME *-ine, -in*, fr. MF&L; MF *-ine*, fr. L *-īna*, fr. fem. of *-īnus* adj suffix] **1** : chemical substance: as **a** : halogen element ⟨chlor*ine*⟩ **b** : basic or base-containing carbon compound that contains nitrogen ⟨quin*ine*⟩ ⟨cyst*ine*⟩ **c** : mixture of compounds (as of hydrocarbons) ⟨gasol*ine*⟩ **d** : hydride ⟨ars*ine*⟩ **2** : -IN 1a **3** : commercial product or material ⟨glass*ine*⟩
ine·bri·ant \in-'ē-brē-ənt\ *n* : INTOXICANT — **inebriant** *adj*
1ine·bri·ate \in-'ē-brē-,āt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *inebriatus*, pp. of *inebriare*, fr. *in-* + *ebriare* to intoxicate, fr. *ebrius* drunk — more at SOBER] **1** : to make drunk : INTOXICATE **2** : to exhilarate or stupefy as if by liquor — **ine·bri·a·tion** \-,ē-brē-'ā-shən\ *n*
2ine·bri·ate \in-'ē-brē-ət\ *adj* **1** : affected by alcohol : DRUNK **2** : addicted to excessive drinking
3ine·bri·ate \-ət\ *n* : one who is drunk; *esp* : an habitual drunkard
ine·bri·at·ed \-brē-,āt-əd\ *adj* : exhilarated or confused by or as if by alcohol : INTOXICATED
in·ebri·ety \,in-i-'brī-ət-ē\ *n* [prob. blend of *inebriation* and *ebriety* (drunkenness)] : the state of being inebriated : DRUNKENNESS
in·ed·i·ble \(')in-'ed-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not fit to be eaten
in·ed·it·ed \(')in-'ed-ət-əd\ *adj* [NL *ineditus*, fr. L, not made known, fr. *in-* + *editus*, pp. of *edere* to proclaim — more at EDITION] **1** : not edited; *esp* : published without editorial alteration **2** : not published
in·ed·u·ca·ble \(')in-'ej-ə-kə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being educated — **in·ed·u·ca·bil·i·ty** \(,)in-,ej-ə-kə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
in·ef·fa·ble \(')in-'ef-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *ineffabilis*, fr. *in-* + *effabilis* capable of being expressed, fr. *effari* to speak out, fr. *ex-* + *fari* to speak — more at BAN] **1 a** : incapable of being expressed in words : INDESCRIBABLE ⟨~ joy⟩ **b** : UNSPEAKABLE ⟨~ disgust⟩ **2** : not to be uttered : TABOO ⟨the ~ name of Jehovah⟩ — **in·ef·fa·bil·i·ty** \(,)in-,ef-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ef·fa·ble·ness** \(')in-'ef-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·ef·fa·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ef·face·able \,in-ə-'fā-sə-bəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *ineffaçable*, fr. MF, fr. *in-* + *effaçable* effaceable] : not effaceable : INERADICABLE — **in·ef·face·abil·i·ty** \-,fā-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ef·face·ably** \-'fā-sə-blē\ *adv*
in·ef·fec·tive \,in-ə-'fek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : not producing an intended effect : INEFFECTUAL ⟨~ lighting⟩ **2** : not capable of performing efficiently or as expected : INCAPABLE ⟨an ~ executive⟩ — **in·ef·fec·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·ef·fec·tive·ness** *n*
in·ef·fec·tu·al \,in-ə-'fek-chə(-wə)l, -'feksh-wəl\ *adj* **1** : not producing the proper or intended effect : FUTILE **2** : INEFFECTIVE 2 — **in·ef·fec·tu·al·i·ty** \-,fek-chə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ef·fec·tu·al·ly** \-'fek-chə(-wə)-lē, -'feksh-wə-\ *adv* — **in·ef·fec·tu·al·ness** *n*
in·ef·fi·ca·cious \(,)in-,ef-ə-'kā-shəs\ *adj* : lacking the power to produce a desired effect : INEFFECTIVE — **in·ef·fi·ca·cious·ly** *adv* — **in·ef·fi·ca·cious·ness** *n*
in·ef·fi·ca·cy \(')in-'ef-i-kə-sē\ *n* [LL *inefficacia*, fr. L *inefficac-, inefficax* inefficacious, fr. *in-* + *efficac-, efficax* efficacious] : lack of power to produce a desired effect
in·ef·fi·cien·cy \,in-ə-'fish-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being inefficient **2** : something that is inefficient
in·ef·fi·cient \-'fish-ənt\ *adj* : not efficient: **a** : not producing the effect intended or desired : INEFFICACIOUS ⟨the scare technique proved to be ~⟩ **b** : wasteful of time or energy ⟨~ operating procedures⟩ **c** : INCAPABLE, INCOMPETENT ⟨an ~ worker⟩ — **inefficient** *n* — **in·ef·fi·cient·ly** *adv*
in·e·gal·i·tar·i·an \,in-i-,gal-ə-'ter-ē-ən\ *adj* : marked by disparity in social and economic standing
in·elas·tic \,in-ə-'las-tik\ *adj* : not elastic: **a** : slow to react or respond to changing conditions **b** : INFLEXIBLE, UNYIELDING — **in·elas·tic·i·ty** \,in-i-,las-'tis-ət-ē, (,)in-,ē-,las-, -'tis-tē\ *n*
inelastic collision *n* : a collision in which part of the kinetic energy of the colliding particles changes into another form of energy (as radiation)
inelastic scattering *n* : a scattering of particles as the result of inelastic collision in which the total kinetic energy of the colliding particles changes
in·el·e·gance \(')in-'el-i-gən(t)s\ *n* : lack of elegance
in·el·e·gant \-gənt\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *inelegant-, inelegans*, fr. *in-* + *elegant-, elegans* elegant] : lacking in refinement, grace, or good taste — **in·el·e·gant·ly** *adv*
in·el·i·gi·ble \(')in-'el-ə-jə-bəl\ *adj* [F *inéligible*, fr. *in-* + *éligible* eligible] **1** : not qualified to be chosen for an office **2** : not worthy to be chosen or preferred **3** : not being allowed under football rules to catch a forward pass — **in·el·i·gi·bil·i·ty** \(,)in-,el-ə-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ineligible** *n*
in·el·o·quent \(')in-'el-ə-kwənt\ *adj* : not eloquent — **in·el·o·quent·ly** *adv*
in·eluc·ta·ble \,in-i-'lək-tə-bəl\ *adj* [L *ineluctabilis*, fr. *in-* + *eluctari* to struggle out, fr. *ex-* + *luctari* to struggle — more at LOCK] : not to be avoided, changed, or resisted : INEVITABLE — **in·eluc·ta·bil·i·ty** \-,lək-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·eluc·ta·bly** \-'lək-tə-blē\ *adv*
in·elud·ible \,in-i-'lüd-ə-bəl\ *adj* : INESCAPABLE
in·enar·ra·ble \,in-i-'nar-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *inenarrabilis*, fr. *in-* + *enarrare* to explain in detail, fr. *e-* + *narrare* to narrate] : incapable of being narrated : INDESCRIBABLE
in·ept \in-'ept\ *adj* [F *inepte*, fr. L *ineptus*, fr. *in-* + *aptus* apt] **1** : lacking in fitness or aptitude : UNFIT **2** : not suitable to the time, place, or occasion : inappropriate often to an absurd degree **3** : lacking sense or reason : FOOLISH **4** : generally incompetent : BUNGLING ***syn*** see AWKWARD ***ant*** apt, adept — **in·ept·i·tude** \-'ep-tə-,t(y)üd\ *n* — **in·ept·ly** \-'ep-(t)lē\ *adv* — **in·ept·ness** \-'ep(t)-nəs\ *n*
in·equal·i·ty \,in-i-'kwäl-ət-ē\ *n* [MF *inequalité*, fr. L *inaequalitat-, inaequalitas*, fr. *inaequalis* unequal, fr. *in-* + *aequalis* equal] **1** : the quality of being unequal or uneven: as **a** : lack of evenness **b** : social disparity **c** : disparity of distribution or opportunity **d** : the condition of being variable : CHANGEABLENESS **2** : an instance of being unequal **3** : a formal statement of inequality between two quantities usu. with a sign of inequality (as $<$, $>$, or $\neq$ signifying respectively *is less than, is greater than,* or *is not equal to*) between them ⟨$2 < 3$, $4 > 1$, and $a \neq b$ are *inequalities*⟩
in·eq·ui·ta·ble \(')in-'ek-wət-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not equitable : UNFAIR — **in·eq·ui·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·eq·ui·ty \(')in-'ek-wət-ē\ *n* **1** : INJUSTICE, UNFAIRNESS **2** : an instance of injustice or unfairness
in·equi·valve \(')in-'ē-kwə-,valv\ *also* **in·equi·valved** \-,valvd\ *adj* : having the valves unequal in size and form — used of a bivalve mollusk or shell
in·erad·i·ca·ble \,in-i-'rad-i-kə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being eradicated — **in·erad·i·ca·bil·i·ty** \-,rad-i-kə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·erad·i·ca·bly** \-'rad-i-kə-blē\ *adv*
in·er·ran·cy \(')in-'er-ən-sē\ *n* : exemption from error : INFALLIBILITY ⟨the concept of the verbal ~ of the Scriptures —George Hedley⟩
in·er·rant \-ənt\ *adj* [L *inerrant-, inerrans*, fr. *in-* + *errant-, errans*, prp. of *errare* to err] : free from error : INFALLIBLE
in·ert \in-'ərt\ *adj* [L *inert-, iners* unskilled, idle, fr. *in-* + *art-, ars* skill — more at ARM] **1** : lacking the power to move **2** : deficient in active properties; *esp* : lacking a usual or anticipated chemical or biological action **3** : very slow to move or act : SLUGGISH ***syn*** see INACTIVE ***ant*** dynamic, animated — **inert** *n* — **in·ert·ly** *adv* — **in·ert·ness** *n*
inert gas *n* : NOBLE GAS
in·er·tia \in-'ər-shə, -shē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, lack of skill, fr. *inert-, iners*] **1 a** : a property of matter by which it remains at rest or in uniform motion in the same straight line unless acted upon by some external force **b** : an analogous property of other physical quantities (as electricity) **2** : indisposition to motion, exertion, or change : INERTNESS ⟨failed to make a needed change in the system through sheer ~⟩ — **in·er·tial** \-shəl\ *adj* — **in·er·tial·ly** \-'ərsh-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
inertial guidance *n* : guidance (as of an aircraft or spacecraft) by means of self-contained automatically controlling devices that respond to inertial forces — called also *inertial navigation*
in·es·cap·able \,in-ə-'skā-pə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being avoided, ignored, or denied : INEVITABLE — **in·es·cap·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·es·sen·tial \,in-ə-'sen-chəl\ *adj* **1** : having no essence **2** : not essential : UNESSENTIAL
in·es·ti·ma·ble \(')in-'es-tə-mə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *inaestimabilis*, fr. *in-* + *aestimabilis* estimable] **1** : incapable of being estimated or computed ⟨storms caused ~ damage along the coast⟩ **2** : too valuable or excellent to be measured or appreciated ⟨has performed an ~ service for his country⟩ — **in·es·ti·ma·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ev·i·ta·ble \in-'ev-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *inevitabilis*, fr. *in-* + *evitabilis* evitable] : incapable of being avoided or evaded — **in·ev·i·ta·bil·i·ty** \(,)in-,ev-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ev·i·ta·ble·ness** \(')in-'ev-ət-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·ev·i·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·act \,in-ig-'zakt\ *adj* [F, fr. *in-* + *exact*] **1** : not precisely correct or true : INACCURATE ⟨an ~ translation⟩ **2** : not rigorous and careful ⟨an ~ thinker⟩ — **in·ex·ac·ti·tude** \-'zak-tə-,t(y)üd\ *n* — **in·ex·act·ly** \-'zak-(t)lē\ *adv* — **in·ex·act·ness** \-'zak(t)-nəs\ *n*
in·ex·cus·able \,in-ik-'skyü-zə-bəl\ *adj* [L *inexcusabilis*, fr. *in-* + *excusabilis* excusable] : being without excuse or justification — **in·ex·cus·able·ness** *n* — **in·ex·cus·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·haust·ible \,in-ig-'zȯ-stə-bəl\ *adj* : not exhaustible: as **a** : incapable of being used up ⟨~ riches⟩ **b** : incapable of being wearied or worn out ⟨an ~ hiker⟩ — **in·ex·haust·ibil·i·ty** \-,zȯ-stə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ex·haust·ible·ness** \-'zȯ-stə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·ex·haust·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·is·tence \,in-ig-'zis-tən(t)s\ *n* : absence of existence : NONEXISTENCE

in·ex·is·tent \-tənt\ *adj* [LL *inexsistent-, inexsistens*, fr. L *in-* + *exsistent-, exsistens*, prp. of *exsistere* to exist] : not having existence : NONEXISTENT
in·ex·o·ra·ble \(')in-'eks-(ə-)rə-bəl, -'egz-ə-rə-\ *adj* [L *inexorabilis*, fr. *in-* + *exorabilis* pliant, fr. *exorare* to prevail upon, fr. *ex-* + *orare* to speak — more at ORATION] : not to be persuaded or moved by entreaty : RELENTLESS ***syn*** see INFLEXIBLE — **in·ex·o·ra·bil·i·ty** \(')in-ˌeks-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē, -ˌegz-ə-rə-\ *n* — **in·ex·o·ra·ble·ness** \(')in-'eks-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, -'egz-ə-rə-\ *n* — **in·ex·o·ra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·pe·di·ence \ˌin-ik-'spēd-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* : INEXPEDIENCY
in·ex·pe·di·en·cy \-ən-sē\ *n* : the quality or fact of being inexpedient
in·ex·pe·di·ent \-ənt\ *adj* : not expedient : INADVISABLE — **in·ex·pe·di·ent·ly** *adv*
in·ex·pen·sive \ˌin-ik-'spen(t)-siv\ *adj* : reasonable in price : CHEAP — **in·ex·pen·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·ex·pen·sive·ness** *n*
in·ex·pe·ri·ence \ˌin-ik-'spir-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *inexperientia*, fr. L *in-* + *experientia* experience] **1** : lack of practical experience **2** : lack of knowledge of the ways of the world — **in·ex·pe·ri·enced** \-ən(t)st\ *adj*
in·ex·pert \(')in-'ek-ˌspərt, ˌin-ik-'\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *inexpertus*, fr. *in-* + *expertus* expert] : not expert : UNSKILLED — **in·ex·pert** \(')in-'ek-ˌspərt\ *n* — **in·ex·pert·ly** \(')in-'ek-ˌspərt-lē, ˌin-ik-'\ *adv* — **in·ex·pert·ness** *n*
in·ex·pi·a·ble \(')in-'ek-spē-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *inexpiabilis*, fr. *in-* + *expiare* to expiate] **1** : not capable of being atoned for **2** *obs* : IMPLACABLE, UNAPPEASABLE — **in·ex·pi·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·plain·able \ˌin-ik-'splā-nə-bəl\ *adj* : INEXPLICABLE
in·ex·pli·ca·ble \ˌin-ik-'splik-ə-bəl, (')in-'ek-(ˌ)splik-\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *inexplicabilis*, fr. *in-* + *explicabilis* explicable] : incapable of being explained, interpreted, or accounted for — **in·ex·pli·ca·bil·i·ty** \ˌin-ik-ˌsplik-ə-'bil-ət-ē, (ˌ)in-ˌek-(ˌ)splik-\ *n* — **in·ex·pli·ca·ble·ness** \ˌin-ik-'splik-ə-bəl-nəs, (')in-'ek-(ˌ)splik-\ *n* — **in·ex·pli·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·plic·it \ˌin-ik-'splis-ət\ *adj* : not explicit
in·ex·press·ible \-'spres-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being expressed : INDESCRIBABLE — **in·ex·press·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌspres-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ex·press·ible·ness** \-'spres-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·ex·press·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·pres·sive \-'spres-iv\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : INEXPRESSIBLE **2** : lacking expression or meaning ⟨an ~ face⟩ — **in·ex·pres·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·ex·pres·sive·ness** *n*
in·ex·pug·na·ble \ˌin-ik-'spəg-nə-bəl, -'spyü-nə-\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *inexpugnabilis*, fr. *in-* + *expugnare* to take by storm, fr. *ex-* + *pugnare* to fight — more at PUNGENT] **1** : incapable of being subdued or overthrown : IMPREGNABLE ⟨an ~ position⟩ **2** : STABLE, FIXED ⟨~ hatred⟩ — **in·ex·pug·na·ble·ness** *n* — **in·ex·pug·na·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ex·pung·ible \ˌin-ik-'spən-jə-bəl\ *adj* [*in-* + *expunge*] : incapable of being obliterated ⟨~ scent of a bottle of perfume he had . . . broken —Louis Auchincloss⟩
in ex·ten·so \ˌin-ik-'sten(t)-(ˌ)sō\ *adv* [ML] : at full length
in·ex·tin·guish·able \ˌin-ik-'stiŋ-(g)wish-ə-bəl\ *adj* : not extinguishable : UNQUENCHABLE ⟨an ~ flame⟩ ⟨an ~ longing⟩ — **in·ex·tin·guish·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in ex·tre·mis \ˌin-ik-'strā-məs, -'strē-\ *adv* [L] : in extreme circumstances; *esp* : at the point of death
in·ex·tri·ca·ble \ˌin-ik-'strik-ə-bəl, (')in-'ek-(ˌ)strik-\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *inextricabilis*, fr. *in-* + *extricabilis* extricable] **1** : forming a maze or tangle from which it is impossible to get free **2 a** : incapable of being disentangled or untied ⟨an ~ knot⟩ **b** : not capable of being solved — **in·ex·tri·ca·bil·i·ty** \ˌin-ik-ˌstrik-ə-'bil-ət-ē, (')in-ˌek-(ˌ)strik-\ *n* — **in·ex·tri·ca·bly** \ˌin-ik-'strik-ə-blē, (')in-'ek-(ˌ)strik-\ *adv*
inf *abbr* **1** infantry **2** infinitive
in·fal·li·ble \(')in-'fal-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ML *infallibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *fallibilis* fallible] **1** : incapable of error : UNERRING ⟨an ~ memory⟩ **2** : not liable to mislead, deceive, or disappoint : CERTAIN ⟨an ~ remedy⟩ **3** : incapable of error in defining doctrines touching faith or morals — **in·fal·li·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌfal-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·fal·li·bly** \(')in-'fal-ə-blē\ *adv*
in·fa·mous \'in-fə-məs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *infamis*, fr. *in-* + *fama* fame] **1** : having a reputation of the worst kind **2** : causing or bringing infamy : DISGRACEFUL **3** : convicted of an offense bringing infamy ***syn*** see VICIOUS ***ant*** illustrious — **in·fa·mous·ly** *adv*
in·fa·my \-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** **1** : evil reputation brought about by something grossly criminal, shocking, or brutal **2 a** : an extreme and publicly known criminal or evil act **b** : the state of being infamous ***syn*** see DISGRACE
in·fan·cy \'in-fən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : early childhood **2** : a beginning or early period of existence **3** : the legal status of an infant
¹in·fant \'in-fənt\ *n* [ME *enfaunt*, fr. MF *enfant*, fr. L *infant-, infans*, fr. *infant-, infans*, incapable of speech, young, fr. *in-* + *fant-, fans*, prp. of *fari* to speak — more at BAN] **1** : a child in the first period of life **2** : a person who is not of full age : MINOR
²infant *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being in infancy **2** : being in an early stage of development **3** : intended for young children
in·fan·ta \in-'fant-ə, -'fänt-\ *n* [Sp & Pg, fem. of *infante*] : a daughter of a Spanish or Portuguese monarch
in·fan·te \in-'fant-ē, -'fän-(ˌ)tā\ *n* [Sp & Pg, lit., infant, fr. L *infant-, infans*] : a younger son of a Spanish or Portuguese monarch
in·fan·ti·cide \in-'fant-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [LL *infanticidium*, fr. L *infant-, infans* + *-i-* + *-cidium* -cide] **1** : the killing of an infant **2** : one who kills an infant
in·fan·tile \'in-fən-ˌtīl, -tᵊl, -ˌtēl, -(ˌ)til\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to infants or infancy **2** : suitable to or characteristic of an infant; *esp* : very immature ⟨the immature parents . . . who have so many ~ traits themselves —H. B. Peck⟩ **3** *of topography* : being in a very early stage of development following an uplift or equivalent change — **in·fan·til·i·ty** \ˌin-fən-'til-ət-ē\ *n*
infantile paralysis *n* : POLIOMYELITIS
in·fan·til·ism \'in-fən-ˌtīl-ˌiz-əm, -tə-ˌliz-; in-'fan-tᵊl-ˌiz-\ *n* **1** : retention of childish physical, mental, or emotional qualities in adult life; *esp* : failure to attain sexual maturity **2** : an act or expression that indicates lack of maturity
in·fan·tine \'in-fən-ˌtīn, -ˌtēn\ *adj* : INFANTILE, CHILDISH
in·fan·try \'in-fən-trē\ *n, pl* **-tries** [MF & OIt; MF *infanterie*, fr. OIt *infanteria*, fr. *infante* boy, foot soldier, fr. L *infant-, infans*] **1 a** : soldiers trained, armed, and equipped to fight on foot **b** : a branch of an army composed of these soldiers **2** : an infantry regiment
in·fan·try·man \-trē-mən\ *n* : an infantry soldier
infant school *n, Brit* : KINDERGARTEN
in·farct \'in-ˌfärkt, in-'\ *n* [L *infarctus*, pp. of *infarcire* to stuff, fr. *in-* + *farcire* to stuff — more at FARCE] : an area of necrosis in a tissue or organ resulting from obstruction of the local circulation by a thrombus or embolus — **in·farct·ed** \in-'färk-təd\ *adj* — **in·farc·tion** \in-'färk-shən\ *n*
in·fare \'in-ˌfa(ə)r, -ˌfe(ə)r\ *n* [ME *infer*, fr. OE *infær* entrance, fr. *in* + *fær* way, fr. *faran* to go — more at FARE] *chiefly dial* : a reception for a newly married couple
¹in·fat·u·ate \in-'fach-ə-wət\ *adj* : being in an infatuated state or condition
²in·fat·u·ate \-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *infatuatus*, pp. of *infatuare*, fr. *in-* + *fatuus* fatuous] **1** : to affect with folly **2** : to inspire with a foolish or extravagant love or admiration — **in·fat·u·at·ed** *adj* — **in·fat·u·a·tion** \-ˌfach-ə-'wā-shən\ *n*
in·fau·na \'in-ˌfȯn-ə, -ˌfän-\ *n* [NL, fr. ²*in-* + *fauna*] : benthic fauna living on the substrate and esp. in a soft sea bottom — compare EPIFAUNA — **in·fau·nal** \-ˌfȯn-ᵊl, -ˌfän-\ *adj*
in·fea·si·ble \(')in-'fē-zə-bəl\ *adj* : not feasible : IMPRACTICABLE
in·fect \in-'fekt\ *vt* [ME *infecten*, fr. L *infectus*, pp. of *inficere*, fr. *in-* + *facere* to make, do — more at DO] **1** : to contaminate with a disease-producing substance or agent (as bacteria) **2 a** : to communicate a pathogen or a disease to **b** *of a pathogenic organism* : to invade (an individual or organ) usu. by penetration **3 a** : CONTAMINATE, CORRUPT ⟨manages to ~ her with a sense of guilt⟩ **b** : to work upon or seize upon so as to induce sympathy, belief, or support ⟨the teacher ~*ed* his pupils with his enthusiasm⟩ — **in·fec·tor** \-'fek-tər\ *n*
in·fec·tion \in-'fek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or result of affecting injuriously **2** : an act or process of infecting; *also* : the establishment of a pathogen in its host after invasion **3** : the state produced by the establishment of an infective agent in or on a suitable host; *also* : a contagious or infectious disease **4** : an infective agent or material contaminated with an infective agent **5** : the communication of emotions or qualities through example or contact
in·fec·tious \-shəs\ *adj* **1 a** : capable of causing infection **b** : communicable by infection — compare CONTAGIOUS **2** : that corrupts or contaminates **3** : capable of being easily diffused or spread : readily communicated ⟨~ excitement⟩ — **in·fec·tious·ly** *adv* — **in·fec·tious·ness** *n*
infectious hepatitis *n* : an acute virus inflammation of the liver characterized by jaundice, fever, nausea, vomiting, and abdominal discomfort
infectious mononucleosis *n* : an acute infectious disease characterized by fever, swelling of lymph glands, and lymphocytosis
in·fec·tive \in-'fek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : producing or capable of producing infection **2** : affecting others : INFECTIOUS — **in·fec·tiv·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌfek-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*
in·fe·lic·i·tous \ˌin-fi-'lis-ət-əs\ *adj* : not appropriate in application or expression ⟨essays written in an ~ style⟩ — **in·fe·lic·i·tous·ly** *adv*
in·fe·lic·i·ty \-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *infelicite*, fr. L *infelicitas*, fr. *infelic-, infelix* unhappy, fr. *in-* + *felic-, felix* fruitful — more at FEMININE] **1** : the quality or state of being infelicitous **2** : something that is infelicitous
in·fer \in-'fər\ *vb* **in·ferred; in·fer·ring** [MF or L; MF *inferer*, fr. L *inferre*, lit., to carry or bring into, fr. *in-* + *ferre* to carry — more at BEAR] *vt* **1** : to derive as a conclusion from facts or premises ⟨we see smoke and ~ fire —L. A. White⟩ — compare IMPLY **2** : GUESS, SURMISE ⟨your letter . . . allows me to ~ that you are as well as ever —O. W. Holmes †1935⟩ **3 a** : to involve as a normal outcome of thought **b** : to point out : INDICATE ⟨this doth ~ the zeal I had to see him —Shak.⟩ **4** : SUGGEST, HINT ⟨another survey . . . ~*s* that two-thirds of all present computer installations are not paying for themselves —H. R. Chellman⟩ ~ *vi* : to draw inferences ⟨men . . . have observed, *inferred*, and reasoned . . . to all kinds of results —John Dewey⟩ — **in·fer·able** *or* **in·fer·ri·ble** \in-'fər-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **in·fer·rer** \-'fər-ər\ *n*
syn INFER, DEDUCE, CONCLUDE, JUDGE, GATHER *shared meaning element* : to arrive at a mental conclusion
in·fer·ence \'in-f(ə-)rən(t)s, -fərn(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act or process of inferring: as **a** : the act of passing from one proposition, statement, or judgment considered as true to another whose truth is believed to follow from that of the former **b** : the act of passing from statistical sample data to generalizations (as of the value of population parameters) usu. with calculated degrees of certainty **2** : something that is inferred; *esp* : a proposition arrived at by inference **3** : the premises and conclusion of a process of inferring
in·fer·en·tial \ˌin-fə-'ren-chəl\ *adj* [ML *inferentia*, fr. L *inferent-, inferens*, prp. of *inferre*] **1** : relating to, involving, or resembling inference **2** : deduced or deducible by inference — **in·fer·en·tial·ly** \-'rench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
in·fe·ri·or \in-'fir-ē-ər\ *adj* [ME, fr. L, compar. of *inferus* — more at UNDER] **1** : situated lower down : LOWER **2** : of low or lower degree or rank **3** : of little or less importance, value, or merit ⟨always felt ~ to his older brother⟩ **4 a** : situated below another and esp. another similar superior part of an upright body **b** : situ-

ated in a relatively low posterior or ventral position in a quadrupedal body **c** (1) : situated below another plant part or organ (2) : ABAXIAL **5** : relating to or being a subscript **6 a** : nearer the sun than the earth is ⟨~ planets⟩ **b** : nearer the earth than the sun is ⟨~ conjunction of Venus⟩ — **inferior** *n* — **in·fe·ri·or·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌfir-ē-ˈȯr-ət-ē, -ˈär-\ *n* — **in·fe·ri·or·ly** \in-ˈfir-ē-ər-lē\ *adv*

inferiority complex *n* : an acute sense of personal inferiority resulting either in timidity or through overcompensation in exaggerated aggressiveness

in·fer·nal \in-ˈfərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *infernalis*, fr. *infernus* hell, fr. L, lower; akin to L *inferus* inferior] **1** : of or relating to a nether world of the dead **2 a** : of or relating to hell **b** : HELLISH, DIABOLICAL ⟨~ wickedness⟩ **3** : DAMNABLE ⟨an ~ nuisance⟩ — **in·fer·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

infernal machine *n* : a machine or apparatus maliciously designed to explode and destroy life or property; *esp* : a concealed or disguised bomb

in·fer·no \in-ˈfər-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [It, hell, fr. LL *infernus*] : a place or a state that resembles or suggests hell ⟨the ~ of war⟩; *also* : intense heat ⟨the roaring ~ of the blast furnace⟩

in·fero- \ˌin-fə-(ˌ)rō\ *comb form* [L *inferus*] : below and ⟨*infero*lateral⟩

in·fer·tile \(ˈ)in-ˈfərt-ᵊl\ *adj* [MF, fr. LL *infertilis*, fr. L *in-* + *fertilis* fertile] : not fertile or productive ⟨~ eggs⟩ ⟨~ fields⟩ ***syn*** see STERILE ***ant*** fertile — **in·fer·til·i·ty** \ˌin-(ˌ)fər-ˈtil-ət-ē\ *n*

in·fest \in-ˈfest\ *vt* [MF *infester*, fr. L *infestare*, fr. *infestus* hostile] **1** : to spread or swarm in or over in a troublesome manner ⟨a slum ~*ed* with crime⟩ ⟨shark-*infested* waters⟩ **2** : to live in or on as a parasite — **in·fes·tant** \-ˈfes-tənt\ *n* — **in·fes·ta·tion** \ˌin-ˌfes-ˈtā-shən\ *n* — **in·fest·er** \in-ˈfes-tər\ *n*

in·fi·del \ˈin-fəd-ᵊl, -fə-ˌdel\ *n* [MF *infidele*, fr. LL *infidelis* unbelieving, fr. L, unfaithful, fr. *in-* + *fidelis* faithful — more at FEAL] **1** : one who is not a Christian or who opposes Christianity **2 a** : an unbeliever in respect to a particular religion **b** : one who acknowledges no religious belief **3** : a disbeliever in something specified or understood ***syn*** see ATHEIST — **infidel** *adj*

in·fi·del·i·ty \ˌin-fə-ˈdel-ət-ē, -(ˌ)fī-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : lack of belief in a religion **2 a** : unfaithfulness to a moral obligation : DISLOYALTY **b** : marital unfaithfulness or an instance of it

in·field \ˈin-ˌfēld\ *n* **1** : a field near a farmhouse **2 a** : the area of a baseball field enclosed by the three bases and home plate **b** : the defensive positions comprising first base, second base, shortstop, and third base; *also* : the players who play these positions **3** : the area enclosed by a racetrack or running track

in·field·er \-ˌfēl-dər\ *n* : a baseball player who plays in the infield

infield hit *n* : a base hit that does not leave the infield

infield out *n* : a ground ball on which the batter is retired by an infielder

in·fight·ing \ˈin-ˌfīt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : fighting or boxing at close quarters **2** : rough-and-tumble fighting **3** : prolonged and often bitter dissension among members of a group or organization ⟨bureaucratic ~ and departmental jealousies —H. H. Ransom⟩ — **in·fight·er** \-ər\ *n*

in·fil·trate \in-ˈfil-ˌtrāt, ˈin-(ˌ)\ *vb* **-trat·ed; -trat·ing** *vt* **1** : to cause (as a liquid) to permeate something by penetrating its pores or interstices **2** : to pass into or through (a substance) by filtering or permeating **3** : to pass (troops) singly or in small groups through gaps in the enemy line **4** : to enter or become established in gradually or unobtrusively ⟨the intelligence staff had been *infiltrated* by spies⟩ ~ *vi* : to enter, permeate, or pass through a substance or area by filtering or by insinuating gradually ⟨police can't ~ into the closely-knit organization⟩ — **in·fil·tra·tion** \ˌin-(ˌ)fil-ˈtrā-shən\ *n* — **in·fil·tra·tive** \ˈin-(ˌ)fil-ˌtrāt-iv, in-ˈfil-trət-\ *adj* — **in·fil·tra·tor** \in-ˈfil-ˌtrāt-ər, ˈin-(ˌ)\ *n*

¹in·fi·nite \ˈin-fə-nət\ *adj* [ME *infinit*, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *infinitus*, fr. *in-* + *finitus* finite] **1** : subject to no limitation or external determination **2** : extending indefinitely : ENDLESS ⟨~ space⟩ **3** : immeasurably or inconceivably great or extensive : INEXHAUSTIBLE ⟨~ patience⟩ **4 a** : extending beyond, lying beyond, or being greater than any preassigned finite value however large ⟨~ number of positive numbers⟩ **b** : extending to infinity ⟨~ plane surface⟩ **c** : characterized by an infinite number of elements or terms ⟨an ~ set⟩ ⟨an ~ series⟩ — **in·fi·nite·ly** *adv* — **in·fi·nite·ness** *n*

²infinite *n* **1** : boundless space or duration **2** : an incalculable or very great number **3** : an infinite quantity or magnitude

¹in·fin·i·tes·i·mal \(ˌ)in-ˌfin-ə-ˈtes-ə-məl, -ˈtez-\ *n* [NL *infinitesimus* infinite in rank, fr. L *infinitus*] **1** : a variable that takes on values arbitrarily close to zero **2** : an infinitesimal quantity

²infinitesimal *adj* **1** : taking on values arbitrarily close to zero **2** : immeasurably or incalculably small — **in·fin·i·tes·i·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

infinitesimal calculus *n* : CALCULUS 3b

in·fin·i·ti·val \(ˌ)in-ˌfin-ə-ˈtī-vəl\ *adj* : relating to the infinitive

¹in·fin·i·tive \in-ˈfin-ət-iv\ *adj* [LL *infinitivus*, fr. L *infinitus*] : formed with the infinitive — **in·fin·i·tive·ly** *adv*

²infinitive *n* : a verb form normally identical in English with the first person singular that performs some functions of a noun and at the same time displays some characteristics of a verb and that is used with *to* (as in "I asked him *to go*") except with auxiliary and various other verbs (as in "no one saw him *leave*")

in·fin·i·tude \in-ˈfin-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being infinite : INFINITENESS **2** : something that is infinite esp. in extent **3** : an infinite number or quantity

in·fin·i·ty \in-ˈfin-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality of being infinite **b** : unlimited extent of time, space, or quantity : BOUNDLESSNESS **2** : an indefinitely great number or amount **3 a** : the limit of a function when its value tends to become numerically larger than any preassigned value **b** : a part of a geometric magnitude that lies beyond any part whose distance from a given reference position is finite ⟨do parallel lines ever meet if they extend to ~⟩ **c** : a transfinite number (as aleph-null) **4** : a distance so great that the rays of light from a point source at that distance may be regarded as parallel

in·firm \in-ˈfərm\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *infirmus*, fr. *in-* + *firmus* firm] **1** : of poor or deteriorated vitality; *esp* : feeble from age **2** : weak of mind, will, or character : IRRESOLUTE, VACILLATING **3** : not solid or stable : INSECURE ***syn*** see WEAK ***ant*** hale — **in·firm·ly** *adv*

in·fir·ma·ry \in-ˈfərm-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a place where the infirm or sick are lodged for care and treatment

in·fir·mi·ty \in-ˈfər-mət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being infirm **b** : the condition of being feeble : FRAILTY **2** : DISEASE, MALADY **3** : a personal failing : FOIBLE ⟨one of the besetting *infirmities* of living creatures is egotism —A. J. Toynbee⟩

¹in·fix \ˈin-ˌfiks, in-ˈ\ *vt* [L *infixus*, pp. of *infigere*, fr. *in-* + *figere* to fasten — more at DIKE] **1** : to fasten or fix by piercing or thrusting in **2** : INSTILL, INCULCATE **3** : to insert (as a sound or letter) as an infix

²in·fix \ˈin-ˌfiks\ *n* : a derivational or inflectional affix appearing in the body of a word ⟨Sanskrit *-n-* is an ~ in *vindami* "I know" as contrasted with *vid* "to know"⟩

infl *abbr* influenced

in fla·gran·te de·lic·to \ˌin-flə-ˌgrant-ē-di-ˈlik-(ˌ)tō\ *adv* : FLAGRANTE DELICTO

in·flame \in-ˈflām\ *vb* **in·flamed; in·flam·ing** [ME *enflamen*, fr. MF *enflamer*, fr. L *inflammare*, fr. *in-* + *flamma* flame] *vt* **1** : to set on fire : KINDLE **2 a** : to excite to excessive or unnatural action or feeling **b** : to make more heated or violent : INTENSIFY ⟨insults served only to ~ the feud⟩ **3** : to cause to redden or grow hot from anger or excitement **4** : to cause inflammation in (bodily tissue) ~ *vi* **1** : to burst into flame **2** : to become excited or angered **3** : to become affected with inflammation — **in·flam·er** *n*

in·flam·ma·ble \in-ˈflam-ə-bəl\ *adj* [F, fr. ML *inflammabilis*, fr. L *inflammare* to inflame] **1** : FLAMMABLE **2** : easily inflamed, excited, or angered : IRASCIBLE — **in·flam·ma·bil·i·ty** \-ˌflam-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **inflammable** *n* — **in·flam·ma·ble·ness** \-ˈflam-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·flam·ma·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·flam·ma·tion \ˌin-flə-ˈmā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of inflaming : the state of being inflamed **2** : a local response to cellular injury that is marked by capillary dilatation, leukocytic infiltration, redness, heat, and pain and that serves as a mechanism initiating the elimination of noxious agents and of damaged tissue

in·flam·ma·to·ry \in-ˈflam-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : tending to inflame or excite the senses **2** : tending to excite anger, disorder, or tumult : SEDITIOUS **3** : accompanied by or tending to cause inflammation — **in·flam·ma·to·ri·ly** \-ˌflam-ə-ˈtōr-ə-lē, -ˈtȯr-\ *adv*

in·flat·able \in-ˈflāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being inflated ⟨an ~ boat⟩ — **inflatable** *n*

in·flate \in-ˈflāt\ *vb* **in·flat·ed; in·flat·ing** [L *inflatus*, pp. of *inflare*, fr. *in-* + *flare* to blow — more at BLOW] *vt* **1** : to swell or distend with air or gas **2** : to puff up : ELATE **3** : to expand or increase abnormally or imprudently ~ *vi* : to become inflated ***syn*** see EXPAND ***ant*** deflate — **in·fla·tor** *or* **in·flat·er** \-ˈflāt-ər\ *n*

in·flat·ed *adj* **1** : distended with air or gas **2** : BOMBASTIC, EXAGGERATED ⟨an ~ style of writing⟩ **3** : expanded to an abnormal or unjustifiable volume or level ⟨~ prices⟩ **4 a** : being hollow and distended **b** : open and swelled out or enlarged

in·fla·tion \in-ˈflā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of inflating : a state of being inflated: as **a** : DISTENSION **b** : empty pretentiousness : POMPOSITY **2** : an increase in the volume of money and credit relative to available goods resulting in a substantial and continuing rise in the general price level

in·fla·tion·ary \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : of, characterized by, or productive of inflation

inflationary spiral *n* : a continuous rise in prices that is sustained by the tendency of wage increases and cost increases to react on each other

in·fla·tion·ism \in-ˈflā-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the policy of economic inflation — **in·fla·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj*

in·flect \in-ˈflekt\ *vb* [ME *inflecten*, fr. L *inflectere*, fr. *in-* + *flectere* to bend] *vt* **1** : to turn from a direct line or course : CURVE **2** : to vary (a word) by inflection : DECLINE, CONJUGATE **3** : to change or vary the pitch of (as the voice) : MODULATE ~ *vi* : to become modified by inflection — **in·flec·tive** \-ˈflek-tiv\ *adj*

in·flec·tion \in-ˈflek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or result of curving or bending : BEND **2** : change in pitch or loudness of the voice **3 a** : the change of form that words undergo to mark such distinctions as those of case, gender, number, tense, person, mood, or voice **b** : a form, suffix, or element involved in such variation **c** : ACCIDENCE **4 a** : change of curvature with respect to a fixed line from concave to convex or conversely **b** : INFLECTION POINT

in·flec·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characterized by inflection ⟨an ~ suffix⟩ — **in·flec·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

inflection point *n* : a point on a curve that separates an arc concave upward from one concave downward and vice versa

in·flexed \ˈin-ˌflekst\ *adj* [L *inflexus*, pp. of *inflectere*] : bent or turned abruptly inward or downward or toward the axis ⟨~ petals⟩

in·flex·i·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈflek-sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *inflexibilis*, fr. *in-* + *flexibilis* flexible] **1** : not readily bent : lacking or deficient in suppleness **2** : rigidly firm in will or purpose : UNYIELDING **3** : incapable of change : UNALTERABLE — **in·flex·i·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌflek-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·flex·i·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈflek-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·flex·i·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn **1** see STIFF ***ant*** flexible
2 INFLEXIBLE, INEXORABLE, OBDURATE, ADAMANT *shared meaning element* : unwilling to alter a predetermined course or purpose ***ant*** flexible

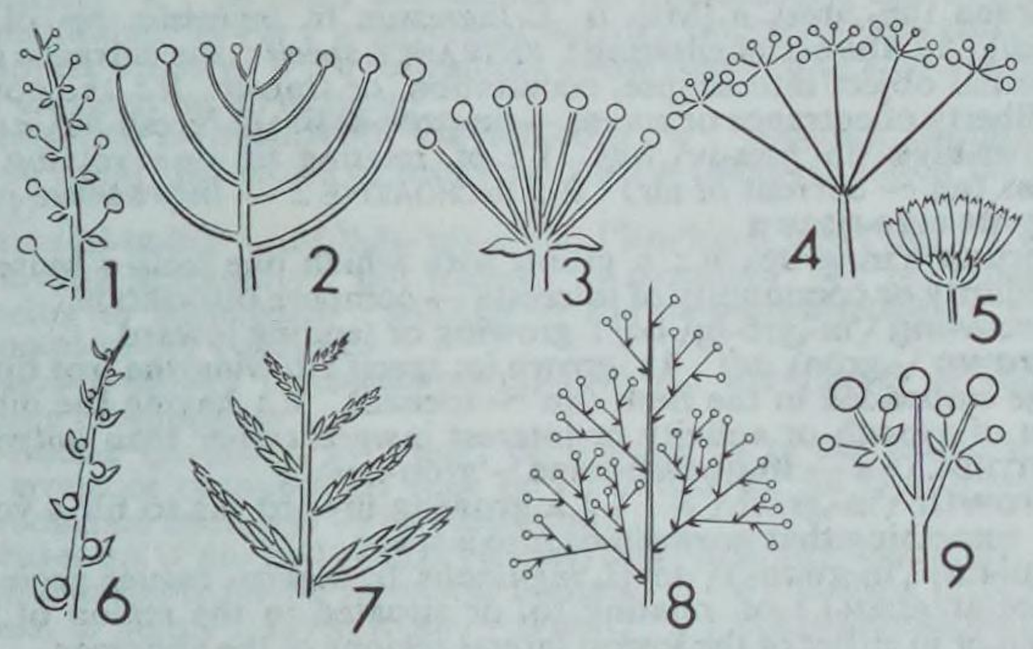
in·flex·ion *chiefly Brit var of* INFLECTION

in·flict \in-ˈflikt\ *vt* [L *inflictus*, pp. of *infligere*, fr. *in-* + *fligere* to strike — more at PROFLIGATE] **1 a** : to give by striking ⟨~*s* a blow on his opponent's jaw⟩ **b** : to cause (something damaging or painful) to be endured : IMPOSE ⟨~ punishment⟩ **2** : AFFLICT — **in·flict·er** *or* **in·flic·tor** \-ˈflik-tər\ *n* — **in·flic·tive** \-tiv\ *adj*

in·flic·tion \in-ˈflik-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of inflicting **2** : something (as punishment or suffering) that is inflicted

in–flight \in-'flīt\ *adj* : made, carried out, or provided for use or enjoyment while in flight ⟨~ movies⟩

in·flo·res·cence \ˌin-flə-'res-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [NL *inflorescentia*, fr. LL *inflorescent-*, *inflorescens*, prp. of *inflorescere* to begin to bloom, fr. L *in-* + *florescere* to begin to bloom — more at FLORESCENCE] **1 a** (1) : the mode of development and arrangement of flowers on an axis (2) : a floral axis with its appendages; *also* : a flower cluster or sometimes a solitary flower **b** : a cluster of reproductive organs on a moss usu. subtended by a bract **2** : the budding and unfolding of blossoms : FLOWERING — **in·flo·res·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*



types of inflorescence 1a(1): *1* raceme, *2* corymb, *3* umbel, *4* compound umbel, *5* capitulum, *6* spike, *7* compound spike, *8* panicle, *9* cyme

in·flow \'in-ˌflō\ *n* : INFLUX

[1]in·flu·ence \'in-ˌflü-ən(t)s, *esp South* in-'\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *influentia*, fr. L *influent-*, *influens*, prp. of *influere* to flow in, fr. *in-* + *fluere* to flow — more at FLUID] **1 a** : an ethereal fluid held to flow from the stars and to affect the actions of men **b** : an emanation of occult power held to derive from stars **2** : an emanation of spiritual or moral force **3 a** : the act or power of producing an effect without apparent exertion of force or direct exercise of command **b** : corrupt interference with authority for personal gain **4** : the power or capacity of causing an effect in indirect or intangible ways : SWAY **5** : one that exerts influence **6** : INDUCTION 4c
syn INFLUENCE, AUTHORITY, PRESTIGE, WEIGHT, CREDIT *shared meaning element* : power exerted over the minds or behavior of others — **under the influence** : affected by liquor : DRUNK ⟨was arrested for driving *under the influence*⟩

[2]influence *vt* **-enced; -enc·ing** **1** : to affect or alter by indirect or intangible means : SWAY **2** : to have an effect on the condition or development of : MODIFY ***syn*** see AFFECT — **in·flu·enc·er** *n*

[1]in·flu·ent \'in-ˌflü-ənt, in-'\ *adj* : flowing in

[2]influent *n* **1** : a tributary stream **2** : a factor (as a kind of animal) modifying the balance and stability of an ecological community

[1]in·flu·en·tial \ˌin-(ˌ)flü-'en-chəl\ *adj* : exerting or possessing influence — **in·flu·en·tial·ly** \-'ench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]influential *n* : one who has great influence ⟨~*s* from the worlds of finance, politics and the arts —Thomas Meehan⟩

in·flu·en·za \ˌin-(ˌ)flü-'en-zə\ *n* [It, lit., influence, fr. ML *influentia*; fr. the belief that epidemics were due to the influence of the stars] **1** : an acute highly contagious virus disease characterized by sudden onset, fever, prostration, severe aches and pains, and progressive inflammation of the respiratory mucous membrane; *broadly* : a human respiratory infection of undetermined cause **2** : any of numerous febrile usu. virus diseases of domestic animals marked by respiratory symptoms, inflammation of mucous membranes, and often systemic involvement

in·flux \'in-ˌfləks\ *n* [LL *influxus*, fr. L, pp. of *influere*] : a flowing in : INFLOW ⟨an ~ of foreign capital⟩

in·fo \'in-(ˌ)fō\ *n* : INFORMATION

in·fold \in-'fōld\ *vt* : ENFOLD, ENVELOP ~ \'in-ˌ\ *vi* : to fold inward or toward one another

in·form \in-'fȯ(ə)rm\ *vb* [ME *informen*, fr. MF *enformer*, fr. L *informare*, fr. *in-* + *forma* form] *vt* **1** *obs* : to give material form to **2 a** : to give character or essence to ⟨the principles which ~ modern teaching⟩ **b** : to be the characteristic quality of : ANIMATE ⟨the compassion that ~*s* his work⟩ **3** *obs* : GUIDE, DIRECT **4** *obs* : to make known **5** : to communicate knowledge to ⟨~ a prisoner of his rights⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to impart information or knowledge **2** : to give information (as of another's wrongdoing) to an authority
syn INFORM, ACQUAINT, APPRISE, NOTIFY *shared meaning element* : to make one aware of something

in·for·mal \(')in-'fȯr-məl\ *adj* **1** : marked by the absence of formality or ceremony ⟨an ~ meeting⟩ ⟨an ~ group⟩ **2** : characteristic of or appropriate to ordinary, casual, or familiar use ⟨~ English⟩ ⟨~ clothes⟩ — **in·for·mal·i·ty** \ˌin-(ˌ)fȯr-'mal-ət-ē, -fər-\ *n* — **in·for·mal·ly** \(')in-'fȯr-mə-lē\ *adv*

in·for·mant \in-'fȯr-mənt\ *n* : one who gives information: as **a** : INFORMER **b** : one who supplies cultural or linguistic data in response to interrogation by an investigator

in for·ma pau·pe·ris \ˌin-ˌfȯr-mə-'pȯ-pə-rəs, -'paù-\ *adj or adv* [L, in the form of a pauper] : as a poor man

in·for·mat·ics \ˌin-fər-'mat-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [ISV *information* + *-ics*] : INFORMATION SCIENCE

in·for·ma·tion \ˌin-fər-'mā-shən\ *n* **1** : the communication or reception of knowledge or intelligence **2 a** : knowledge obtained from investigation, study, or instruction **b** : INTELLIGENCE, NEWS **c** : FACTS, DATA **d** : a signal or character (as in a communication system or computer) representing data **e** : something (as a message, experimental data, or a picture) which justifies change in a construct (as a plan or theory) that represents physical or mental experience or another construct **f** : a quantitative measure of the content of information; *specif* : a numerical quantity that measures the uncertainty in the outcome of an experiment to be performed **3** : the act of informing against a person **4** : a formal accusation of a crime made by a prosecuting officer as distinguished from an indictment presented by a grand jury — **in·for·ma·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

information retrieval *n* : the techniques of storing and recovering and often disseminating recorded data esp. through the use of a computerized system

information science *n* : the collection, classification, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of recorded knowledge treated both as a pure and as an applied science

information theory *n* : a theory that deals statistically with information, the measurement of its content in terms of its distinguishing essential characteristics or by the number of alternatives from which it makes a choice possible, and with the efficiency of processes of communication between men and machines (as in telecommunication or in computing machines)

in·for·ma·tive \in-'fȯr-mət-iv\ *adj* : imparting knowledge : INSTRUCTIVE — **in·for·ma·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·for·ma·tive·ness** *n*

in·for·ma·to·ry \-mə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : conveying information : INFORMATIVE

in·formed \in-'fȯ(ə)rmd\ *adj* **1 a** : having information ⟨~ sources⟩ ⟨~ observers⟩ **b** : based on possession of information ⟨an ~ estimate of next year's tax receipts⟩ **2** : EDUCATED, KNOWLEDGEABLE ⟨what the ~ person should know about psychology⟩

in·form·er \-'fȯr-mər\ *n* **1** : one that imparts knowledge or news **2** : one that informs against another; *specif* : one who makes a practice esp. for a financial reward of informing against others for violations of penal laws — called also *common informer*

in·fra \'in-frə, -ˌfrä\ *adv* [L] : BELOW : later in this writing ⟨for additional examples see ~⟩

infra- *prefix* [L *infra* — more at UNDER] **1** : below ⟨*infra*human⟩ ⟨*infra*sonic⟩ **2** : within ⟨*infra*specific⟩ **3** : below in a scale or series ⟨*infra*red⟩

in·fract \in-'frakt\ *vt* [L *infractus*, pp. of *infringere* to break off — more at INFRINGE] : INFRINGE, VIOLATE — **in·frac·tor** \-'frak-tər\ *n*

in·frac·tion \in-'frak-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of infringing : VIOLATION ⟨an ~ of the law⟩

in·fra dig \ˌin-frə-'dig\ *adj* [short for L *infra dignitatem*] : being beneath one's dignity : UNDIGNIFIED ⟨while his work . . . was financially profitable, it was just a bit *infra dig* —John McCarten⟩

in·fra·hu·man \ˌin-frə-'hyü-mən, -(ˌ)frä-, -'yü-\ *adj* : less or lower than human; *esp* : ANTHROPOID — **infrahuman** *n*

in·fran·gi·bil·i·ty \(ˌ)in-ˌfran-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being infrangible

in·fran·gi·ble \(')in-'fran-jə-bəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. LL *infrangibilis*, fr. L *in-* + *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] **1** : not capable of being broken or separated into parts **2** : not to be infringed or violated — **in·fran·gi·ble·ness** *n* — **in·fran·gi·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·fra·red \ˌin-frə-'red, -(ˌ)frä-\ *adj* **1** : lying outside the visible spectrum at its red end — used of thermal radiation of wavelengths longer than those of visible light **2** : relating to, producing, or employing infrared radiation ⟨~ therapy⟩ **3** : sensitive to infrared radiation ⟨~ photographic film⟩ — **infrared** *n*

in·fra·son·ic \-'sän-ik\ *adj* **1** : having or relating to a frequency below the audibility range of the human ear **2** : utilizing or produced by infrasonic waves or vibrations

in·fra·spe·cif·ic \-spi-'sif-ik\ *adj* : included within a species ⟨~ categories⟩

in·fra·struc·ture \'in-frə-ˌstrək-chər, -(ˌ)frä-\ *n* **1** : the underlying foundation or basic framework (as of a system or organization) **2** : the permanent installations required for military purposes

in·fre·quence \(')in-'frē-kwən(t)s\ *n* : INFREQUENCY

in·fre·quen·cy \-kwən-sē\ *n* : rarity of occurrence

in·fre·quent \(')in-'frē-kwənt\ *adj* [L *infrequent-*, *infrequens*, fr. *in-* + *frequent-*, *frequens* frequent] **1** : seldom happening or occurring : RARE **2** : placed or occurring at wide intervals in space or time ⟨a slope scattered with ~ pines⟩ ⟨his ~ complaints⟩ — **in·frequent·ly** *adv*
syn INFREQUENT, UNCOMMON, SCARCE, RARE, SPORADIC *shared meaning element* : not common or abundant ***ant*** frequent

in·fringe \in-'frinj\ *vb* **in·fringed; in·fring·ing** [L *infringere*, lit., to break off, fr. *in-* + *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] *vt* **1** *obs* : DEFEAT, FRUSTRATE **2** : to encroach upon in a way that violates law or the rights of another ⟨~ a patent⟩ ~ *vi* : to infringe on something : ENCROACH ***syn*** see TRESPASS — **in·fring·er** *n*

in·fringe·ment \in-'frinj-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act of infringing : VIOLATION **2** : an encroachment or trespass on a right or privilege

in·fun·dib·u·lar \ˌin-(ˌ)fən-'dib-yə-lər\ *or* **in·fun·dib·u·late** \-lət\ *adj* **1** : INFUNDIBULIFORM **2** : of, relating to, or having an infundibulum

in·fun·dib·u·li·form \-lə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [NL *infundibulum* + E *-iform*] : having the form of a funnel or cone

in·fun·dib·u·lum \ˌin-(ˌ)fən-'dib-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L, funnel — more at FUNNEL] : any of various conical or dilated organs or parts: as **a** : the hollow conical process of gray matter by which the pituitary gland is continuous with the brain **b** : the calyx of a kidney **c** : the abdominal opening of a fallopian tube

[1]in·fu·ri·ate \in-'fyůr-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *infuriatus*, pp. of *infuriare*, fr. L *in-* + *furia* fury] : to make furious : ENRAGE — **in·fu·ri·at·ing·ly** \-ˌāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **in·fu·ri·a·tion** \-ˌfyůr-ē-'ā-shən\ *n*

[2]in·fu·ri·ate \in-'fyůr-ē-ət\ *adj* : furiously angry — **in·fu·ri·ate·ly** *adv*

in·fuse \in-'fyüz\ *vt* **in·fused; in·fus·ing** [ME *infusen*, fr. MF & L; MF *infuser*, fr. L *infusus*, pp. of *infundere* to pour in, fr. *in-* + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] **1 a** : to cause to be permeated with something (as a principle or quality) that alters usu. for the better ⟨attributes the fine spirit of the whole project to the self-respect with which men had been *infused* —Dixon Wecter⟩ **b** : INTRODUCE, INSINUATE ⟨a new spirit was *infused* into American art —*Amer. Guide Series: N.Y.*⟩ **2** : INSPIRE, ANIMATE ⟨the sense of purpose that *infuses* scientific research⟩ **3** : to steep in liquid (as water) without boiling for extracting useful qualities — **in·fus·er** *n*

syn INFUSE, SUFFUSE, IMBUE, INGRAIN, INOCULATE, LEAVEN *shared meaning element* : to introduce one thing into another so as to affect it throughout

in·fus·ible \(')in-'fyü-zə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being fused : very difficult to fuse — **in·fus·ibil·i·ty** \(,)in-,fyü-zə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·fus·ible·ness** \(')in-'fyü-zə-bəl-nəs\ *n*

in·fu·sion \in-'fyü-zhən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of infusing **2** : the continuous slow introduction of a solution esp. into a vein **3** : a product obtained by infusing

in·fu·so·ri·al \,in-fyü-'zōr-ē-əl, -'sōr-, -'zȯr-, -'sȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being infusorians

in·fu·so·ri·an \-ē-ən\ *n* [deriv. of L *infusus*] : any of a heterogeneous group of minute organisms found esp. in decomposing infusions of organic matter; *esp* : a ciliated protozoan — **infusorian** *adj*

[1]-ing \iŋ; *in some dialects usu., in other dialects informally,* ən, in, *or* (*after certain consonants*) ᵊn, ᵊm, ᵊŋ\ *vb suffix or adj suffix* [ME, alter. of *-ende*, fr. OE, fr. *-e-*, verb stem vowel + *-nde*, prp. suffix — more at -ANT] — used to form the present participle ⟨sail*ing*⟩ and sometimes to form an adjective resembling a present participle but not derived from a verb ⟨swashbuckl*ing*⟩

[2]-ing *n suffix* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *-ing* one of a (specified) kind] : one of a (specified) kind ⟨sweet*ing*⟩

[3]-ing *n suffix* [ME, fr. OE, suffix forming nouns from verbs; akin to OHG *-ung*, suffix forming nouns from verbs] **1** : action or process ⟨runn*ing*⟩ ⟨sleep*ing*⟩ : instance of an action or process ⟨a meet*ing*⟩ **2 a** : product or result of an action or process ⟨an engrav*ing*⟩ — often in pl. ⟨earn*ings*⟩ **b** : something used in an action or process ⟨a bed cover*ing*⟩ ⟨the lin*ing* of a coat⟩ **3** : action or process connected with (a specified thing) ⟨boat*ing*⟩ **4** : something connected with, consisting of, or used in making (a specified thing) ⟨scaffold*ing*⟩ ⟨shirt*ing*⟩ **5** : something related to (a specified concept) ⟨off*ing*⟩

in·gath·er \'in-,ga<u>th</u>-ər, -,ge<u>th</u>-\ *vt* : to gather in ~ *vi* : ASSEMBLE — **in·gath·er·ing** \-,ga<u>th</u>-(ə-)riŋ, -,ge<u>th</u>-\ *n*

in·ge·nious \in-'jēn-yəs\ *adj* [MF *ingenieux*, fr. L *ingeniosus*, fr. *ingenium* natural capacity — more at ENGINE] **1** *obs* : showing or calling for intelligence, aptitude, or discernment **2** : marked by especial aptitude at discovering, inventing, or contriving **3** : marked by originality, resourcefulness, and cleverness in conception or execution ***syn*** see CLEVER — **in·ge·nious·ly** *adv* — **in·ge·nious·ness** *n*

in·ge·nue *or* **in·gé·nue** \'an-jə-,nü, 'än-; 'aⁿ-zhə-, 'äⁿ-\ *n* [F *ingénue*, fem. of *ingénu* ingenuous, fr. L *ingenuus*] **1** : a naive girl or young woman **2** : the stage role of an ingenue; *also* : an actress playing such a role

in·ge·nu·ity \,in-jə-'n(y)ü-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ities** **1** *obs* : CANDOR, INGENUOUSNESS **2 a** : skill or cleverness in devising or combining : INVENTIVENESS **b** : cleverness or aptness of design or contrivance **3** : an ingenious device or contrivance

in·gen·u·ous \in-'jen-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *ingenuus* native, free born, fr. *in-* + *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] **1** *obs* : NOBLE, HONORABLE **2 a** : showing innocent or childlike simplicity and candidness **b** : lacking craft or subtlety **3** [by alter.] *obs* : INGENIOUS ***syn*** see NATURAL ***ant*** disingenuous, cunning — **in·gen·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·gen·u·ous·ness** *n*

in·gest \in-'jest\ *vt* [L *ingestus*, pp. of *ingerere* to carry in, fr. *in-* + *gerere* to bear — more at CAST] : to take in for or as if for digestion : ABSORB — **in·gest·ible** \-'jes-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **in·ges·tion** \-'jes(h)-chən\ *n* — **in·ges·tive** \-'jes-tiv\ *adj*

in·ges·ta \in-'jes-tə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. L, neut. pl. of *ingestus*] : material taken into the body by way of the digestive tract

in·gle \'iŋ-(g)əl\ *n* [ScGael *aingeal*] **1** : FLAME, BLAZE **2** : FIREPLACE **3** : CORNER, ANGLE

in·gle·nook \-,nu̇k\ *n* : a nook by a large open fireplace; *also* : a bench or settle occupying this nook

in·glo·ri·ous \(')in-'glōr-ē-əs, -'glȯr-\ *adj* [L *inglorius*, fr. *in-* + *gloria* glory] **1** : not glorious : lacking fame or honor **2** : SHAMEFUL, IGNOMINIOUS — **in·glo·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·glo·ri·ous·ness** *n*

in·got \'iŋ-gət\ *n* [ME, prob. modif. of MF *lingot* ingot of metal, incorrectly divided as *l'ingot*, as if fr. *le* the, fr. L *ille* that] **1** : a mold in which metal is cast **2** : a mass of metal cast into a convenient shape for storage or transportation to be later processed

ingot iron *n* : iron containing only small proportions of impurities (as less than 0.05 percent carbon)

[1]in·grain \(')in-'grān\ *vt* : to work indelibly into the natural texture or mental or moral constitution ***syn*** see INFUSE

[2]in·grain \,in-,grān\ *adj* **1 a** : made of fiber that is dyed before being spun into yarn **b** : made of yarn that is dyed before being woven or knitted **2** : thoroughly worked in : INNATE

[3]in·grain \'in-,grān\ *n* **1** : an article made with ingrain yarns **2** : innate quality or character

in·grained \'in-,grānd, (')in-'\ *adj* **1** : worked into the grain or fiber **2** : forming a part of the essence or inmost being : DEEP-SEATED ⟨~ prejudice⟩ — **in·grained·ly** \'in-,grā-nəd-lē, 'in-,grān-dlē, (')in-'\ *adv*

in·grate \'in-,grāt\ *n* [L *ingratus* ungrateful, fr. *in-* + *gratus* grateful — more at GRACE] : an ungrateful person

in·gra·ti·ate \in-'grā-shē-,āt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [*in-* + L *gratia* grace] : to gain favor or favorable acceptance for by deliberate effort — usu. used with *with* ⟨~ themselves with the community leaders — William Attwood⟩ — **in·gra·ti·a·tion** \-,grā-shē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **in·gra·tia·to·ry** \-'grā-sh(ē-)ə-,tōr-ē, -,tȯr-\ *adj*

in·gra·ti·at·ing *adj* **1** : capable of winning favor : PLEASING ⟨an ~ smile⟩ **2** : intended or adopted in order to gain favor : FLATTERING — **in·gra·ti·at·ing·ly** \-'grā-shē-,āt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

in·grat·i·tude \(')in-'grat-ə-,t(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *ingratitudo*, fr. L *in-* + LL *gratitudo* gratitude] : forgetfulness of or poor return for kindness received : UNGRATEFULNESS

in·gre·di·ent \in-'grēd-ē-ənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *ingredient-, ingrediens*, prp. of *ingredi* to go into, fr. *in-* + *gradi* to go — more at GRADE] : something that enters into a compound or is a component part of any combination or mixture : CONSTITUENT ***syn*** see ELEMENT — **ingredient** *adj*

in·gress \'in-,gres\ *n* [ME, fr. L *ingressus*, fr. *ingressus*, pp. of *ingredi*] **1** : the act of entering : ENTRANCE; *specif* : the entrance of a celestial object into eclipse, occultation, or transit **2** : the power or liberty of entrance or access — **in·gres·sion** \in-'gresh-ən\ *n*

in·gres·sive \in-'gres-iv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving ingress ⟨an ~ current of air⟩ **2** : INCHOATIVE 2 — **ingressive** *n* — **in·gres·sive·ness** *n*

in–group \'in-,grüp\ *n* : a group with which one feels a sense of solidarity or community of interests — compare OUT-GROUP

in·grow·ing \'in-,grō-iŋ\ *adj* : growing or tending inward

in·grown \-,grōn\ *adj* **1** : grown in; *specif* : having the free tip or edge embedded in the flesh ⟨an ~ toenail⟩ **2** : having the direction of growth or activity or interest inward rather than outward : WITHDRAWN — **in·grown·ness** \-'grōn-nəs\ *n*

in·growth \'in-,grōth\ *n* **1** : a growing inward (as to fill a void) **2** : something that grows in or into a space

in·gui·nal \'iŋ-gwən-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *inguinalis*, fr. *inguin-, inguen* groin — more at ADEN-] : of, relating to, or situated in the region of the groin or in either of the lowest lateral regions of the abdomen

in·gur·gi·tate \in-'gər-jə-,tāt\ *vt* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *ingurgitatus*, pp. of *ingurgitare*, fr. *in-* + *gurgit-, gurges* whirlpool — more at VORACIOUS] : to swallow greedily or in large quantities : GUZZLE — **in·gur·gi·ta·tion** \(,)in-,gər-jə-'tā-shən\ *n*

INH \,ī-,en-'āch\ *abbr* [*i*sonicotinic acid *h*ydrazide] isoniazid

in·hab·it \in-'hab-ət\ *vb* [ME *enhabiten*, fr. MF & L; MF *enhabiter*, fr. L *inhabitare*, fr. *in-* + *habitare* to dwell, fr. *habitus*, pp. of *habēre* to have — more at GIVE] *vt* **1** : to occupy as a place of settled residence or habitat : live in ⟨~*ed* a small two-room apartment⟩ **2** : to occupy or be present in any manner or form ⟨the human beings who ~ this tale —Al Newman⟩ ~ *vi, archaic* : to have residence in a place : DWELL — **in·hab·it·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **in·hab·it·er** *n*

in·hab·it·an·cy \in-'hab-ət-ən-sē\ *n* : INHABITATION

in·hab·it·ant \in-'hab-ət-ənt\ *n* : one that occupies a particular place regularly, routinely, or for a period of time ⟨~*s* of large cities⟩ ⟨the tapeworm is an ~ of the intestine⟩

in·hab·i·ta·tion \in-,hab-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* : the act of inhabiting : the state of being inhabited

in·hab·it·ed *adj* : having inhabitants

in·hal·ant \in-'hā-lənt\ *n* : something (as an allergen or medication) that is inhaled — **inhalant** *adj*

in·ha·la·tion \,in-(h)ə-'lā-shən, ,in-ᵊl-'ā-\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of inhaling **2** : material (as medication) to be taken in by inhaling — **in·ha·la·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

in·ha·la·tor \'in-(h)ə-,lāt-ər, 'in-ᵊl-,āt-\ *n* : a device providing a mixture of oxygen and carbon dioxide for breathing that is used esp. in conjunction with artificial respiration

in·hale \in-'hā(ə)l\ *vb* **in·haled; in·hal·ing** [*in-* + *-hale* (as in *exhale*)] *vt* **1** : to draw in by breathing **2** : to take in eagerly or greedily ⟨*inhaled* about four meals at once —Ring Lardner⟩ ~ *vi* : to breathe in — **in·hale** \in-', 'in-,\ *n*

in·hal·er \in-'hā-lər\ *n* **1** : one that inhales **2** : a device by means of which medicinal material is inhaled **3** : SNIFTER

in·har·mon·ic \,in-(,)här-'män-ik\ *adj* : not harmonic : DISCORDANT

in·har·mo·ni·ous \-'mō-nē-əs\ *adj* **1** : not harmonious : DISCORDANT **2** : not fitting or congenial : CONFLICTING — **in·har·mo·ni·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·har·mo·ni·ous·ness** *n*

in·har·mo·ny \(')in-'här-mə-nē\ *n* : DISCORD

in·here \in-'hi(ə)r\ *vi* **in·hered; in·her·ing** [L *inhaerēre*, fr. *in-* + *haerēre* to adhere — more at HESITATE] : to be inherent : BELONG

in·her·ence \in-'hir-ən(t)s, -'her-\ *n* : the quality, state, or fact of inhering

in·her·ent \-ənt\ *adj* [L *inhaerent-, inhaerens*, prp. of *inhaerēre*] : involved in the constitution or essential character of something : belonging by nature or settled habit : INTRINSIC — **in·her·ent·ly** *adv*

in·her·it \in-'her-ət\ *vb* [ME *enheriten* to make heir, inherit, fr. MF *enheriter* to make heir, fr. LL *inhereditare*, fr. L *in-* + *hereditas* inheritance — more at HEREDITY] *vt* **1** : to come into possession of or receive esp. as a right or divine portion ⟨and every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters . . . for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and ~ eternal life —Mt 19:29 (RSV)⟩ **2 a** : to receive as a right or title descendible by law from an ancestor at his death **b** : to receive as a devise or legacy **3** : to receive from ancestors by genetic transmission ⟨~ a strong constitution⟩ **4** : to have in turn or receive as if from an ancestor ⟨~*ed* the problem from his predecessor⟩ ~ *vi* : to take or hold a possession or rights by inheritance — **in·her·i·tor** \-ət-ər\ *n* — **in·her·i·tress** \-ə-trəs\ *or* **in·her·i·trix** \-ə-(,)triks\ *n*

in·her·it·able \in-'her-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being inherited : TRANSMISSIBLE **2** : capable of taking by inheritance — **in·her·it·abil·i·ty** \-,her-ət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·her·it·able·ness** \-'her-ət-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n*

in·her·i·tance \in-'her-ət-ən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the act of inheriting property **b** : the reception of genetic qualities by transmission from parent to offspring **c** : the acquisition of a possession, condition, or trait from past generations **2** : something that is or may be inherited **3 a** : TRADITION **b** : a valuable possession that is a common heritage from nature **4** *obs* : POSSESSION ***syn*** see HERITAGE

inheritance tax *n* **1** : an excise in the form of a percentage of the value of the property received that is levied on the privilege of an

heir to receive property as an inheritance **2** : DEATH TAX; *esp* : ESTATE TAX

in·hib·it \in-'hib-ət\ *vb* [ME *inhibiten*, fr. L *inhibitus*, pp. of *inhibēre*, fr. *in-* + *habēre* to have — more at HABIT] *vt* **1** : to prohibit from doing something **2 a** : to hold in check : RESTRAIN **b** : to discourage from free or spontaneous activity esp. through the operation of inner psychological impediments or of social controls ~ *vi* : to cause inhibition ***syn*** see FORBID ***ant*** allow — **in·hib·i·tive** \-ət-iv\ *adj* — **in·hib·i·to·ry** \-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

in·hi·bi·tion \ˌin-(h)ə-'bish-ən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of inhibiting : the state of being inhibited **b** : something that forbids, debars, or restricts **2** : an inner impediment to free activity, expression, or functioning: as **a** : a psychical activity imposing restraint upon another activity **b** : a restraining of the function of a bodily organ or an agent (as an enzyme)

in·hib·i·tor *or* **in·hib·it·er** \in-'hib-ət-ər\ *n* : one that inhibits; *esp* : an agent that slows or interferes with a chemical action (as rusting)

in·hos·pi·ta·ble \ˌin-(ˌ)häs-'pit-ə-bəl, (')in-'häs-(ˌ)pit-\ *adj* **1** : not showing hospitality : not friendly or receptive **2** : providing no shelter or sustenance : BARREN — **in·hos·pi·ta·ble·ness** *n* — **in·hos·pi·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·hos·pi·tal·i·ty \(ˌ)in-ˌhäs-pə-'tal-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being inhospitable

in–house \ˌin-ˌhaùs, 'in-'\ *adj* : of, relating to, or carried on within a group or organization ⟨can be an outside or an ~ job —*Book Production Industry*⟩ — **in–house** *adv*

in·hu·man \(')in-'hyü-mən, -'yü-\ *adj* [MF & L; MF *inhumain*, fr. L *inhumanus*, fr. *in-* + *humanus* human] **1 a** : lacking pity, kindness, or mercy : SAVAGE ⟨an ~ tyrant⟩ **b** : COLD, IMPERSONAL ⟨his usual quiet, almost ~ courtesy —F. Tennyson Jesse⟩ **c** : not worthy of or conforming to the needs of human beings ⟨~ living conditions⟩ **2** : of or suggesting a nonhuman class of beings — **in·hu·man·ly** *adv* — **in·hu·man·ness** \-mən-nəs\ *n*

in·hu·mane \ˌin-(ˌ)hyü-'mān, -(ˌ)yü-\ *adj* [MF *inhumain* & L *inhumanus*] : not humane : INHUMAN 1 — **in·hu·mane·ly** *adv*

in·hu·man·i·ty \-'man-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ities** **1 a** : the quality or state of being cruel or barbarous **b** : a cruel or barbarous act **2** : absence of warmth or geniality : IMPERSONALITY

in·hume \in-'hyüm\ *vt* **in·humed; in·hum·ing** [prob. fr. F *inhumer*, fr. L *inhumare*, fr. *in-* + *humus* earth — more at HUMBLE] : BURY, INTER — **in·hu·ma·tion** \ˌin-hyü-'mā-shən\ *n*

in·im·i·cal \in-'im-i-kəl\ *adj* [LL *inimicalis*, fr. L *inimicus* enemy — more at ENEMY] **1 a** : having the disposition of an enemy : HOSTILE **b** : reflecting or indicating hostility : UNFRIENDLY **2** : being adverse usu. by reason of hostility or malevolence ***syn*** see ADVERSE — **in·im·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

in·im·i·ta·ble \(')in-'im-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *inimitabilis*, fr. *in-* + *imitabilis* imitable] : not capable of being imitated : MATCHLESS — **in·im·i·ta·ble·ness** *n* — **in·im·i·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·iq·ui·tous \in-'ik-wət-əs\ *adj* : characterized by iniquity ***syn*** see VICIOUS ***ant*** righteous — **in·iq·ui·tous·ly** *adv* — **in·iq·ui·tous·ness** *n*

in·iq·ui·ty \-wət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *iniquite*, fr. MF *iniquité*, fr. L *iniquitat-, iniquitas*, fr. *iniquus* uneven, fr. *in-* + *aequus* equal] **1** : gross injustice : WICKEDNESS **2** : an iniquitous act or thing : SIN

1ini·tial \in-'ish-əl\ *adj* [MF & L; MF, fr. L *initialis*, fr. *initium* beginning, fr. *initus*, pp. of *inire* to go into, fr. *in-* + *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] **1** : of or relating to the beginning : INCIPIENT **2** : placed at the beginning : FIRST — **ini·tial·ly** \-'ish-(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ini·tial·ness** \-'ish-əl-nəs\ *n*

2initial *n* **1 a** : the first letter of a name **b** *pl* : the first letter of each word in a full name ⟨found that their ~*s* were identical⟩ **2** : a large letter beginning a text or a division or paragraph **3** : ANLAGE, PRECURSOR; *specif* : a meristematic cell

3initial *vt* **ini·tialed** *or* **ini·tialled; ini·tial·ing** *or* **ini·tial·ling** \-'ish-(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to affix an initial to **2** : to authenticate or give preliminary approval to by affixing the initials of an authorizing representative

ini·tial·ism \in-'ish-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : an acronym formed from initial letters

ini·tial·ize \-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to set (as a computer program counter) to a starting position or value — **ini·tial·iza·tion** \-in-ˌish-(ə-)lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

initial rhyme *n* **1** : ALLITERATION **2** : BEGINNING RHYME

initial side *n* : the stationary straight line that contains the point about which another straight line is revolved in forming a trigonometric figure

initial teaching alphabet *n* : a 44-symbol alphabet designed esp. for use in the initial stages of teaching children to read English

1ini·ti·ate \in-'ish-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *initiatus*, pp. of *initiare*, fr. L, to induct, fr. *initium*] **1** : to cause or facilitate the beginning of : set going ⟨~ a program of reform⟩ ⟨enzymes that ~ fermentation⟩ **2** : to instruct in the rudiments or principles of something : INTRODUCE **3** : to induct into membership by or as if by special rites ***syn*** see BEGIN ***ant*** consummate — **ini·ti·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

2ini·tiate \in-'ish-(ē-)ət\ *adj* **1 a** : initiated or properly admitted (as to membership or an office) **b** : instructed in some secret knowledge **2** *obs* : relating to an initiate

3ini·tiate \in-'ish-(ē-)ət\ *n* **1** : a person who is undergoing or has undergone an initiation **2** : a person who is instructed or adept in some special field

ini·ti·a·tion \in-ˌish-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or an instance of initiating **b** : the process of being initiated **c** : the rites, ceremonies, ordeals, or instructions with which one is made a member of a sect or society or is invested with a particular function or status **2** : the condition of being initiated into some experience or sphere of activity : KNOWLEDGEABLENESS ⟨clear to a reader of any degree of ~ —J. W. Beach⟩

1ini·tia·tive \in-'ish-ət-iv\ *adj* : of or relating to initiation : INTRODUCTORY, PRELIMINARY

2initiative *n* **1** : an introductory step ⟨he took the ~ in attempting to settle the issue⟩ **2** : energy or aptitude displayed in initiation of action : ENTERPRISE ⟨a man of great ~⟩ **3 a** : the right to initiate legislative action **b** : a procedure enabling a specified number of voters by petition to propose a law and secure its submission to the electorate or to the legislature for approval — compare REFERENDUM — **on one's own initiative** : at one's own discretion : independently of outside influence or control

ini·tia·to·ry \in-'ish-(ē-)ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : constituting a beginning **2** : tending or serving to initiate

in·ject \in-'jekt\ *vt* [L *injectus*, pp. of *inicere*, fr. *in-* + *jacere* to throw — more at JET] **1 a** : to throw, drive, or force into something ⟨~ fuel into an engine⟩ **b** : to force a fluid into (as for medical purposes) **2** : to introduce as an element or factor in or into some situation or subject ⟨condemning any attempt to ~ religious bigotry into the campaign —*Current Biog.*⟩ — **in·ject·able** \-'jek-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **in·jec·tor** \-'jek-tər\ *n*

in·jec·tant \-'jek-tənt\ *n* : a substance that is injected into something

in·jec·tion \in-'jek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of injecting ⟨the ~ of academic values into that aspect of our national life is a highly desirable . . . development —Goodwin Watson⟩ **b** : the placing of an artificial satellite or a spacecraft into an orbit or on a trajectory; *also* : the time or place at which injection occurs **2** : something (as a medication) that is injected

in·jec·tor razor \in-ˌjek-tər-\ *n* : a safety razor with a narrow single-edged blade that is forced into place by a blade dispenser

in·ju·di·cious \ˌin-jü-'dish-əs\ *adj* : not judicious : INDISCREET, UNWISE — **in·ju·di·cious·ly** *adv* — **in·ju·di·cious·ness** *n*

in·junc·tion \in-'jəŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [MF & LL; MF *injonction*, fr. LL *injunction-, injunctio*, fr. L *injunctus*, pp. of *injungere* to enjoin — more at ENJOIN] **1** : the act or an instance of enjoining : ORDER, ADMONITION **2** : a writ granted by a court of equity whereby one is required to do or to refrain from doing a specified act — **in·junc·tive** \-'jəŋ(k)-tiv\ *adj*

in·jure \'in-jər\ *vt* **in·jured; in·jur·ing** \'inj-(ə-)riŋ\ [back-formation fr. *injury*] **1 a** : to do an injustice to : WRONG **b** : to harm, impair, or tarnish the standing of **c** : to give pain to ⟨~ a man's pride⟩ **2 a** : to inflict bodily hurt on **b** : to impair the soundness of **c** : to inflict material damage or loss on — **in·jur·er** \'in-jər-ər\ *n*

syn INJURE, HARM, HURT, DAMAGE, IMPAIR, MAR *shared meaning element* : to affect injuriously ***ant*** aid

in·ju·ri·ous \in-'jůr-ē-əs\ *adj* **1** : inflicting or tending to inflict injury : DETRIMENTAL ⟨~ to health⟩ **2** : ABUSIVE, DEFAMATORY ⟨speak not ~ words —George Washington⟩ — **in·ju·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·ju·ri·ous·ness** *n*

in·ju·ry \'inj-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *injurie*, fr. L *injuria*, fr. *injurus* injurious, fr. *in-* + *jur-, jus* right — more at JUST] **1 a** : an act that damages or hurts : WRONG **b** : violation of another's rights for which the law allows an action to recover damages **2** : hurt, damage, or loss sustained ***syn*** see INJUSTICE

in·jus·tice \(')in-'jəs-təs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *injustitia*, fr. *injustus* unjust, fr. *in-* + *justus* just] **1** : absence of justice : violation of right or of the rights of another : UNFAIRNESS **2** : an unjust act

syn INJUSTICE, INJURY, WRONG, GRIEVANCE *shared meaning element* : an act that inflicts undeserved hurt

1ink \'iŋk\ *n, often attrib* [ME *enke*, fr. OF, fr. LL *encaustum*, fr. neut. of L *encaustus* burned in, fr. Gk *enkaustos*, verbal of *enkaiein* to burn in — more at ENCAUSTIC] **1** : a colored usu. liquid material for writing and printing **2** : the black protective secretion of a cephalopod — **ink·i·ness** \'iŋ-kē-nəs\ *n* — **inky** \'iŋ-kē\ *adj*

2ink *vt* : to put ink on ⟨~ a pen⟩; *also* : to write on, draw, or sign in ink ⟨~*ed* a new contract⟩

ink·ber·ry \'iŋk-ˌber-ē\ *n* [fr. the use of the berries for making ink] **1 a** : a holly (*Ilex glabra*) of eastern No. America with evergreen oblong leathery leaves and small black berries **b** : POKEWEED **2** : the fruit of an inkberry

ink·blot test \ˌiŋk-ˌblät-\ *n* : any of several psychological tests based on the interpretation of irregular figures (as blots of ink)

1ink·horn \'iŋk-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* : a small portable bottle (as of horn) for holding ink

2inkhorn *adj* : ostentatiously learned : PEDANTIC ⟨~ terms⟩

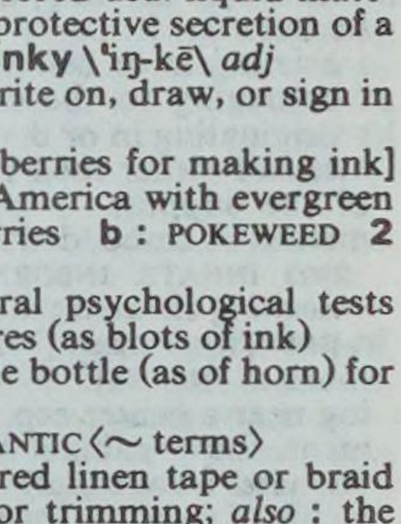
in·kle \'iŋ-kəl\ *n* [origin unknown] : a colored linen tape or braid woven on a very narrow loom and used for trimming; *also* : the thread used

in·kling \'iŋ-kliŋ\ *n* [ME *yngkiling*, prob. fr. *inclen* to hint at; akin to OE *inca* suspicion, Lith *ingis* sluggard] **1** : a slight indication or suggestion : HINT, CLUE ⟨there was no path — no ~ even of a track —*New Yorker*⟩ **2** : a slight knowledge or vague notion ⟨had not the faintest ~ of what it was all about —H. W. Carter⟩

ink·stand \'iŋk-ˌstand\ *n* : INKWELL; *also* : a stand with fittings for holding ink and pens

ink·well \'iŋ-ˌkwel\ *n* : a container (as in a school desk) for ink

inky cap *n* : a mushroom (genus *Coprinus*, esp. *C. atramentarius*) whose pileus melts into an inky fluid after the spores have matured

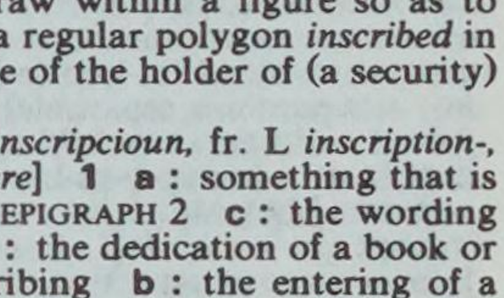


inky cap

in·laid \'in-'lād\ *adj* **1 a** : set into a surface in a decorative design ⟨tables with ~ marble⟩ **b** : decorated with a design or material set into a surface ⟨a table with an ~ top⟩ **2** *of linoleum* : having a design that goes all the way through to the backing

[1]in·land \'in-ˌland, -lənd\ *n* : the interior part of a country
[2]inland *adj* **1** *chiefly Brit* : not foreign : DOMESTIC **2** : of or relating to the interior of a country
[3]inland *adv* : into or toward the interior
in·land·er \'in-ˌlan-dər, -lən-\ *n* : one who lives inland
in–law \'in-ˌlȯ\ *n* [back-formation fr. *mother-in-law*, etc.] : a relative by marriage
[1]in·lay \(')in-'lā, 'in-ˌ\ *vt* **in·laid** \-'lād\; **in·lay·ing** **1 a** : to set into a surface or ground material **b** : to adorn with insertions **c** : to insert (as a color plate) into a mat or other reinforcement **d** : to reinforce (silver-plated ware) at points of wear with additional silver **2** : to rub, beat, or fuse (as wire) into an incision in metal, wood, or stone — **in·lay·er** *n*
[2]in·lay \'in-ˌlā\ *n* **1** : inlaid work or a decorative inlaid pattern **2** : a tooth filling shaped to fit a cavity and then cemented into place
in·let \'in-ˌlet, -lət\ *n* [fr. its letting water in] **1 a** : a bay or recess in the shore of a sea, lake, or river; *also* : CREEK **b** : a narrow water passage between peninsulas or through a barrier island leading to a bay or lagoon **2** : a way of entering; *esp* : an opening for intake ⟨a fuel ~⟩
in·li·er \'in-ˌlī(-ə)r\ *n* [[3]*in* + *-lier* (as in *outlier*)] **1** : a mass of rock whose outcrop is surrounded by rock of younger age **2** : a distinct area or formation completely surrounded by another; *also* : ENCLAVE
in–line engine \(ˌ)in-ˌlīn-\ *n* : an internal-combustion engine in which the cylinders are arranged in one or more straight lines
[1]in loco pa·ren·tis \in-ˌlō-kō-pə-'rent-əs\ *adv* [L] : in the place of a parent
[2]in loco parentis *n* : regulation or supervision by an administrative body (as at a university) acting in loco parentis ⟨the concept of *in loco parentis* is a dead issue as far as these faculty members are concerned —*Change*⟩
in·ly \'in-lē\ *adv* **1** : INWARDLY **2** : in a manner suggesting great depth of knowledge or understanding : THOROUGHLY
in·mate \'in-ˌmāt\ *n* : one of a group occupying a single place of residence; *esp* : a person confined (as in a prison or hospital)
in me·di·as res \in-ˌmed-ē-əs-'rās, -ˌmēd-ē-əs-'rēz\ *adv* [L, lit., into the midst of things] : in or into the middle of a narrative or plot ⟨the script . . . hops from one thing to another, starting *in medias res* —H. C. Schonberg⟩
in me·mo·ri·am \ˌin-mə-'mōr-ē-əm, -'mȯr-\ *prep* [L] : in memory of — used esp. in epitaphs
in–mi·grant \'in-ˌmī-grənt\ *n* : one that in-migrates
in–migrate \'in-ˌmī-ˌgrāt\ *vi* : to move into or come to live in a region or community esp. as part of a large-scale and continuing movement of population — compare OUT-MIGRATE — **in–mi·gration** \-ˌgrā-shən\ *n*
in·most \'in-ˌmōst\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *innemest*, superl. of *inne*, adv., in, within, fr. *in*, adv.] : deepest within : farthest from the outside
[1]inn \'in\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to ON *inni* dwelling, inn, OE *in*, adv.] **1 a** : a public house for the lodging and entertaining of travelers **b** : TAVERN **2** : a residence formerly provided for British students in London and esp. for students of law
[2]inn *vi* : to put up at an inn
in·nards \'in-ərdz\ *n pl* [alter. of *inwards*] **1** : the internal organs of a man or animal; *esp* : VISCERA **2** : the internal parts of a structure or mechanism
in·nate \in-'āt, 'in-ˌ\ *adj* [ME *innat*, fr. L *innatus*, pp. of *innasci* to be born in, fr. *in-* + *nasci* to be born — more at NATION] **1 a** : existing in or belonging to an individual from birth : NATIVE **b** : belonging to the essential nature of something : INHERENT **c** : originating in or derived from the mind or the constitution of the intellect rather than from experience **2 a** : attached to the apex of the support — compare ADNATE **b** : ENDOGENOUS **c** : immersed or embedded in — **in·nate·ly** *adv* — **in·nate·ness** *n*
syn INNATE, INBORN, INBRED, CONGENITAL, HEREDITARY *shared meaning element* : not acquired after birth
in·ner \'in-ər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *innera*, compar. of *inne* within — more at INMOST] **1 a** : situated farther in ⟨the ~ bark⟩ **b** : being near a center esp. of influence ⟨the life and soul of the government, the ~ cabinet of deputy prime ministers, has disappeared — Richard Lowenthal⟩ **2** : of or relating to the mind or spirit ⟨the ~ life of man⟩ — **inner** *n* — **in·ner·ly** *adv*
inner city *n* : the usu. older and more densely populated central section of a city — **inner–city** *adj*
in·ner–di·rect·ed \ˌin-ər-də-'rek-təd, -(ˌ)dī-\ *adj* : directed in thought and action by one's own scale of values as opposed to external norms
inner ear *n* : the essential organ of hearing and equilibrium located in the temporal bone and innervated by the auditory nerve
inner light *n, often cap I & L* : a divine presence held (as in Quaker doctrine) to enlighten and guide the soul
[1]in·ner·most \'in-ər-ˌmōst\ *adj* : farthest inward : INMOST
[2]innermost *n* : the inmost part
inner planet *n* : any of the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars that as a group have orbits nearer the sun than the outer planets
inner product *n* : SCALAR PRODUCT
in·ner·sole \ˌin-ər-'sōl\ *n* : INSOLE
inner space *n* : space at or near the earth's surface and esp. under the sea
in·ner·spring \ˌin-ər-ˌspriŋ\ *adj* : having coil springs inside a padded casing ⟨~ mattress⟩
inner tube *n* : TUBE 3
in·ner·vate \in-'ər-ˌvāt, 'in-(ˌ)ər-\ *vt* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** : to supply with nerves — **in·ner·va·tion** \ˌin-(ˌ)ər-'vā-shən, in-ˌər-\ *n* — **in·ner·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
in·nerve \in-'ərv\ *vt* : to give nervous energy or power to
inn·hold·er \'in-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : INNKEEPER
in·ning \'in-iŋ\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. E dial. *in* to reclaim; in other senses, fr. [2]*in*] **1** : the reclaiming of land esp. from the sea **2 a** : a division of a baseball game consisting of a turn at bat for each team; *also* : a baseball team's turn at bat ending with the third out **b** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : a division of a cricket match **c** : a player's turn (as in horseshoes, pool, or croquet) **3** : a chance or opportunity for action or accomplishment — usu. used in pl. but sing. or pl. in constr. ⟨on the verge of that momentous ~*s* which was to project him into world politics —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩
inn·keep·er \'in-ˌkē-pər\ *n* : the landlord of an inn
in·no·cence \'in-ə-sən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : freedom from guilt or sin through being unacquainted with evil : BLAMELESSNESS **b** : CHASTITY **c** : freedom from legal guilt of a particular crime or offense **d** (1) : freedom from guile or cunning : SIMPLICITY (2) : lack of worldly experience or sophistication **e** : lack of knowledge : IGNORANCE ⟨written in entire ~ of the Italian language —E. R. Bentley⟩ **2** : one that is innocent **3 a** : BLUET **b** (1) : a small herb (*Collinsia verna* of the figwort family) of the central U.S. (2) : a related California herb (*C. bicolor*)
in·no·cen·cy \-sən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : INNOCENCE; *also* : an innocent action or quality
in·no·cent \'in-ə-sənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *innocent-, innocens*, fr. *in-* + *nocent-, nocens* wicked, fr. prp. of *nocēre* to harm — more at NOXIOUS] **1 a** : free from guilt or sin esp. through lack of knowledge of evil : BLAMELESS ⟨an ~ child⟩ **b** : harmless in effect or intention ⟨searching for a hidden motive in even the most ~ conversation —Leonard Wibberley⟩; *also* : CANDID ⟨gave me an ~ gaze⟩ **c** : free from legal guilt or fault; *also* : LAWFUL ⟨a wholly ~ transaction⟩ **2** : lacking or deprived of something ⟨her face ~ of cosmetics —Marcia Davenport⟩ **3 a** : lacking or reflecting a lack of sophistication, guile, or self-consciousness : ARTLESS, INGENUOUS **b** : IGNORANT ⟨almost entirely ~ of Latin —C. L. Wrenn⟩; *also* : UNAWARE ⟨perfectly ~ of the confusion he had created —B. R. Haydon⟩ — **innocent** *n* — **in·no·cent·ly** *adv*
in·noc·u·ous \in-'äk-yə-wəs\ *adj* [L *innocuus*, fr. *in-* + *nocēre*] **1** : producing no injury : HARMLESS **2** : not likely to give offense or to arouse strong feelings or hostility : INOFFENSIVE, INSIPID — **in·noc·u·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·noc·u·ous·ness** *n*
Inn of Court **1** : one of four sets of buildings in London belonging to four societies of students and practitioners of the law **2** : one of four societies that alone admit to practice at the English bar
in·nom·i·nate \in-'äm-ə-nət\ *adj* [LL *innominatus*, fr. L *in-* + *nominatus*, pp. of *nominare* to nominate] : having no name : UNNAMED; *also* : ANONYMOUS
innominate artery *n* : a short artery that arises from the arch of the aorta and divides into the carotid and subclavian arteries of the right side
innominate bone *n* : the large flaring bone that makes a lateral half of the pelvis in mammals and is composed of the ilium, ischium, and pubis which are consolidated into one bone in the adult
innominate vein *n* : either of a pair of veins that receive blood from the head and neck and fuse to form the superior vena cava
in·no·vate \'in-ə-ˌvāt\ *vb* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** [L *innovatus*, pp. of *innovare*, fr. *in-* + *novus* new — more at NEW] *vt* **1** : to introduce as or as if new **2** *archaic* : to effect a change in ⟨the dictates of my father were . . . not to be altered, *innovated*, or even discussed —Sir Walter Scott⟩ ~ *vi* : to make changes — **in·no·va·tor** \-ˌvāt-ər\ *n* — **in·no·va·to·ry** \'in-ə-və-ˌtōr-ē, in-'ō-və-, -ˌtȯr-; 'in-ə-ˌvāt-ə-rē\ *adj*
in·no·va·tion \ˌin-ə-'vā-shən\ *n* **1** : the introduction of something new **2** : a new idea, method, or device : NOVELTY — **in·no·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
in·no·va·tive \'in-ə-ˌvāt-iv\ *adj* : characterized by, tending to, or introducing innovations — **in·no·va·tive·ness** *n*
[1]in·nu·en·do \ˌin-yə-'wen-(ˌ)dō\ *n, pl* **-dos** *or* **-does** [L, by hinting, fr. *innuere* to hint, fr. *in-* + *nuere* to nod — more at NUMEN] **1** : an oblique allusion : HINT, INSINUATION; *esp* : a veiled or equivocal reflection on character or reputation **2** : a parenthetical explanation introduced into the text of a legal document
[2]innuendo *vi* : to make an innuendo ~ *vt* : to insinuate by an innuendo
in·nu·mer·a·ble \in-'(y)üm(-ə)-rə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *innumerabilis*, fr. *in-* + *numerabilis* numerable] : too many to be numbered : COUNTLESS — **in·nu·mer·a·ble·ness** *n* — **in·nu·mer·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·nu·mer·ous \-rəs\ *adj* [L *innumerus*, fr. *in-* + *numerus* number — more at NIMBLE] : INNUMERABLE
in·nu·tri·tion \ˌin-(n)(y)ü-'trish-ən\ *n* : failure of nourishment
in·ob·ser·vance \ˌin-əb-'zər-vən(t)s\ *n* [F & L; F, fr. L *inobservantia*, fr. *in-* + *observantia* observance] **1** : lack of attention : HEEDLESSNESS **2** : failure to fulfill : NONOBSERVANCE — **in·ob·ser·vant** \-vənt\ *adj*
in·oc·u·lant \in-'äk-yə-lənt\ *n* : INOCULUM
in·oc·u·late \in-'äk-yə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [ME *inoculaten* to insert a bud in a plant, fr. L *inoculatus*, pp. of *inoculare*, fr. *in-* + *oculus* eye, bud — more at EYE] **1 a** : to introduce a microorganism into ⟨~ mice with anthrax⟩ ⟨beans *inoculated* with nitrogen-fixing bacteria⟩ **b** : to introduce (as a microorganism) into a suitable situation for growth **c** : to introduce immunologically active material (as an antibody or antigen) into esp. in order to treat or prevent a disease ⟨~ children against diphtheria⟩ **2** : to introduce something into the mind of ***syn*** see INFUSE — **in·oc·u·la·tive** \-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **in·oc·u·la·tiv·i·ty** \-ˌäk-yə-lə-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·oc·u·la·tor** \-'äk-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
in·oc·u·la·tion \in-ˌäk-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process or an instance of inoculating; *esp* : the introduction of a pathogen or antigen into a living organism to stimulate the production of antibodies **2** : INOCULUM
in·oc·u·lum \in-'äk-yə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L *inoculare*] : material used for inoculation
in·of·fen·sive \ˌin-ə-'fen(t)-siv\ *adj* **1** : causing no harm or injury **2 a** : giving no provocation : PEACEABLE **b** : not objectionable to the senses — **in·of·fen·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·of·fen·sive·ness** *n*
in·op·er·a·ble \(')in-'äp-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *inopérable*] **1** : not suitable for surgery **2** : INOPERATIVE
in·op·er·a·tive \-'äp-(ə-)rət-iv, -'äp-ə-ˌrāt-\ *adj* : not functioning : not operable — **in·op·er·a·tive·ness** *n*

in·oper·cu·late \ˌin-ō-ˈpər-kyə-lət\ *adj* : having no operculum — **inoperculate** *n*
in·op·por·tune \(ˌ)in-ˌäp-ər-ˈt(y)ün\ *adj* [L *inopportunus*, fr. *in-* + *opportunus* opportune] : INCONVENIENT, UNSEASONABLE — **in·op·por·tune·ly** *adv* — **in·op·por·tune·ness** \-ˈt(y)ün-nəs\ *n*
in order that *conj* : THAT 2a(1)
in·or·di·nate \in-ˈȯrd-ᵊn-ət, -ˈȯrd-nət\ *adj* [ME *inordinat*, fr. L *inordinatus*, fr. *in-* + *ordinatus*, pp. of *ordinare* to arrange — more at ORDAIN] **1** : DISORDERLY, UNREGULATED **2** : exceeding reasonable limits : IMMODERATE ***syn*** see EXCESSIVE ***ant*** temperate — **in·or·di·nate·ly** *adv* — **in·or·di·nate·ness** *n*
inorg *abbr* inorganic
in·or·gan·ic \ˌin-ˌȯr-ˈgan-ik\ *adj* **1 a** (1) : being or composed of matter other than plant or animal : MINERAL (2) : forming or belonging to the inanimate world **b** : of, relating to, or dealt with by a branch of chemistry concerned with substances not usu. classed as organic **2** : not arising from natural growth : ARTIFICIAL; *also* : lacking structure, character, or vitality ⟨dull ~ things, without individuality or prestige —John Buchan⟩ — **in·or·gan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
in·os·cu·late \in-ˈäs-kyə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** : to unite by apposition or contact : BLEND — **in·os·cu·la·tion** \(ˌ)in-ˌäs-kyə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*
ino·si·tol \in-ˈō-sə-ˌtȯl, ī-ˈnō-, -ˌtōl\ *n* [ISV, fr. *inosite* inositol, fr. Gk *inos*, gen. of *is* sinew — more at WITHY] : any of several crystalline stereoisomeric cyclic alcohols $C_6H_{12}O_6$; *esp* : MYOINOSITOL
ino·tro·pic \ˌē-nə-ˈtrō-pik, ˌī-nə-, -ˈträp-ik\ *adj* [ISV *ino-* (fr. Gk *in-*, *is* sinew) + *-tropic*] : influencing muscular contractility
INP *abbr* International News Photo
in·pa·tient \ˈin-ˌpā-shənt\ *n* : a hospital patient who receives lodging and food as well as treatment — compare OUTPATIENT
in–per·son \ˌin-ˌpərs-ᵊn\ *adj* : of or relating to the actual presence of the subject : LIVE ⟨an ~ performance⟩
in per·so·nam \ˌin-pər-ˈsō-ˌnam, -ˌnäm\ *adv or adj* [LL, against a person] : against a person for the purpose of imposing a liability or obligation — used esp. of legal actions or judgments; compare IN REM
in pet·to \in-ˈpet-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [It, lit., in the breast] **1** : in private : SECRETLY **2** : in miniature
in·phase \(ˌ)in-ˌfāz\ *adj* [fr. the phrase *in phase*] : being of the same electrical phase
in·pour \(ˌ)in-ˈpō(ə)r, -ˈpȯ(ə)r\ *vi* : to pour in ⟨goods and money *~ed* . . . and cheered the population —J. J. Mallon⟩
in–print \(ˌ)in-ˌprint\ *adj* : being in print
in–pro·cess \(ˌ)in-ˌpräs-ˌes, -ˌprōs-, -əs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being goods in manufacture as distinguished from raw materials or from finished products
in pro·pria per·so·na \in-ˌprō-prē-ə-pər-ˈsō-nə\ *adv* [ML] : in one's own person or character : PERSONALLY; *specif* : without the assistance of an attorney
[1]in·put \ˈin-ˌpůt\ *n* **1** : something that is put in: as **a** : an amount put in ⟨increased ~ of fertilizer increases crop yield⟩ **b** : power or energy put into a machine or system for storage, conversion in kind, or conversion of characteristics usu. with the intent of sizable recovery in the form of output **c** : a component of production (as land, labor, or raw materials) **d** : information fed into a data processing system or computer **2** : the means by which or the point at which an input (as of energy, material, or data) is made **3** : the act or process of putting in
[2]input *vt* **in·put·ted** *or* **input; in·put·ting** : to enter (as data) into a computer or data processing system
inq *abbr* inquire
in·quest \ˈin-ˌkwest\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *enqueste*, fr. (assumed) VL *inquaestus*, pp. of *inquaerere* to inquire] **1 a** : a judicial or official inquiry or examination esp. before a jury ⟨a coroner's ~⟩ **b** : a body of men (as a jury) assembled to hold such an inquiry **c** : the finding of the jury upon such inquiry or the document recording it **2** : INQUIRY, INVESTIGATION
in·qui·etude \(ˈ)in-ˈkwī-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *inquietudo*, fr. L *inquietus* disturbed, fr. *in-* + *quietus* quiet] : disturbed state : DISQUIETUDE
in·qui·line \ˈin-kwə-ˌlīn, ˈiŋ-, -lən\ *n* [L *inquilinus* tenant, lodger, fr. *in-* + *colere* to cultivate, dwell — more at WHEEL] : an animal that lives habitually in the nest or abode of some other species — **inquiline** *adj* — **in·qui·lin·ism** \-lə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **in·qui·lin·i·ty** \ˌin-kwə-ˈlin-ət-ē, ˌiŋ-\ *n* — **in·qui·li·nous** \-ˈlī-nəs\ *adj*
in·quire \in-ˈkwī(ə)r\ *vb* **in·quired; in·quir·ing** [ME *enquiren*, fr. OF *enquerre*, fr. (assumed) VL *inquaerere*, alter. of L *inquirere*, fr. *in-* + *quaerere* to seek] *vt* **1** : to ask about ⟨some kindred spirit shall ~ thy fate —Thomas Gray⟩ **2** : to search into esp. by asking questions : INVESTIGATE ~ *vi* **1** : to put a question : seek for information by questioning ⟨*inquired* about the horses —*Amer. Guide Series: La.*⟩ **2** : to make investigation or inquiry — often used with *into* ⟨a government cannot ~ into religious conviction — W. R. Inge⟩ ***syn*** see ASK — **in·quir·er** *n* — **in·quir·ing·ly** \-ˈkwī-riŋ-lē\ *adv* — **inquire after** : to ask about the health of
in·qui·ry \ˈin-ˌkwī(ə)r-ē, in-ˈ; ˈin-kwə-rē, ˈiŋ-\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : a request for information **2** : a systematic investigation often of a matter of public interest
in·qui·si·tion \ˌin-kwə-ˈzish-ən, ˌiŋ-\ *n* [ME *inquisicioun*, fr. MF *inquisition*, fr. L *inquisition-*, *inquisitio*, fr. *inquisitus*, pp. of *inquirere*] **1** : the act of inquiring : EXAMINATION **2** : a judicial or official inquiry or examination usu. before a jury; *also* : the finding of the jury **3 a** *cap* : a former Roman Catholic tribunal for the discovery and punishment of heresy **b** : an investigation conducted with little regard for individual rights **c** : a severe questioning — **in·qui·si·tion·al** \-ˈzish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*
in·quis·i·tive \in-ˈkwiz-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : given to examination or investigation **2** : inclined to ask questions; *esp* : inordinately or improperly curious about the affairs of others ***syn*** see CURIOUS ***ant*** incurious — **in·quis·i·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·quis·i·tive·ness** *n*
in·quis·i·tor \in-ˈkwiz-ət-ər\ *n* : one who inquires or makes inquisition; *esp* : one who is unduly harsh, severe, or hostile in making an inquiry — **in·quis·i·to·ri·al** \-ˌkwiz-ə-ˈtōr-ē-əl, -ˈtȯr-\ *adj* — **in·quis·i·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
in re \in-ˈrā, -ˈrē\ *prep* [L] : in the matter of : CONCERNING, RE — often used in the title or name of a law case
in rem \in-ˈrem\ *adv or adj* [LL] : against a thing (as a right, status, or property) — used esp. of legal actions or judgments; compare IN PERSONAM
in–res·i·dence *adj* : being officially associated with an organization in a specified capacity — usu. used in combination ⟨writer-*in-residence* at the university⟩
INRI *abbr* [L *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum*] Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews
in·road \ˈin-ˌrōd\ *n* **1** : a sudden hostile incursion : RAID **2** : an advance or penetration often at the expense of someone or something ⟨ready to defend himself and his property from the ~*s* of others —Audrey Butt⟩ ⟨power to make dramatic ~*s* against an injustice of long standing —M. S. Eisenhower⟩
in·rush \ˈin-ˌrəsh\ *n* : a crowding or flooding in : INFLUX
ins *abbr* **1** inches **2** insurance
in·sa·lu·bri·ous \ˌin(t)-sə-ˈlü-brē-əs\ *adj* [L *insalubris*, fr. *in-* + *salubris* healthful — more at SAFE] : not conducive to health : UNWHOLESOME ⟨an ~ climate⟩ — **in·sa·lu·bri·ty** \-brət-ē\ *n*
in·sane \(ˈ)in-ˈsān\ *adj* [L *insanus*, fr. *in-* + *sanus* sane] **1** : mentally disordered : exhibiting insanity **2** : used by, typical of, or intended for insane persons ⟨an ~ asylum⟩ **3** : ABSURD ⟨an ~ scheme for making money⟩ — **in·sane·ly** *adv* — **in·sane·ness** \-ˈsān-nəs\ *n*
in·san·i·tary \(ˈ)in-ˈsan-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* : unclean enough to endanger health : FILTHY, CONTAMINATED — **in·san·i·ta·tion** \in-ˌsan-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n*
in·san·i·ty \in-ˈsan-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : a deranged state of the mind usu. occurring as a specific disorder (as schizophrenia) and usu. excluding such states as mental deficiency, psychoneurosis, and various character disorders **b** : a mental disorder **2** : such unsoundness of mind or lack of understanding as prevents one from having the mental capacity required by law to enter into a particular relationship, status, or transaction or as removes one from criminal or civil responsibility **3 a** : extreme folly or unreasonableness **b** : something utterly foolish or unreasonable
in·sa·tia·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈsā-shə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *insaciable*, fr. MF, fr. L *insatiabilis*, fr. *in-* + *satiare* to satisfy — more at SATIATE] : incapable of being satisfied : QUENCHLESS ⟨had an ~ desire for wealth⟩ — **in·sa·tia·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌsā-shə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·sa·tia·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈsā-shə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·sa·tia·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·sa·tiate \(ˈ)in-ˈsā-sh(ē-)ət\ *adj* : INSATIABLE — **in·sa·tiate·ly** *adv* — **in·sa·tiate·ness** *n*
in·scribe \in-ˈskrīb\ *vt* [L *inscribere*, fr. *in-* + *scribere* to write — more at SCRIBE] **1 a** : to write, engrave, or print as a lasting record **b** : to enter on a list : ENROLL **c** : to write (characters) in a particular format in cryptography **2 a** : to write, engrave, or print characters upon **b** : to autograph or address as a gift **3** : to dedicate to someone **4** : to draw within a figure so as to touch in as many places as possible ⟨a regular polygon *inscribed* in a circle⟩ **5** *Brit* : to register the name of the holder of (a security) — **in·scrib·er** *n*
in·scrip·tion \in-ˈskrip-shən\ *n* [ME *inscripcioun*, fr. L *inscription-*, *inscriptio*, fr. *inscriptus*, pp. of *inscribere*] **1 a** : something that is inscribed; *also* : SUPERSCRIPTION **b** : EPIGRAPH 2 **c** : the wording on a coin, medal, or seal : LEGEND **2** : the dedication of a book or work of art **3 a** : the act of inscribing **b** : the entering of a name on or as if on a list : ENROLLMENT **4** *Brit* **a** : the act of inscribing securities **b** *pl* : inscribed securities — **in·scrip·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
in·scrip·tive \in-ˈskrip-tiv\ *adj* : relating to or constituting an inscription — **in·scrip·tive·ly** *adv*
in·scroll \in-ˈskrōl\ *vt* : to write on a scroll : RECORD
in·scru·ta·ble \in-ˈskrüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *inscrutabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *scrutari* to search — more at SCRUTINY] : not readily investigated or interpreted : hard to grasp ⟨God, thy judgments are ~ — Robert Browning⟩ ***syn*** see MYSTERIOUS — **in·scru·ta·bil·i·ty** \-ˌskrüt-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·scru·ta·ble·ness** \-ˈskrüt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·scru·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·sculp \in-ˈskəlp\ *vt* [ME *insculpen*, fr. L *insculpere*, fr. *in-* + *sculpere* to carve — more at SHELF] *archaic* : ENGRAVE, SCULPTURE
in·seam \ˈin-ˌsēm\ *n* : an inner seam of a garment or shoe
in·sect \ˈin-ˌsekt\ *n* [L *insectum*, fr. neut. of *insectus*, pp. of *insecare* to cut into, fr. *in-* + *secare* to cut — more at SAW] **1 a** : any of numerous small invertebrate animals (as spiders or centipedes) that are more or less obviously segmented **b** : any of a class (Insecta) of arthropods (as bugs or bees) with well-defined head, thorax, and abdomen, only three pairs of legs, and typically one or two pairs of wings **2** : any of various small animals (as earthworms or turtles) ⟨whatever creeps the ground, ~ or worm — John Milton⟩ **3** : a trivial or contemptible person — **insect** *adj* — **in·sec·tan** \in-ˈsek-tən\ *adj*



external parts of an insect 1b: *1* labial palpus, *2* maxillary palpus, *3* simple eye, *4* antenna, *5* compound eye, *6* prothorax, *7* tympanum, *8* wing, *9* ovipositor, *10* spiracles, *11* abdomen, *12* metathorax, *13* mesothorax

in·sec·ta·ry \ˈin-ˌsek-tə-rē, in-ˈ\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a place for the keeping or rearing of living insects

in·sec·ti·cid·al \(ˌ)in-ˌsek-tə-ˈsīd-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : destroying or controlling insects **2** : of or relating to an insecticide — **in·sec·ti·cid·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
in·sec·ti·cide \in-ˈsek-tə-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV] : an agent that destroys insects
in·sec·ti·fuge \-tə-ˌfyüj\ *n* : an insect repellent
in·sec·tile \in-ˈsek-tᵊl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* : resembling or being an insect; *also* : consisting of insects ⟨an ~ population⟩
in·sec·ti·vore \in-ˈsek-tə-ˌvō(ə)r, -ˌvȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of L *insectum* + *-vorus* -vorous] **1** : any of an order (Insectivora) of mammals comprising forms (as moles, shrews, and hedgehogs) that are mostly small, insectivorous, and nocturnal **2** : an insectivorous plant or animal
in·sec·tiv·o·rous \ˌin-ˌsek-ˈtiv-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : depending on insects as food — **in·sec·tiv·o·ry** \-ˈtiv-ə-rē\ *n*
in·se·cure \ˌin(t)-si-ˈkyu̇(ə)r\ *adj* [ML *insecurus*, fr. L *in-* + *securus* secure] **1** : not confident or sure : UNCERTAIN ⟨feeling somewhat ~ of his reception⟩ **2** : not adequately guarded or sustained : UNSAFE ⟨an ~ investment⟩ **3** : not firmly fastened or fixed : SHAKY ⟨the hinge is loose and ~⟩ **4 a** : not highly stable or well-adjusted ⟨an ~ marriage⟩ **b** : deficient in assurance : beset by fear and anxiety ⟨always felt ~ in a group of strangers⟩ — **in·se·cure·ly** *adv* — **in·se·cure·ness** *n* — **in·se·cu·ri·ty** \-ˈkyu̇r-ət-ē\ *n*
in·sem·i·nate \in-ˈsem-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *inseminatus*, pp. of *inseminare*, fr. *in-* + *semin-*, *semen* seed — more at SEMEN] **1** : SOW **2** : to introduce semen into the genital tract of (a female) — **in·sem·i·na·tion** \-ˌsem-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n*
in·sem·i·na·tor \-ˈsem-ə-ˌnāt-ər\ *n* : one that inseminates cattle artificially
in·sen·sate \(ˈ)in-ˈsen-ˌsāt, -sət\ *adj* [LL *insensatus*, fr. L *in-* + LL *sensatus* having sense, fr. L *sensus* sense] **1** : lacking animate awareness or sensation **2** : lacking sense or understanding; *also* : FOOLISH **3** : lacking humane feeling : BRUTAL — **in·sen·sate·ly** *adv* — **in·sen·sate·ness** *n*
in·sen·si·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈsen(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *insensibilis*, fr. *in-* + *sensibilis* sensible] **1** : incapable or bereft of feeling or sensation: as **a** : not endowed with life or spirit : INSENTIENT ⟨~ earth⟩ **b** : UNCONSCIOUS ⟨knocked ~ by a sudden blow⟩ **c** : lacking sensory perception ⟨~ to pain⟩; *also* : deprived of such perception or ability to react ⟨hands ~ from cold⟩ **2** : IMPERCEPTIBLE ⟨dampened by an ~ dew⟩; *broadly* : SLIGHT, GRADUAL ⟨~ motion⟩ **3** *archaic* : STUPID, SENSELESS **4 a** : lacking emotional response : APATHETIC, INDIFFERENT ⟨~ to fear⟩ **b** : UNAWARE ⟨~ of their danger⟩ **5** : not intelligible : MEANINGLESS **6** : lacking delicacy or refinement — **in·sen·si·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌsen(t)-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·sen·si·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈsen(t)-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·sen·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·sen·si·tive \(ˈ)in-ˈsen(t)-sət-iv, -ˈsen(t)-stiv\ *adj* **1 a** : not responsive or susceptible ⟨~ to the demands of the public⟩ **b** : lacking feeling or tact ⟨so ~ as to laugh at someone in pain⟩ **2** : not physically or chemically sensitive — **in·sen·si·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·sen·si·tive·ness** *n* — **in·sen·si·tiv·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌsen(t)-sə-ˈtiv-ət-ē\ *n*
in·sen·tient \(ˈ)in-ˈsen-ch(ē-)ənt\ *adj* : lacking perception, consciousness, or animation — **in·sen·tience** \-ch(ē-)ən(t)s\ *n*
in·sep·a·ra·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈsep-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *inseparabilis*, fr. *in-* + *separabilis* separable] : incapable of being separated or disjoined — **in·sep·a·ra·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌsep-(ə-)rə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **inseparable** *n* — **in·sep·a·ra·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈsep-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·sep·a·ra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
¹in·sert \in-ˈsərt\ *vb* [L *insertus*, pp. of *inserere*, fr. *in-* + *serere* to join — more at SERIES] *vt* **1** : to put or thrust in ⟨~ the key in the lock⟩ ⟨~ a spacecraft into orbit⟩ **2** : to put or introduce into the body of something : INTERPOLATE ⟨~ a change in a manuscript⟩ **3** : to set in and make fast; *esp* : to insert by sewing between two cut edges ~ *vi, of a muscle* : to be in attachment to the part to be moved ***syn*** see INTRODUCE ***ant*** abstract — **in·sert·er** *n*
²in·sert \ˈin-ˌsərt\ *n* : something that is inserted or is for insertion; *esp* : written or printed material inserted (as between the leaves of a book)
in·ser·tion \in-ˈsər-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of inserting **2** : something that is inserted: as **a** : the part of a muscle that inserts **b** : the mode or place of attachment of an organ or part **c** : embroidery or needlework inserted as ornament between two pieces of fabric **d** : a single appearance of an advertisement — **in·ser·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
in–ser·vice \(ˌ)in-ˌsər-vəs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being one that is fully employed ⟨~ teachers⟩ ⟨~ police officers⟩ **2** : going on or continuing while one is fully employed ⟨~ teacher education workshops⟩
in·ses·so·ri·al \ˌin-(ˌ)se-ˈsōr-ē-əl, -ˈsȯr-\ *adj* [L *insessus*, pp. of *insidēre* to sit on — more at INSIDIOUS] : perching or adapted for perching
¹in·set \ˈin-ˌset\ *n* **1 a** : a place where something flows in : CHANNEL **b** : a setting or flowing in **2** : something that is inset: as **a** : a small graphic representation (as a map or picture) set within the compass of a larger one **b** : a piece of cloth set into a garment for decoration **c** : a part or section of a utensil that fits into an outer part
²in·set \ˈin-ˌset, in-ˈ\ *vt* **inset** *or* **in·set·ted; in·set·ting** : to insert as an inset
¹in·shore \ˈin-ˈshō(ə)r, -ˈshȯ(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : situated or carried on near shore **2** : moving toward shore ⟨an ~ current⟩
²inshore *adv* : to or toward shore ⟨boats driven ~ by the storm⟩
¹in·side \(ˈ)in-ˈsīd, ˈin-ˌ\ *n* **1** : an inner side or surface **2 a** : an interior or internal part : the part within **b** : inward nature, thoughts, or feeling **c** : VISCERA, ENTRAILS — usu. used in pl. **3 a** : a position of power or confidence ⟨only someone on the ~ could have told⟩ **b** : confidential information ⟨has the ~ on what happened at the convention⟩ **4** : the area nearest a specified or implied point of reference: as **a** : the side of home plate nearest the batter **b** : the middle portion of a playing area **c** : the area near or underneath the basket in basketball
²inside *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being on or near the inside ⟨an ~ pitch⟩ **2** : relating or known to a select group ⟨an ~ joke⟩
³inside *prep* **1 a** : in or into the interior of **b** : on the inner side of **2** : WITHIN ⟨~ an hour⟩
⁴inside *adv* **1** : on the inner side **2** : in or into the interior **3** : to or on the inside
inside address *n* : ADDRESS 5c
inside of *prep* : INSIDE
inside out *adv* **1** : in such a manner that the inner surface becomes the outer ⟨turned the shirt *inside out*⟩ **2** : in a thorough manner ⟨knows his subject *inside out*⟩
in·sid·er \(ˈ)in-ˈsīd-ər\ *n* : a person recognized or accepted as a member of a group, category, or organization: as **a** : a person who is in a position of power or has access to confidential information **b** : one (as an officer or director or a holder of 10 percent or more of an equity security) who is in a position to have special knowledge of the affairs of or to influence the decisions of a company
inside track *n* **1** : the inner side of a curved racecourse **2** : an advantageous competitive position ⟨the owner's son has the *inside track* for the job⟩
in·sid·i·ous \in-ˈsid-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *insidiosus*, fr. *insidiae* ambush, fr. *insidēre* to sit in, sit on, fr. *in-* + *sedēre* to sit — more at SIT] **1 a** : awaiting a chance to entrap : TREACHEROUS **b** : harmful but enticing : SEDUCTIVE ⟨~ drugs that destroy the young⟩ **2 a** : having a gradual and cumulative effect : SUBTLE ⟨the ~ pressures of modern life⟩ **b** *of a disease* : developing so gradually as to be well established before becoming apparent — **in·sid·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·sid·i·ous·ness** *n*
in·sight \ˈin-ˌsīt\ *n* **1** : the power or act of seeing into a situation : PENETRATION **2** : the act or result of apprehending the inner nature of things or of seeing intuitively ***syn*** see DISCERNMENT
in·sight·ful \ˈin-ˌsīt-fəl, in-ˈ\ *adj* : exhibiting or characterized by insight — **in·sight·ful·ly** *adv*
in·sig·nia \in-ˈsig-nē-ə\ *or* **in·sig·ne** \-(ˌ)nē\ *n, pl* **-nia** *or* **-ni·as** [L *insignia*, pl. of *insigne* mark, badge, fr. neut. of *insignis* marked, distinguished, fr. *in-* + *signum* mark, sign] **1** : a badge of authority or honor : EMBLEM **2** : a distinguishing mark or sign
in·sig·nif·i·cance \ˌin(t)-sig-ˈnif-i-kən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being insignificant
in·sig·nif·i·can·cy \-kən-sē\ *n* **1** : INSIGNIFICANCE **2** : an insignificant thing or person
in·sig·nif·i·cant \-kənt\ *adj* : not significant: as **a** : lacking meaning or import : INCONSEQUENTIAL **b** : not worth considering : UNIMPORTANT **c** : lacking weight, position, or influence : CONTEMPTIBLE **d** : small in size, quantity, or number — **in·sig·nif·i·cant·ly** *adv*
in·sin·cere \ˌin(t)-sin-ˈsi(ə)r, -sən-\ *adj* [L *insincerus*, fr. *in-* + *sincerus* sincere] : not sincere : HYPOCRITICAL — **in·sin·cere·ly** *adv* — **in·sin·cer·i·ty** \-ˈser-ət-ē *also* -ˈsir-\ *n*
in·sin·u·ate \in-ˈsin-yə-ˌwāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *insinuatus*, pp. of *insinuare*, fr. *in-* + *sinuare* to bend, curve, fr. *sinus* curve] *vt* **1 a** : to introduce (as an idea) gradually or in a subtle, indirect, or covert way ⟨~ doubts into a trusting mind⟩ **b** : to impart or communicate with artful or oblique reference ⟨~ an evil one dares not charge openly⟩ **2** : to introduce (as oneself) by stealthy, smooth, or artful means ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to enter gently, slowly, or imperceptibly : CREEP **2** *archaic* : to ingratiate oneself ***syn*** see INTRODUCE, SUGGEST — **in·sin·u·a·tive** \-ˌwāt-iv\ *adj* — **in·sin·u·a·tor** \-ˌwāt-ər\ *n*
in·sin·u·at·ing *adj* **1** : tending gradually to cause doubt, distrust, or change of outlook ⟨~ remarks⟩ **2** : winning favor and confidence by imperceptible degrees : INGRATIATING — **in·sin·u·at·ing·ly** \-ˌwāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
in·sin·u·a·tion \(ˌ)in-ˌsin-yə-ˈwā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of insinuating **2** : something that is insinuated; *esp* : a sly, subtle, and usu. derogatory utterance
in·sip·id \in-ˈsip-əd\ *adj* [F & LL; F *insipide*, fr. LL *insipidus*, fr. L *in-* + *sapidus* savory, fr. *sapere* to taste — more at SAGE] **1** : lacking taste or savor : TASTELESS **2** : lacking in qualities that interest, stimulate, or challenge : DULL, FLAT — **in·si·pid·i·ty** \ˌin(t)-sə-ˈpid-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·sip·id·ly** \in-ˈsip-əd-lē\ *adv*
syn INSIPID, VAPID, FLAT, JEJUNE, BANAL, INANE *shared meaning element* : devoid of qualities that make for spirit and character ***ant*** sapid, zestful
in·sist \in-ˈsist\ *vb* [MF or L; MF *insister*, fr. L *insistere* to stand upon, persist, fr. *in-* + *sistere* to stand; akin to L *stare* to stand — more at STAND] *vi* **1** : to take a resolute stand or course ⟨they ~ upon going⟩ **2** *archaic* : PERSIST ~ *vt* : to maintain in a persistent or positive manner ⟨~*ed* that his story was true⟩
in·sis·tence \in-ˈsis-tən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of insisting **2** : the quality or state of being insistent : URGENCY
in·sis·ten·cy \-tən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : INSISTENCE
in·sis·tent \in-ˈsis-tənt\ *adj* [L *insistent-*, *insistens*, prp. of *insistere*] : disposed to insist : PERSISTENT — **in·sis·tent·ly** *adv*
in si·tu \(ˈ)in-ˈsī-(ˌ)tü *also* -ˈsi- *or* -(ˌ)chü *or* -(ˌ)tvü; *also* -ˈsē-(ˌ)tü\ *adv or adj* [L, in position] : in the natural or original position
in·so·bri·ety \ˌin(t)-sə-ˈbrī-ət-ē, -sō-\ *n* : lack of sobriety or moderation; *esp* : intemperance in drinking
in·so·cia·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈsō-shə-bəl\ *adj* [L *insociabilis*, fr. *in-* + *sociabilis* sociable] : not sociable — **in·so·cia·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-(ˌ)sō-shə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·so·cia·bly** \(ˈ)in-ˈsō-shə-blē\ *adv*
in·so·far \ˌin(t)-sə-ˈfär\ *adv* : to such extent or degree
insofar as \ˌin(t)-sə-ˌfär-əz\ *conj* : to the extent or degree that
insol *abbr* insoluble
in·so·late \ˈin(t)-(ˌ)sō-ˌlāt, in-ˈ\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *insolatus*, pp. of *insolare*, fr. *in-* + *sol* sun — more at SOLAR] : to expose to the sun's rays
in·so·la·tion \ˌin(t)-(ˌ)sō-ˈlā-shən, in-ˌsō-\ *n* **1** : the act or an instance of insolating **2** : SUNSTROKE **3 a** : solar radiation that has been received **b** : the rate of delivery of all direct solar energy per unit of horizontal surface
in·sole \ˈin-ˌsōl\ *n* **1** : an inside sole of a shoe **2** : a loose thin strip placed inside a shoe for warmth or comfort
in·so·lence \ˈin(t)-s(ə-)lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being insolent **2** : an instance of insolent conduct or treatment

in·so·lent \-s(ə-)lənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *insolent-, insolens;* akin to L *insolescere* to grow haughty] **1** : insultingly contemptuous in speech or conduct : OVERBEARING **2** : exhibiting boldness or effrontery : IMPUDENT ***syn*** see PROUD ***ant*** deferential — **insolent** *n* — **in·so·lent·ly** *adv*

in·sol·u·bi·lize \(ˌ)in-ˈsäl-yə-bə-ˌlīz\ *vt* : to make insoluble — **in·sol·u·bi·li·za·tion** \(ˌ)in-ˌsäl-yə-bə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

in·sol·u·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈsäl-yə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *insolible,* fr. L *insolubilis,* fr. *in-* + *solvere* to free, dissolve — more at SOLVE] : not soluble: as **a** *archaic* : INDISSOLUBLE **b** : having or admitting of no solution or explanation **c** : incapable of being dissolved in a liquid; *also* : soluble only with difficulty or to a slight degree — **in·sol·u·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌsäl-yə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **insoluble** *n* — **in·sol·u·ble·ness** \(ˈ)in-ˈsäl-yə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·sol·u·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·solv·able \(ˈ)in-ˈsäl-və-bəl, -ˈsȯl-\ *adj* : admitting no solution ⟨an apparently ~ problem⟩ — **in·solv·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·sol·vent \(ˈ)in-ˈsäl-vənt, -ˈsȯl-\ *adj* **1 a** : unable to pay debts as they fall due in the usual course of business; *specif* : having liabilities in excess of a reasonable market value of assets held **b** : insufficient to pay all debts ⟨an ~ estate⟩ **c** : not up to a normal standard or complement : IMPOVERISHED **2** : relating to or for the relief of insolvents — **in·sol·ven·cy** \-vən-sē\ *n* — **insolvent** *n*

in·som·nia \in-ˈsäm-nē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. *insomnis* sleepless, fr. *in-* + *somnus* sleep — more at SOMNOLENT] : prolonged and usu. abnormal inability to obtain adequate sleep — **in·som·ni·ac** \-nē-ˌak\ *adj or n*

in·so·much as \ˌin(t)-sə-ˌməch-əz\ *conj* : inasmuch as

insomuch that *conj* : SO 1

in·sou·ci·ance \in-ˈsü-sē-ən(t)s, aⁿ-süs-yäⁿs\ *n* [F] : lighthearted unconcern : NONCHALANCE — **in·sou·ci·ant** \in-ˈsü-sē-ənt, aⁿ-süs-yäⁿ\ *adj* — **in·sou·ci·ant·ly** \in-ˈsü-sē-ənt-lē\ *adv*

insoul *var of* ENSOUL

insp *abbr* inspector

in·span \in-ˈspan, ˈin-ˌ\ *vb* [Afrik, fr. D *inspannen*] *chiefly So Afr* : YOKE, HARNESS

in·spect \in-ˈspekt\ *vb* [L *inspectus,* pp. of *inspicere,* fr. *in-* + *specere* to look — more at SPY] *vt* **1** : to view closely in critical appraisal : look over **2** : to examine officially ⟨~*s* the barracks every Friday⟩ ~ *vi* : to make an inspection ***syn*** see SCRUTINIZE — **in·spective** \-ˈspek-tiv\ *adj*

in·spec·tion \in-ˈspek-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of inspecting **2** : a checking or testing of an individual against established standards

inspection arms *n* [fr. the command *inspection arms!*] : a position in the manual of arms in which the rifle is held at port arms with the chamber open for inspection; *also* : a command to assume this position

in·spec·tor \in-ˈspek-tər\ *n* **1** : a person employed to inspect something **2 a** : a police officer who is in charge of several precincts and ranks below a superintendent or deputy superintendent **b** : a person appointed to oversee a polling place — **in·spec·tor·ate** \-t(ə-)rət\ *n* — **in·spec·tor·ship** \-tər-ˌship\ *n*

inspector general *n* : an officer of a military or naval corps of inspectors that investigates and reports on organizational matters

insphere *var of* ENSPHERE

in·spi·ra·tion \ˌin(t)-spə-ˈrā-shən, -(ˌ)spir-ˈā-\ *n* **1 a** : a divine influence or action on a person held to qualify him to receive and communicate sacred revelation **b** : the action or power of moving the intellect or emotions **c** : the act of influencing or suggesting opinions ⟨the ~ of this rumor was traced to a source near the governor⟩ **2** : the act of drawing in; *specif* : the drawing of air into the lungs **3 a** : the quality or state of being inspired **b** : something that is inspired ⟨a scheme that was pure ~⟩ **4** : an inspiring agent or influence — **in·spi·ra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·spi·ra·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

in·spi·ra·tor \ˈin(t)s-pə-ˌrāt-ər, -(ˌ)pir-ˌāt-\ *n* **1** : one that inspires ⟨teachers who are ~*s* of the young⟩ **2** : a device (as an injector or respirator) by which something (as gas or vapor) is drawn in

in·spi·ra·to·ry \in-ˈspī-rə-ˌtōr-ē, ˈin(t)-sp(ə-)rə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : relating to, used for, or associated with inspiration

in·spire \in-ˈspī(ə)r\ *vb* **in·spired; in·spir·ing** [ME *inspiren,* fr. MF & L; MF *inspirer,* fr. L *inspirare,* fr. *in-* + *spirare* to breathe — more at SPIRIT] *vt* **1 a** *archaic* : to breathe or blow into or upon **b** *archaic* : to infuse (as life) by breathing **2** : INHALE 1 **3 a** : to influence, move, or guide by divine or supernatural inspiration ⟨the gods were believed to ~ the oracles⟩ **b** : to exert an animating, enlivening, or exalting influence on ⟨was particularly *inspired* by the Romanticists⟩ **c** : to spur on : IMPEL, MOTIVATE ⟨threats don't necessarily ~ people to work⟩ **d** : AFFECT ⟨seeing the old room again *inspired* him with nostalgia⟩ **4 a** : to communicate to an agent supernaturally **b** : to draw forth or bring out ⟨thoughts *inspired* by his visit to the cathedral⟩ **5 a** : to bring about : OCCASION ⟨the book was *inspired* by his travels in the Far East⟩ **b** : INCITE **6** : to spread (rumor) by indirect means or through the agency of another ~ *vi* : INHALE — **in·spir·er** *n*

in·spired *adj* : outstanding or brilliant in a way or to a degree suggestive of divine inspiration ⟨gave an ~ performance as the protagonist of the tragedy⟩

in·spir·ing *adj* : having an animating or exalting effect ⟨the minister delivered an ~ sermon⟩

in·spir·it \in-ˈspir-ət\ *vt* : to fill with spirit : ANIMATE

¹in·spis·sate \in-ˈspis-ət, ˈin(t)-spə-ˌsāt\ *or* **in·spis·sat·ed** \in-ˈspis-ˌāt-əd, ˈin(t)-spə-ˌsāt-\ *adj* [LL *inspissatus,* pp. of *inspissare,* fr. L *in-* + *spissus* thick; akin to Gk *spidios* extended, L *spatium* space — more at SPEED] : thickened in consistency; *broadly* : made thick, heavy, or intense

²in·spis·sate \in-ˈspis-ˌāt, ˈin(t)-spə-ˌsāt\ *vt* **-sat·ed; -sat·ing** : to make thick or thicker — **in·spis·sa·tion** \ˌin(t)-spə-ˈsā-shən, (ˌ)in-ˌspis-ˈā-\ *n* — **in·spis·sa·tor** \in-ˈspis-ˌāt-ər, ˈin(t)-spə-ˌsāt-\ *n*

inst *abbr* **1** instant **2** institute; institution; institutional

in·sta·bil·i·ty \ˌin(t)-stə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being unstable; *esp* : lack of emotional or mental stability

in·sta·ble \(ˈ)in-ˈstā-bəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *instabilis,* fr. *in-* + *stabilis* stable] : UNSTABLE

in·stall *or* **in·stal** \in-ˈstȯl\ *vt* **in·stalled; in·stall·ing** [MF *installer,* fr. ML *installare,* fr. L *in-* + ML *stallum* stall, fr. OHG *stal*] **1 a** : to place in an office or dignity by seating in a stall or official seat **b** : to induct into an office, rank, or order ⟨~*ed* the new department chairman⟩ **2** : to establish in an indicated place, condition, or status ⟨~*ing* herself in front of the fireplace⟩ **3** : to set up for use or service ⟨had an exhaust fan ~*ed* in the kitchen⟩ — **in·stall·er** *n*

in·stal·la·tion \ˌin(t)-stə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of installing : the state of being installed **2** : something that is installed for use **3** : a military camp, fort, or base

¹in·stall·ment *or* **in·stal·ment** \in-ˈstȯl-mənt\ *n* : INSTALLATION 1

²installment *also* **instalment** *n* [alter. of earlier *estallment* payment by installment, deriv. of OF *estaler* to place, fix, fr. *estal* place, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *stal* place, stall] **1** : one of the parts into which a debt is divided when payment is made at intervals **2 a** : one of several parts (as of a publication) presented at intervals **b** : one part of a serial story — **installment** *adj*

installment plan *n* : a system of paying for goods by installments

¹in·stance \ˈin(t)-stən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** *archaic* : urgent or earnest solicitation **b** : INSTIGATION, REQUEST ⟨am writing to you at the ~ of my client⟩ **c** *obs* : an impelling cause or motive **2 a** *archaic* : EXCEPTION **b** : an individual illustrative of a category or brought forward in support or disproof of a generalization **c** *obs* : TOKEN, SIGN **3** : the institution and prosecution of a lawsuit : SUIT **4** : a step, stage, or situation viewed as part of a process or series of events ⟨prefers, in this ~, to remain anonymous —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩

syn INSTANCE, CASE, ILLUSTRATION, EXAMPLE, SAMPLE, SPECIMEN *shared meaning element* : something that exhibits distinguishing characteristics of the category to which it belongs

— **for instance** : as an example

²instance *vt* **in·stanced; in·stanc·ing** **1** : to illustrate or demonstrate by an instance **2** : to mention as a case or example : CITE ***syn*** see MENTION

in·stan·cy \ˈin(t)-stən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : URGENCY, INSISTENCE **2** : nearness of approach : IMMINENCE **3** : immediacy of occurrence or action : INSTANTANEOUSNESS

¹in·stant \ˈin(t)-stənt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *instant-, instans,* fr. *instant-, instans,* adj., instant, fr. L] **1** : an infinitesimal space of time; *esp* : a point in time separating two states ⟨at the ~ of death⟩ **2** : the present or current month

²instant *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *instant-, instans,* fr. prp. of *instare* to stand upon, urge, fr. *in-* + *stare* to stand — more at STAND] **1** : IMPORTUNATE, URGENT **2 a** : PRESENT, CURRENT ⟨previous felonies not related to the ~ crime⟩ **b** : of or occurring in the present month **3** : IMMEDIATE, DIRECT ⟨the play was an ~ success⟩ **4 a** (1) : premixed or precooked for easy final preparation ⟨~ mashed potatoes⟩ (2) : appearing in or as if in ready-to-use form ⟨~ culture⟩ ⟨updating . . . your image with ~ beards, mustaches, and sideburns —*Playboy*⟩ **b** : immediately soluble in water ⟨~ coffee⟩ — **in·stant·ness** *n*

in·stan·ta·neous \ˌin(t)-stən-ˈtā-nē-əs, -nyəs\ *adj* [ML *instantaneus,* fr. *instant-, instans* n.] **1** : done, occurring, or acting without any perceptible duration of time ⟨death was ~⟩ **2** : done without any delay being purposely introduced ⟨took ~ action to correct the abuse⟩ **3** : occurring or present at a particular instant ⟨~ velocity⟩ — **in·stan·ta·ne·ity** \ˌin-ˌstant-ᵊn-ˈē-ət-ē, ˌin(t)-stən-tə-ˈnē-\ *n* — **in·stan·ta·neous·ly** \ˌin(t)-stən-ˈtā-nē-ə-slē, -nyə-slē\ *adv* — **in·stan·ta·neous·ness** *n*

in·stan·ter \in-ˈstant-ər\ *adv* [ML, fr. *instant-, instans*] : at once

in·stan·ti·ate \in-ˈstan-chē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to represent (an abstraction) by a concrete instance — **in·stan·ti·a·tion** \-ˌstan-chē-ˈā-shən\ *n*

¹in·stant·ly \ˈin(t)-stənt-lē\ *adv* **1** : with importunity : URGENTLY **2** : without the least delay : IMMEDIATELY

²instantly *conj* : as soon as ⟨he ran across the grass ~ he perceived his mother —W. P. Thackeray⟩

instant replay *n* : a videotape recording of an action (as a play in football) that can be played back (as in slow motion) immediately after the action has been completed

in·star \ˈin-ˌstär\ *n* [NL, fr. L, equivalent, figure; akin to L *instare* to stand upon] : a stage in the life of an arthropod (as an insect) between two successive molts; *also* : an individual in a specified instar

in·state \in-ˈstāt\ *vt* **1** : to set or establish in a rank or office : INSTALL **2** *obs* **a** : INVEST, ENDOW **b** : BESTOW, CONFER

in sta·tu quo \in-ˌstā-(ˌ)tü-ˈkwō, -ˌsta-; -ˌstach-(ˌ)ü-\ *adv* [NL, lit., in the state in which] : in the former or same state

in·stau·ra·tion \ˌin-ˌstȯ-ˈrā-shən, ˌin(t)-stə-\ *n* [L *instauration-, instauratio,* fr. *instauratus,* pp. of *instaurare* to renew, restore — more at STORE] **1** : restoration after decay, lapse, or dilapidation **2** : an act of instituting or establishing something

in·stead \in-ˈsted\ *adv* **1** : as a substitute or equivalent ⟨was going to write but called ~⟩ **2** : as an alternative to something expressed or implied : RATHER ⟨longed ~ for a quiet country life⟩

instead of \in-ˌsted-ə(v), -ˌstid-\ *prep* [ME *in sted of*] : in place of : as a substitute for or alternative to

in·step \ˈin-ˌstep\ *n* **1** : the arched middle portion of the human foot in front of the ankle joint; *esp* : its upper surface **2** : the part of the hind leg of the horse between the hock and the pastern joint **3** : the part of a shoe or stocking over the instep

in·sti·gate \ˈin(t)-stə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *instigatus,* pp. of *instigare* — more at STICK] : to goad or urge forward : PROVOKE ***syn*** see INCITE — **in·sti·ga·tion** \ˌin(t)-stə-ˈgā-shən\ *n* — **in·sti·ga·tive** \ˈin(t)-stə-ˌgāt-iv\ *adj* — **in·sti·ga·tor** \-ˌgāt-ər\ *n*

in·still *also* **in·stil** \in-'stil\ *vt* **in·stilled; in·still·ing** [MF & L; MF *instiller*, fr. L *instillare*, fr. *in-* + *stillare* to drip — more at DISTILL] **1** : to cause to enter drop by drop ⟨~ medication into the infected eye⟩ **2** : to impart gradually ⟨~*ing* in children a love of learning⟩ — **in·stil·la·tion** \ˌin(t)-stə-'lā-shən, -(ˌ)stil-'ā-\ *n* — **in·still·er** \in-'stil-ər\ *n* — **in·still·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

[1]in·stinct \'in-ˌstiŋ(k)t\ *n* [ME, fr. L *instinctus* impulse, fr. *instinctus*, pp. of *instinguere* to incite; akin to L *instigare* to instigate] **1** : a natural or inherent aptitude, impulse, or capacity ⟨had an ~ for the right word⟩ **2 a** : a largely inheritable and unalterable tendency by an organism to make a complex and specific response to environmental stimuli without involving reason and for the purpose of removing somatic tension **b** : behavior that is mediated by reactions below the conscious level — **in·stinc·tu·al** \in-'stiŋ(k)-chə(-wə)l, -'stiŋ(k)sh-wəl\ *adj*

[2]in·stinct \in-'stiŋ(k)t, 'in-ˌ\ *adj* **1** *obs* : impelled by an inner or animating or exciting agency **2** : profoundly imbued : INFUSED ⟨a man ~ with patriotism⟩

in·stinc·tive \in-'stiŋ(k)-tiv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being instinct **2** : prompted by natural instinct or propensity : arising spontaneously and being independent of judgment or will ⟨an ~ doubt of his honesty⟩ ***syn*** see SPONTANEOUS ***ant*** intentional — **in·stinc·tive·ly** *adv*

[1]in·sti·tute \'in(t)-stə-ˌt(y)üt\ *vt* **-tut·ed; -tut·ing** [ME *instituten*, fr. L *institutus*, pp. of *instituere*, fr. *in-* + *statuere* to set up — more at STATUTE] **1** : to establish in a position or office **2 a** : to originate and get established : ORGANIZE ⟨*instituted* many social reforms⟩ **b** : to set going : INAUGURATE ⟨*instituting* an investigation of the charges⟩ — **in·sti·tut·er** *or* **in·sti·tu·tor** \-ˌt(y)üt-ər\ *n*

[2]institute *n* **1** *obs* : an act of instituting **2** : something that is instituted: as **a** (1) : an elementary principle recognized as authoritative (2) *pl* : a collection of such principles and precepts; *esp* : a legal compendium **b** : an organization for the promotion of a cause : ASSOCIATION ⟨a research ~⟩ ⟨an ~ for the blind⟩ **c** : an educational institution **d** : a usu. brief intensive course of instruction on selected topics relating to a particular field ⟨an urban studies ~⟩

in·sti·tu·tion \ˌin(t)-stə-'t(y)ü-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of instituting : ESTABLISHMENT **2** *archaic* : something that serves to instruct; *also* : INSTRUCTION, TRAINING **3 a** : a significant practice, relationship, or organization in a society or culture ⟨the ~ of marriage⟩ **b** : an established organization or corporation (as a college or university) esp. of a public or eleemosynary character — **in·sti·tu·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·sti·tu·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

in·sti·tu·tion·al·ism \-shnəl-ˌiz-əm, -shən-ᵊl-\ *n* **1** : emphasis on organization (as in religion) at the expense of other factors **2** : public institutional care of defective, delinquent, or dependent persons **3** : an economic school of thought that emphasizes the role of social institutions in influencing economic behavior — **in·sti·tu·tion·al·ist** \-əst\ *n*

in·sti·tu·tion·al·ize \-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make into or give the character of an institution to ⟨*institutionalized* housing⟩ **2** : to put in the care of an institution ⟨~ alcoholics⟩ — **in·sti·tu·tion·al·iza·tion** \-ˌt(y)ü-shnəl-ə-'zā-shən, -shən-ᵊl-\ *n*

instr *abbr* **1** instructor **2** instrument; instrumental

in·struct \in-'strəkt\ *vt* [ME *instructen*, fr. L *instructus*, pp. of *instruere*, fr. *in-* + *struere* to build — more at STRUCTURE] **1** : to give knowledge or information to; *esp* : to impart knowledge to in a systematic manner ⟨she had ~*ed* three generations of village children⟩ **2 a** : to direct authoritatively and on the basis of informed awareness **b** : to give an order precisely and clearly ***syn*** see TEACH, COMMAND

in·struct·ed *adj* **1** : being informed : TAUGHT **2** : subject to specific instructions ⟨sent ~ delegates to the convention⟩

in·struc·tion \in-'strək-shən\ *n* **1 a** : LESSON, PRECEPT **b** : a direction calling for compliance : ORDER ⟨had ~*s* not to admit strangers⟩ **c** *pl* : an outline or manual of technical procedure : DIRECTIONS **d** : a code that tells a computer to perform a particular operation **2** : the action, practice, or profession of a teacher : TEACHING — **in·struc·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

in·struc·tive \in-'strək-tiv\ *adj* : carrying a lesson : ENLIGHTENING — **in·struc·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·struc·tive·ness** *n*

in·struc·tor \in-'strək-tər\ *n* : one that instructs : TEACHER; *specif* : a college teacher below professorial rank — **in·struc·tor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n* — **in·struc·tress** \-'strək-trəs\ *n*

[1]in·stru·ment \'in(t)-strə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *instrumentum*, fr. *instruere* to arrange, instruct] **1 a** : a means whereby something is achieved, performed, or furthered **b** : one used by another as a means or aid : DUPE, TOOL **2** : UTENSIL, IMPLEMENT **3** : a device used to produce music **4** : a formal legal document (as a deed, bond, or agreement) **5 a** : a measuring device for determining the present value of a quantity under observation **b** : an electrical or mechanical device used in navigating an airplane; *esp* : such a device used as the sole means of navigating ***syn*** see MEAN, IMPLEMENT

[2]in·stru·ment \-ˌment\ *vt* **1** : to address a legal instrument to **2** : to score for musical performance : ORCHESTRATE **3** : to equip with instruments

in·stru·men·tal \ˌin(t)-strə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : serving as a means, agent, or tool ⟨was ~ in organizing the strike⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or done with an instrument or tool **2** : relating to, composed for, or performed on a musical instrument **3** : of or relating to a grammatical case or form expressing means or agency **4** : of or relating to instrumentalism **5** : based on or involving reward or avoidance of distress ⟨~ learning⟩ ⟨~ conditioning⟩ — **instrumental** *n* — **in·stru·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

in·stru·men·tal·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a doctrine that ideas are instruments of action and that their usefulness determines their truth

in·stru·men·tal·ist \-əst\ *n* **1** : a player on a musical instrument **2** : a student or exponent of instrumentalism — **instrumentalist** *adj*

in·stru·men·tal·i·ty \ˌin(t)-strə-mən-'tal-ət-ē, -ˌmen-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being instrumental **2** : MEANS, AGENCY

in·stru·men·ta·tion \ˌin(t)-strə-mən-'tā-shən, -ˌmen-\ *n* **1 a** : the use of instruments **b** : the application of instruments for observation, measurement, or control **2** : the arrangement or composition of music for instruments esp. for a band or orchestra **3 a** : a science concerned with the development and manufacture of instruments **b** : instruments for a particular purpose

instrument flying *n* : navigation of an airplane by instruments only

instrument landing *n* : a landing made with little or no external visibility by means of instruments and by ground radio directive devices

instrument panel *n* : a panel on which instruments are mounted; *esp* : DASHBOARD 2

in·sub·or·di·nate \ˌin(t)-sə-'bȯrd-ᵊn-ət, -'bȯrd-nət\ *adj* : unwilling to submit to authority : REFRACTORY — **insubordinate** *n* — **in·sub·or·di·nate·ly** *adv* — **in·sub·or·di·na·tion** \-ˌbȯrd-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n*

in·sub·stan·tial \ˌin(t)-səb-'stan-chəl\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *insubstantiel*, fr. LL *insubstantialis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *substantialis* substantial] **1** : lacking substance or material nature : SPECTRAL, IMAGINARY **2** : lacking firmness or solidity : FLIMSY — **in·sub·stan·ti·al·i·ty** \-ˌstan-chē-'al-ət-ē\ *n*

in·suf·fer·able \(')in-'səf-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being endured : INTOLERABLE ⟨an ~ bore⟩ — **in·suf·fer·able·ness** *n* — **in·suf·fer·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·suf·fi·cience \ˌin(t)-sə-'fish-ən(t)s\ *n* : INSUFFICIENCY

in·suf·fi·cien·cy \-ən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being insufficient: as **a** : lack of mental or moral fitness : INCOMPETENCE ⟨the ~ of this man for public office⟩ **b** : lack of adequate supply ⟨~ of provisions⟩ **c** : lack of physical power or capacity; *specif* : inability of an organ or body part to function normally **2** : something insufficient ⟨he was aware of his *insufficiencies*⟩

in·suf·fi·cient \ˌin(t)-sə-'fish-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *insufficient-, insufficiens*, fr. L *in-* + *sufficient-, sufficiens* sufficient] : not sufficient; *esp* : deficient in power, capacity, or competence ⟨life is often held to be an ~ begetter of fiction —Anthony Quinton⟩ — **in·suf·fi·cient·ly** *adv*

in·suf·flate \'in(t)-sə-ˌflāt, in-'səf-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-flat·ed; -flat·ing** [LL *insufflatus*, pp. of *insufflare*, fr. L *in-* + *sufflare* to blow up, fr. *sub-* up + *flare* to blow — more at SUB-, BLOW] **1** : to blow on or into ⟨~ a room with insecticide⟩ **2** : to disseminate (as a powder or gas) by blowing — **in·suf·fla·tor** \-ˌflāt-ər, -ˌlāt-\ *n*

in·suf·fla·tion \ˌin(t)-sə-'flā-shən, in-ˌsəf-'lā-\ *n* : an act or instance of insufflating; *also* : a Christian ceremonial rite of exorcism performed by breathing on a person

in·su·lant \'in(t)-sə-lənt\ *n* : an insulating material

in·su·lar \'in(t)s-(y)ə-lər, 'in-shə-lər\ *adj* [LL *insularis*, fr. L *insula* island] **1 a** : of, relating to, or constituting an island **b** : dwelling or situated on an island ⟨~ residents⟩ **2** *of a plant or animal* : having a restricted or isolated natural range or habitat **3 a** : of or relating to island people ⟨surviving ~ customs⟩ **b** : that results from isolation or is characteristic of isolated people ⟨~ prejudices⟩ **4** : of or relating to an island of cells or tissue — **in·su·lar·ism** \-lə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* — **in·su·lar·i·ty** \ˌin(t)s-(y)ə-'lar-ət-ē, ˌin-shə-'lar-\ *n* — **in·su·lar·ly** \'in(t)s-(y)ə-lər-lē, 'in-shə-\ *adv*

in·su·late \'in(t)-sə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *insula* island] : to place in a detached situation : ISOLATE; *esp* : to separate from conducting bodies by means of nonconductors so as to prevent transfer of electricity, heat, or sound

in·su·la·tion \ˌin(t)-sə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of insulating : the state of being insulated **2** : material used in insulating

in·su·la·tor \'in(t)-sə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* : one that insulates; *esp* : a material that is a poor conductor of electricity or a device made of such material and used for separating or supporting conductors to prevent undesired flow of electricity

in·su·lin \'in(t)-s(ə-)lən\ *n* [NL *insula* islet (of Langerhans), fr. L, island] : a protein pancreatic hormone secreted by the islets of Langerhans that is essential esp. for the metabolism of carbohydrates and is used in the treatment and control of diabetes mellitus

insulin shock *n* : hypoglycemia associated with the presence of excessive insulin in the system and characterized by progressive development of coma

[1]in·sult \in-'səlt\ *vb* [MF or L; MF *insulter*, fr. L *insultare*, lit., to spring upon, fr. *in-* + *saltare* to leap — more at SALTATION] *vi, archaic* : to behave with pride or arrogance : VAUNT ~ *vt* : to treat with insolence, indignity, or contempt : AFFRONT; *also* : to affect offensively or damagingly ⟨doggerel that ~*s* the reader's intelligence⟩ ⟨foods that ~ the body⟩ ***syn*** see OFFEND — **in·sult·er** *n* — **in·sult·ing·ly** \in-'səl-tiŋ-lē\ *adv*

[2]in·sult \'in-ˌsəlt\ *n* **1** *archaic* : an act of attacking **2** : a gross indignity : INSOLENCE **3** : injury to the body or one of its parts; *also* : something that causes or has a potential for causing such insult ⟨pollution and other environmental ~*s*⟩

in·su·per·a·ble \(')in-'sü-p(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *insuperabilis*; fr. *in-* + *superare* to surmount, fr. *super* over — more at OVER] : incapable of being surmounted, overcome, or passed over ⟨~ difficulties⟩ — **in·su·per·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·sup·port·able \ˌin(t)-sə-'pōrt-ə-bəl, -'pȯrt-\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *insupportabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *supportare* to support] : not supportable: **a** : incapable of being borne : UNENDURABLE ⟨~ pain⟩ **b** : incapable of being sustained : UNJUSTIFIABLE ⟨~ charges⟩ — **in·sup·port·able·ness** *n* — **in·sup·port·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·sup·press·ible \ˌin(t)-sə-'pres-ə-bəl\ *adj* : IRREPRESSIBLE — **in·sup·press·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·sur·able \in-'shůr-ə-bəl\ *adj* : that may be insured — **in·sur·abil·i·ty** \-ˌshůr-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

in·sur·ance \in-'shůr-ən(t)s, *chiefly South* 'in-ˌ\ *n* **1 a** : the action or process of insuring : the state of being insured **b** : means of insuring ⟨shelters designed to provide ~ against enemy attack⟩ **2 a** : the business of insuring persons or property **b** : coverage by contract whereby one party undertakes to indemnify or guarantee another against loss by a specified contingency or peril **c** : the sum for which something is insured

insurance run *n* : a run in baseball that increases a winning team's lead

in·sure \in-'shu̇(ə)r\ *vb* **in·sured; in·sur·ing** [ME *insuren*, prob. alter. of *assuren* to assure] *vt* **1** : to give, take, or procure insurance on or for **2** : to make certain esp. by taking necessary measures and precautions ~ *vi* : to contract to give or take insurance; *specif* : UNDERWRITE ***syn*** see ENSURE
in·sured *n* : a person whose life or property is insured
in·sur·er \in-'shu̇r-ər\ *n* : one that insures; *specif* : an insurance underwriter
in·sur·gence \in-'sər-jən(t)s\ *n* : an act or the action of being insurgent : INSURRECTION
in·sur·gen·cy \-jən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being insurgent; *specif* : a condition of revolt against a government that is less than an organized revolution and that is not recognized as belligerency **2** : INSURGENCE
[1]in·sur·gent \-jənt\ *n* [L *insurgent-, insurgens*, prp. of *insurgere* to rise up, fr. *in-* + *surgere* to rise — more at SURGE] **1** : a person who revolts against civil authority or an established government; *esp* : a rebel not recognized as a belligerent **2** : one who acts contrary to the policies and decisions of his political party
[2]insurgent *adj* : rising in opposition to civil authority or established leadership : REBELLIOUS — **in·sur·gent·ly** *adv*
in·sur·mount·able \ˌin(t)-sər-'mau̇nt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being surmounted : INSUPERABLE ⟨~ problems⟩ — **in·sur·mount·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
in·sur·rec·tion \ˌin(t)-sə-'rek-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *insurrection-, insurrectio*, fr. *insurrectus*, pp. of *insurgere*] : an act or instance of revolting against civil authority or an established government ***syn*** see REBELLION — **in·sur·rec·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·sur·rec·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj or n* — **in·sur·rec·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*
in·sus·cep·ti·ble \ˌin(t)-sə-'sep-tə-bəl\ *adj* : not susceptible ⟨~ to flattery⟩ — **in·sus·cep·ti·bil·i·ty** \-ˌsep-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·sus·cep·ti·bly** \ˌin(t)-sə-'sep-tə-blē\ *adv*
int *abbr* **1** intelligence **2** intercept **3** interest **4** interim **5** interior **6** interjection **7** interleaved **8** intermediate **9** internal **10** international **11** interpreter **12** intersection **13** interval **14** interview **15** intransitive
in·tact \in-'takt\ *adj* [ME *intacte*, fr. L *intactus*, fr. *in-* + *tactus*, pp. of *tangere* to touch — more at TANGENT] **1** : untouched esp. by anything that harms or diminishes : ENTIRE, UNINJURED **2** *of a living body or its parts* : having no relevant component removed or destroyed: **a** : physically virginal **b** : not castrated — **in·tact·ness** \-'tak(t)-nəs\ *n*
in·ta·glio \in-'tal-(ˌ)yō, -'täl-; -'tag-lē-ˌō, -'täg-\ *n, pl* **-glios** [It, fr. *intagliare* to engrave, cut, fr. ML *intaliare*, fr. L *in-* + LL *taliare* to cut — more at TAILOR] **1 a** : an engraving or incised figure in stone or other hard material depressed below the surface of the material so that an impression from the design yields an image in relief **b** : the art or process of executing intaglios **c** : printing (as in die stamping and gravure) done from a plate in which the image is sunk below the surface **2** : something (as a gem) carved in intaglio
in·take \'in-ˌtāk\ *n* **1** : an opening through which fluid enters an enclosure **2 a** : a taking in **b** (1) : the amount taken in (2) : something (as energy) taken in : INPUT
[1]in·tan·gi·ble \(')in-'tan-jə-bəl\ *adj* [F or ML; F, fr. ML *intangibilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *tangibilis* tangible] : not tangible : IMPALPABLE — **in·tan·gi·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌtan-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·tan·gi·ble·ness** \(')in-'tan-jə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·tan·gi·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
[2]intangible *n* : something intangible; *specif* : an asset (as goodwill) that is not corporeal
in·tar·sia \in-'tär-sē-ə\ *n* [G, modif. of It *intarsio*] : a mosaic usu. of wood fitted into a support; *also* : the art or process of making such a mosaic
in·te·ger \'int-i-jər\ *n* [L, adj., whole, entire — more at ENTIRE] **1** : any of the natural numbers, the negatives of these numbers, or zero **2** : a complete entity
in·te·gra·ble \'int-i-grə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being integrated — **in·te·gra·bil·i·ty** \ˌint-i-grə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
[1]in·te·gral \'int-i-grəl (*usu so in mathematics*); in-'teg-rəl *also* -'tēg-\ *adj* **1 a** : essential to completeness : CONSTITUENT **b** (1) : being or relating to a mathematical integer (2) : relating to or concerned with mathematical integrals or integration **c** : formed as a unit with another part **2** : composed of integral parts : INTEGRATED **3** : lacking nothing essential : ENTIRE — **in·te·gral·i·ty** \ˌint-ə-'gral-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·te·gral·ly** \'int-i-grə-lē; in-'teg-rə- *also* -'tēg-\ *adv*
[2]integral *n* : the result of a mathematical integration — compare DEFINITE INTEGRAL, INDEFINITE INTEGRAL
integral calculus *n* : a branch of mathematics dealing with methods of finding indefinite integrals and with their applications (as to the determination of lengths, areas, and volumes and to the solution of differential equations)
integral domain *n* : a mathematical ring in which multiplication is commutative, which has a multiplicative identity element, and which contains no pair of nonzero elements whose product is zero ⟨the integers under the operations of addition and multiplication form an *integral domain*⟩
in·te·grand \'int-ə-ˌgrand\ *n* [L *integrandus*, gerundive of *integrare*] : a mathematical expression to be integrated
in·te·grate \'int-ə-ˌgrāt\ *vb* **-grat·ed; -grat·ing** [L *integratus*, pp. of *integrare*, fr. *integr-, integer*] *vt* **1** : to form or blend into a whole : UNITE **2 a** : to unite with something else **b** : to incorporate into a larger unit **3** : to find the integral of (as a function or equation) **4 a** : to end the segregation of and bring into common and equal membership in society or an organization **b** : DESEGREGATE ⟨~ school districts⟩ ~ *vi* : to become integrated
integrated circuit *n* : a tiny complex of electronic components and their connections that is produced in or on a small slice of material (as silicon) — **integrated circuitry** *n*
in·te·gra·tion \ˌint-ə-'grā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process or an instance of integrating: as **a** : incorporation as equals into society or an organization of individuals of different groups (as races) **b** : coordination of mental processes into a normal effective personality or with the individual's environment **2 a** : the operation of finding a function whose differential is known **b** : the operation of solving a differential equation
in·te·gra·tion·ist \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n* : a person who believes in, advocates, or practices social integration — **integrationist** *adj*
in·te·gra·tive \'int-ə-ˌgrāt-iv\ *adj* : serving to integrate or favoring integration : directed toward integration ⟨~ forces in a fragmented society⟩
in·te·gra·tor \-ˌgrāt-ər\ *n* : one that integrates; *esp* : a device or computer unit that totalizes variable quantities in a manner comparable to the mathematical integrating or solution of differential equations
in·teg·ri·ty \in-'teg-rət-ē\ *n* **1** : an unimpaired condition : SOUNDNESS **2** : firm adherence to a code of esp. moral or artistic values : INCORRUPTIBILITY **3** : the quality or state of being complete or undivided : COMPLETENESS ***syn*** **1** see HONESTY ***ant*** duplicity **2** see UNITY
in·teg·u·ment \in-'teg-yə-mənt\ *n* [L *integumentum*, fr. *integere* to cover, fr. *in-* + *tegere* to cover — more at THATCH] : something that covers or encloses; *esp* : an enveloping layer (as a skin, membrane, or husk) of an organism or one of its parts — **in·teg·u·men·tal** \-ˌteg-yə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·teg·u·men·ta·ry** \-'ment-ə-rē, -'men-trē\ *adj*
in·tel·lect \'int-ᵊl-ˌekt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *intellectus*, fr. *intellectus*, pp. of *intellegere* to understand — more at INTELLIGENT] **1 a** : the power of knowing as distinguished from the power to feel and to will : the capacity for knowledge **b** : the capacity for rational or intelligent thought esp. when highly developed **2** : a person with great intellectual powers
in·tel·lec·tion \ˌint-ᵊl-'ek-shən\ *n* **1** : exercise of the intellect : REASONING **2** : an act of the intellect : THOUGHT
in·tel·lec·tive \-'ek-tiv\ *adj* : having, relating to, or belonging to the intellect : RATIONAL — **in·tel·lec·tive·ly** *adv*
[1]in·tel·lec·tu·al \ˌint-ᵊl-'ek-chə(-wə)l, -'eksh-wəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to the intellect or its use **b** : developed or chiefly guided by the intellect rather than by emotion or experience : RATIONAL **c** : requiring use of the intellect **2 a** : given to study, reflection, and speculation **b** : engaged in activity requiring the creative use of the intellect — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·i·ty** \-ˌek-chə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·ly** \-'ek-chə-(wə-)lē, -'eksh-wə-lē\ *adv* — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·ness** \-'ek-chə(-wə)l-nəs, -'eksh-wəl-\ *n*
[2]intellectual *n* **1** *pl, archaic* : intellectual powers **2** : an intellectual person
in·tel·lec·tu·al·ism \ˌint-ᵊl-'ek-chə(-wə)-ˌliz-əm, -'eksh-wə-\ *n* : devotion to the exercise of intellect or to intellectual pursuits — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·is·tic** \-ˌek-chə(-wə)-ᵊlis-tik, -ˌeksh-wə-\ *adj*
in·tel·lec·tu·al·ize \ˌint-ᵊl-'ek-chə(-wə)-ˌlīz, -'eksh-wə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give rational form or content to — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·iza·tion** \-ˌek-chə(-wə)-lə-'zā-shən, -ˌeksh-wə-\ *n* — **in·tel·lec·tu·al·iz·er** \-'ek-chə(-wə)-ˌlī-zər, -'eksh-wə-\ *n*
in·tel·li·gence \in-'tel-ə-jən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *intelligentia*, fr. *intelligent-, intelligens* intelligent] **1 a** (1) : the ability to learn or understand or to deal with new or trying situations : REASON; *also* : the skilled use of reason (2) : the ability to apply knowledge to manipulate one's environment or to think abstractly as measured by objective criteria (as tests) **b** *Christian Science* : the basic eternal quality of divine Mind **c** : mental acuteness : SHREWDNESS **2 a** : an intelligent entity; *esp* : ANGEL **b** : intelligent minds or mind ⟨cosmic ~⟩ **3** : the act of understanding : COMPREHENSION **4 a** : INFORMATION, NEWS **b** : information concerning an enemy or possible enemy or an area; *also* : an agency engaged in obtaining such information
intelligence quotient *n* : a number used to express the apparent relative intelligence of a person determined by dividing his mental age as reported on a standardized test by his chronological age and multiplying by 100
in·tel·li·genc·er \in-'tel-ə-jən-sər; -'tel-ə-ˌjen(t)-, -ˌtel-ə-'\ *n* **1** : a secret agent : SPY **2** : a bringer of news : REPORTER
intelligence test *n* : a test designed to determine the relative mental capacity of a person
in·tel·li·gent \in-'tel-ə-jənt\ *adj* [L *intelligent-, intelligens*, prp. of *intelligere, intellegere* to understand, fr. *inter-* + *legere* to gather, select — more at LEGEND] **1 a** : possessing intelligence **b** : guided or directed by intellect : RATIONAL **2 a** : having or indicating a high or satisfactory degree of intelligence and mental capacity **b** : revealing or reflecting good judgment or sound thought : SKILLFUL **3** : able to perform some of the functions of a computer ⟨an ~ computer terminal⟩ — **in·tel·li·gen·tial** \-ˌtel-ə-'jen-chəl\ *adj* — **in·tel·li·gent·ly** \-'tel-ə-jənt-lē\ *adv*
syn INTELLIGENT, CLEVER, ALERT, QUICK-WITTED, KNOWING *shared meaning element* : mentally keen or quick ***ant*** unintelligent
in·tel·li·gen·tsia \in-ˌtel-ə-'jen(t)-sē-ə, -'gen(t)-\ *n* [Russ *intelligentsiya*, fr. L *intelligentia* intelligence] : intellectuals who form an artistic, social, or political vanguard or elite
in·tel·li·gi·ble \in-'tel-ə-jə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *intelligibilis*; fr. *intelligere*] **1** : capable of being understood or comprehended **2** : apprehensible by the intellect only — **in·tel·li·gi·bil·i·ty** \-ˌtel-ə-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·tel·li·gi·ble·ness** \-'tel-ə-jə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·tel·li·gi·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·tem·per·ance \(')in-'tem-p(ə-)rən(t)s\ *n* : lack of moderation esp. in satisfying an appetite or passion; *esp* : habitual or excessive drinking of intoxicants
in·tem·per·ate \-p(ə-)rət\ *adj* [ME *intemperat*, fr. L *intemperatus*, fr. *in-* + *temperatus*, pp. of *temperare* to temper] : not temperate;

esp : given to excessive use of intoxicating liquors — **in·tem·per·ate·ly** *adv* — **in·tem·per·ate·ness** *n*

in·tend \in-'tend\ *vb* [ME *entenden, intenden,* fr. MF *entendre* to purpose, fr. L *intendere* to stretch out, to purpose, fr. *in-* + *tendere* to stretch — more at THIN] *vt* **1 a** : SIGNIFY, MEAN **b** : to refer to **2 a** : to have in mind as a purpose or goal : PLAN **b** : to design for a specified use or future **3** *archaic* : to proceed on (a course) **4** : to direct the mind on ~ *vi, archaic* : to set out : START — **in·tend·er** *n*

in·ten·dance \in-'ten-dən(t)s\ *n* **1** : MANAGEMENT, SUPERINTENDENCE **2** : an administrative department

in·ten·dant \-dənt\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. L *intendent-, intendens,* prp. of *intendere* to intend, attend] : an administrative official (as a governor) esp. under the French, Spanish, or Portuguese monarchies

1in·tend·ed *adj* **1** : planned for the future : PROPOSED; *esp* : chosen for marriage at some future time ⟨his ~ bride⟩ **2** : INTENTIONAL — **in·tend·ed·ly** *adv* — **in·tend·ed·ness** *n*

2intended *n* : an affianced person : BETROTHED

in·tend·ing *adj* : PROSPECTIVE, ASPIRING ⟨an ~ teacher⟩

in·tend·ment \in-'ten(d)-mənt\ *n* : the true meaning or intention esp. of a law

in·ten·er·ate \in-'ten-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [*2in-* + L *tener* soft, tender — more at TENDER] : to make tender : SOFTEN — **in·ten·er·a·tion** \-ˌten-ə-'rā-shən\ *n*

in·tense \in-'ten(t)s\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *intensus,* fr. pp. of *intendere* to stretch out] **1 a** : existing in an extreme degree **b** : having or showing a characteristic in extreme degree **c** : very large : CONSIDERABLE **2** : strained or straining to the utmost **3 a** : feeling deeply esp. by nature or temperament **b** : deeply felt — **in·tense·ly** *adv* — **in·tense·ness** *n*

in·ten·si·fi·er \in-'ten(t)-sə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that intensifies; *esp* : INTENSIVE

in·ten·si·fy \in-'ten(t)-sə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** *vt* **1** : to make intense or more intensive : STRENGTHEN **2 a** : to increase the density and contrast of (a photographic image) by chemical treatment **b** : to make more acute : SHARPEN ~ *vi* : to become intense or more intensive : grow stronger or more acute — **in·ten·si·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌten(t)s-(ə-)fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

syn INTENSIFY, AGGRAVATE, HEIGHTEN, ENHANCE *shared meaning element* : to increase markedly in measure or degree ***ant*** temper, mitigate, abate

in·ten·sion \in-'ten-chən\ *n* **1** : INTENSITY **2** : CONNOTATION 3 — **in·ten·sion·al** \-'tench-nəl, -'ten-chən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·ten·sion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

in·ten·si·ty \in-'ten(t)-sət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being intense; *esp* : extreme degree of strength, force, or energy **2** : the magnitude of force or energy per unit (as of surface, charge, mass, or time) **3** : SATURATION 4a

1in·ten·sive \in-'ten(t)-siv\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by intensity or intensification: as **a** : highly concentrated ⟨~ study⟩ **b** : tending to strengthen or increase; *esp* : tending to give force or emphasis ⟨~ adverb⟩ **c** : constituting or relating to a method designed to increase productivity by the expenditure of more capital and labor rather than by increase in scope ⟨~ farming⟩ — **in·ten·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·ten·sive·ness** *n*

2intensive *n* : an intensive linguistic element

1in·tent \in-'tent\ *n* [ME *entent,* fr. OF, fr. LL *intentus,* fr. L, act of stretching out, fr. *intentus,* pp. of *intendere*] **1 a** : the act or fact of intending : PURPOSE **b** : the state of mind with which an act is done : VOLITION **2** : a usu. clearly formulated or planned intention : AIM **3 a** : MEANING, SIGNIFICANCE **b** : CONNOTATION 3 ***syn*** see INTENTION

2intent *adj* [L *intentus,* fr. pp. of *intendere*] **1** : directed with strained or eager attention : CONCENTRATED **2** : having the mind, attention, or will concentrated on something or some end or purpose ⟨~ on his work⟩ — **in·tent·ly** *adv* — **in·tent·ness** *n*

in·ten·tion \in-'ten-chən\ *n* **1** : a determination to act in a certain way : RESOLVE **2** *pl* : purpose with respect to marriage **3 a** : what one intends to do or bring about **b** : the object for which a prayer, mass, or pious act is offered **4** : IMPORT, SIGNIFICANCE **5** : CONCEPT; *esp* : a concept considered as the product of attention directed to an object of knowledge **6** : a process or manner of healing of incised wounds

syn INTENTION, INTENT, PURPOSE, DESIGN, AIM, END, OBJECT, OBJECTIVE, GOAL *shared meaning element* : what one purposes to accomplish or attain

in·ten·tion·al \in-'tench-nəl, -'ten-chən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : done by intention or design : INTENDED ⟨~ damage⟩ **2 a** : of or relating to epistemological intention **b** : having external reference ***syn*** see VOLUNTARY ***ant*** instinctive — **in·ten·tion·al·i·ty** \-ˌten-chə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ten·tion·al·ly** \in-'tench-nə-lē, -'ten-chən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

in·ter \in-'tər\ *vt* **in·terred; in·ter·ring** [ME *enteren,* fr. OF *enterrer,* fr. (assumed) VL *interrare,* fr. *in-* + L *terra* earth — more at TERRACE] : to deposit (a dead body) in the earth or in a tomb

inter- *prefix* [ME *inter-, enter-,* fr. MF & L; MF *inter-, entre-,* fr. L *inter-,* fr. *inter;* akin to OHG *untar* between, among, Gk *enteron* intestine, OE *in* in] **1** : between : among : in the midst ⟨*inter*crop⟩ ⟨*inter*penetrate⟩ ⟨*inter*stellar⟩ **2** : reciprocal ⟨*inter*relation⟩ : reciprocally ⟨*inter*marry⟩ **3** : located between ⟨*inter*face⟩ **4** : carried on between ⟨*inter*national⟩ **5** : occurring between : intervening ⟨*inter*glacial⟩ **6** : shared by or derived from two or more ⟨*inter*faith⟩ **7** : between the limits of : within ⟨*inter*tropical⟩

in·tera·bang *var of* INTERROBANG

in·ter·act \ˌint-ə-'rakt\ *vi* : to act upon one another — **in·ter·active** \-'rak-tiv\ *adj*

in·ter·ac·tant \-'rak-tənt\ *n* : one that interacts; *specif* : a chemical reactant

in·ter·ac·tion \ˌint-ə-'rak-shən\ *n* : mutual or reciprocal action or influence — **in·ter·ac·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

in·ter alia \ˌint-ə-'rā-lē-ə, -'rä-\ *adv* [L] : among other things

in·ter ali·os \-lē-ˌōs\ *adv* [L] : among other persons

in·ter·atom·ic \ˌint-ə-rə-'täm-ik\ *adj* : existing or acting between atoms

in·ter·brain \'int-ər-ˌbrān\ *n* : DIENCEPHALON

in·ter·breed \ˌint-ər-'brēd\ *vb* **-bred** \-'bred\; **-breed·ing** *vi* : to breed together: as **a** : CROSSBREED **b** : to breed within a closed population ~ *vt* : to cause to breed together

in·ter·ca·la·ry \in-'tər-kə-ˌler-ē, ˌint-ər-'kal-ə-rē\ *adj* [L *intercalarius,* fr. *intercalare*] **1 a** : inserted in a calendar ⟨an ~ day⟩ **b** *of a year* : containing an intercalary period **2** : inserted between other things or parts : INTERPOLATED

in·ter·ca·late \in-'tər-kə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *intercalatus,* pp. of *intercalare,* fr. *inter-* + *calare* to call, summon — more at LOW] **1** : to insert (as a day) in a calendar **2** : to insert between or among existing elements or layers ***syn*** see INTRODUCE — **in·ter·ca·la·tion** \-ˌtər-kə-'lā-shən\ *n*

in·ter·cede \ˌint-ər-'sēd\ *vi* **-ced·ed; -ced·ing** [L *intercedere,* fr. *inter-* + *cedere* to go — more at CEDE] : to intervene between parties with a view to reconciling differences : MEDIATE ***syn*** see INTERPOSE — **in·ter·ced·er** *n*

in·ter·cel·lu·lar \ˌint-ər-'sel-yə-lər\ *adj* : occurring between cells ⟨~ spaces⟩ — **in·ter·cel·lu·lar·ly** *adv*

1in·ter·cept \ˌint-ər-'sept\ *vt* [L *interceptus,* pp. of *intercipere,* fr. *inter-* + *capere* to take, seize — more at HEAVE] **1** : to stop, seize, or interrupt in progress or course or before arrival **2** *obs* : PREVENT, HINDER **3** *obs* : to interrupt communication or connection with **4** : INTERSECT **5** : to gain possession of (an opponent's pass)

2in·ter·cept \'int-ər-ˌsept\ *n* **1** : the distance from the origin to a point where a graph crosses a coordinate axis **2** : INTERCEPTION; *esp* : the interception of a missile by an interceptor or of a target by a missile

in·ter·cept·er \ˌint-ər-'sep-tər\ *n* : INTERCEPTOR

in·ter·cep·tion \ˌint-ər-'sep-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the action of intercepting **b** : the state of being intercepted **2** : something that is intercepted; *esp* : an intercepted forward pass ⟨threw three ~s in one game⟩

in·ter·cep·tor \-'sep-tər\ *n* : one that intercepts; *specif* : a light high-speed fast-climbing fighter plane or missile designed for defense against raiding bombers or missiles

in·ter·ces·sion \ˌint-ər-'sesh-ən\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *intercession-, intercessio,* fr. *intercessus,* pp. of *intercedere*] **1** : the act of interceding **2** : prayer, petition, or entreaty in favor of another — **in·ter·ces·sion·al** \-'sesh-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·ter·ces·sor** \-'ses-ər\ *n* — **in·ter·ces·so·ry** \-'ses-(ə-)rē\ *adj*

1in·ter·change \ˌint-ər-'chānj\ *vb* [ME *entrechaungen,* fr. MF *entrechangier,* fr. OF, fr. *entre-* inter- + *changier* to change] *vt* **1** : to put each of (two things) in the place of the other **2** : EXCHANGE ~ *vi* : to change places mutually — **in·ter·chang·er** *n*

2in·ter·change \'int-ər-ˌchānj\ *n* **1** : the act, process, or an instance of interchanging : EXCHANGE **2** : a junction of two or more highways by a system of separate levels that permit traffic to pass from one to another without the crossing of traffic streams

in·ter·change·able \ˌint-ər-'chān-jə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being interchanged; *esp* : permitting mutual substitution ⟨~ parts⟩ — **in·ter·change·abil·i·ty** \-ˌchān-jə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ter·change·able·ness** \-'chān-jə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·ter·change·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·ter·clav·i·cle \ˌint-ər-'klav-i-kəl\ *n* : a bone lying in front of the sternum and between the clavicles (as in a reptile) — **in·ter·cla·vic·u·lar** \-kla-'vik-yə-lər, -klə-\ *adj*

in·ter·col·le·giate \ˌint-ər-kə-'lē-j(ē-)ət\ *adj* : existing, carried on, or participating in activities between colleges ⟨~ athletics⟩

in·ter·co·lum·ni·a·tion \ˌint-ər-kə-ˌləm-nē-'ā-shən\ *n* [L *intercolumnium* space between two columns, fr. *inter-* + *columna* column] **1** : the clear space between the columns of a series **2** : the system of spacing of the columns of a colonnade

in·ter·com \'int-ər-ˌkäm\ *n* : INTERCOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

in·ter·com·mu·ni·cate \ˌint-ər-kə-'myü-nə-ˌkāt\ *vi* **1** : to exchange communication with one another **2** : to afford passage from one to another — **in·ter·com·mu·ni·ca·tion** \-ˌmyü-nə-'kā-shən\ *n*

intercommunication system *n* : a two-way communication system with microphone and loudspeaker at each station for localized use

in·ter·com·mu·nion \ˌint-ər-kə-'myü-nyən\ *n* : interdenominational participation in communion

in·ter·con·nect \ˌint-ər-kə-'nekt\ *vt* : to connect with one another — **in·ter·con·nec·tion** \-'nek-shən\ *n*

in·ter·con·ti·nen·tal \ˌint-ər-ˌkänt-ᵊn-'ent-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : extending among continents or carried on between continents **2** : capable of traveling between continents ⟨~ ballistic missile⟩

in·ter·con·ver·sion \ˌint-ər-kən-'vər-zhən, -shən\ *n* : mutual conversion ⟨~ of chemical compounds⟩ — **in·ter·con·vert** \-'vərt\ *vt* — **in·ter·con·vert·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌvərt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ter·con·vert·ible** \-'vərt-ə-bəl\ *adj*

in·ter·cool·er \ˌint-ər-'kü-lər\ *n* : a device for cooling a fluid (as air) between successive heat-generating processes

in·ter·cos·tal \ˌint-ər-'käs-tᵊl\ *adj* [NL *intercostalis,* fr. L *inter-* + *costa* rib] : situated between the ribs; *also* : of or relating to an intercostal part — **intercostal** *n* — **in·ter·cos·tal·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv*

in·ter·course \'int-ər-ˌkō(ə)rs, -ˌkȯ(ə)rs\ *n* [ME *intercurse,* prob. fr. MF *entrecours,* fr. ML *intercursus,* fr. L, act of running between, fr. *intercursus,* pp. of *intercurrere* to run between, fr. *inter-* + *currere* to run — more at CURRENT] **1** : connection or dealings between persons or groups **2** : exchange esp. of thoughts or feelings : COMMUNION **3** : physical sexual contact between individuals that involves the genitalia of at least one person ⟨heterosexual ~⟩ ⟨anal ~⟩ ⟨oral ~⟩; *esp* : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE 1

in·ter·crop \ˌint-ər-'kräp, 'int-ər-ˌ\ *vt* : to grow a crop in between (another) ~ *vi* : to grow two or more crops simultaneously (as in alternate rows) on the same plot — **in·ter·crop** \'int-ər-ˌkräp\ *n*

1in·ter·cross \ˌint-ər-'krȯs\ *vb* : CROSS

2in·ter·cross \'int-ər-ˌkrȯs\ *n* : an instance or a product of cross-breeding

in·ter·cul·tur·al \ˌint-ər-'kəlch(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* : occurring between or relating to two or more cultures — **in·ter·cul·tur·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv*

in·ter·cur·rent \ˌint-ər-ˈkər-ənt, -ˈkə-rənt\ *adj* [L *intercurrent-, intercurrens,* prp. of *intercurrere*] : occurring in the midst of a process : INTERRUPTING — **in·ter·cur·rent·ly** *adv*
in·ter·cut \ˌint-ər-ˈkət\ *vt* **1** : to insert a contrasting camera shot into (a take) by cutting **2** : to insert (a contrasting camera shot) into a take by cutting ~ *vi* : to alternate contrasting camera shots by cutting
in·ter·de·nom·i·na·tion·al \ˌint-ər-di-ˌnäm-ə-ˈnā-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : involving or occurring between different denominations — **in·ter·de·nom·i·na·tion·al·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
in·ter·den·tal \ˌint-ər-ˈdent-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : situated or intended for use between the teeth **2** : formed with the tip of the tongue between the upper and lower front teeth — **in·ter·den·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
in·ter·de·part·men·tal \ˌint-ər-di-ˌpärt-ˈment-ᵊl, -ˌdē-\ *adj* : carried on between or involving departments (as of an educational institution) — **in·ter·de·part·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
in·ter·de·pend \ˌint-ər-di-ˈpend\ *vi* : to depend upon one another
in·ter·de·pen·dence \-ˈpen-dən(t)s\ *n* : mutual dependence
in·ter·de·pen·den·cy \-dən-sē\ *n* : INTERDEPENDENCE
in·ter·de·pen·dent \-dənt\ *adj* : mutually dependent — **in·ter·de·pen·dent·ly** \-lē\ *adv*
¹in·ter·dict \ˈint-ər-ˌdikt\ *n* [ME *entredit,* fr. OF, fr. L *interdictum* prohibition, praetorian interdict, fr. neut. of *interdictus,* pp. of *interdicere* to interpose, forbid, fr. *inter-* + *dicere* to say — more at DICTION] **1** : a Roman Catholic ecclesiastical censure withdrawing most sacraments and Christian burial from a person or district **2** : a prohibitory decree : PROHIBITION
²in·ter·dict \ˌint-ər-ˈdikt\ *vt* **1** : to lay under or prohibit by an interdict **2** : to forbid in a usu. formal or authoritative manner **3** : to destroy, cut, or damage (as an enemy line of supply) by firepower to stop or hamper an enemy ***syn*** see FORBID ***ant*** sanction — **in·ter·dic·tion** \-ˈdik-shən\ *n* — **in·ter·dic·tive** \-ˈdik-tiv\ *adj* — **in·ter·dic·tor** \-tər\ *n* — **in·ter·dic·to·ry** \-t(ə-)rē\ *adj*
in·ter·dif·fuse \-dif-ˈyüz\ *vi* : to diffuse and mix freely so as to approach a homogeneous mixture — **in·ter·dif·fu·sion** \-ˈyü-zhən\ *n*
in·ter·dig·i·tate \-ˈdij-ə-ˌtāt\ *vi* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [*inter-* + L *digitus* finger — more at TOE] : to become interlocked like the fingers of folded hands — **in·ter·dig·i·ta·tion** \-ˌdij-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n*
in·ter·dis·ci·plin·ary \-ˈdis-ə-plə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* : involving two or more academic, scientific, or artistic disciplines
¹in·ter·est \ˈin-trəst; ˈint-ə-rəst, -ə-ˌrest, -ərst; ˈin-ˌtrest\ *n* [ME, prob. alter. of earlier *interesse,* fr. AF & ML; AF, fr. ML, fr. L, to be between, make a difference, concern, fr. *inter-* + *esse* to be — more at IS] **1 a** (1) : right, title, or legal share in something (2) : participation in advantage and responsibility **b** : a business in which one has an interest **2** : WELFARE, BENEFIT; *specif* : SELF-INTEREST **3 a** : a charge for borrowed money generally a percentage of the amount borrowed **b** : an excess above what is due **4** : a group financially interested in an industry or enterprise **5 a** : a feeling that accompanies or causes special attention to an object or class of objects : CONCERN **b** : readiness to show such attention **c** : the quality in a thing that arouses interest
²interest *vt* **1** : to induce or persuade to participate or engage **2** : to engage the attention or arouse the interest of
in·ter·est·ed *adj* **1** : having the attention engaged ⟨~ listeners⟩ **2** : being affected or involved ⟨~ parties⟩ — **in·ter·est·ed·ly** *adv*
interest group *n* : a group of persons having a common identifying interest that often provides a basis for action
in·ter·est·ing *adj* : holding the attention : arousing interest — **in·ter·est·ing·ly** *adv*
¹in·ter·face \ˈint-ər-ˌfās\ *n* **1** : a surface forming a common boundary of two bodies, spaces, or phases ⟨an oil-water ~⟩ **2 a** : the place at which independent systems meet and act on or communicate with each other ⟨the man-machine ~⟩; *broadly* : an area in which diverse things interact ⟨the high school-college ~⟩ **b** : the means by which interaction or communication is effected at an interface — **in·ter·fa·cial** \ˌint-ər-ˈfā-shəl\ *adj*
²interface *vt* **1** : to connect by means of an interface ⟨~ a machine with a computer⟩ **2** : to serve as an interface for ~ *vi* **1** : to become interfaced **2** : to serve as an interface
in·ter·faith \ˌint-ər-ˈfāth\ *adj* : involving persons of different religious faiths
in·ter·fas·cic·u·lar \ˌint-ər-fə-ˈsik-yə-lər, -fa-\ *adj* : situated between fascicles
in·ter·fere \ˌint-ə(r)-ˈfi(ə)r\ *vi* **-fered; -fer·ing** [MF *(s')entreferir* to strike one another, fr. OF, fr. *entre-* inter- + *ferir* to strike, fr. L *ferire* — more at BORE] **1** : to strike one foot against the opposite foot or ankle in walking or running — used esp. of horses **2** : to interpose in a way that hinders or impedes : come into collision or be in opposition **3** : to enter into or take a part in the concerns of others **4** : to act reciprocally so as to augment, diminish, or otherwise affect one another — used of waves **5** : to claim substantially the same invention and thus question the priority of invention between the claimants **6** : to hinder illegally an attempt of a player to catch or hit a ball or puck — usu. used with *with* ***syn*** see INTERPOSE, MEDDLE — **in·ter·fer·er** *n*
in·ter·fer·ence \-ˈfir-ən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of interfering **b** : something that interferes : OBSTRUCTION **2** : the mutual effect on meeting of two wave trains of the same type so that such light waves produce lines, bands, or fringes either alternately light and dark or variously colored and sound waves produce silence, increased intensity, or beats **3 a** : the legal blocking of an opponent in football to make way for the ballcarrier **b** : the illegal hindering of an opponent in sports **4 a** : confusion of received radio signals due to strays or undesired signals **b** : something that produces such confusion — **in·ter·fer·en·tial** \-fə-ˈren-chəl, -ˌfir-ˈen-\ *adj*
in·ter·fer·o·gram \ˌint-ə(r)-ˈfir-ə-ˌgram\ *n* : a photographic record made by an apparatus for recording optical interference phenomena
in·ter·fer·om·e·ter \ˌint-ə(r)-fə-ˈräm-ət-ər, -ˌfir-ˈäm-\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument that utilizes light interference phenomena for precise determinations of wavelength, spectral fine structure, indices of refraction, and very small linear displacements — **in·ter·fer·o·met·ric** \-ˌfir-ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* — **in·ter·fer·o·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **in·ter·fer·om·e·try** \-fə-ˈräm-ə-trē, -ˌfir-ˈäm-\ *n*
in·ter·fer·on \ˌint-ə(r)-ˈfi(ə)r-ˌän\ *n* [*interference* + *-on*] : a heat-stable soluble basic antiviral protein of low molecular weight produced by cells exposed to the action of a virus, sometimes to that of another intracellular parasite (as a brucella), or experimentally to that of certain chemicals
in·ter·fer·tile \ˌint-ər-ˈfərt-ᵊl\ *adj* : capable of interbreeding — **in·ter·fer·til·i·ty** \-(ˌ)fər-ˈtil-ət-ē\ *n*
in·ter·file \ˌint-ər-ˈfī(ə)l\ *vt* : ⁴FILE 1 ~ *vi* : ⁴FILE 2; *also* : to fit in with an existing file
in·ter·fuse \ˌint-ər-ˈfyüz\ *vt* [L *interfusus,* pp. of *interfundere* to pour between, fr. *inter-* + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] **1** : to combine by fusing : BLEND **2** : to cause to pass into or through others : INFUSE **3** : PERVADE, PERMEATE ⟨wit that *interfused* all his writings⟩ — **in·ter·fu·sion** \-ˈfyü-zhən\ *n*
in·ter·ga·lac·tic \ˌint-ər-gə-ˈlak-tik\ *adj* : situated or occurring in the spaces between galaxies
in·ter·gen·er·a·tion·al \-ˌjen-ə-ˈrā-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : existing or occurring between two or more generations ⟨~ conflicts⟩
in·ter·ge·ner·ic \-jə-ˈner-ik\ *adj* : existing or occurring between genera ⟨~ hybridization⟩
in·ter·gla·cial \-ˈglā-shəl\ *adj* : occurring or formed between glacial epochs
in·ter·gov·ern·men·tal \-ˌgəv-ər(n)-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj* : existing or occurring between two or more governments or levels of government
in·ter·gra·da·tion \-grā-ˈdā-shən, -grə-\ *n* : the condition of one that intergrades — **in·ter·gra·da·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
¹in·ter·grade \ˌint-ər-ˈgrād\ *vi* : to merge gradually one with another through a continuous series of intermediate forms
²in·ter·grade \ˈint-ər-ˌgrād\ *n* : an intermediate form
in·ter·group \ˌint-ər-ˈgrüp\ *adj* : existing or occurring between two or more social groups
in·ter·growth \ˈint-ər-ˌgrōth\ *n* : a growing between or together; *also* : the product of such growth
in·ter·hemi·spher·ic \ˈint-ər-ˌhem-ə-ˈsfi(ə)r-ik, -ˈsfer-\ *adj* : extending or occurring between hemispheres
¹in·ter·im \ˈint-ə-rəm\ *n* [L, adv., meanwhile, fr. *inter* between — more at INTER-] : an intervening time : INTERVAL
²interim *adj* : done, made, or occurring for an interim
in·ter·ion·ic \ˌint-ə-(ˌ)rī-ˈän-ik\ *adj* : situated or acting between ions ⟨~ distance⟩
¹in·te·ri·or \in-ˈtir-ē-ər\ *adj* [MF & L; MF, fr. L, compar. of (assumed) OL *interus* inward, on the inside; akin to L *inter*] **1** : lying, occurring, or functioning within the limits : INNER **2** : lying away or remote from the border or shore **3** : belonging to the inner constitution or concealed nature of something ⟨~ meaning of a poem⟩ **4** : belonging to mental or spiritual life ⟨a simple ~ piety⟩ — **in·te·ri·or·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌtir-ē-ˈȯr-ət-ē, -ˈär-\ *n* — **in·te·ri·or·ly** \in-ˈtir-ē-ər-lē\ *adv*
²interior *n* **1** : the internal or inner part of a thing : INSIDE **2** : the interior part (as of a country or island) **3** : the inner or spiritual nature : CHARACTER **4** : the internal affairs of a state or nation **5** : a representation of the interior of a building
interior decoration *n* : INTERIOR DESIGN
interior decorator *n* **1** : INTERIOR DESIGNER **2** : one who supplies house furnishings **3** : one who paints or wallpapers architectural interiors
interior design *n* : the art or practice of planning and supervising the design and execution of architectural interiors and their furnishings
interior designer *n* : one who specializes in interior design
in·te·ri·or·ize \in-ˈtir-ē-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make interior; *esp* : to make a part of one's own inner being or mental structure — **in·te·ri·or·iza·tion** \-ˌtir-ē-ə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
interior monologue *n* : a usu. extended representation in monologue of a fictional character's sequence of thought and feeling
interj *abbr* interjection
in·ter·ject \ˌint-ər-ˈjekt\ *vt* [L *interjectus,* pp. of *intericere,* fr. *inter-* + *jacere* to throw — more at JET] : to throw in between or among other things : INTERPOLATE ⟨~ a remark⟩ ***syn*** see INTRODUCE — **in·ter·jec·tor** \-ˈjek-tər\ *n* — **in·ter·jec·to·ry** \-t(ə-)rē\ *adj*
in·ter·jec·tion \ˌint-ər-ˈjek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of uttering exclamations : EJACULATION **b** : the act of putting in between : INTERPOSITION **2** : something that is interjected or that interrupts **3** : an ejaculatory utterance usu. lacking grammatical connection: as **a** : a word or phrase used in exclamation (as *Heavens! Dear me!*) **b** : a cry or inarticulate utterance (as *Alas! ouch! phooey! ugh!*) expressing an emotion
in·ter·jec·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : thrown in between other words : PARENTHETICAL **2** : of, relating to, or constituting an interjection : EJACULATORY — **in·ter·jec·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
in·ter·lace \ˌint-ər-ˈlās\ *vb* [ME *entrelacen,* fr. MF *entrelacer,* fr. OF *entrelacier,* fr. *entre-* inter- + *lacier* to lace] *vt* **1** : to unite by or as if by lacing together : INTERWEAVE **2** : to vary by alternation or intermixture : INTERSPERSE ⟨narrative *interlaced* with anecdotes⟩ ~ *vi* : to cross one another as if woven together : INTERTWINE — **in·ter·lace·ment** \-ˈlā-smənt\ *n*
in·ter·lam·i·nate \-ˈlam-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **1** : to insert between laminae **2** : to arrange in alternate laminae — **in·ter·lam·i·na·tion** \-ˌlam-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n*
in·ter·lard \ˌint-ər-ˈlärd\ *vt* [MF *entrelarder,* fr. OF, fr. *entre* inter- + *larder* to lard, fr. *lard,* n.] : to intersperse something often foreign or irrelevant into ⟨text ~*ed* with photographs⟩

in·ter·lay·er \'int-ər-ˌlā-ər, -ˌle(-ə)r\ *n* : a layer placed between other layers — **in·ter·lay·er·ing** \ˌint-ər-'lā-ə-riŋ, -'le-ə-\ *n*
[1]in·ter·leaf \ˌint-ər-'lēf\ *vt* : INTERLEAVE
[2]in·ter·leaf \'int-ər-ˌlēf\ *n* **1** : a usu. blank leaf inserted between two leaves of a book (as for protecting color plates) **2** : SLIP SHEET
in·ter·leave \ˌint-ər-'lēv\ *vt* **-leaved; -leav·ing** **1 a** : to equip with an interleaf **b** : SLIP-SHEET **2** : INTERLAMINATE **3** : to arrange in or as if in alternate layers
in·ter·li·brary \-'lī-ˌbrer-ē\ *adj* : taking place between libraries
[1]in·ter·line \ˌint-ər-'līn\ *vt* [ME *enterlinen*, fr. ML *interlineare*, fr. L *inter-* + *linea* line] : to insert between lines already written or printed — **in·ter·lin·ea·tion** \-ˌlin-ē-'ā-shən\ *n*
[2]interline *vt* [ME *interlinen*, fr. *inter-* + *linen* to line] : to provide (a garment) with an interlining
[3]interline *adj* : relating to, involving, or carried by two or more transportation lines
[1]in·ter·lin·ear \ˌint-ər-'lin-ē-ər\ *adj* [ME *interliniare*, fr. ML *interlinearis*, fr. L *inter-* + *linea* line] **1** : inserted between lines already written or printed **2** : written or printed in different languages or texts in alternate lines — **in·ter·lin·ear·ly** *adv*
[2]interlinear *n* : a book having interlinear matter; *esp* : a book in a foreign language with interlinear translation
in·ter·lin·ing \'int-ər-ˌlī-niŋ\ *n* : a lining (as of a coat) sewn between the ordinary lining and the outside fabric
in·ter·link \ˌint-ər-'liŋk\ *vt* : to link together — **in·ter·link** \'int-ərˌliŋk\ *n*
in·ter·lo·cal \ˌint-ər-'lō-kəl\ *adj* : existing between localities
in·ter·lock \ˌint-ər-'läk\ *vi* : to become engaged or interrelated with one another ~ *vt* **1** : to lock together : UNITE **2** : to connect so that motion of any part is constrained by another; *esp* : to arrange the connections of (as railroad signals) to ensure movement in proper sequence — **in·ter·lock** \'int-ər-ˌläk\ *n* — **in·ter·lock·er** \ˌint-ər-'läk-ər\ *n*
in·ter·lo·cu·tion \ˌint-ər-lō-'kyü-shən\ *n* [L *interlocution-*, *interlocutio*, fr. *interlocutus*, pp. of *interloqui* to speak between, fr. *inter-* + *loqui* to speak] : interchange of speech : CONVERSATION
in·ter·loc·u·tor \ˌint-ər-'läk-yət-ər\ *n* **1** : one who takes part in dialogue or conversation **2** : a man in the middle of the line in a minstrel show who questions the end men and acts as leader
in·ter·loc·u·to·ry \-yə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : pronounced during the progress of a legal action and having only provisional force ⟨~ decree⟩
in·ter·lope \ˌint-ər-'lōp, 'int-ər-ˌ\ *vi* **-loped; -lop·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *interloper*, fr. *inter-* + *-loper* (akin to MD *lopen* to run, OE *hlēapan* to leap) — more at LEAP] **1** : to encroach on the rights (as in trade) of others **2** : INTRUDE, INTERFERE — **in·ter·lop·er** *n*
in·ter·lude \'int-ər-ˌlüd\ *n* [ME *enterlude*, fr. ML *interludium*, fr. L *inter-* + *ludus* play — more at LUDICROUS] **1 a** : a light or farcical entertainment presented between the acts of a mystery or morality play or at a fete **b** : a farce or comedy derived from these entertainments **2** : a performance or entertainment between the acts of a play **3** : an intervening or interruptive period, space, or event : INTERVAL ⟨a peaceful ~ between battles⟩ **4** : a musical composition inserted between the parts of a longer composition, a drama, or a religious service
in·ter·lu·nar \ˌint-ər-'lü-nər\ *also* **in·ter·lu·na·ry** \-nə-rē\ *adj* [prob. fr. MF *interlunaire*, fr. L *interlunium* interlunary period, fr. *inter-* + *luna* moon — more at LUNAR] : relating to the interval between old and new moon when the moon is invisible
in·ter·mar·riage \ˌint-ər-'mar-ij\ *n* **1** : marriage between members of different groups **2** : ENDOGAMY 1
in·ter·mar·ry \-'mar-ē\ *vi* **1 a** : to marry each other **b** : to marry within a group **2** : to become connected by marriage between members
in·ter·med·dle \ˌint-ər-'med-ᵊl\ *vi* [ME *entermedlen*, fr. MF *entremedler*, fr. OF, fr. *entre-* inter- + *medler* to mix — more at MEDDLE] : to meddle impertinently and officiously and usu. so as to interfere ***syn*** see MEDDLE — **in·ter·med·dler** \-'med-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
in·ter·me·di·a·cy \ˌint-ər-'mēd-ē-ə-sē\ *n* **1** : the act or action of intermediating **2** : the quality or state of being intermediate
[1]in·ter·me·di·ary \ˌint-ər-'mēd-ē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* **1** : INTERMEDIATE **2** : acting as a mediator ⟨an ~ agent⟩
[2]intermediary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** **1 a** : MEDIATOR, GO-BETWEEN **b** : MEDIUM, MEANS **2** : an intermediate form or stage
[1]in·ter·me·di·ate \ˌint-ər-'mēd-ē-ˌāt\ *vi* [ML *intermediatus*, pp. of *intermediare*, fr. L *inter-* + LL *mediare* to mediate] **1** : INTERPOSE, INTERVENE **2** : to act as an intermediate
[2]in·ter·me·di·ate \-ē-ət\ *adj* [ML *intermediatus*, fr. L *intermedius*, fr. *inter-* + *medius* mid, middle — more at MID] **1** : being or occurring at the middle place, stage, or degree or between extremes **2** : of or relating to an intermediate school ⟨an ~ curriculum⟩ — **in·ter·me·di·ate·ly** *adv* — **in·ter·me·di·ate·ness** *n*
[3]in·ter·me·di·ate \-ē-ət\ *n* **1** : an intermediate term, object, or class **2** : MEDIATOR, GO-BETWEEN **3** : a chemical compound formed as an intermediate step between the starting material and the final product **4** : an automobile larger than a compact but smaller than a full-sized automobile
intermediate host *n* **1** : a host which is normally used by a parasite in the course of its life cycle and in which it may multiply asexually but not sexually **2 a** : RESERVOIR 3 **b** : VECTOR
intermediate school *n* **1** : JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL **2** : a school usu. comprising grades 4-6
in·ter·me·di·a·tion \ˌint-ər-ˌmēd-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act of coming between : INTERVENTION, MEDIATION
in·ter·me·din \ˌint-ər-'mēd-ᵊn\ *n* : MELANOCYTE-STIMULATING HORMONE
in·ter·ment \in-'tər-mənt\ *n* : the act or ceremony of interring
in·ter·me·tal·lic \ˌint-ər-mə-'tal-ik\ *adj* : composed of two or more metals or of a metal and a nonmetal; *esp* : being an alloy having a characteristic crystal structure and usu. a definite composition — **intermetallic** *n*
in·ter·mez·zo \ˌint-ər-'mets-(ˌ)ō, -'medz-\ *n, pl* **-zi** \-(ˌ)ē\ *or* **-zos** [It, deriv. of L *intermedius* intermediate] **1** : a short light entr'acte **2 a** : a movement coming between the major sections of an extended musical work (as an opera) **b** : a short independent instrumental composition
in·ter·mi·na·ble \(')in-'tərm-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *interminabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *terminare* to terminate] : having or seeming to have no end; *esp* : wearisomely protracted ⟨an ~ sermon⟩ — **in·ter·mi·na·ble·ness** *n* — **in·ter·mi·na·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·ter·min·gle \ˌint-ər-'miŋ-gəl\ *vb* : INTERMIX
in·ter·mis·sion \ˌint-ər-'mish-ən\ *n* [L *intermission-*, *intermissio*, fr. *intermissus*, pp. of *intermittere*] **1** : the act of intermitting : the state of being intermitted **2 a** : the space of time between paroxysms of a disease **b** : an interval between the parts of an entertainment (as the acts of a play) ***syn*** see PAUSE
in·ter·mit \-'mit\ *vb* **-mit·ted; -mit·ting** [L *intermittere*, fr. *inter-* + *mittere* to send — more at SMITE] *vt* : to cause to cease for a time or at intervals : DISCONTINUE ~ *vi* : to be intermittent ***syn*** see DEFER — **in·ter·mit·ter** *n*
in·ter·mit·tent \-'mit-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *intermittent-*, *intermittens*, prp. of *intermittere*] : coming and going at intervals : not continuous ⟨~ rain⟩ — **in·ter·mit·tence** \-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* — **in·ter·mit·tent·ly** *adv*
syn INTERMITTENT, RECURRENT, PERIODIC, ALTERNATE *shared meaning element* : occurring or appearing in interrupted sequence. INTERMITTENT stresses breaks in continuity ⟨an *intermittent* correspondence with a distant relative⟩ ⟨*intermittent* conflict⟩ RECURRENT stresses repetition; thus, a *recurrent* problem can be counted on to come up again and again; a *recurrent* fever tends to reappear at more or less regular intervals. PERIODIC implies recurrence at regular intervals ⟨the *periodic* reappearance of a comet⟩ ALTERNATE may apply to two contrasting things appearing repeatedly one after the other ⟨*alternate* fits of false confidence and secret misgivings —Mildred S. Fenner⟩ or to every second member of a series ⟨the club meets on *alternate* Tuesdays⟩ ***ant*** incessant, continued
intermittent current *n* : an electric current that flows and ceases to flow at intervals but is not reversed
in·ter·mix \ˌint-ər-'miks\ *vb* [back-formation fr. obs. *intermixt* (intermingled), fr. L *intermixtus*, pp. of *intermiscēre* to intermix, fr. *inter-* + *miscēre* to mix — more at MIX] *vt* : to mix together ~ *vi* : to become mixed together — **in·ter·mix·ture** \-'miks-chər\ *n*
in·ter·mo·lec·u·lar \ˌint-ər-mə-'lek-yə-lər\ *adj* : existing or acting between molecules — **in·ter·mo·lec·u·lar·ly** *adv*
[1]in·tern *or* **in·terne** \in-'tərn, 'in-ˌ\ *adj* [MF *interne*, fr. L *internus*] *archaic* : INTERNAL
[2]in·tern \'in-ˌtərn, in-'\ *vt* : to confine or impound esp. during a war ⟨~ enemy aliens⟩
[3]in·tern *or* **in·terne** \'in-ˌtərn\ *n* [F *interne*, fr. *interne*, adj.] : an advanced student or graduate usu. in a professional field (as medicine or teaching) gaining supervised practical experience (as in a hospital or classroom) — **in·tern·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
[4]in·tern \'in-ˌtərn\ *vi* : to act as an intern
in·ter·nal \in-'tərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *internus*; akin to L *inter* between] **1 a** : existing or situated within the limits or surface of something **b** (1) : situated near the inside of the body (2) : situated on the side toward the median plane of the body **2** : capable of being applied through the stomach by being swallowed ⟨an ~ remedy⟩ **3** : relating or belonging to or existing within the mind **4** : INTRINSIC, INHERENT ⟨~ evidence of forgery in a document⟩ **5** : present or arising within an organism or one of its parts ⟨~ stimulus⟩ **6** : of or relating to the domestic affairs of a state ⟨~ strife⟩ — **in·ter·nal·i·ty** \ˌin-ˌtər-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ter·nal·ly** \in-'tərn-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
internal–combustion engine *n* : a heat engine in which the combustion that generates the heat takes place inside the engine proper instead of in a furnace
in·ter·nal·ize \in-'tərn-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give a subjective character to; *specif* : to incorporate (as values or patterns of culture) within the self as conscious or subsconscious guiding principles through learning or socialization — **in·ter·nal·iza·tion** \-ˌtərnᵊl-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*
internal medicine *n* : a branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of nonsurgical diseases
internal respiration *n* : exchange of gases between the cells of the body and the blood by way of the fluid bathing the cells
internal rhyme *n* : rhyme between a word within a line and another either at the end of the same line or within another line
internal secretion *n* : HORMONE
[1]in·ter·na·tion·al \ˌint-ər-'nash-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : affecting or involving two or more nations ⟨~ trade⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or constituting a group or association having members in two or more nations ⟨~ movement⟩ **3** : of or relating to one whose activities extend across national boundaries ⟨an ~ celebrity⟩ — **in·ter·na·tion·al·i·ty** \-ˌnash-ə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ter·na·tion·al·ly** \-'nash-nə-lē, -ən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
[2]in·ter·na·tion·al \-'nash-nəl, -ən-ᵊl, *in sense a often* -ˌnash-ə-'nal, -'näl\ *n* : an organized group that transcends national limits: as **a** *also* **in·ter·na·tio·nale** \-ˌnash-ə-'nal, -'näl\ : one of several socialist or communist organizations of international scope **b** : a labor union having locals in more than one country
international date line *n* : DATE LINE
in·ter·na·tion·al·ism \-'nash-nəl-ˌiz-əm, -'nash-ən-ᵊl-\ *n* **1** : international character, principles, interests, or outlook **2 a** : a policy of cooperation among nations and esp. of the development of close international political and economic relations **b** : an attitude or belief favoring such a policy — **in·ter·na·tion·al·ist** \-əst\ *n or adj*
in·ter·na·tion·al·ize \ˌint-ər-'nash-nəl-ˌīz, -'nash-ən-ᵊl-\ *vt* : to make international; *specif* : to place under international control — **in·ter·na·tion·al·iza·tion** \-ˌnash-nəl-ə-'zā-shən, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n*
international law *n* : a body of rules that control or affect the rights of nations in their relations with each other
International Phonetic Alphabet *n* : IPA
international pitch *n* : a tuning standard of 440 vibrations per second for A above middle C

international relations *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of political science concerned with relations between nations and primarily with foreign policies
International Scientific Vocabulary *n* : a part of the vocabulary of the sciences and other specialized studies that consists of words or other linguistic forms current in two or more languages and differing from New Latin in being adapted to the structure of the individual languages in which they appear — abbr. *ISV*
international unit *n* : a quantity of a biological (as a vitamin) that produces a particular biological effect agreed upon as an international standard
international volt *n* : ²VOLT 2
internatl *abbr* international
in·ter·ne·cine \ˌint-ər-ˈnes-ˌēn, -ˈnēs-ˌīn, -ˌn; in-ˈtər-nə-ˌsēn, -sən; ˌint-ər-nə-ˈsēn\ *adj* [L *internecinus*, fr. *internecare* to destroy, kill, fr. *inter-* + *necare* to kill, fr. *nec-*, *nex* violent death — more at NOXIOUS] **1** : marked by slaughter : DEADLY; *esp* : mutually destructive **2** : of, relating to, or involving conflict within a group ⟨bitter ~ feuds⟩
in·tern·ee \(ˌ)in-ˌtər-ˈnē\ *n* : an interned person
in·ter·neu·ron \ˌint-ər-ˈn(y)ü-ˌrän, -ˈn(y)u̇(ə)r-ˌän\ *n* : an internuncial neuron — **in·ter·neu·ro·nal** \-ˈn(y)u̇r-ən-ᵊl, -nyu̇-ˈrōn-\ *adj*
in·ter·nist \ˈin-ˌtər-nəst\ *n* : a specialist in internal medicine esp. as distinguished from a surgeon
in·tern·ment \in-ˈtərn-mənt\ *n* : the act of interning : the state of being interned
in·ter·node \ˈint-ər-ˌnōd\ *n* [L *internodium*, fr. *inter-* + *nodus* knot] : an interval or part between two nodes (as of a stem) — **in·ter·nod·al** \ˌint-ər-ˈnōd-ᵊl\ *adj*
in·ter·nu·cle·ar \ˌint-ər-ˈn(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj* : situated or occurring between atomic or biological nuclei
in·ter·nun·ci·al \ˌint-ər-ˈnən(t)-sē-əl, -ˈnu̇n(t)-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to an internuncio **2** : serving to link sensory and motor neurons — **in·ter·nun·ci·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·ter·nun·cio \ˌint-ər-ˈnən(t)-sē-ˌō, -ˈnu̇n(t)-\ *n* [It *internunzio*, fr. L *internuntius*, *internuncius*, fr. *inter-* + *nuntius*, *nuncius* messenger] **1** : a messenger between two parties : GO-BETWEEN **2** : a papal legate of lower rank than a nuncio
in·tero·cep·tive \ˌint-ə-rō-ˈsep-tiv\ *adj* [*inter-* (as in *interior*) + *-o-* + *-ceptive* (as in *receptive*)] : of, relating to, or being stimuli arising within the body and esp. the viscera
in·tero·cep·tor \-tər\ *n* : a sensory receptor excited by interoceptive stimuli
in·ter·of·fice \ˌint-ə-ˈrȯf-əs, -ˈräf-\ *adj* : taking place or communicating between or in the offices of an organization
in·ter·pel·late \ˌint-ər-ˈpel-ˌāt, -pə-ˈlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *interpellatus*, pp. of *interpellare* to interrupt, fr. *inter-* + *-pellare* (fr. *pellere* to drive)] : to question (as a foreign minister) formally concerning an official action or policy or personal conduct — **in·ter·pel·la·tion** \-pə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* — **in·ter·pel·la·tor** \-ˈpel-ˌāt-ər, -pə-ˈlāt-\ *n*
in·ter·pen·e·trate \ˌint-ər-ˈpen-ə-ˌtrāt\ *vt* : to penetrate between, within, or throughout : PERMEATE ~ *vi* : to penetrate mutually — **in·ter·pen·e·tra·tion** \-ˌpen-ə-ˈtrā-shən\ *n*
in·ter·per·son·al \-ˈpərs-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* : being, relating to, or involving relations between persons — **in·ter·per·son·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
in·ter·phase \ˈint-ər-ˌfāz\ *n* : the interval between the end of one mitotic or meiotic division and the beginning of another
in·ter·plan·e·tary \ˌint-ər-ˈplan-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* : existing, carried on, or operating between planets ⟨~ space⟩
in·ter·plant \-ˈplant\ *vt* : to plant a crop between (plants of another kind); *also* : to set out young trees among (existing growth)
in·ter·play \ˈint-ər-ˌplā\ *n* : INTERACTION — **in·ter·play** \ˌint-ər-ˈ, ˈint-ər-ˌ\ *vi*
in·ter·plead \ˌint-ər-ˈplēd\ *vi* [AF *enterpleder*, fr. *enter-* inter- + *pleder* to plead, fr. OF *plaidier* — more at PLEAD] : to go to trial with each other in order to determine a right on which the action of a third party depends
¹in·ter·plead·er \-ər\ *n* [AF *enterpleder*, fr. *enterpleder*, v.] : a proceeding to enable a person to compel parties making the same claim against him to litigate the matter between themselves
²interpleader *n* : one that interpleads
in·ter·po·late \in-ˈtər-pə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *interpolatus*, pp. of *interpolare* to refurbish, alter, interpolate, fr. *inter-* + *-polare* (fr. *polire* to polish)] *vt* **1 a** : to alter or corrupt (as a text) by inserting new or foreign matter **b** : to insert (words) into a text or into a conversation **2** : to insert between other things or parts : INTERCALATE **3** : to estimate values of (a function) between two known values ~ *vi* : to make insertions ***syn*** see INTRODUCE — **in·ter·po·la·tion** \-ˌtər-pə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* — **in·ter·po·la·tive** \-ˈtər-pə-ˌlāt-iv\ *adj* — **in·ter·po·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
in·ter·pose \ˌint-ər-ˈpōz\ *vb* **-posed; -pos·ing** [MF *interposer*, fr. L *interponere* (perf. indic. *interposui*), fr. *inter-* + *ponere* to put — more at POSITION] *vt* **1 a** : to place in an intervening position **b** : to put (oneself) between : INTRUDE **2** : to put forth by way of interference or intervention **3** : to introduce or throw in between the parts of a conversation or argument ~ *vi* **1** : to be or come between **2** : to step in between parties at variance : INTERVENE **3** : INTERRUPT — **in·ter·pos·er** *n*
syn **1** see INTRODUCE
2 INTERPOSE, INTERFERE, INTERVENE, MEDIATE, INTERCEDE *shared meaning element* : to come or go between
in·ter·po·si·tion \-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of interposing **b** : the action of a state whereby its sovereignty is placed between its citizens and the federal government **2** : something interposed
in·ter·pret \in-ˈtər-prət, *rapid* -pət\ *vb* [ME *interpreten*, fr. MF&L; MF *interpreter*, fr. L *interpretari*, fr. *interpret-*, *interpres* agent, negotiator, interpreter] *vt* **1** : to explain or tell the meaning of : present in understandable terms **2** : to conceive in the light of individual belief, judgment, or circumstance : CONSTRUE **3** : to represent by means of art : bring to realization by performance ⟨~s a role⟩ ~ *vi* : to act as an interpreter between speakers of different languages ***syn*** see EXPLAIN — **in·ter·pret·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtər-prət-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -pət-\ *n* — **in·ter·pret·able** \-ˈtər-prət-ə-bəl, -pət-\ *adj*
in·ter·pre·ta·tion \in-ˌtər-prə-ˈtā-shən, *rapid* -pə-\ *n* **1** : the act or the result of interpreting : EXPLANATION **2** : an instance of artistic interpretation in performance or adaptation — **in·ter·pre·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
in·ter·pre·ta·tive \in-ˈtər-prə-ˌtāt-iv, *rapid* -pə-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or concerning interpretation : EXPLANATORY — **in·ter·pre·ta·tive·ly** *adv*
in·ter·pret·er \in-ˈtər-prət-ər, *rapid* -pət-\ *n* **1** : one that interprets; *esp* : a person who translates orally for parties conversing in different languages **2** : a computer program that translates an instruction into machine language and executes it before going to the next instruction
in·ter·pre·tive \-prət-iv, *rapid* -pət-\ *adj* : INTERPRETATIVE — **in·ter·pre·tive·ly** *adv*
in·ter·pu·pil·lary \ˌint-ər-ˈpyü-pə-ˌler-ē\ *adj* : extending between the pupils of the eyes; *also* : extending between the centers of a pair of spectacle lenses ⟨~ distance⟩
in·ter·ra·cial \-ˈrā-shəl\ *adj* : of, involving, or designed for members of different races
interred *past of* INTER
in·ter·reg·num \ˌint-ə-ˈreg-nəm\ *n, pl* **-nums** *or* **-na** \-nə\ [L, fr. *inter-* + *regnum* reign — more at REIGN] **1** : the time during which a throne is vacant between two successive reigns or regimes **2** : a period during which the normal functions of government or control are suspended **3** : a lapse or pause in a continuous series
in·ter·re·late \ˌint-ə(r)-ri-ˈlāt\ *vt* : to bring into mutual relation ~ *vi* : to have mutual relationship — **in·ter·re·la·tion** \-ˈlā-shən\ *n* — **in·ter·re·la·tion·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
in·ter·re·lat·ed \-ˈlāt-əd\ *adj* : having a mutual or reciprocal relation or parallelism — **in·ter·re·lat·ed·ly** *adv* — **in·ter·re·lat·ed·ness** *n*
in·ter·re·li·gious \ˌint-ə(r)-ri-ˈlij-əs\ *adj* : existing between or involving different religions or members of different religions
interring *pres part of* INTER
in·ter·ro·bang \in-ˈter-ə-ˌbaŋ\ *n* [*interro*gation point + *bang* (printers' slang for *exclamation point*)] : a punctuation mark ‽ designed for use esp. at the end of an exclamatory rhetorical question
interrog *abbr* interrogative
in·ter·ro·gate \in-ˈter-ə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *interrogatus*, pp. of *interrogare*, fr. *inter-* + *rogare* to ask — more at RIGHT] **1** : to question formally and systematically **2** : to give or send out a signal to (as a transponder or computer) for triggering an appropriate response ***syn*** see ASK — **in·ter·ro·ga·tion** \-ˌter-ə-ˈgā-shən\ *n* — **in·ter·ro·ga·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
interrogation point *n* : QUESTION MARK
¹in·ter·rog·a·tive \ˌint-ə-ˈräg-ət-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : having the form or force of a question **b** : used in a question **2** : INQUISITIVE, QUESTIONING — **in·ter·rog·a·tive·ly** *adv*
²interrogative *n* **1** : an interrogative utterance **2** : a word (as *who, what, which*) or a particle (as Latin *-ne*) used in asking questions
in·ter·ro·ga·tor \in-ˈter-ə-ˌgāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that interrogates **2** : a radio transmitter and receiver for sending out a signal that triggers a transponder and for receiving and displaying the reply
¹in·ter·rog·a·to·ry \ˌint-ə-ˈräg-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** : a formal question or inquiry; *esp* : a written question required to be answered under direction of a court
²interrogatory *adj* : INTERROGATIVE
in·ter·ro·gee \in-ˌter-ə-ˈgē\ *n* : one who is interrogated
¹in·ter·rupt \ˌint-ə-ˈrəpt\ *vb* [ME *interrupten*, fr. L *interruptus*, pp. of *interrumpere*, fr. *inter-* + *rumpere* to break — more at REAVE] *vt* **1** : to stop or hinder by breaking in **2** : to break the uniformity or continuity of ~ *vi* : to break in upon an action; *esp* : to break in with questions or remarks while another is speaking — **in·ter·rupt·ible** \-ˈrəp-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **in·ter·rup·tion** \-ˈrəp-shən\ *n* — **in·ter·rup·tive** \-ˈrəp-tiv\ *adv*
²in·ter·rupt \ˌint-ə-ˈrəpt, ˈint-ə-ˌ\ *n* : a signal to a computer that stops the execution of an ongoing program while a higher priority program is executed; *also* : a circuit that conveys such a signal
in·ter·rupt·er \ˌint-ə-ˈrəp-tər\ *n* : one that interrupts; *esp* : a device for periodically and automatically interrupting an electric current
in·ter·scho·las·tic \ˌint-ər-skə-ˈlas-tik\ *adj* : existing or carried on between schools ⟨~ athletics⟩
in·ter se \ˌint-ər-ˈsā, -ˈsē\ *adv or adj* [L] : among or between themselves
in·ter·sect \ˌint-ər-ˈsekt\ *vb* [L *intersectus*, pp. of *intersecare*, fr. *inter-* + *secare* to cut — more at SAW] *vt* : to pierce or divide by passing through or across : CROSS ~ *vi* **1** : to meet and cross at a point **2** : to share a common area : OVERLAP
in·ter·sec·tion \ˌint-ər-ˈsek-shən, *esp in sense 2* ˈint-ər-ˌ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of intersecting **2** : a place or area where two or more things (as streets) intersect **3** : the set of elements common to two sets; *esp* : the set of points common to two geometric configurations
in·ter·ser·vice \ˌint-ər-ˈsər-vəs\ *adj* : existing between or relating to two or more of the armed services ⟨~ rivalry⟩
in·ter·ses·sion \ˈint-ər-ˌsesh-ən\ *n* : a period between two academic sessions or terms sometimes utilized for brief concentrated courses
in·ter·sex \ˈint-ər-ˌseks\ *n* [ISV] : an intersexual individual
in·ter·sex·u·al \ˌint-ər-ˈseksh-(ə-)wəl, -ˈsek-shəl\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : existing between sexes ⟨~ hostility⟩ **2** : intermediate in sexual characters between a typical male and a typical female — **in·ter·sex·u·al·i·ty** \-ˌsek-shə-ˈwal-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·ter·sex·u·al·ly** \-ˈseksh-(ə-)wə-lē, -(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[1]in·ter·space \'int-ər-ˌspās\ *n* : an intervening space : INTERVAL
[2]in·ter·space \ˌint-ər-'spās\ *vt* **1** : to separate (as printed letters) by spaces **2** : to occupy or fill the space between
in·ter·spe·cif·ic \ˌint-ər-spi-'sif-ik\ *or* **in·ter·spe·cies** \-'spē-(ˌ)shēz, -(ˌ)sēz\ *adj* : existing or arising between species ⟨~ hybrid⟩
in·ter·sperse \ˌint-ər-'spərs\ *vt* **-spersed; -spers·ing** [L *interspersus* interspersed, fr. *inter-* + *sparsus* pp. of *spargere* to scatter — more at SPARK] **1** : to insert at intervals among other things ⟨*interspersing* drawings throughout the text⟩ **2** : to place something at intervals in or among ⟨the street was full of country folk, *interspersed* with visitors —Mary Webb⟩ — **in·ter·sper·sion** \-'spər-zhən, -shən\ *n*
in·ter·sta·di·al \ˌint-ər-'stād-ē-əl\ *n* [ISV *inter-* + NL *stadium* stage, phase] : a subdivision within a glacial stage marking a temporary retreat of the ice
in·ter·state \ˌint-ər-'stāt\ *adj* : of, connecting, or existing between two or more states esp. of the U.S. ⟨an ~ highway⟩
in·ter·stel·lar \-'stel-ər\ *adj* : located or taking place among the stars
in·ter·ster·ile \-'ster-əl, *chiefly Brit* -ˌīl\ *adj* : incapable of producing offspring by interbreeding — **in·ter·ste·ril·i·ty** \-stə-'ril-ət-ē\ *n*
in·ter·stice \in-'tər-stəs\ *n, pl* **-stic·es** \-stə-ˌsēz, -stə-səz\ [F, fr. LL *interstitium*, fr. L *interstitus*, pp. of *intersistere* to stand still in the middle, fr. *inter-* + *sistere* to come to a stand; akin to L *stare* to stand] : a space that intervenes between things : INTERVAL; *esp* : one between closely spaced things ***syn*** see APERTURE
in·ter·sti·tial \ˌint-ər-'stish-əl\ *adj* **1** : relating to or situated in the interstices **2 a** : situated within but not restricted to or characteristic of a particular organ or tissue — used esp. of fibrous tissue **b** : affecting the interstitial tissues of an organ or part **3** : being or relating to a crystalline compound in which usu. small atoms or ions of a nonmetal occupy holes between the larger metal atoms or ions in the crystal lattice — **in·ter·sti·tial·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·ter·sub·jec·tive \ˌint-ər-səb-'jek-tiv\ *adj* **1** : involving or occurring between separate conscious minds ⟨~ communication⟩ **2** : accessible to or capable of being established for two or more subjects : OBJECTIVE — **in·ter·sub·jec·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·ter·sub·jec·tiv·i·ty** \-(ˌ)səb-ˌjek-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n*
in·ter·tes·ta·men·tal \-ˌtes-tə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or forming the period of two centuries between the composition of the last book of the Old Testament and the first book of the New Testament
in·ter·tid·al \-'tīd-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being the part of the littoral zone above low-tide mark — **in·ter·tid·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
in·ter·tie \'int-ər-ˌtī\ *n* : an interconnection permitting passage of current between two or more electric utility systems
in·ter·till \ˌint-ər-'til\ *vt* : to cultivate between the rows of (a crop) — **in·ter·till·age** \-'til-ij\ *n*
in·ter·trop·i·cal \-'träp-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : situated between or within the tropics **2** : relating to regions within the tropics : TROPICAL
in·ter·twine \-'twīn\ *vt* : to unite by twining one with another ~ *vi* : to twine about one another; *also* : to become mutually involved — **in·ter·twine·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
in·ter·twist \-'twist\ *vb* : INTERTWINE — **in·ter·twist** \'int-ərˌtwist\ *n*
in·ter·ur·ban \ˌint-ər-'ər-bən\ *adj* : connecting cities or towns
in·ter·val \'int-ər-vəl\ *n* [ME *intervalle*, fr. MF, fr. L *intervallum* space between ramparts, interval, fr. *inter-* + *vallum* rampart — more at WALL] **1 a** : a space of time between events or states : PAUSE **b** *Brit* : INTERMISSION **2 a** : a space between objects, units, or states **b** : difference in pitch between tones **3** : a set of real numbers between two numbers either including or excluding one or both of them; *also* : the set of real numbers greater or less than and including or excluding a real number
in·ter·vale \'int-ər-vəl, -ˌvāl\ *n* [obs. *intervale* interval] *chiefly NewEng* : BOTTOM 5
in·ter·val·om·e·ter \ˌint-ər-və-'läm-ət-ər\ *n* : a device that operates a control (as for a camera shutter) at regular intervals
in·ter·vene \ˌint-ər-'vēn\ *vi* **-vened; -ven·ing** [L *intervenire* to come between, fr. *inter-* + *venire* to come — more at COME] **1** : to enter or appear as an irrelevant or extraneous feature or circumstance **2** : to occur, fall, or come between points of time or events **3** : to come in or between by way of hindrance or modification ⟨~ to settle a quarrel⟩ **4** : to occur or lie between two things **5 a** : to become a third party to a legal proceeding begun by others for the protection of an alleged interest **b** : to interfere usu. by force or threat of force in another nation's internal affairs esp. to compel or prevent an action or to maintain or alter a condition ***syn*** see INTERPOSE — **in·ter·ven·tion** \-'ven-chən\ *n*
in·ter·ve·nor \-'vē-nər, -ˌnȯ(ə)r\ *or* **in·ter·ven·er** \-'vē-nər\ *n* : one who intervenes; *esp* : one who intervenes as a third party in a legal proceeding
in·ter·ven·tion·ism \-'ven-chə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the theory or practice of intervening; *specif* : governmental interference in economic affairs at home or in political affairs of another country — **in·ter·ven·tion·ist** \-'vench-(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj*
in·ter·ver·te·bral \ˌint-ər-'vərt-ə-brəl, -(ˌ)vər-'tē-\ *adj* : situated between vertebrae — **in·ter·ver·te·bral·ly** \-brə-lē\ *adv*
intervertebral disk *n* : one of the tough elastic disks that are interposed between the centra of adjoining vertebrae and that consist of an outer fibrous ring enclosing an inner pulpy nucleus
in·ter·view \'int-ər-ˌvyü\ *n* [MF *entrevue*, fr. (*s'*)*entrevoir* to see one another, meet, fr. *entre-* inter- + *voir* to see — more at VIEW] **1** : a formal consultation usu. to evaluate qualifications (as of a prospective student or employee) **2 a** : a meeting at which information is obtained (as by a reporter, television commentator, or pollster) from a person **b** : a report or reproduction of information so obtained — **interview** *vt* — **in·ter·view·er** *n*
in·ter·view·ee \ˌint-ər-(ˌ)vyü-'ē\ *n* : one who is interviewed
in·ter vi·vos \ˌint-ər-'vē-ˌvōs, -'vī-\ *adv or adj* [LL] : between living persons ⟨transaction *inter vivos*⟩; *esp* : from one living person to another ⟨*inter vivos* gifts⟩ ⟨property transferred *inter vivos*⟩
in·ter·vo·cal·ic \ˌint-ər-vō-'kal-ik\ *adj* : immediately preceded and immediately followed by a vowel
in·ter·war \ˌint-ər-ˌwȯ(ə)r\ *adj* : occurring or falling between wars ⟨the ~ years⟩
in·ter·weave \ˌint-ər-'wēv\ *vb* **-wove** \-'wōv\ *also* **-weaved; -wo·ven** \-'wō-vən\ *also* **-weaved; -weav·ing** *vt* **1** : to weave together **2** : to intermingle or blend together ⟨*interweaving* his own insights . . . with letters and memoirs —Phoebe Adams⟩ ~ *vi* : INTERTWINE, INTERMINGLE — **in·ter·weave** \'int-ər-ˌwēv\ *n* — **in·ter·wo·ven** \ˌint-ər-'wō-vən\ *adj*
in·ter·zon·al \ˌint-ər-'zōn-ᵊl\ *or* **in·ter·zone** \-ˌzōn\ *adj* : occurring or carried on between zones ⟨an ~ competition⟩
in·tes·ta·cy \in-'tes-tə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being or dying intestate
[1]in·tes·tate \in-'tes-ˌtāt, -təst\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *intestatus*, fr. *in-* + *testatus* testate] **1** : having made no valid will ⟨he died ~⟩ **2** : not disposed of by will ⟨an ~ estate⟩
[2]intestate *n* : one who dies intestate
in·tes·ti·nal \in-'tes-tən-ᵊl, -'tes(t)-nəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being the intestine **2** : affecting or occurring in the intestine; *also* : living in the intestine — **in·tes·ti·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
intestinal fortitude *n* [euphemism for *guts*] : COURAGE, STAMINA
[1]in·tes·tine \in-'tes-tən\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *intestin*, fr. L *intestinus*, fr. *intus* within — more at ENT-] : INTERNAL; *specif* : of or relating to the internal affairs of a state or country ⟨~ war⟩
[2]intestine *n* [MF *intestin*, fr. L *intestinum*, fr. neut. of *intestinus*] : the tubular part of the alimentary canal that extends from the stomach to the anus
in·ti·ma \'int-ə-mə\ *n, pl* **-mae** \-ˌmē, -ˌmī\ *or* **-mas** [NL, fr. L, fem. of *intimus*] : the innermost coat of an organ consisting usu. of an endothelial layer backed by connective tissue and elastic tissue — **in·ti·mal** \-məl\ *adj*
in·ti·ma·cy \'int-ə-mə-sē\ *n* : the state of being intimate : FAMILIARITY
[1]in·ti·mate \'int-ə-ˌmāt\ *vt* **-mat·ed; -mat·ing** [LL *intimatus*, pp. of *intimare* to put in, announce, fr. L *intimus* innermost, superl. of (assumed) OL *interus* inward — more at INTERIOR] **1** : to make known esp. publicly or formally : ANNOUNCE **2** : to communicate delicately and indirectly : HINT ***syn*** see SUGGEST — **in·ti·mat·er** *n* — **in·ti·ma·tion** \ˌint-ə-'mā-shən\ *n*
[2]in·ti·mate \'int-ə-mət\ *adj* [alter. of obs. *intime*, fr. L *intimus*] **1 a** : INTRINSIC, ESSENTIAL **b** : belonging to or characterizing one's deepest nature **2** : marked by very close association, contact, or familiarity ⟨~ knowledge of the law⟩ **3 a** : marked by a warm friendship developing through long association **b** : suggesting informal warmth or privacy ⟨~ clubs⟩ **4** : of a very personal or private nature — **in·ti·mate·ly** *adv* — **in·ti·mate·ness** *n*
[3]in·ti·mate \'int-ə-mət\ *n* : an intimate friend or confidant
in·tim·i·date \in-'tim-ə-ˌdāt\ *vt* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** [ML *intimidatus*, pp. of *intimidare*, fr. L *in-* + *timidus* timid] : to make timid or fearful : FRIGHTEN; *esp* : to compel or deter by or as if by threats — **in·tim·i·da·tion** \-ˌtim-ə-'dā-shən\ *n* — **in·tim·i·da·tor** \-'tim-əˌdāt-ər\ *n*
in·tim·i·da·to·ry \-'tim-ə-də-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : tending to intimidate
in·tinc·tion \in-'tiŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [LL *intinction-, intinctio* baptism, fr. L *intinctus*, pp. of *intingere* to dip in, fr. *in-* + *tingere* to dip, moisten — more at TINGE] : the administration of the sacrament of Communion by dipping the bread in the wine and giving both together to the communicant
in·tine \'in-ˌtēn\ *n* [prob. fr. G, fr. L *intus* within + NL *in-* fibrous tissue, fr. Gk *in-, is* tendon] : the inner mostly cellulose wall of a spore (as a pollen grain)
in·tit·ule \in-'tich-(ˌ)ü(ə)l\ *vt* **-uled; -ul·ing** [MF *intituler*, fr. LL *intitulare*, fr. L *in-* + *titulus* title] *Brit* : to furnish (as a legislative act) with a title or designation
intl *abbr* international
intnl *abbr* international
in·to \ˌin-tə(-w), 'in-(ˌ)tü\ *prep* [ME, fr. OE *intō*, fr. [2]*in* + *tō* to] **1** — used as a function word to indicate entry, introduction, insertion, or inclusion ⟨came ~ the house⟩ ⟨enter ~ an alliance⟩ **2 a** : to the state, condition, or form of ⟨got ~ trouble⟩ **b** : to the occupation, action, or possession of ⟨go ~ farming⟩ **c** : involved with ⟨they were ~ hard drugs⟩ **3** — used as a function word to indicate a period of time or an extent of space part of which is passed or occupied ⟨far ~ the night⟩ **4** : in the direction of ⟨looking ~ the sun⟩ **5** : to a position of contact with : AGAINST ⟨ran ~ a wall⟩
in·tol·er·a·ble \(')in-'täl-(ə-)rə-bəl, -'täl-ər-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *intolerabilis*, fr. *in-* + *tolerabilis* tolerable] **1** : not tolerable : UNBEARABLE ⟨~ pain⟩ **2** : EXCESSIVE — **in·tol·er·a·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌtäl-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·tol·er·a·ble·ness** \(')in-'täl-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, -'täl-ər-bəl-\ *n* — **in·tol·er·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·tol·er·ance \(')in-'täl(-ə)-rən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being intolerant; *esp* : exceptional sensitivity (as to a drug)
in·tol·er·ant \-rənt\ *adj* **1** : unable or unwilling to endure ⟨a plant ~ of direct sunlight⟩ ⟨~ of criticism⟩ **2 a** : unwilling to grant equal freedom of expression esp. in religious matters **b** : unwilling to grant or share social, political, or professional rights : BIGOTED — **in·tol·er·ant·ly** *adv* — **in·tol·er·ant·ness** *n*
in·to·nate \'in-tə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** : INTONE, UTTER
in·to·na·tion \ˌin-tə-'nā-shən, -(ˌ)tō-\ *n* **1** : the act of intoning and esp. of chanting **2** : something that is intoned; *specif* : the opening tones of a Gregorian chant **3** : the manner of singing, playing, or uttering tones **4** : the rise and fall in pitch of the voice in speech — **in·to·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
intonation pattern *n* : a combination of pitch and terminal juncture that contributes to the total meaning of an utterance ⟨a falling *intonation pattern* makes *He is* a statement, a rising one makes it a question⟩ — called also *intonation contour*
in·tone \in-'tōn\ *vb* **in·toned; in·ton·ing** [ME *entonen*, fr. MF *entoner*, fr. ML *intonare*, fr. L *in-* + *tonus* tone] *vt* : to utter in musical or prolonged tones : recite in singing tones or in a monotone ~ *vi* : to utter something in singing tones or in monotone — **in·ton·er** *n*

in to·to \in-'tōt-(,)ō\ *adv* [L, on the whole] : TOTALLY, ENTIRELY ⟨accepted the plan *in toto*⟩
in·tox·i·cant \in-'täk-si-kənt\ *n* : something that intoxicates; *esp* : an alcoholic drink — **intoxicant** *adj*
[1]in·tox·i·cate \-si-kət\ *adj, archaic* : INTOXICATED
[2]in·tox·i·cate \-sə-,kāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [ML *intoxicatus*, pp. of *intoxicare*, fr. L *in-* + *toxicum* poison — more at TOXIC] **1** : POISON **2 a** : to excite or stupefy by alcohol or a drug esp. to the point where physical and mental control is markedly diminished **b** : to excite or elate to the point of enthusiasm or frenzy ⟨*intoxicated* with joy⟩
in·tox·i·cat·ed \-sə-,kāt-əd\ *adj* : affected by or as if by alcohol — **in·tox·i·cat·ed·ly** \-,kāt-əd-lē\ *adv*
in·tox·i·ca·tion \in-,täk-sə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : an abnormal state that is essentially a poisoning ⟨intestinal ~⟩ **2 a** : the condition of being drunk : INEBRIATION **b** : a strong excitement or elation
in·tra- \,in-trə, -(,)trä\ *prefix* [LL, fr. L *intra*, fr. (assumed) OL *interus*, adj., inward — more at INTERIOR] **1 a** : within ⟨*intra*continental⟩ **b** : during ⟨*intra*natal⟩ **c** : between layers of ⟨*intra*dermal⟩ **2** : INTRO- ⟨an *intra*muscular injection⟩
in·tra·ar·te·ri·al \-är-'tir-ē-əl\ *adj* : situated within or entering by way of an artery; *also* : used in intraarterial procedures — **in·tra·ar·te·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·tra·car·di·ac \-'kärd-ē-,ak\ *also* **in·tra·car·di·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj* : existing or occurring within the heart ⟨~ surgery⟩; *also* : used in intracardial procedures ⟨an ~ catheter⟩ — **in·tra·car·di·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·tra·cel·lu·lar \-'sel-yə-lər\ *adj* : existing, occurring, or functioning within a protoplasmic cell ⟨~ enzymes⟩ — **in·tra·cel·lu·lar·ly** *adv*
in·tra·cra·ni·al \-'krā-nē-əl\ *adj* : existing or occurring within the cranium; *also* : affecting or involving intracranial structures — **in·tra·cra·ni·al·ly** \-nē-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·trac·ta·ble \(')in-'trak-tə-bəl\ *adj* [L *intractabilis*, fr. *in-* + *tractabilis* tractable] **1** : not easily governed, managed, or directed : OBSTINATE **2** : not easily manipulated or wrought ⟨~ metal⟩ **3** : not easily relieved or cured ⟨~ pain⟩ ***syn*** see UNRULY ***ant*** tractable — **in·trac·ta·bil·i·ty** \(,)in-,trak-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·trac·ta·ble·ness** \(')in-'trak-tə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·trac·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
in·tra·cu·ta·ne·ous \,in-trə-kyü-'tā-nē-əs, -(,)trä-\ *adj* : INTRADERMAL — **in·tra·cu·ta·ne·ous·ly** *adv*
in·tra·der·mal \-'dər-məl\ *adj* : situated or done within or between the layers of the skin — **in·tra·der·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*
intradermal test *n* : a test for immunity or hypersensitivity made by injecting a minute amount of diluted antigen into the skin
in·tra·dos \'in-trə-,däs, -,dō; in-'trā-,däs\ *n, pl* **-dos** \-,dōz, -,däs\ *or* **-dos·es** \-,däs-əz\ [F, fr. L *intra* within + F *dos* back — more at DOSSIER] : the interior curve of an arch



1 intrados

in·tra·ga·lac·tic \,in-trə-gə-'lak-tik, -(,)trä-\ *adj* : situated or occurring within the confines of a single galaxy
in·tra·mo·lec·u·lar \-mə-'lek-yə-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : existing or acting within the molecule; *also* : formed by reaction between different parts of the same molecule — **in·tra·mo·lec·u·lar·ly** *adv*
in·tra·mu·ral \-'myůr-əl\ *adj* **1 a** : being or occurring within the limits usu. of a community or institution **b** : competitive only within the student body ⟨~ sports⟩ **2** : situated or occurring within the substance of the walls of an organ — **in·tra·mu·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·tra·mus·cu·lar \-'məs-kyə-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : situated within or going into a muscle — **in·tra·mus·cu·lar·ly** *adv*
intrans *abbr* intransitive
in trans *abbr* [L *in transitu*] in transit
in·tran·si·geance \in-'tran(t)s-ə-jən(t)s, -'tranz-\ *n* [F] : INTRANSIGENCE — **in·tran·si·geant** \-jənt\ *adj or n* — **in·tran·si·geant·ly** *adv*
in·tran·si·gence \-jən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of being intransigent
in·tran·si·gent \-jənt\ *adj* [Sp *intransigente*, fr. *in-* + *transigente*, prp. of *transigir* to compromise, fr. L *transigere* to transact — more at TRANSACT] **1 a** : refusing to compromise or to abandon an extreme position or attitude : UNCOMPROMISING **b** : IRRECONCILABLE **2** : characteristic of an intransigent person — **intransigent** *n* — **in·tran·si·gent·ly** *adv*
in·tran·si·tive \(')in-'tran(t)s-ət-iv, -'tranz-; -'tran(t)s-tiv\ *adj* [LL *intransitivus*, fr. L *in-* + LL *transitivus* transitive] : not transitive; *esp* : characterized by not having or containing a direct object ⟨an ~ verb⟩ — **in·tran·si·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·tran·si·tive·ness** *n*
in·trant \'in-trənt\ *n* [L *intrant-, intrans*, prp. of *intrare* to enter — more at ENTER] : ENTRANT; *esp* : one entering an educational institution or a holy order
in·tra·per·i·to·ne·al \,in-trə-,per-ət-ᵊn-'ē-əl\ *adj* : existing within or going into the peritoneal cavity; *also* : introduced through the peritoneum — **in·tra·per·i·to·ne·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
in·tra·per·son·al \-'pərs-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* : occurring within the individual mind or self ⟨~ concerns of the aged⟩
in·tra·pop·u·la·tion \'in-trə-,päp-yə-'lā-shən, -(,)trä-\ *adj* : occurring within or taking place between members of a population
in·tra·psy·chic \,in-trə-'sī-kik, -(,)trä-\ *adj* : being or occurring within the psyche, mind, or personality — **in·tra·psy·chi·cal·ly** \-ki-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
in·tra·spe·cies \-'spē-(,)shēz, -(,)sēz\ *adj* : INTRASPECIFIC
in·tra·spe·cif·ic \-spi-'sif-ik\ *adj* : occurring within a species or involving members of one species — **in·tra·spe·cif·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
in·tra·state \-'stāt\ *adj* : existing or occurring within a state ⟨interstate and ~ commerce⟩
in·tra·uter·ine \-'yüt-ə-rən, -,rīn\ *adj* [ISV] : situated, used, or occurring within the uterus; *also* : involving the part of development that takes place in the uterus
intrauterine device *n* : a device inserted and left in the uterus to prevent effective conception — called also *intrauterine contraceptive device, IUD*
in·tra·vas·cu·lar \,in-trə-'vas-kyə-lər, -(,)trä-\ *adj* : situated or occurring within a vessel and esp. a blood vessel ⟨~ thrombosis⟩ — **in·tra·vas·cu·lar·ly** *adv*
in·tra·ve·nous \,in-trə-'vē-nəs\ *adj* [ISV] : situated within or entering by way of a vein; *also* : used in intravenous procedures — **in·tra·ve·nous·ly** *adv*
in·tra·vi·tal \,in-trə-'vīt-ᵊl, -(,)trä-\ *adj* [ISV] : INTRAVITAM — **in·tra·vi·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
in·tra·vi·tam \-'vī-,tam, -'wē-,täm\ *adj* [NL *intra vitam* during life] **1** : performed upon or found in a living subject **2** *of a stain* : having the property of tinting living cells without killing them — compare SUPRAVITAL
in·tra·zon·al \,in-trə-'zōn-ᵊl, -(,)trä-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a soil or a major soil group marked by relatively well-developed characteristics that are determined primarily by essentially local factors (as the parent material) rather than climate and vegetation — compare AZONAL, ZONAL
intreat *archaic var of* ENTREAT
intrench *var of* ENTRENCH
in·trep·id \in-'trep-əd\ *adj* [L *intrepidus*, fr. *in-* + *trepidus* alarmed — more at TREPIDATION] : characterized by resolute fearlessness, fortitude, and endurance ⟨an ~ explorer⟩ — **in·tre·pid·i·ty** \,in-trə-'pid-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·trep·id·ly** \in-'trep-əd-lē\ *adv* — **in·trep·id·ness** *n*
in·tri·ca·cy \'in-tri-kə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being intricate **2** : something intricate ⟨the *intricacies* of a plot⟩
in·tri·cate \'in-tri-kət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *intricatus*, pp. of *intricare* to entangle, fr. *in-* + *tricae* trifles, impediments] **1** : having many complexly interrelating parts or elements : COMPLICATED **2** : difficult to resolve or analyze ***syn*** see COMPLEX — **in·tri·cate·ly** *adv* — **in·tri·cate·ness** *n*
in·tri·gant *or* **in·tri·guant** \,in-trē-'gänt, ,an-, -'gäⁿ\ *n* [F *intrigant*, fr. It *intrigante*, prp. of *intrigare*] : one that intrigues : INTRIGUER
[1]in·trigue \in-'trēg\ *vb* **in·trigued; in·trigu·ing** [F *intriguer*, fr. It *intrigare*, fr. L *intricare* to entangle, perplex] *vt* **1** : CHEAT, TRICK **2** : to accomplish by intrigue ⟨*intrigued* themselves into office —F. M. Ford⟩ **3** *obs* : ENTANGLE **4** : to arouse the interest, desire, or curiosity of ⟨*intrigued* by the tale⟩ ~ *vi* : to carry on an intrigue; *esp* : PLOT, SCHEME — **in·trigu·er** *n*
[2]in·trigue \'in-,trēg, in-'\ *n* **1 a** : a secret scheme : MACHINATION **b** : the practice of engaging in intrigues **2** : a clandestine love affair
in·trigu·ing \in-'trē-giŋ\ *adj* : engaging the interest to a marked degree : FASCINATING ⟨a thoroughly ~ young woman⟩ — **in·trigu·ing·ly** \-giŋ-lē\ *adv*
in·trin·sic \in-'trin-zik, -'trin(t)-sik\ *adj* [MF *intrinsèque* internal, fr. LL *intrinsecus*, fr. L, adv., inwardly; akin to L *intra* within — more at INTRA-] **1 a** : belonging to the essential nature or constitution of a thing ⟨the ~ worth of a gem⟩ **b** : being or relating to a semiconductor in which the concentration of charge carriers is characteristic of the material itself instead of the content of any impurities it contains **2** : originating or situated within the body or part acted on — **in·trin·si·cal·ly** \-zi-k(ə-)lē, -si-\ *adv* — **in·trin·si·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*
in·trin·si·cal \-zi-kəl, -si-\ *adj, archaic* : INTRINSIC
intrinsic factor *n* : a substance produced by normal gastrointestinal mucosa that facilitates absorption of vitamin B_{12}
intro- *prefix* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L, fr. *intro* inside, to the inside, fr. (assumed) OL *interus*, adj., inward] **1** : in : into ⟨*intro*jection⟩ **2** : inward : within ⟨*intro*vert⟩ — compare EXTRO-
introd *abbr* introduction
in·tro·duce \,in-trə-'d(y)üs\ *vt* **-duced; -duc·ing** [L *introducere*, fr. *intro-* + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] **1** : to lead or bring in esp. for the first time **2 a** : to bring into play **b** : to bring into practice or use : INSTITUTE ⟨*introduced* reforms in court practice⟩ **3** : to lead to or make known by a formal act, announcement, or recommendation: as **a** : to cause to be acquainted **b** : to present formally at court or into society **c** : to present or announce formally or officially or by an official reading **d** : to make preliminary explanatory or laudatory remarks about **e** : to bring (as an actor or singer) before the public for the first time **4** : PLACE, INSERT ⟨the risk of *introducing* harmful substances into the body⟩ **5** : to bring to a knowledge of something — **in·tro·duc·er** *n*
syn INTRODUCE, INSERT, INSINUATE, INTERPOLATE, INTERCALATE, INTERPOSE, INTERJECT *shared meaning element* : to put among or between others ***ant*** withdraw, abstract
in·tro·duc·tion \,in-trə-'dək-shən\ *n* [ME *introduccioun* act of introducing, fr. MF *introduction*, fr. L *introduction-, introductio*, fr. *introductus*, pp. of *introducere*] **1** : something that introduces: as **a** (1) : a part of a book or treatise preliminary to the main portion (2) : a preliminary treatise or course of study **b** : a short introductory musical passage **2** : the act or process of introducing : the state of being introduced **3** : a putting in : INSERTION **4** : something introduced; *specif* : a new or exotic plant or animal
in·tro·duc·to·ry \,in-trə-'dək-t(ə-)rē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a first step that sets something going or in proper perspective ⟨the speaker's ~ remarks established his point of view⟩ ⟨an ~ course in calculus⟩ ***syn*** see PRELIMINARY — **in·tro·duc·to·ri·ly** \-t(ə-)rə-lē\ *adv*
in·tro·gres·sion \,in-trə-'gresh-ən\ *n* [*intro-* + *-gression* (as in *regression*)] : the entry or introduction of a gene from one gene complex into another — **in·tro·gres·sant** \-'gres-ᵊnt\ *adj or n* — **in·tro·gres·sive** \-'gres-iv\ *adj*

in·troit \'in-ˌtrō-ət, -ˌtrȯit, in-'\ *n* [MF *introite*, fr. ML *introitus*, fr. L, entrance, fr. *introitus*, pp. of *introire* to go in, fr. *intro-* + *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] **1** *often cap* : the first part of the traditional proper of the mass consisting of an antiphon, verse from a psalm, and the Gloria Patri **2** : a piece of music sung or played at the beginning of a worship service

in·tro·ject \ˌin-trə-'jekt\ *vt* [*intro-* + *-ject* (as in *project*, v.)] : to incorporate (attitudes or ideas) into one's personality unconsciously — **in·tro·jec·tion** \-'jek-shən\ *n*

in·tro·mis·sion \ˌin-trə-'mish-ən\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. L *intromissus*, pp. of *intromittere*] : the act or process of intromitting; *esp* : the insertion or period of insertion of the penis in the vagina in copulation

in·tro·mit \-'mit\ *vt* **-mit·ted; -mit·ting** [L *intromittere*, fr. *intro-* + *mittere* to send] : to send or put in : INSERT — **in·tro·mit·tent** \-'mit-ᵊnt\ *adj* — **in·tro·mit·ter** \-ər\ *n*

in·trorse \'in-ˌtrȯ(ə)rs\ *adj* [L *introrsus*, adv., inward, fr. *intro-* + *versus* toward, fr. pp. of *vertere* to turn — more at WORTH] : facing inward or toward the axis of growth — **in·trorse·ly** *adv*

in·tro·spect \ˌin-trə-'spekt\ *vb* [L *introspectus*, pp. of *introspicere* to look inside, fr. *intro-* + *specere* to look — more at SPY] *vt* : to examine (one's own mind or its contents) reflectively ~ *vi* : to engage in an examination of one's thought process and sensory experience — **in·tro·spec·tive** \-'spek-tiv\ *adj* — **in·tro·spec·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·tro·spec·tive·ness** *n*

in·tro·spec·tion \-'spek-shən\ *n* : the examination of one's own thought and feeling : SELF-EXAMINATION — **in·tro·spec·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

in·tro·spec·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a doctrine that psychology must be based essentially on data derived from introspection — compare BEHAVIORISM — **in·tro·spec·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *or* **in·tro·spec·tion·is·tic** \-ˌspek-shə-'nis-tik\ *adj* — **introspectionist** *n*

in·tro·ver·sion \ˌin-trə-'vər-zhən, -shən\ *n* [*intro-* + *-version* (as in *diversion*)] **1** : the act of introverting : the state of being introverted **2** : the state or tendency toward being wholly or predominantly concerned with and interested in one's own mental life — **in·tro·ver·sive** \-'vər-siv, -ziv\ *adj* — **in·tro·ver·sive·ly** *adv*

¹in·tro·vert \'in-trə-ˌvərt\ *vt* [*intro-* + *-vert* (as in *divert*)] : to turn inward or in upon itself: as **a** : to bend inward; *also* : to draw in (a tubular part) usu. by invagination **b** : to concentrate or direct upon oneself ⟨his ~*ed* despair and his irrational destructiveness — *Current Biog.*⟩; *also* : to produce psychological introversion in

²introvert *n* **1** : something (as the eyestalk of a snail) that is or can be introverted **2** : one whose personality is characterized by introversion

in·trude \in-'trüd\ *vb* **in·trud·ed; in·trud·ing** [L *intrudere* to thrust in, fr. *in-* + *trudere* to thrust — more at THREAT] *vi* **1** : to thrust oneself in without invitation, permission, or welcome **2** : to enter as a geological intrusion ~ *vt* **1** : to thrust or force in or upon esp. without permission, welcome, or fitness ⟨*intruded* a trite moral into his play⟩ **2** : to cause to enter as if by force — **in·trud·er** *n*

in·tru·sion \in-'trü-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *intrusion-*, *intrusio*, fr. L *intrusus*, pp. of *intrudere*] **1** : the act of intruding or the state of being intruded; *specif* : the act of wrongfully entering upon, seizing, or taking possession of the property of another **2** : the forcible entry of molten rock or magma into or between other rock formations; *also* : the intruded magma

in·tru·sive \in-'trü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1 a** : characterized by intrusion **b** : intruding where one is not welcome or invited **2 a** : projecting inward ⟨an ~ arm of the sea⟩ **b** (1) *of a rock* : having been forced while in a plastic state into cavities or between layers (2) : PLUTONIC **3** : having nothing that corresponds to a sound or letter in orthography or etymon ⟨~ \t\ in \'mints\ for *mince*⟩ ***syn*** see IMPERTINENT ***ant*** retiring, unintrusive — **in·tru·sive·ly** *adv* — **in·tru·sive·ness** *n*

intrust *var of* ENTRUST

intsv *abbr* intensive

in·tu·ba·tion \ˌin-(ˌ)t(y)ü-'bā-shən, -tə-\ *n* : the introduction of a tube into a hollow organ (as the trachea) — **in·tu·bate** \'in-(ˌ)tyü-ˌbāt, -tə-\ *vt*

in·tu·it \in-'t(y)ü-ət\ *vt* : to apprehend by intuition — **in·tu·it·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

in·tu·ition \ˌin-t(y)ü-'ish-ən\ *n* [LL *intuition-*, *intuitio* act of contemplating, fr. L *intuitus*, pp. of *intueri* to look at, contemplate, fr. *in-* + *tueri* to look at] **1 a** : immediate apprehension or cognition **b** : knowledge or conviction gained by intuition **c** : the power or faculty of attaining to direct knowledge or cognition without evident rational thought and inference **2** : quick and ready insight ***syn*** see REASON — **in·tu·ition·al** \-'ish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*

in·tu·ition·ism \-'ish-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a doctrine that there are basic truths intuitively known **b** : a doctrine that objects of perception are intuitively known to be real **2** : a doctrine that right or wrong or fundamental principles about what is right and wrong can be intuited — **in·tu·ition·ist** \-'ish-(ə-)nəst\ *adj or n*

in·tu·itive \in-'t(y)ü-ət-iv\ *adj* **1** : knowing or perceiving by intuition **2 a** : known or perceived by intuition : directly apprehended ⟨had an ~ awareness of his sister's feelings⟩ **b** : knowable by intuition **3** : possessing or given to intuition or insight ⟨an ~ mind⟩ — **in·tu·itive·ly** *adv* — **in·tu·itive·ness** *n*

in·tu·mesce \ˌin-t(y)ü-'mes\ *vi* **-mesced; -mesc·ing** [L *intumescere* to swell up, fr. *in-* + *tumescere*, incho. of *tumēre* to swell — more at THUMB] : ENLARGE, SWELL

in·tu·mes·cence \-'mes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : an enlarging, swelling, or bubbling up (as under the action of heat) **b** : the state of being swollen **2** : something swollen or enlarged

in·tu·mes·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *intumescent-*, *intumescens*, prp. of *intumescere*] **1** : marked by intumescence **2** *of paint* : swelling and charring when exposed to flame

in·tus·sus·cept \ˌint-ə-sə-'sept\ *vb* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *intussusceptus*, pp. of *intussuscipere*, fr. L *intus* within + *suscipere* to take up — more at ENT-, SUSCEPTIBLE] *vt* : to take in by or cause to undergo intussusception; *esp* : INVAGINATE ~ *vi* : to undergo intussusception

in·tus·sus·cep·tion \-'sep-shən\ *n* : a drawing in of something from without: as **a** : INVAGINATION; *esp* : the slipping of a length of intestine into an adjacent portion usu. producing obstruction **b** : the assimilation of new material and its dispersal among preexistent matter — **in·tus·sus·cep·tive** \-'sep-tiv\ *adj*

in·u·lin \'in-yə-lən\ *n* [prob. fr. G *inulin*, fr. L *inula* elecampane] : a tasteless white polysaccharide found esp. dissolved in the sap of the roots and rhizomes of composite plants

in·unc·tion \in-'əŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *inunction-*, *inunctio*, fr. *inunctus*, pp. of *inunguere* to anoint — more at ANOINT] : an act of applying oil or ointment : ANOINTING

in·un·date \'in-(ˌ)ən-ˌdāt\ *vt* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** [L *inundatus*, pp. of *inundare*, fr. *in-* + *unda* wave — more at WATER] **1** : to cover with a flood : OVERFLOW **2** : OVERWHELM — **in·un·da·tion** \ˌin-(ˌ)ən-'dā-shən\ *n* — **in·un·da·tor** \'in-(ˌ)ən-ˌdāt-ər\ *n* — **in·un·da·to·ry** \in-'ən-də-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

in·ure \in-'(y)u̇(ə)r\ *vb* **in·ured; in·ur·ing** [ME *enuren*, fr. *en-* + *ure*, n., use, custom, fr. MF *uevre* work, practice, fr. L *opera* work — more at OPERA] *vt* : to accustom to accept something undesirable : HABITUATE ~ *vi* : to become of advantage : ACCRUE — **in·ure·ment** \-mənt\ *n*

in·urn \in-'ərn\ *vt* **1** : to place (as cremated remains) in an urn **2** : ENTOMB

in·utile \(ˈ)in-'yüt-ᵊl, -'yü-ˌtīl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *inutilis*, fr. *in-* + *utilis* useful — more at UTILITY] : USELESS, UNUSABLE — **in·util·i·ty** \ˌin-yü-'til-ət-ē\ *n*

inv *abbr* **1** inventor **2** invoice

in vac·uo \in-'vak-yə-ˌwō\ *adv* [NL] : in a vacuum

in·vade \in-'vād\ *vt* **in·vad·ed; in·vad·ing** [ME *invaden*, fr. L *invadere*, fr. *in-* + *vadere* to go — more at WADE] **1** : to enter for conquest or plunder **2** : to encroach upon : INFRINGE **3 a** : to spread over or into as if invading : PERMEATE ⟨doubts ~ his mind⟩ **b** : to affect injuriously and progressively ⟨gangrene ~*s* healthy tissue⟩ ***syn*** see TRESPASS — **in·vad·er** *n*

in·vag·i·nate \in-'vaj-ə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [ML *invaginatus*, pp. of *invaginare*, fr. L *in-* + *vagina* sheath] *vt* **1** : ENCLOSE, SHEATHE **2** : to fold in so that an outer becomes an inner surface ~ *vi* : to undergo invagination

in·vag·i·na·tion \-ˌvaj-ə-'nā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or process of invaginating: as **a** : the formation of a gastrula by an infolding of part of the wall of the blastula **b** : intestinal intussusception **2** : an invaginated part

¹in·val·id \(ˈ)in-'val-əd\ *adj* [L *invalidus* weak, fr. *in-* + *validus* strong — more at VALID] : not valid: **a** : being without foundation or force in fact, truth, or law **b** : logically inconsequent — **in·va·lid·i·ty** \ˌin-və-'lid-ət-ē, -va-\ *n* — **in·val·id·ly** \(ˈ)in-'val-əd-lē\ *adv* — **in·val·id·ness** *n*

²in·va·lid \'in-və-ləd, *Brit usu* -ˌlēd\ *adj* [L & F; F *invalide*, fr. L *invalidus*] **1** : suffering from disease or disability : SICKLY **2** : of, relating to, or suited to one that is sick

³invalid *like*²\ *n* : one that is sickly or disabled

⁴in·va·lid \'in-və-ləd, -ˌlid, *Brit usu* ˌin-və-'lēd\ *vt* **1** : to make sickly or disabled **2** : to remove from active duty by reason of sickness or disability

in·val·i·date \(ˈ)in-'val-ə-ˌdāt\ *vt* : to make invalid; *esp* : to weaken or destroy the cogency of ***syn*** see NULLIFY — **in·val·i·da·tion** \(ˌ)in-ˌval-ə-'dā-shən\ *n* — **in·val·i·da·tor** \in-'val-ə-ˌdāt-ər\ *n*

in·va·lid·ism \'in-və-ləd-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a chronic condition of being an invalid

in·valu·able \(ˈ)in-'val-yə(-wə)-bəl\ *adj* [¹*in-* + *value*, v. + *-able*] : valuable beyond estimation : PRICELESS ***syn*** see COSTLY ***ant*** worthless — **in·valu·able·ness** *n* — **in·valu·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·vari·able \(ˈ)in-'ver-ē-ə-bəl, -'var-\ *adj* : not changing or capable of change : CONSTANT — **in·vari·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌver-ē-ə-'bil-ət-ē, -ˌvar-\ *n* — **invariable** *n* — **in·vari·able·ness** *n* — **in·vari·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

in·vari·ance \(ˈ)in-'ver-ē-ən(t)s, -'var-\ *n* : the quality or state of being invariant

in·vari·ant \-ənt\ *adj* : CONSTANT, UNCHANGING; *specif* : unaffected by the group of mathematical operations under consideration ⟨~ factor⟩ — **invariant** *n*

in·va·sion \in-'vā-zhən\ *n* [ME *invasioune*, fr. MF *invasion*, fr. LL *invasion-*, *invasio*, fr. L *invasus*, pp. of *invadere*] **1** : an act of invading; *esp* : incursion of an army for conquest or plunder **2** : the incoming or spread of something usu. hurtful

in·va·sive \-siv, -ziv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by military aggression **2** : tending to spread; *esp* : tending to invade healthy tissue ⟨~ cancer cells⟩ **3** : tending to infringe — **in·va·sive·ness** *n*

¹in·vec·tive \in-'vek-tiv\ *adj* [ME *invectif*, fr. MF, fr. L *invectivus*, fr. *invectus*, pp. of *invehere*] : of, relating to, or characterized by insult or abuse : DENUNCIATORY — **in·vec·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·vec·tive·ness** *n*

²invective *n* **1** : an abusive expression or speech **2** : insulting or abusive language : VITUPERATION ***syn*** see ABUSE

in·veigh \in-'vā\ *vi* [L *invehi* to attack, inveigh, pass. of *invehere* to carry in, fr. *in-* + *vehere* to carry — more at WAY] : to protest or complain bitterly or vehemently : RAIL — **in·veigh·er** *n*

in·vei·gle \in-'vā-gəl, -'vē-\ *vt* **in·vei·gled; in·vei·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [modif. of MF *aveugler* to blind, hoodwink, fr. OF *avogler*, fr. *avogle* blind, fr. ML *ab oculis*, lit., lacking eyes] **1** : to win over by wiles : ENTICE **2** : to acquire by ingenuity or flattery ***syn*** see LURE — **in·vei·gle·ment** \-gəl-mənt\ *n* — **in·vei·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*

in·vent \in-'vent\ *vt* [ME *inventen*, fr. L *inventus*, pp. of *invenire* to come upon, find, fr. *in-* + *venire* to come — more at COME] **1** *archaic* : FIND, DISCOVER **2** : to think up or imagine : FABRICATE **3** : to produce (as something useful) for the first time through the use of the imagination or of ingenious thinking and experiment ⟨~ a new machine⟩ — **in·ven·tor** \-'vent-ər\ *n* — **in·ven·tress** \-'ven-trəs\ *n*

syn INVENT, CREATE, DISCOVER *shared meaning element* : to bring into existence or make known something new

in·ven·tion \in-'ven-chən\ *n* **1** : DISCOVERY, FINDING **2** : productive imagination : INVENTIVENESS **3 a** : something invented: as (1) : a product of the imagination; *esp* : a false conception (2) : a device, contrivance, or process originated after study and experi-

ment **b** : a short keyboard composition usu. in double counterpoint **4** : the act or process of inventing

in·ven·tive \in-'vent-iv\ *adj* **1** : adept or prolific at producing inventions : CREATIVE **2** : characterized by invention — **in·ven·tive·ly** *adv* — **in·ven·tive·ness** *n*

[1]in·ven·to·ry \'in-vən-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** **a** : an itemized list of current assets: as (1) : a catalog of the property of an individual or estate (2) : a list of goods on hand **b** : a survey of natural resources **c** : a list of traits, preferences, attitudes, interests, or abilities used to evaluate personal characteristics or skills **2** : the quantity of goods or materials on hand : STOCK **3** : the act or process of taking an inventory — **in·ven·to·ri·al** \ˌin-vən-'tōr-ē-əl\ *adj* — **in·ven·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

[2]inventory *vt* **-ried; -ry·ing** : to make an inventory of : CATALOG

in·ver·ness \ˌin-vər-'nes\ *n* [*Inverness*, Scotland] : a loose belted coat having a cape with a close-fitting round collar



1 inverness

[1]in·verse \(')in-'vərs, 'in-ˌ\ *adj* [L *inversus*, fr. pp. of *invertere*] **1** : opposite in order, nature, or effect **2** : being an inverse function ⟨~ sine⟩ — **in·verse·ly** *adv*

[2]in·verse \'in-ˌvərs, (')in-'\ *n* **1** : something of a contrary nature or quality : OPPOSITE, REVERSE **2** : the result of an inversion; *specif* : a proposition which is inferred immediately from another and in which the subject term is the negative of the subject of the given proposition and the predicate term is unchanged **3** **a** : an inverse function, operation, or point **b** : a set element that is related to another element in such a way that the result of applying a given binary operation to them is an identity element of the set

inverse function *n* : the mathematical function that expresses the independent variable of another function in terms of its dependent variable

in·ver·sion \in-'vər-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of inverting **2** : a reversal of position, order, form, or relationship: as **a** (1) : a change in normal word order; *esp* : the placement of a verb before its subject (2) : the process or result of changing or reversing the relative positions of the elements of a musical interval, chord, or phrase (as by repeating a phrase with its intervals in the contrary order) **b** : the condition of being turned inward or inside out ⟨~ of the foot⟩ ⟨~ of the uterus⟩ **c** : a breaking off of a chromosome section and its subsequent reattachment in inverted position; *also* : a chromosomal section that has undergone this process **3** **a** : a change in the order of the terms of a mathematical proportion effected by inverting each ratio **b** : the operation of inverting or forming the inverse of a magnitude, an operation, or an element **4** : HOMOSEXUALITY **5** : a conversion of a substance showing dextrorotation into one showing levorotation or vice versa ⟨~ of sucrose⟩ **6** : a conversion of direct current into alternating current **7** : a reversal of the normal atmospheric temperature gradient

in·ver·sive \-'vər-siv, -ziv\ *adj* : marked by inversion

[1]in·vert \in-'vərt\ *vt* [L *invertere*, fr. *in-* + *vertere* to turn — more at WORTH] **1** **a** : to turn inside out or upside down **b** : to turn inward **2** **a** : to reverse in position, order, or relationship **b** : to subject to musical inversion **c** : to subject to chemical inversion — **in·vert·ible** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

[2]in·vert \'in-ˌvərt\ *n* : one characterized by inversion; *esp* : HOMOSEXUAL

[3]in·vert \'in-ˌvərt\ *adj* : subjected to chemical inversion

in·ver·tase \in-'vərt-ˌās, -ˌāz; 'in-vər-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* [ISV] : an enzyme capable of inverting sucrose

in·ver·te·brate \(')in-'vərt-ə-brət, -ˌbrāt\ *adj* [NL *invertebratus*, fr. L *in-* + NL *vertebratus* vertebrate] **1** : lacking a spinal column; *also* : of or relating to invertebrate animals **2** : lacking in strength or vitality : WEAK — **invertebrate** *n*

inverted comma *n* **1** : a comma in type turned to print upside down at the top of the line **2** *chiefly Brit* : QUOTATION MARK

in·vert·er \in-'vərt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that inverts **2** : a device for converting direct current into alternating current by mechanical or electronic means

in·vert·ible \in-'vərt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being inverted or subjected to inversion ⟨an ~ matrix⟩

invert sugar *n* : a mixture of dextrose and levulose found in fruits or produced artificially by the inversion of sucrose; *also* : dextrose obtained from starch

[1]in·vest \in-'vest\ *vt* [L *investire* to clothe, surround, fr. *in-* + *vestis* garment — more at WEAR] **1** [ML *investire*, fr. L, to clothe] **a** : to array in the symbols of office or honor **b** : to furnish with power or authority **c** : to grant someone control or authority over : VEST **2** : to cover completely : ENVELOP **3** : CLOTHE, ADORN **4** [MF *investir*, fr. OIt *investire*, fr. L, to surround] : to surround with troops or ships so as to prevent escape or entry **5** : to endow with a quality or characteristic : INFUSE

[2]invest *vb* [It *investire* to clothe, invest money, fr. L, to clothe] *vt* **1** : to commit (money) in order to earn a financial return **2** : to make use of for future benefits or advantages ⟨~*ed* his time well⟩ ~ *vi* : to make an investment — **in·vest·able** \-'ves-tə -bəl\ *adj* — **in·ves·tor** \-tər\ *n*

in·ves·ti·gate \in-'ves-tə-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *investigatus*, pp. of *investigare* to track, investigate, fr. *in-* + *vestigium* footprint, track] *vt* : to observe or study by close examination and systematic inquiry ~ *vi* : to make a systematic examination; *esp* : to conduct an official inquiry — **in·ves·ti·ga·tion** \-ˌves-tə-'gā-shən\ *n* — **in·ves·ti·ga·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·ves·ti·ga·tive** \-'ves-tə-ˌgāt-iv\ *adj* — **in·ves·ti·ga·tor** \-ˌgāt-ər\ *n* — **in·ves·ti·ga·to·ry** \-'ves-ti-gə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

in·ves·ti·ture \in-'ves-tə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *investitura*, fr. *investitus*, pp. of *investire*] **1** : the act of establishing in office or ratifying : CONFIRMATION **2** : something that covers or adorns

[1]in·vest·ment \in-'ves(t)-mənt\ *n* [[1]*invest*] **1** **a** *archaic* : VESTMENT **b** : an outer layer : ENVELOPE **2** : INVESTITURE 1 **3** : BLOCKADE, SIEGE

[2]investment *n* [[2]*invest*] : the outlay of money usu. for income or profit : capital outlay; *also* : the sum invested or the property purchased

investment company *n* : a company whose primary business is holding securities of other companies purely for investment purposes — compare HOLDING COMPANY

in·vet·er·a·cy \in-'vet-ə-rə-sē, -'ve-trə-sē\ *n* [*inveterate* + *-cy*] : the quality or state of being obstinate or persistent : TENACITY

in·vet·er·ate \in-'vet-ə-rət, -'ve-trət\ *adj* [L *inveteratus*, fr. pp. of *inveterare* to age (v.t.), fr. *in-* + *veter-*, *vetus* old — more at WETHER] **1** : firmly established by long persistence ⟨the ~ tendency to overlook the obvious⟩ **2** : confirmed in a habit : HABITUAL ⟨an ~ smoker⟩ — **in·vet·er·ate·ly** *adv*

syn INVETERATE, CONFIRMED, CHRONIC, DEEP-SEATED, DEEP-ROOTED *shared meaning element* : firmly established or having something firmly established

in·vi·a·ble \(')in-'vī-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ISV] : incapable of surviving esp. because of genetic constitution — **in·vi·a·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌvī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

in·vid·i·ous \in-'vid-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *invidiosus* envious, invidious, fr. *invidia* envy — more at ENVY] **1** : tending to cause discontent, animosity, or envy **2** : ENVIOUS **3** **a** : of an unpleasant or objectionable nature : OBNOXIOUS ⟨subtle and ~ criticism⟩ **b** : of a kind to cause harm or resentment ⟨a most ~ comparison⟩ ***syn*** see REPUGNANT — **in·vid·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **in·vid·i·ous·ness** *n*

in·vig·o·rate \in-'vig-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [prob. fr. *in-* + *vigor*] : to give life and energy to : ANIMATE — **in·vig·o·rat·ing·ly** \-ˌrāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **in·vig·o·ra·tion** \-ˌvig-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **in·vig·o·ra·tor** \-'vig-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*

in·vin·ci·ble \(')in-'vin(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *invincibilis*, fr. L *in-* + *vincere* to conquer — more at VICTOR] : incapable of being conquered, overcome, or subdued — **in·vin·ci·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌvin(t)-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·vin·ci·ble·ness** \(')in-'vin(t)-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·vin·ci·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·vi·o·la·ble \(')in-'vī-ə-lə-bəl\ *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *inviolabilis*, fr. *in-* + *violare* to violate] **1** : secure from violation or profanation **2** : secure from assault or trespass : UNASSAILABLE ***syn*** see SACRED — **in·vi·o·la·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌvī-ə-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·vi·o·la·ble·ness** \(')in-'vī-ə-lə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·vi·o·la·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·vi·o·la·cy \(')in-'vī-ə-lə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being inviolate

in·vi·o·late \(')in-'vī-ə-lət\ *adj* : not violated or profaned; *esp* : PURE ***syn*** see SACRED ***ant*** violated — **in·vi·o·late·ly** *adv* — **in·vi·o·late·ness** *n*

in·vis·cid \(')in-'vis-əd\ *adj* **1** : having zero viscosity **2** : of or relating to an inviscid fluid ⟨~ flow⟩

in·vis·i·ble \(')in-'viz-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *invisibilis*, fr. *in-* + *visibilis* visible] **1** **a** : incapable by nature of being seen **b** : inaccessible to view : HIDDEN **2** **a** : not appearing in published financial statements **b** : not reflected in statistics **3** : IMPERCEPTIBLE, INCONSPICUOUS — **in·vis·i·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌviz-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **invisible** *n* — **in·vis·i·ble·ness** \(')in-'viz-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **in·vis·i·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in·vi·ta·tion \ˌin-və-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** **a** : the act of inviting **b** : an often formal request to be present or participate **2** : INCENTIVE, INDUCEMENT

in·vi·ta·tion·al \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : prepared or entered in response to a request ⟨an ~ article⟩ **2** : limited to invited participants ⟨an ~ tournament⟩

[1]in·vi·ta·to·ry \in-'vīt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : containing an invitation

[2]invitatory *n, pl* **-ries** : an invitatory psalm or antiphon

[1]in·vite \in-'vīt\ *vt* **in·vit·ed; in·vit·ing** [MF or L; MF *inviter*, fr. L *invitare*] **1** **a** : to offer an incentive or inducement to : ENTICE **b** : to increase the likelihood of **2** **a** : to request the presence or participation of **b** : to request formally **c** : to urge politely : WELCOME — **in·vit·er** *n*

syn INVITE, SOLICIT, COURT *shared meaning element* : to request or encourage to respond or act

[2]in·vite \'in-ˌvīt\ *n, chiefly dial* : INVITATION 1

in·vi·tee \ˌin-və-'tē, -ˌvī-\ *n* : an invited person

in·vit·ing \in-'vīt-iŋ\ *adj* : ATTRACTIVE, TEMPTING — **in·vit·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

in vi·tro \in-'vē-(ˌ)trō\ *adv or adj* [NL, lit., in glass] : outside the living body and in an artificial environment

in vi·vo \in-'vē-(ˌ)vō\ *adv or adj* [NL, lit., in the living] : in the living body of a plant or animal

in·vo·cate \'in-və-ˌkāt\ *vt, archaic* : INVOKE

in·vo·ca·tion \ˌin-və-'kā-shən\ *n* [ME *invocacioun*, fr. MF *invocation*, fr. L *invocation-*, *invocatio*, fr. *invocatus*, pp. of *invocare*] **1** **a** : the act or process of petitioning for help or support : SUPPLICATION; *specif, often cap* : an invocatory prayer (as at the beginning of a service of worship) **b** : a calling upon for authority or justification **2** : a formula for conjuring : INCANTATION **3** : an act of legal or moral implementation : ENFORCEMENT — **in·vo·ca·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **in·voc·a·to·ry** \in-'väk-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

[1]in·voice \'in-ˌvȯis\ *n* [modif. of MF *envois*, pl. of *envoi* message — more at ENVOI] **1** : an itemized list of goods shipped usu. specifying the price and the terms of sale : BILL **2** : a consignment of merchandise

[2]invoice *vt* **in·voiced; in·voic·ing** : to submit an invoice for or to : BILL

in·voke \in-'vōk\ *vt* **in·voked; in·vok·ing** [ME *invoken*, fr. MF *invoquer*, fr. L *invocare*, fr. *in-* + *vocare* to call — more at VOICE] **1**

ə abut ᵊ kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart
au̇ out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life
j joke ŋ sing ō flow ȯ flaw ȯi coin th thin t͟h this
ü loot u̇ foot y yet yü few yu̇ furious zh vision

a : to petition for help or support **b** : to appeal to or cite as authority **2** : to call forth by incantation : CONJURE **3** : to make an earnest request for : SOLICIT ⟨*invoked* their forgiveness⟩ **4** : to put into effect or operation : IMPLEMENT **5** : to bring about : CAUSE — **in·vok·er** *n*

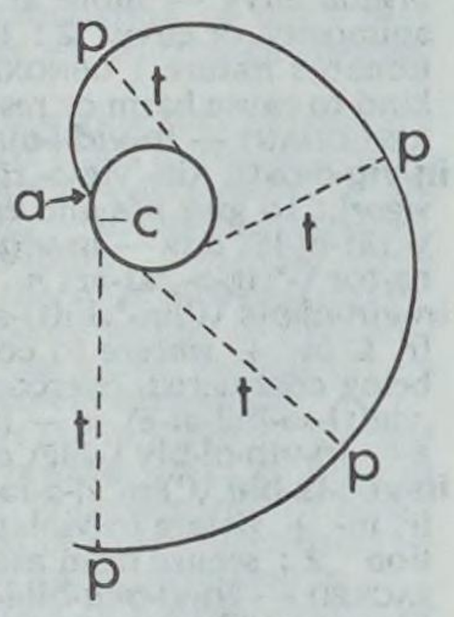
in·vo·lu·cre \'in-və-ˌlü-kər\ *n* [F, fr. NL *involucrum*] : one or more whorls of bracts situated below and close to a flower, flower cluster, or fruit — **in·vo·lu·cral** \ˌin-və-'lü-krəl\ *adj* — **in·vo·lu·crate** \-krət, -ˌkrāt\ *adj* — **in·vo·lu·cred** \'in-və-ˌlü-kərd\ *adj*

in·vo·lu·crum \ˌin-və-'lü-krəm\ *n, pl* **-cra** \-krə\ [NL, sheath, involucre, fr. L, sheath, fr. *involvere* to wrap] : a surrounding envelope or sheath; *esp* : INVOLUCRE

in·vol·un·tary \(')in-'väl-ən-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [LL *involuntarius*, fr. L *in-* + *voluntarius* voluntary] **1** : done contrary to or without choice **2** : COMPULSORY **3** : not subject to control of the will : REFLEX — **in·vol·un·tari·ly** \(ˌ)in-ˌväl-ən-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* — **in·vol·un·tari·ness** \(')in-'väl-ən-ˌter-ē-nəs\ *n*

¹in·vo·lute \'in-və-ˌlüt\ *adj* [L *involutus* involved, fr. pp. of *involvere*] **1 a** (1) : curled spirally (2) : having the whorls closely coiled ⟨~ shell⟩ **b** (1) : curled or curved inward (2) : having the edges rolled over the upper surface toward the midrib ⟨an ~ leaf⟩ **c** : having the form of an involute ⟨a gear with ~ teeth⟩ **2** : INVOLVED, INTRICATE — **in·vo·lute·ly** *adv*

²involute *n* : a curve traced by a point on a thread kept taut as it is unwound from another curve



involute *a, p, p, p, p* traced by any point *p* of the thread *t* unwinding from curve *c*

³in·vo·lute \ˌin-və-'lüt\ *vi* **-lut·ed; -lut·ing** **1** : to become involute **2 a** : to return to a former condition **b** : to become cleared up : DISAPPEAR

in·vo·lu·tion \ˌin-və-'lü-shən\ *n* [L *involution-, involutio*, fr. *involutus*, pp. of *involvere*] **1 a** (1) : the act or an instance of enfolding or entangling : INVOLVEMENT (2) : an involved grammatical construction usu. characterized by the insertion of clauses between the subject and predicate **b** : COMPLEXITY, INTRICACY **2** : the act or process of raising a quantity to a power **3 a** : an inward curvature or penetration **b** : the formation of a gastrula by ingrowth of cells formed at the dorsal lip **4** : a shrinking or return to a former size **5** : the regressive alterations of a body or its parts characteristic of the aging process; *specif* : decline marked by a decrease of bodily vigor and in women by the menopause — **in·vo·lu·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-'l\ *adj* — **in·vo·lu·tion·ary** \-shəˌner-ē\ *adj*

in·volve \in-'välv, -'vȯlv\ *vt* **in·volved; in·volv·ing** [ME *involven* to roll up, wrap, fr. L *involvere*, fr. *in-* + *volvere* to roll — more at VOLUBLE] **1** *archaic* : to enfold or envelop so as to encumber **2 a** : to engage as a participant ⟨workmen *involved* in building a house⟩ **b** : to oblige to take part ⟨the questionable right of an executive to ~ the nation in war⟩ **c** : to occupy (as oneself) absorbingly; *esp* : to commit (as oneself) emotionally ⟨she became *involved* with a married man⟩ **3** : to surround as if with a wrapping : ENVELOP **4 a** *archaic* : to wind, coil, or wreathe about : ENTWINE **b** : to relate closely : CONNECT **5 a** : to have within or as part of itself : INCLUDE **b** : to require as a necessary accompaniment : ENTAIL **c** : to have an effect on : AFFECT — **in·volve·ment** \-'välv-mənt, -'vȯlv-\ *n* — **in·volv·er** *n*

syn **1** see INCLUDE
2 INVOLVE, IMPLICATE *shared meaning element* : to bring into a situation from which escape is difficult

in·volved \-'välvd, -'vȯlvd\ *adj* **1** : INVOLUTE, TWISTED **2 a** : marked by extreme and often needless or excessive complexity ⟨a story with an ~ plot⟩ **b** : difficult to deal with because of complexity or disorder ⟨his affairs were found to be dangerously ~ when he died⟩ **3** : being affected or implicated ***syn*** see COMPLEX — **in·volv·ed·ly** \-'väl-vəd-lē, -'vȯl-\ *adv*

in·vul·ner·a·ble \(')in-'vəln-(ə-)rə-bəl, -'vəl-nər-bəl\ *adj* [L *invulnerabilis*, fr. *in-* + *vulnerare* to wound — more at VULNERABLE] **1** : incapable of being wounded, injured, or harmed **2** : immune to or proof against attack : IMPREGNABLE — **in·vul·ner·a·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)in-ˌvəln-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **in·vul·ner·a·ble·ness** \(')in-'vəln-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, -'vəl-nər -bəl-\ *n* — **in·vul·ner·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

¹in·ward \'in-wərd\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *inweard;* akin to OHG *inwert* inward; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose constituents are represented by OE *in* & OE *-weard* -ward] **1** : situated on the inside : INNER **2** : of or relating to the mind or spirit ⟨struggled to achieve ~ peace⟩ **3** : marked by close acquaintance : FAMILIAR **4** : directed toward the interior

²inward *or* **in·wards** \-wərdz\ *adv* **1** : toward the inside, center, or interior **2** : toward the inner being

³inward *n* **1** : something that is inward **2 in·wards** \'in-ərdz, -wərdz\ *pl* : INNARDS

Inward Light *n* : INNER LIGHT

in·ward·ly \'in-wərd-lē\ *adv* **1** : in the innermost being : MENTALLY, SPIRITUALLY **2 a** : beneath the surface : INTERNALLY ⟨bled ~⟩ **b** : to oneself : PRIVATELY ⟨cursed ~⟩

in·ward·ness *n* **1** : close acquaintance : FAMILIARITY **2** : fundamental nature : ESSENCE **3** : internal quality or substance **4** : absorption in one's own mental or spiritual life

in·weave \(')in-'wēv\ *vt* **-wove** \-'wōv\ *also* **-weaved; -wo·ven** \-'wō-vən\ *also* **-weaved; -weav·ing** : INTERWEAVE, INTERLACE

in–wrought \(')in-'rȯt, 'in-ˌ\ *adj* **1** : having decoration worked in : ORNAMENTED; *esp* : decorated with embroidery **2** : worked in esp. as decoration

Io \'ī-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Iō*] : a maiden loved by Zeus and changed by him into a heifer so that she might escape the jealous rage of Hera

I/O *abbr* input/output

IOC *abbr* International Olympic Committee

iod- *or* **iodo-** *comb form* [F *iode*] : iodine ⟨*iod*ize⟩ ⟨*iodo*form⟩

¹io·date \'ī-ə-ˌdāt, -əd-ət\ *n* [F, fr. *iode*] : a salt of iodic acid

²io·date \'ī-ə-ˌdāt\ *vt* **io·dat·ed; io·dat·ing** [*iod-* + *-ate*] : to impregnate or treat with iodine — **io·da·tion** \ˌī-ə-'dā-shən\ *n*

iod·ic \ī-'äd-ik\ *adj* [F *iodique*, fr. *iode*] : of, relating to, or containing iodine; *esp* : containing iodine with a valence of five

iodic acid *n* : a crystalline oxidizing solid HIO_3 formed by oxidation of iodine

io·dide \'ī-ə-ˌdīd\ *n* [ISV] : a compound of iodine usu. with a more electropositive element or radical; *esp* : a salt or ester of hydriodic acid

io·din·ate \'ī-ə-də-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to treat or cause to combine with iodine or a compound of iodine — **io·din·ation** \ˌī-ə-də-'nā-shən\ *n*

io·dine *also* **io·din** \'ī-ə-ˌdīn, -əd-ᵊn, -ə-ˌdēn\ *n, often attrib* [F *iode*, fr. Gk *ioeidēs* violet colored, fr. *ion* violet] : a nonmetallic halogen element obtained usu. as heavy shining blackish gray crystals and used esp. in medicine, photography, and analysis — see ELEMENT table

io·dize \'ī-ə-ˌdīz\ *vt* **io·dized; io·diz·ing** : to treat with iodine or an iodide ⟨*iodized* salt⟩

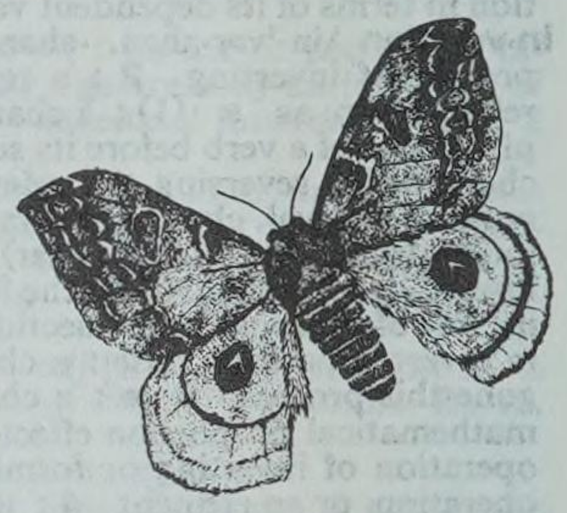
io·do·form \ī-'ōd-ə-ˌfȯrm, -'äd-\ *n* [ISV *iod-* + *-form* (as in *chloroform*)] : a yellow crystalline volatile compound CHI_3 with a penetrating persistent odor that is used as an antiseptic dressing

io·do·phor \-ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*iod-* + Gk *-phoros* carrier — more at -PHORE] : a complex of iodine and an organic compound that releases iodine gradually and serves as a disinfectant

io·dop·sin \ˌī-ə-'däp-sən\ *n* [*iod-* (fr. Gk *ioeidēs* violet colored) + Gk *opsis* sight, vision + E *-in* — more at OPTIC] : a photosensitive violet pigment in the retinal cones that is similar to rhodopsin but more labile, is formed from vitamin A, and is important in daylight vision

io·dous \ī-'ōd-əs, 'ī-əd-\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to or containing iodine and esp. iodine with a valence of three

io moth \ˌī-(ˌ)ō-\ *n* [L *Io*] : a large yellowish American moth (*Automeris io*) having a large ocellated spot on each hind wing and a larva with stinging spines


io moth

ion \'ī-ən, 'ī-ˌän\ *n* [Gk, neut. of *iōn*, prp. of *ienai* to go — more at ISSUE] **1** : an atom or group of atoms that carries a positive or negative electric charge as a result of having lost or gained one or more electrons **2** : a free electron or other charged subatomic particle

Ion *abbr* Ionic

-ion *n suffix* [ME *-ioun, -ion*, fr. OF *-ion*, fr. L *-ion-, -io*] **1 a** : act or process ⟨validat*ion*⟩ **b** : result of an act or process ⟨regulat*ion*⟩ **2** : state or condition ⟨hydrat*ion*⟩

ion engine *n* : a reaction engine deriving thrust from the ejection of a stream of ionized particles

ion exchange *n* : a reversible interchange of one kind of ion present on an insoluble solid with another of like charge present in a solution surrounding the solid with the reaction being used esp. for softening or demineralizing water, the purification of chemicals, or the separation of substances — **ion–ex·chang·er** *n*

ion·ic \ī-'än-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, existing as, or characterized by ions ⟨~ gases⟩ ⟨the ~ charge⟩ **2** : based on or functioning by means of ions ⟨~ conduction⟩ ⟨an ~ lattice⟩ — **ion·ic·i·ty** \ˌī-ə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*

¹Ion·ic \ī-'än-ik\ *adj* [L & MF; MF *ionique*, fr. L *ionicus*, fr. Gk *iōnikos*, fr. *Iōnia* Ionia] **1** : of or relating to Ionia or the Ionians **2** : belonging to or resembling the Ionic order of architecture characterized esp. by the spiral volutes of its capital

²Ionic *n* : a dialect of ancient Greek used in Ionia that is the vehicle of an important body of literature

ionic bond *n* : ELECTROVALENT BOND

io·ni·um \ī-'ō-nē-əm\ *n* [*ion;* fr. its ionizing action] : a natural radioactive isotope of thorium having a mass number of 230

ionization chamber *n* : a partially evacuated tube provided with electrodes so that its conductivity due to the ionization of the residual gas reveals the presence of ionizing radiation

ion·ize \'ī-ə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **ion·ized; ion·iz·ing** [ISV] *vt* : to convert wholly or partly into ions ~ *vi* : to become ionized — **ion·iz·able** \-ˌnī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **ion·iza·tion** \ˌī-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ion·iz·er** \'ī-ə-ˌnī-zər\ *n*

ion·o·sphere \ī-'än-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* : the part of the earth's atmosphere beginning at an altitude of about 25 miles and extending outward 250 miles or more, containing free electrically charged particles by means of which radio waves are transmitted to great distances around the earth, and consisting of several regions within which occur one or more layers that vary in height and ionization with time of day, season, and the solar cycle; *also* : a comparable region of charged particles surrounding a celestial body (as Venus or Mars) — **ion·o·spher·ic** \ˌī-ˌän-ə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj* — **ion·o·spher·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

IOOF *abbr* Independent Order of Odd Fellows

IORM *abbr* Improved Order of Red Men

io·ta \ī-'ōt-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *iōta*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *yōdh* yod] **1** : the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : an infinitesimal amount : JOT

io·ta·cism \ī-'ōt-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* [LL *iotacismus* repetition of iota, fr. Gk *iōtakismos*, fr. *iōta*] : excessive use of the letter iota or I or of its sound; *specif* : the use in modern Greek of the sound \ē\ of iota in speaking words written with other vowels or diphthongs (as *ē, y, ei, oi*)

IOU \ˌī-(ˌ)ō-'yü\ *n* [fr. the pronunciation of *I owe you*] **1** : a paper that has on it the letters IOU, a stated sum, and a signature and that is given as an acknowledgment of debt **2** : DEBT, OBLIGATION

-ious *adj suffix* [ME, partly fr. OF *-ious, -ieux*, fr. L *-iosus*, fr. *-i-* (penultimate vowel of some noun stems) + *-osus* -ous; partly fr. L *-ius*, adj. suffix] : -OUS ⟨edac*ious*⟩

IP *abbr* **1** initial point **2** intermediate pressure

IPA \ˌī-ˌpē-ˈā\ *n* [*I*nternational *P*honetic *A*lphabet] : an alphabet designed to represent each human speech sound with a unique symbol

ip·e·cac \ˈip-i-ˌkak\ *or* **ipe·ca·cu·a·nha** *Pg* ē-ˌpek-ə-kù-ˈa-nʸə\ *n* [Pg *ipecacuanha*, fr. Tupi *ipekaaguéne*] **1** : a tropical So. American creeping plant (*Cephaelis ipecacuanha*) of the madder family with drooping flowers **2** : the dried rhizome and roots of ipecac valued esp. as a source of emetine; *also* : any of several roots similarly used

Iph·i·ge·nia \ˌif-ə-jə-ˈnī-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Iphigeneia*] : a daughter of Agamemnon nearly sacrificed by him to Artemis but saved by her and made a priestess

IPM *abbr* inches per minute

IPPF *abbr* International Planned Parenthood Federation

ipro·ni·a·zid \ˌī-prə-ˈnī-ə-zəd\ *n* [blend of *isoniazid* and *propyl*] : a derivative $C_9H_{13}N_3O$ of isoniazid that is used as a monoamine oxidase inhibitor and was formerly used in treating tuberculosis

IPS *abbr* inches per second

ip·se dix·it \ˌip-sē-ˈdik-sət\ *n* [L, he himself said it] : an assertion made but not proved : DICTUM

ip·si·lat·er·al \ˌip-si-ˈlat-ə-rəl, -ˈla-trəl\ *adj* [ISV, fr. L *ipse* self, himself + *later-, latus* side] : situated or appearing on or affecting the same side of the body — **ip·si·lat·er·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

ip·sis·si·ma ver·ba \ip-ˌsis-ə-mə-ˈvər-bə\ *n pl* [NL, lit., the selfsame words] : the exact language used by someone quoted

ip·so fac·to \ˌip-(ˌ)sō-ˈfak-(ˌ)tō\ *adv* [NL, lit., by the fact itself] : by the very nature of the case

IPTS *abbr* International Practical Temperature Scale

iq *abbr* [L *idem quod*] the same as

IQ \ˈī-ˈkyü\ *n* : INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT

[1]Ir *abbr* Irish

[2]Ir *symbol* iridium

IR *abbr* **1** information retrieval **2** infrared **3** inland revenue **4** intelligence ratio **5** internal revenue

ir- — see IN-

IRA *abbr* **1** Intercollegiate Rowing Association **2** International Reading Association **3** Irish Republican Army

Ira·ni·an \ir-ˈā-nē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Iran **2** : a branch of the Indo-European family of languages that includes Persian — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Iranian** *adj*

Iraqi \i-ˈräk-ē, -ˈrak-\ *n* [Ar *ʿirāqīy*, fr. *ʿIrāq* Iraq] **1** : a native or inhabitant of Iraq **2** : the dialect of Modern Arabic spoken in Iraq — **Iraqi** *adj*

iras·ci·ble \ir-ˈas-ə-bəl, ī-ˈras-\ *adj* [MF, fr. LL *irascibilis*, fr. L *irasci* to become angry, be angry, fr. *ira*] : marked by hot temper and easily provoked anger — **iras·ci·bil·i·ty** \-ˌas-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē, -ˌras-\ *n* — **iras·ci·ble·ness** \ir-ˈas-ə-bəl-nəs, ī-ˈras-\ *n* — **iras·ci·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
syn IRASCIBLE, CHOLERIC, SPLENETIC, TESTY, TOUCHY, CRANKY, CROSS *shared meaning element* : easily angered or upset

irate \ī-ˈrāt\ *adj* **1** : roused to or given to ire : INCENSED ⟨an ~ taxpayer⟩ **2** : arising from anger ⟨~ words⟩ — **irate·ly** *adv* — **irate·ness** *n*

IRBM *abbr* intermediate range ballistic missile

ire \ˈī(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *ira;* akin to OE of*ost* haste, zeal, Gk *hieros* holy, *oistros* gadfly, frenzy] : intense and usu. openly displayed anger ***syn*** see ANGER — **ire** *vt* — **ire·ful** \-fəl\ *adj*

Ire *abbr* Ireland

ire·nic \ī-ˈren-ik, -ˈrē-nik\ *adj* [Gk *eirēnikos*, fr. *eirēnē* peace] : conducive to or operating toward peace or conciliation ***syn*** see PACIFIC ***ant*** acrimonious — **ire·ni·cal·ly** \-ˈren-i-k(ə-)lē, -ˈrē-ni-\ *adv*

irid *abbr* iridescent

irid- *or* **irido-** *comb form* **1** [L *irid-, iris*] : rainbow ⟨*irid*escent⟩ **2** [NL *irid-, iris*] : iris of the eye ⟨*irid*ectomy⟩ **3** [NL *iridium*] : iridium ⟨*irid*ic⟩ : iridium and ⟨*irid*osmium⟩

iri·da·ceous \ˌir-ə-ˈdā-shəs, ˌī-rə-\ *adj* : of or relating to the iris family

ir·i·des·cence \ˌir-ə-ˈdes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : a play of colors producing rainbow effects (as in a soap bubble) **2** : a display or effect suggestive of iridescence (as in brilliance) : GLITTER ⟨a certain ~ of glamor and superiority —Margaret Landon⟩

ir·i·des·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : having or exhibiting iridescence — **ir·i·des·cent·ly** *adv*

irid·ic *1 usu* ir-ˈid-ik, *2 usu* ī-ˈrid-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to iridium; *esp* : containing tetravalent iridium **2** : of or relating to the iris of the eye

irid·i·um \ir-ˈid-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *irid-, iris;* fr. the colors produced by its dissolving in hydrochloric acid] : a silver-white hard brittle very heavy metallic element of the platinum group — see ELEMENT table

ir·id·os·mine \ˌir-ə-ˈdäz-ˌmēn\ *n* [G, fr. *irid-* + NL *osmium*] : a mineral that is a native iridium osmium alloy usu. containing some rhodium and platinum

[1]iris \ˈī-rəs\ *n, pl* **iris·es** *or* **ir·i·des** \ˈī-rə-ˌdēz, ˈir-ə-\ [ME, fr. L *irid-, iris* rainbow, iris plant, fr. Gk, rainbow, iris plant, iris of the eye — more at WIRE] **1** : RAINBOW **2** [NL *irid-, iris*, fr. Gk] **a** : the opaque contractile diaphragm perforated by the pupil and forming the colored portion of the eye — see EYE illustration **b** : IRIS DIAPHRAGM; *also* : a similar device with a circular opening that can be varied in size **3** *or pl* **iris** [NL *Irid-, Iris*, genus name, fr. L] : any of a large genus (*Iris* of the family Iridaceae, the iris family) of perennial herbaceous plants with linear usu. basal leaves and large showy flowers

[2]iris *vt* **1** : to make iridescent : give the form or appearance of a rainbow to **2** : to operate the iris of a motion-picture camera so as to fade (a picture) — used with *in* or *out*

Iris \ˈī-rəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : the Greek goddess of the rainbow and a messenger of the gods

iris diaphragm *n* : an adjustable diaphragm of thin opaque plates that can be turned by a ring so as to change the diameter of a central opening usu. to regulate the aperture of a lens

Irish \ˈī(ə)r-ish\ *n* **1** *pl in constr* : natives or inhabitants of Ireland or their immediate descendants esp. when of Celtic speech or culture **2 a** : the Celtic language of Ireland : IRISH GAELIC **b** : English spoken by the Irish — **Irish** *adj*

Irish bull *n* : an apparently congruous but actually incongruous expression (as "it was hereditary in his family to have no children")

Irish coffee *n* : hot sugared coffee with Irish whiskey and whipped cream

Irish confetti *n* : a rock, brick, or fragment of rock or brick used as a missile

Irish Gaelic *n* : the Celtic language of Ireland esp. as used since the end of the medieval period

Irish·ism \ˈī-rish-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a word, phrase, or expression characteristic of the Irish

Irish mail *n* : a 3- or 4-wheeled toy vehicle activated by a hand lever

Irish·man \ˈī-rish-mən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Ireland **2** : one that is of Irish descent

Irish moss *n* **1** : the dried and bleached plants of two red algae (*Chondrus crispus* and *Gigartina mamillosa*) used as an agent for thickening or emulsifying or as a demulcent **2** : CARRAGEEN



Irish moss 1

Irish potato *n* : POTATO 2b

Irish·ry \ˈī-rish-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : IRISH 1 **2 a** : Irish quality or character **b** : an Irish peculiarity or trait

Irish setter *n* : any of a breed of bird dogs generally comparable to English setters but with a chestnut-brown or mahogany-red coat

Irish stew *n* : a stew having as its principal ingredients meat (as lamb), potatoes, and onions in a thick gravy

Irish terrier *n* : any of a breed of active medium-sized terriers developed in Ireland and characterized by a dense close usu. reddish wiry coat

Irish water spaniel *n* : any of a breed of large retrievers developed in Ireland and characterized by a heavy curly liver-colored coat and a nearly hairless tail

Irish whiskey *n* : whiskey made in Ireland chiefly of barley

Irish wolfhound *n* : a very large tall hound that resembles the Scottish deerhound but is much larger and stronger

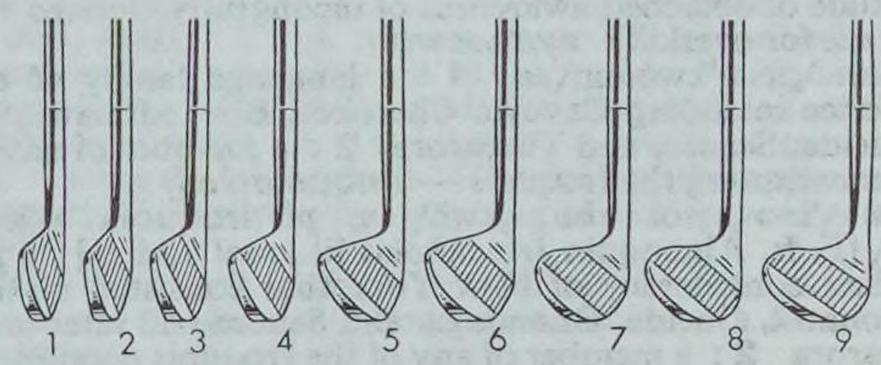
Irish·wom·an \ˈī-rish-ˌwùm-ən\ *n* : a woman born in Ireland or of Irish descent

[1]irk \ˈərk\ *vt* [ME *irken*] : to make weary, irritated, or bored ***syn*** see ANNOY

[2]irk *n* **1** : TEDIUM, IRKSOMENESS **2** : a cause or source of annoyance or disgust

irk·some \ˈərk-səm\ *adj* : tending to irk : TEDIOUS ⟨an ~ task⟩ — **irk·some·ly** *adv* — **irk·some·ness** *n*

[1]iron \ˈī(-ə)rn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *īsern, īren;* akin to OHG *īsarn* iron] **1** : a heavy malleable ductile magnetic silver-white metallic element that readily rusts in moist air, occurs native in meteorites and combined in most igneous rocks, is the most used of metals, and is vital to biological processes — see ELEMENT table **2** : something made of iron: as **a** *pl* : something (as handcuffs) used to bind or restrain **b** : a heated metal implement used for branding or cauterizing **c** : HARPOON **d** : a heatable device usu. with a flat metal base that is used to smooth, finish, or press (as cloth) : FLATIRON **e** : STIRRUP **f** : any of a series of numbered golf clubs having metal heads **3** : great strength or hardness — **iron in the fire** **1** : a matter requiring close attention : ENTERPRISE ⟨was a businessman and had other *irons in the fire* — J. D. Beresford⟩ **2** : a prospective course of action : a project not yet realized ⟨got several *irons in the fire* and I'm hoping to land something before very long —W. S. Maugham⟩



irons 2f

[2]iron *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or made of iron **2** : resembling iron **3 a** : strong and healthy : ROBUST **b** : INFLEXIBLE, UNRELENTING ⟨~ determination⟩ **c** : holding or binding fast ⟨the ~ ties of kinship⟩ — **iron·ness** \ˈī(-ə)rn-nəs\ *n*

[3]iron *vt* **1** : to furnish or cover with iron **2** : to shackle with irons **3 a** : to smooth with or as if with a heated iron ⟨~ *ed* his shirt⟩ **b** : to remove (as wrinkles) by ironing ~ *vi* : to smooth or press cloth or clothing with a heated iron

Iron Age *n* : the period of human culture characterized by the smelting of iron and its use in industry beginning somewhat before 1000 B.C. in western Asia and Egypt

iron·bound \ˈī(-ə)rn-ˈbau̇nd\ *adj* : bound with or as if with iron: as **a** : HARSH, RUGGED ⟨~ coast⟩ **b** : STERN, RIGOROUS ⟨~ traditions⟩

[1]iron·clad \-'klad\ *adj* **1** : sheathed in iron armor — used esp. of naval vessels **2 a** : RIGOROUS, EXACTING ⟨an ~ oath⟩ **b** : being fixed and unshakable : INFLEXIBLE ⟨an ~ rule⟩
[2]iron·clad \-ˌklad\ *n* : an armored naval vessel
iron curtain *n* **1** : a political, military, and ideological barrier that cuts off and isolates an area; *specif* : one between an area under Soviet control and other areas **2 a** : an intangible barrier against communication of information or ideas; *esp* : one that is set up for concealment and bars any opportunity for penetration **b** : a bar to the crossing of a mental or cultural border line
iron·er \'ī(-ə)r-nər\ *n* : one that irons; *specif* : MANGLE
iron·fisted \'ī(-ə)rn-'fis-təd\ *adj* **1** : STINGY, MISERLY **2** : being both harsh and ruthless ⟨~ methods⟩
iron gray *n* : a nearly neutral very slightly greenish dark gray
iron hand *n* : stern or rigorous control ⟨ruled with an *iron hand*⟩ — **iron·hand·ed** \ˌī(-ə)rn-'han-dəd\ *adj* — **iron·hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **iron·hand·ed·ness** *n*
iron·heart·ed \ˌī(-ə)rn-'härt-əd\ *adj* : CRUEL, HARDHEARTED
iron horse *n* : a locomotive engine
iron·ic \ī-'rän-ik\ *or* **iron·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : relating to, containing, or constituting irony **2** : given to irony ***syn*** see SARCASTIC — **iron·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **iron·i·cal·ness** \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n*
iron·ing \'ī(-ə)r-niŋ\ *n* **1** : the action or process of smoothing or pressing with or as if with a heated iron **2** : clothes ironed or to be ironed
ironing board *n* : a flat padded cloth-covered surface on which clothes are ironed
iro·nist \'ī-rə-nəst\ *n* : one who uses irony esp. in the development of a literary work or theme
iron lung *n* : a device for artificial respiration in which rhythmic alternations in the air pressure in a chamber surrounding a patient's chest force air into and out of the lungs
iron·mas·ter \'ī(-ə)rn-ˌmas-tər\ *n* : a manufacturer of iron
iron·mon·ger \-ˌməŋ-gər, -ˌmäŋ-\ *n, Brit* : a dealer in iron and hardware — **iron·mon·gery** \-g(ə-)rē\ *n*
iron out *vt* **1** : REMOVE **2** : to make tolerable or harmonious by suppression or modification of extremes ⟨*ironed out* their differences⟩
iron oxide *n* : any of several oxides of iron: as **a** : FERRIC OXIDE **b** : FERROUS OXIDE
iron pyrites *n* : PYRITE — called also *iron pyrite*
iron ration *n* : an emergency ration
iron·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : a man of great strength or bravery
iron·stone \'ī(-ə)rn-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : a hard sedimentary rock rich in iron; *esp* : a siderite in a coal region **2** : IRONSTONE CHINA
ironstone china *n* : a hard heavy durable white pottery developed in England early in the 19th century — called also *ironstone*
iron·ware \'ī(-ə)rn-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : articles made of iron
iron·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of several mostly weedy American composite plants (genus *Veronia*) with alternate leaves and perfect red or purple tubular flowers in terminal cymose heads
iron·wood \-ˌwůd\ *n* **1** : any of numerous trees and shrubs with exceptionally tough or hard wood **2** : the wood of an ironwood
iron·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : work in iron **2** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : a mill or building where iron or steel is smelted or heavy iron or steel products are made — **iron·work·er** \-ˌwər-kər\ *n*
iro·ny \'ī-rə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [L *ironia*, fr. Gk *eirōnia*, fr. *eirōn* dissembler] **1** : a pretense of ignorance and of willingness to learn from another assumed in order to make the other's false conceptions conspicuous by adroit questioning — called also *Socratic irony* **2 a** : the use of words to express something other than and esp. the opposite of the literal meaning **b** : a usu. humorous or sardonic literary style or form characterized by irony **c** : an ironic expression or utterance **3 a** (1) : incongruity between the actual result of a sequence of events and the normal or expected result (2) : an event or result marked by such incongruity **b** : incongruity between a situation developed in a drama and the accompanying words or actions that is understood by the audience but not by the characters in the play — called also *dramatic irony, tragic irony* **4** : an attitude of detached awareness of incongruity ⟨looked with ~ on the craze for overkill⟩ ***syn*** see WIT
Ir·o·quoi·an \ˌir-ə-'kwȯi-ən\ *n* **1** : a language family of eastern No. America including Cayuga, Cherokee, Erie, Mohawk, Onondaga, Oneida, Seneca, and Tuscarora **2** : a member of any of the peoples constituting the Iroquois — **Iroquoian** *adj*
Ir·o·quois \'ir-ə-ˌkwȯi *also* -ˌkwä\ *n, pl* **Iroquois** \-ˌkwȯi(z), -ˌkwä(z)\ [F, fr. Algonquin *Irinakhoiw*, lit., real adders] **1** *pl* : an Amerindian confederacy of New York that consisted of the Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, and Seneca and later included the Tuscarora **2** : a member of any of the Iroquois peoples
ir·ra·di·ance \ir-'ād-ē-ən(t)s\ *n* **1** : RADIANCE 1 **2** : radiant flux density on a given surface usu. expressed in watts per square centimeter or square meter
ir·ra·di·ate \ir-'ād-ē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *irradiatus*, pp. of *irradiare*, fr. *in-* + *radius* ray] *vt* **1 a** : to cast rays of light upon : ILLUMINATE **b** : to enlighten intellectually or spiritually **c** : to affect or treat by radiant energy (as heat); *specif* : to treat by exposure to radiation **2** : to emit like rays of light : RADIATE ⟨*irradiating* strength and comfort⟩ ~ *vi, archaic* : to emit rays : SHINE — **ir·ra·di·a·tive** \-ˌāt-iv\ *adj* — **ir·ra·di·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
ir·ra·di·a·tion \ir-ˌād-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* **1** : emission of radiant energy (as heat or light) **2** : exposure to radiation (as X rays or alpha rays) **3** : IRRADIANCE 2
ir·rad·i·ca·ble \'i(ə)r-'rad-i-kə-bəl\ *adj* [ML *irradicabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *radic-, radix* root — more at ROOT] : impossible to eradicate : DEEP-ROOTED — **ir·rad·i·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
[1]ir·ra·tio·nal \(')ir-'(r)ash-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *irrationalis*, fr. *in-* + *rationalis* rational] : not rational: as **a** (1) : not endowed with reason or understanding **a** (2) : lacking usual or normal mental clarity or coherence **b** : not governed by or according to reason ⟨~ fears⟩ **c** *Greek & Latin prosody* (1) *of a syllable* : having a quantity other than that required by the meter **c** (2) *of a foot* : containing such a syllable **d** (1) : being an irrational number ⟨an ~ root of an equation⟩ **d** (2) : having a numerical value that is an irrational number ⟨a length that is ~⟩ — **ir·ra·tio·nal·i·ty** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ash-ə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·ra·tio·nal·ly** \(')ir-'(r)ash-nə-lē, -ən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **ir·ra·tio·nal·ness** \-nəl-nəs, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n*
[2]irrational *n* **1** : an irrational being **2** : IRRATIONAL NUMBER
ir·ra·tio·nal·ism \(')ir-'(r)ash-nəl-ˌiz-əm, -ən-ᵊl-\ *n* **1** : a system emphasizing intuition, instinct, feeling, or faith rather than reason or holding that the universe is governed by irrational forces **2** : the quality or state of being irrational — **ir·ra·tio·nal·ist** \-əst\ *n or adj* — **ir·ra·tio·nal·is·tic** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ash-nəl-'is-tik, -ən-ᵊl-\ *adj*
irrational number *n* : a number that can be expressed as an infinite decimal with no set of consecutive digits repeating itself indefinitely and that cannot be expressed as the quotient of two integers
ir·re·al \(')ir-'rē(-ə)l, -'ri(-ə)l\ *adj* : not real
ir·re·al·i·ty \ˌir-ē-'al-ət-ē\ *n* : UNREALITY
ir·re·claim·able \ˌir-i-'klā-mə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being reclaimed — **ir·re·claim·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
[1]ir·rec·on·cil·able \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ek-ən-'sī-lə-bəl, (')ir-'(r)ek-ən-ˌ\ *adj* : impossible to reconcile — **ir·rec·on·cil·abil·i·ty** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ek-ən-ˌsī-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·rec·on·cil·able·ness** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ek-ən-'sī-lə-bəl-nəs, (')ir-'(r)ek-ən-ˌ\ *n* — **ir·rec·on·cil·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
[2]irreconcilable *n* : one that is irreconcilable; *esp* : a member of a group (as a political party) that opposes compromise or collaboration
ir·re·cov·er·able \ˌir-i-'kəv-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being recovered or rectified : IRREPARABLE — **ir·re·cov·er·able·ness** *n* — **ir·re·cov·er·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·cu·sa·ble \ˌir-i-'kyü-zə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *irrecusabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *recusare* to reject, refuse — more at RECUSANCY] : not subject to exception or rejection — **ir·re·cu·sa·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
irred *abbr* irredeemable
ir·re·deem·able \ˌir-i-'dē-mə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : not redeemable: as **a** : not terminable by payment of the principal ⟨~ bond⟩ **b** : INCONVERTIBLE a **2** : being beyond remedy : HOPELESS ⟨~ mistakes⟩ — **ir·re·deem·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·den·ta \ˌir-i-'dent-ə\ *n* [It *Italia irredenta* Italian-speaking territory not incorporated in Italy, lit., unredeemed Italy] : a territory historically or ethnically related to one political unit but presently subject to another
ir·re·den·tism \-'den-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* : a political principle or policy directed toward the incorporation of irredentas within the boundaries of their historically or ethnically related political unit — **ir·re·den·tist** \-'dent-əst\ *n or adj*
ir·re·duc·ible \ˌir-i-'d(y)ü-sə-bəl\ *adj* : impossible to bring into a desired, normal, or simpler state ⟨an ~ matrix⟩; *specif* : incapable of being factored into polynomials of lower degree with coefficients in some given field (as the rational numbers) or integral domain (as the integers) ⟨~ polynomials⟩ ⟨an ~ equation⟩ — **ir·re·duc·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌd(y)ü-sə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·duc·ibly** \-'d(y)ü-sə-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·flex·ive \ˌir-i-'flek-siv\ *adj* : not reflexive
ir·re·form·able \ˌir-i-'fȯr-mə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : incapable of being reformed : INCORRIGIBLE **2** : not subject to revision or alteration ⟨~ dogma⟩ — **ir·re·form·abil·i·ty** \-ˌfȯr-mə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
ir·re·fra·ga·ble \(')ir-'(r)ef-rə-gə-bəl, ˌir-i-'frag-ə-\ *adj* [LL *irrefragabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *refragari* to oppose, fr. *re-* + *-fragari* (as in *suffragari* to vote for); akin to L *suffragium* suffrage] **1** : impossible to deny or refute ⟨~ arguments⟩ **2** : impossible to break or alter ⟨~ rules⟩ ⟨an ~ cement⟩ — **ir·re·fra·ga·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ef-rə-gə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌir-i-ˌfrag-ə-\ *n* — **ir·ref·ra·ga·bly** \(')ir-'(r)ef-rə-gə-blē, ˌir-i-'frag-ə-\ *adv*
ir·re·fran·gi·ble \ˌir-i-'fran-jə-bəl\ *adj* : not capable of being refracted — used of radiations (as visible light)
ir·re·fut·able \ˌir-i-'fyüt-ə-bəl, (')ir-'(r)ef-yət-\ *adj* [LL *irrefutabilis*, fr. L *in-* + *refutare* to refute] : impossible to refute : INCONTROVERTIBLE ⟨~ proof⟩ — **ir·re·fut·abil·i·ty** \ˌir-i-ˌfyüt-ə-'bil-ət-ē, (ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ef-yət-\ *n* — **ir·re·fut·ably** \ˌir-i-'fyüt-ə-blē, (')ir-'(r)ef-yət-\ *adv*
irreg *abbr* irregular
ir·re·gard·less \ˌir-i-'gärd-ləs\ *adv* [prob. blend of *irrespective* and *regardless*] *nonstand* : REGARDLESS
[1]ir·reg·u·lar \(')ir-'(r)eg-yə-lər\ *adj* [ME *irreguler*, fr. MF, fr. LL *irregularis* not in accordance with rule, fr. L *in-* + *regularis* regular] **1 a** : behaving without regard to established laws, customs, or moral principles **b** : not belonging to or qualified under the rules of some particular group or organized body ⟨~ practitioners of medicine⟩ **2 a** : failing to accord with what is usual, proper, accepted, or right ⟨~ behavior⟩ **b** : not conforming to the normal or usual manner of inflection ⟨*sell, put, feed* are ~ verbs⟩; *specif* : STRONG **c** (1) : improper or inadequate because of failure to conform to a prescribed course (2) *Brit* : celebrated without either proclamation of the banns or publication of intention to marry : CLANDESTINE ⟨~ marriage⟩ **d** : not belonging to the regular army organization but raised for a special purpose ⟨~ troops⟩ **3** : lacking perfect symmetry or evenness ⟨an ~ coastline⟩; *esp* : ZYGOMORPHIC ⟨~ flowers⟩ **4** : lacking continuity or regularity esp. of occurrence or activity ⟨~ employment⟩ — **ir·reg·u·lar·ly** *adv*
syn IRREGULAR, ANOMALOUS, UNNATURAL *shared meaning element* : not according with or explainable by law, rule, or custom. IRREGULAR implies a lack of accord with a law or regulation imposed for the sake of uniformity in method, practice, or conduct; thus, an *irregular* marriage fails to conform to the regulations of church or state; *irregular* verse departs from accepted metrical patterns; *irregular* behavior deviates from the code of conduct of the community. ANOMALOUS implies a failure to conform to what is expected of the thing in question because of the class to which it belongs or the laws which govern its existence ⟨an *anomalous* piece of domestic architecture, combining the small, familiar pleasures of the hearth with the headier excitements of Doomsday —*New Yorker*⟩ and may specifically suggest an unclassifiable state or a conflict between mutually exclusive or mutually antagonistic classes ⟨the *anomalous* position of the free Negro in the slave states —E. T. Price⟩ UNNATURAL implies contravention of natural law or of those principles held essential to the well-being of civilized society and is likely to suggest reprehensible abnormality ⟨thy deed, inhuman and *unnatural* provokes this deluge most *unnatural* —Shak.⟩ ***ant*** regular

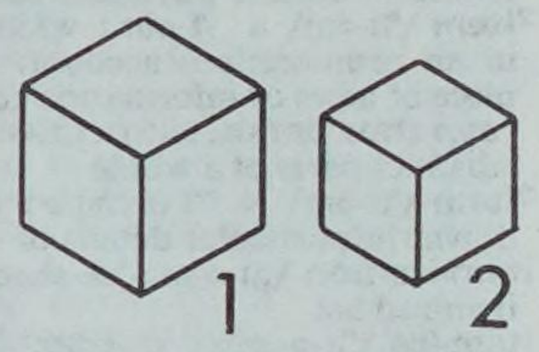
²irregular *n* : one that is irregular: as **a** : a soldier who is not a member of a regular military force **b** *pl* : merchandise that has minor imperfections or that falls next below the manufacturer's standard for firsts
ir·reg·u·lar·i·ty \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)eg-yə-ˈlar-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being irregular **2** : something (as dishonest conduct) that is irregular ⟨alleged *irregularities* in the city government⟩ **3** : CONSTIPATION
ir·rel·a·tive \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)el-ət-iv\ *adj* : not relative: **a** : not related **b** : IRRELEVANT — **ir·rel·a·tive·ly** *adv*
ir·rel·e·vance \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)el-ə-vən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being irrelevant **2** : something irrelevant
ir·rel·e·van·cy \-vən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : IRRELEVANCE
ir·rel·e·vant \-vənt\ *adj* : not relevant : INAPPLICABLE ⟨that statement is ~ to your argument⟩ — **ir·rel·e·vant·ly** *adv*
ir·re·li·gion \ˌir-i-ˈlij-ən\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *irreligion-, irreligio,* fr. *in-* + *religion-, religio* religion] : the quality or state of being irreligious — **ir·re·li·gion·ist** \-ˈlij-(ə-)nəst\ *n*
ir·re·li·gious \-ˈlij-əs\ *adj* **1** : neglectful of religion : lacking religious emotions, doctrines, or practices ⟨so ~ that they exploit popular religion for professional purposes —G. B. Shaw⟩ **2** : indicating lack of religion — **ir·re·li·gious·ly** *adv*
ir·re·me·able \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)ē-mē-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *irremeabilis,* fr. *in-* + *remeare* to go back, fr. *re-* + *meare* to go — more at PERMEATE] *archaic* : offering no possibility of return
ir·re·me·di·a·ble \ˌir-i-ˈmēd-ē-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *irremediabilis,* fr. *in-* + *remediabilis* remediable] : not remediable; *specif* : INCURABLE — **ir·re·me·di·a·ble·ness** *n* — **ir·re·me·di·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·mov·able \-ˈmü-və-bəl\ *adj* : not removable — **ir·re·mov·abil·i·ty** \-ˌmü-və-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·mov·ably** \-ˈmü-və-blē\ *adv*
ir·rep·a·ra·ble \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)ep-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *irreparabilis,* fr. *in-* + *reparabilis* reparable] : not reparable : IRRETRIEVABLE ⟨~ damage⟩ — **ir·rep·a·ra·ble·ness** *n* — **ir·rep·a·ra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·peal·able \ˌir-i-ˈpē-lə-bəl\ *adj* : not repealable — **ir·re·peal·abil·i·ty** \-ˌpē-lə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*
ir·re·place·able \-ˈplā-sə-bəl\ *adj* : not replaceable — **ir·re·place·abil·i·ty** \-ˌplā-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·place·able·ness** \-ˈplā-sə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ir·re·place·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·press·ible \-ˈpres-ə-bəl\ *adj* : impossible to repress, restrain, or control ⟨~ curiosity⟩ — **ir·re·press·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌpres-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·press·ibly** \-ˈpres-ə-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·proach·able \-ˈprō-chə-bəl\ *adj* : not reproachable : BLAMELESS ⟨~ conduct⟩ — **ir·re·proach·abil·i·ty** \-ˌprō-chə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·proach·able·ness** \-ˈprō-chə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ir·re·proach·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·pro·duc·ible \(ˈ)ir-ˌrē-prə-ˈd(y)ü-sə-bəl\ *adj* : not reproducible — **ir·re·pro·duc·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌd(y)ü-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*
ir·re·sist·ible \ˌir-i-ˈzis-tə-bəl\ *adj* : impossible to resist successfully ⟨an ~ attraction⟩ — **ir·re·sist·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌzis-tə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·sist·ible·ness** \-ˈzis-tə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ir·re·sist·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*
ir·re·sol·u·ble \-ˈzäl-yə-bəl\ *adj* [L *irresolubilis,* fr. *in-* + *resolvere* to resolve] **1** *archaic* : INDISSOLUBLE **2** : having or admitting of no solution or explanation
ir·res·o·lute \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)ez-ə-ˌlüt, -lət\ *adj* : uncertain how to act or proceed : VACILLATING — **ir·res·o·lute·ly** \-ˌlüt-lē, -lət-; (ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ez-ə-ˈlüt-\ *adv* — **ir·res·o·lute·ness** \-ˌlüt-nəs, -lət-, -ˈlüt-\ *n* — **ir·res·o·lu·tion** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ez-ə-ˈlü-shən\ *n*
ir·re·solv·able \ˌir-i-ˈzäl-və-bəl, -ˈzȯl-\ *adj* : incapable of being resolved; *esp* : not analyzable
ir·re·spec·tive of \ˌir-i-ˈspek-tiv-\ *prep* : without regard to : regardless of ⟨free public schools open to all *irrespective of* race, color, or creed —J. B. Conant⟩
ir·re·spi·rable \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)es-p(ə-)rə-bəl, ˌir-i-ˈspī-rə-\ *adj* [F, fr. LL *irrespirabilis,* fr. L *in-* + *respirare* to breathe — more at RESPIRE] : unfit for breathing
ir·re·spon·si·bil·i·ty \ˌir-i-ˌspän(t)-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being irresponsible **2** : an irresponsible act or individual
¹ir·re·spon·si·ble \-ˈspän(t)-sə-bəl\ *adj* : not responsible: as **a** : not answerable to higher authority ⟨an ~ dictatorship⟩ **b** : said or done with no sense of responsibility ⟨~ charges⟩ **c** : lacking a sense of responsibility **d** : unable esp. mentally or financially to bear responsibility — **ir·re·spon·si·ble·ness** *n* — **ir·re·spon·si·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
²irresponsible *n* : one that is irresponsible
ir·re·spon·sive \ˌir-i-ˈspän(t)-siv\ *adj* : not responsive; *esp* : not able, ready, or inclined to respond — **ir·re·spon·sive·ness** *n*
ir·re·triev·able \ˌir-i-ˈtrē-və-bəl\ *adj* : not retrievable : IRRECOVERABLE — **ir·re·triev·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtrē-və-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·triev·ably** \ˌir-i-ˈtrē-və-blē\ *adv*
ir·rev·er·ence \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)ev-(ə-)rən(t)s, -ˈ(r)ev-ərn(t)s\ *n* **1** : lack of reverence **2** : an irreverent act or utterance
ir·rev·er·ent \-(ə-)rənt, -ərnt\ *adj* [L *irreverent-, irreverens,* fr. *in-* + *reverent-, reverens* reverent] : not reverent: as **a** : lacking proper respect in speech or action **b** : characterized by a lightly pert quality or manner — **ir·rev·er·ent·ly** *adv*
ir·re·vers·ible \ˌir-i-ˈvər-sə-bəl\ *adj* : incapable of being reversed — **ir·re·vers·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌvər-sə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·vers·ibly** \-ˈvər-sə-blē\ *adv*
ir·rev·o·ca·ble \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)ev-ə-kə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *irrevocabilis,* fr. *in-* + *revocabilis* revocable] : incapable of being revoked : UNALTERABLE ⟨an ~ decision⟩ — **ir·rev·o·ca·bil·i·ty** \(ˌ)ir-ˌ(r)ev-ə-kə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ir·re·vo·ca·ble·ness** \(ˈ)ir-ˈ(r)ev-ə-kə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ir·re·vo·ca·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
irridenta *var of* IRREDENTA
ir·ri·gate \ˈir-ə-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *irrigatus,* pp. of *irrigare,* fr. *in-* + *rigare* to water] *vt* **1** : WET, MOISTEN: as **a** : to supply (as land) with water by artificial means **b** : to flush (a body part) with a stream of liquid (as in removing a foreign body or medicating) **2** : to refresh as if by watering ~ *vi* : to practice irrigation — **ir·ri·ga·tion** \ˌir-ə-ˈgā-shən\ *n* — **ir·ri·ga·tor** \ˈir-ə-ˌgāt-ər\ *n*
ir·ri·ta·bil·i·ty \ˌir-ət-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being irritable: as **a** : quick excitability to annoyance, impatience, or anger : PETULANCE **b** : abnormal or excessive excitability of an organ or part of the body **2** : the property of protoplasm and of living organisms that permits them to react to stimuli
ir·ri·ta·ble \ˈir-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being irritated: as **a** : easily exasperated or excited **b** : responsive to stimuli — **ir·ri·ta·ble·ness** *n* — **ir·ri·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
¹ir·ri·tant \ˈir-ə-tənt\ *adj* : causing irritation; *specif* : tending to produce physical irritation
²irritant *n* : something that irritates or excites
ir·ri·tate \ˈir-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *irritatus,* pp. of *irritare*] *vt* **1** : to excite impatience, anger, or displeasure in : ANNOY **2** : to induce irritability in or of ~ *vi* : to cause or induce displeasure or irritation — **ir·ri·tat·ing·ly** \-ˌtāt-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
syn IRRITATE, EXASPERATE, NETTLE, PROVOKE, AGGRAVATE, RILE, PEEVE *shared meaning element* : to excite to angry annoyance
ir·ri·tat·ed *adj* : subjected to irritation; *esp* : roughened, reddened, or inflamed by an irritant ⟨~ eyes⟩
ir·ri·ta·tion \ˌir-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act of irritating **b** : something that irritates **c** : the state of being irritated **2** : a condition of irritability, soreness, roughness, or inflammation of a bodily part
ir·ri·ta·tive \ˈir-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* **1** : serving to excite : IRRITATING **2** : accompanied with or produced by irritation ⟨~ coughing⟩
ir·ro·ta·tion·al \ˌir-(r)ō-ˈtā-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : not rotating or involving rotation ⟨an ~ electric field⟩ **2** : free of vortices ⟨~ flow⟩
ir·rupt \(ˈ)i(ə)r-ˈ(r)əpt\ *vi* [L *irruptus,* pp. of *irrumpere,* lit., to break in, fr. *in-* + *rumpere* to break — more at RUPTURE] **1** : to rush in forcibly or violently **2** *of a natural population* : to undergo a sudden upsurge in numbers esp. when natural ecological balances and checks are disturbed **3** : ERUPT 1c ⟨the crowd ~*ed* in a fervor of patriotism —*Time*⟩ — **ir·rup·tion** \-ˈ(r)əp-shən\ *n*
ir·rup·tive \-ˈ(r)əp-tiv\ *adj* **1** : irrupting or tending to irrupt **2** *of an igneous rock* : INTRUSIVE — **ir·rup·tive·ly** *adv*
IRS *abbr* Internal Revenue Service
¹is [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *ist* is (fr. *sīn* to be), L *est* (fr. *esse* to be), Gk *esti* (fr. *einai* to be)] *pres 3d sing of* BE, *dial pres 1st & 2d sing of* BE, *substand pres pl of* BE
²is *abbr* island; isle
is- *or* **iso-** *comb form* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *isos* equal] **1** : equal : homogeneous : uniform ⟨*is*acoustic⟩ **2** : isomeric ⟨*iso*propyl⟩ **3** : for or from different individuals of the same species ⟨*iso*agglutination⟩
Isa *or* **Is** *abbr* Isaiah
Isaac \ˈī-zik, -zək\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Yiṣḥāq*] : the son of Abraham and father of Jacob according to the account in Genesis
Isa·iah \ī-ˈzā-ə, *chiefly Brit* -ˈzī-\ *n* [Heb *Yĕsha'ăyāhū*] **1** : a major Hebrew prophet in Judah about 740 to 701 B.C. **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
Isa·ias \-əs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Esaias,* fr. Heb *Yĕsha'ăyāhū*] : ISAIAH
is·al·lo·bar \(ˈ)ī-ˈsal-ə-ˌbär\ *n* [ISV *is-* + *all-* + *-bar* (as in *isobar*)] : an imaginary line or a line on a chart connecting the places of equal change of atmospheric pressure within a specified time — **is·al·lo·bar·ic** \ˌī-ˌsal-ə-ˈbär-ik, -ˈbar-\ *adj*
is·ba \iz-ˈbä\ *n* [Russ *izba*] : a Russian log hut
ISBN *abbr* International Standard Book Number
ISC *abbr* **1** International Space Congress **2** International Student Conference **3** interstate commerce
isch·emia \is-ˈkē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL *ischaemia,* fr. *ischaemus* styptic, fr. Gk *ischaimos,* fr. *ischein* to restrain + *haima* blood; akin to Gk *echein* to hold — more at SCHEME] : localized tissue anemia due to obstruction of the inflow of arterial blood — **isch·emic** \-mik\ *adj*
is·chi·um \ˈis-kē-əm\ *n, pl* **is·chia** \-ə\ [L, hip joint, fr. Gk *ischion*] : the dorsal and posterior of the three principal bones composing either half of the pelvis — **is·chi·al** \-əl\ *adj*
-ise \ˌīz\ *vb suffix, chiefly Brit* : -IZE
is·en·tro·pic \ˌīs-ᵊn-ˈtrō-pik, -ˈträp-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to equal or constant entropy; *esp* : taking place without change of entropy — **is·en·tro·pi·cal·ly** \-ˈtrō-pi-k(ə-)lē, -ˈträp-i-\ *adv*
Iseult \is-ˈült, iz-\ *n* [OF *Isolt, Iseut*] : ISOLDE
-ish \ish\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-isc;* akin to OHG *-isc,* -ish, Gk *-iskos,* dim. suffix] **1** : of, relating to, or being — chiefly in adjectives indicating nationality or ethnic group ⟨Finn*ish*⟩ **2 a** : characteristic of ⟨boy*ish*⟩ ⟨mul*ish*⟩ **b** : inclined or liable to ⟨book*ish*⟩ ⟨qualm*ish*⟩ **c** (1) : having a touch or trace of ⟨summer*ish*⟩ : somewhat ⟨purpl*ish*⟩ (2) : having the approximate age of ⟨forty*ish*⟩ (3) : being or occurring at the approximate time of ⟨eight*ish*⟩
Ish·ma·el \ˈish-mē-əl\ *n* [Heb *Yishmā'ēl*] **1** : the outcast son of Abraham and Hagar according to the account in Genesis **2** : a social outcast
Ish·ma·el·ite \-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : a descendant of Ishmael **2** : ISHMAEL 2 — **Ish·ma·el·it·ish** \-ˌlīt-ish\ *adj* — **Ish·ma·el·it·ism** \-ˌlīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
isin·glass \ˈīz-ᵊn-ˌglas, ˈī-ziŋ-\ *n* [prob. by folk etymology fr. obs. D *huizenblas,* fr. MD *huusblase,* fr. *huus* sturgeon + *blase* bladder] **1** : a semitransparent whitish very pure gelatin prepared from the air bladders of fishes (as sturgeons) and used esp. as a clarifying agent and in jellies and glue **2** : MICA
Isis \ˈī-səs\ *n* [L *Isid-, Isis,* fr. Gk, fr. Egypt *jst*] : an Egyptian nature goddess and wife of Osiris
isl *abbr* island
Is·lam \is-ˈläm, iz-, -ˈlam, ˈis-ˌ, ˈiz-ˌ\ *n* [Ar *islām* submission (to the will of God)] **1** : the religious faith of Muslims including belief in Allah as the sole deity and in Muhammad as his prophet **2 a** : the civilization erected upon Islamic faith **b** : the group of modern nations in which Islam is the dominant religion — **Is·lam·ic**

\is-'läm-ik, iz-, -'lam-\ *adj* — **Is·lam·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*
Is·lam·ism \is-'läm-ˌiz-əm, iz-'läm-, -'lam-; 'iz-ləm-\ *n* : the faith, doctrine, or cause of Islam — **Is·lam·ist** \-əst\ *n*
Is·lam·ize \'iz-lə-ˌmīz; is-'läm-ˌīz, iz-'läm-, -'lam-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make Islamic; *esp* : to convert to Islam — **Is·lam·iza·tion** \ˌiz-lə-mə-'zā-shən; is-ˌläm-ə-, iz-ˌläm-, -ˌlam-\ *n*
[1]is·land \'ī-lənd\ *n* [alter. of earlier *iland,* fr. ME, fr. OE *īgland;* akin to ON *eyland* island; both fr. a prehistoric NGmc-WGmc compound whose first constituent is represented by OE *īg* island (akin to OE *ēa* river, L *aqua* water) and whose second constituent is represented by OE *land*] **1** : a tract of land surrounded by water and smaller than a continent **2** : something resembling an island esp. in its isolated or surrounded position **3 a** : SAFETY ISLAND **b** : SAFETY ZONE **4** : a superstructure on the deck of a ship **5** : an isolated group or area; *esp* : an isolated ethnological group
[2]island *vt* **1 a** : to make into or as if into an island **b** : to dot with or as if with islands **2** : ISOLATE
is·land·er \'ī-lən-dər\ *n* : a native or inhabitant of an island
island universe *n* : a galaxy other than the Milky Way
[1]isle \'ī(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *insula*] : ISLAND; *esp* : a small island
[2]isle *vt* **isled; isl·ing** **1** : to make an isle of **2** : to place on or as if on an isle
is·let \'ī-lət\ *n* : a little island
islet of Lang·er·hans \-'läŋ-ər-ˌhänz, -ˌhän(t)s\ [Paul *Langerhans* †1888 G physician] : any of the groups of small slightly granular endocrine cells that form anastomosing trabeculae among the tubules and alveoli of the pancreas and secrete insulin
ism \'iz-əm\ *n* [*-ism*] : a distinctive doctrine, cause, or theory
-ism \ˌiz-əm\ *n suffix* [ME *-isme,* fr. MF & L; MF, partly fr. L *-isma* (fr. Gk) & partly fr. L *-ismus,* fr. Gk *-ismos;* Gk *-isma* & *-ismos,* fr. verbs in *-izein* -ize] **1 a** : act : practice : process ⟨critic*ism*⟩ ⟨plagiar*ism*⟩ **b** : manner of action or behavior characteristic of a (specified) person or thing ⟨animal*ism*⟩ **2 a** : state : condition : property ⟨barbarian*ism*⟩ **b** : abnormal state or condition resulting from excess of a (specified) thing ⟨alcohol*ism*⟩ or marked by resemblance to (such) a person or thing ⟨mongol*ism*⟩ **3 a** : doctrine : theory : cult ⟨Buddh*ism*⟩ **b** : adherence to a system or a class of principles ⟨stoic*ism*⟩ **4** : characteristic or peculiar feature or trait ⟨colloquial*ism*⟩
isn't \'iz-ᵊnt\ : is not
iso- — see IS-
iso·ag·glu·ti·na·tion \'ī-(ˌ)sō-ə-ˌglüt-ᵊn-'ā-shən\ *n* : agglutination of an agglutinogen of one individual by the serum of another of the same species — **iso·ag·glu·ti·na·tive** \-'glüt-ᵊn-ˌāt-iv\ *adj*
iso·ag·glu·ti·nin \ˌī-(ˌ)sō-ə-'glüt-ᵊn-ən\ *n* : an agglutinin specific for the cells of another individual of the same species
iso·ag·glu·tin·o·gen \'ī-(ˌ)sō-ˌag-lü-'tin-ə-jən\ *n* : a substance capable of provoking formation of or reacting with an isoagglutinin
iso·al·lox·a·zine \ˌī-(ˌ)sō-ə-'läk-sə-ˌzēn\ *n* [*iso-* + *all*antoic + *ox*alic + *azine*] : a yellow solid $C_{10}H_6N_4O_2$ that is the parent compound of various flavins (as riboflavin)
iso·an·ti·body \ˌī-(ˌ)sō-'ant-i-ˌbäd-ē\ *n* : an antibody against an antigen present in some members of a species that is produced by a member of the species lacking that antigen
iso·an·ti·gen \-'ant-i-jən\ *n* [ISV] : an antigen capable of inducing the production of an isoantibody — **iso·an·ti·gen·ic** \'ī-(ˌ)sō-ˌant-i-'jen-ik\ *adj* — **iso·an·ti·ge·nic·i·ty** \-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*
iso·bar \'ī-sə-ˌbär\ *n* [ISV *is-* + *-bar* (fr. Gk *baros* weight); akin to Gk *barys* heavy — more at GRIEVE] **1** : an imaginary line or a line on a map or chart connecting or marking places on the surface of the earth where the height of the barometer reduced to sea level is the same either at a given time or for a certain period **2** : one of two or more atoms or elements having the same atomic weights or mass numbers but different atomic numbers — **iso·bar·ic** \ˌī-sə-'bär-ik, -'bar-\ *adj*
iso·bu·tyl·ene \ˌī-sō-'byüt-ᵊl-ˌēn\ *n* [ISV] : a gaseous butylene C_4H_8 used esp. in making butyl rubber and gasoline components
iso·chro·mat·ic \ˌī-sə-krō-'mat-ik\ *adj* : ORTHOCHROMATIC
iso·chron \'ī-sə-ˌkrän\ *or* **iso·chrone** \-ˌkrōn\ *n* [ISV *is-* + *-chron* (fr. Gk *chronos* time)] : a line on a chart connecting points at which an event occurs simultaneously or which represents the same time or time difference
iso·chro·nal \ī-'säk-rən-ᵊl, ˌī-sə-'krōn-\ *adj* [Gk *isochronos,* fr. *is-* + *chronos* time] : uniform in time : having equal duration : recurring at regular intervals — **iso·chro·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **iso·chro·nism** \ī-'säk-rə-ˌniz-əm, ˌī-sə-'krō-\ *n*
iso·chro·nous \ī-'säk-rə-nəs, ˌī-sə-'krō-\ *adj* [Gk *isochronos*] : ISOCHRONAL — **iso·chro·nous·ly** *adv*
[1]iso·cli·nal \ˌī-sə-'klīn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ISV] : relating to, having, or indicating equality of inclination or dip — **iso·cli·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
[2]isoclinal *n* : ISOCLINIC LINE
iso·cline \'ī-sə-ˌklīn\ *n* : an anticline or syncline so closely folded that the rock beds of the two sides have the same dip
iso·clin·ic \ˌī-sə-'klin-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : ISOCLINAL — **iso·clin·i·cal·ly** \-'klin-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
isoclinic line *n* : a line on a map or chart joining points on the earth's surface at which a magnetic needle has the same inclination to the plumb line
iso·cy·a·nate \ˌī-sō-'sī-ə-ˌnāt, -nət\ *n* [ISV] : a salt or ester of isomeric cyanic acid HNCO used esp. in plastics and adhesives
iso·cy·clic \-'sī-klik, -'sik-lik\ *adj* [ISV] : having or being a ring composed of atoms of only one element; *esp* : CARBOCYCLIC
iso·di·a·met·ric \-ˌdī-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* [ISV] : having equal diameters ⟨~ cells of plant parenchymatous tissue⟩
iso·dose \'ī-sə-ˌdōs\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to points or zones in a medium that receive equal doses of radiation
iso·dy·nam·ic \ˌī-sō-dī-'nam-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of or relating to equality or uniformity of force **2** : connecting points at which the magnetic intensity is the same ⟨~ line⟩
iso·elec·tric \ˌī-sō-i-'lek-trik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : having or representing zero difference of electric potential **2** : being the pH at which the electrolyte will not migrate in an electrical field ⟨the ~ point of a protein⟩
iso·elec·tron·ic \-i-ˌlek-'trän-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : having the same number of electrons or valence electrons — **iso·elec·tron·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
iso·en·zyme \-'en-ˌzīm\ *n* : ISOZYME — **iso·en·zy·mat·ic** \'ī-sō-ˌen-zə-'mat-ik, -zī-\ *adj* — **iso·en·zy·mic** \-en-'zī-mik\ *adj*
iso·ga·mete \ˌī-sō-gə-'mēt, -'gam-ˌēt\ *n* [ISV] : a gamete indistinguishable in form or size or behavior from another gamete with which it can unite to form a zygote — **iso·ga·met·ic** \-gə-'met-ik\ *adj*
isog·a·mous \ī-'säg-ə-məs\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *isogamus,* fr. *is-* + *-gamus* -gamous] : having or involving isogametes — compare HETEROGAMOUS — **isog·a·my** \-mē\ *n*
iso·ge·ne·ic \ˌī-sō-jə-'nē-ik\ *adj* [*is-* + *-geneic* (as in *syngeneic*)] : SYNGENEIC ⟨an ~ graft⟩
iso·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* [*is-* + *gene* + *-ic*] : characterized by essentially identical genes ⟨identical twins are ~⟩
iso·gloss \'ī-sə-ˌgläs, -ˌglȯs\ *n* [ISV *is-* + Gk *glōssa* language — more at GLOSS] **1** : a boundary line between places or regions that differ in a particular linguistic feature **2** : a line on a map representing an isogloss — **iso·gloss·al** \ˌī-sə-'gläs-əl, -'glȯ-səl\ *adj*
[1]iso·gon·ic \ˌī-sə-'gän-ik\ *or* **iso·go·nal** \ī-'säg-ən-ᵊl, ˌī-sə-'gōn-\ *adj* [ISV *is-* + Gk *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] : of, relating to, or having equal angles
[2]isogonic *or* **isogonal** *n* : ISOGONIC LINE
[3]isogonic *adj* [*isogony,* fr. *is-* + *-gony*] : exhibiting equivalent relative growth of parts such that size relations remain constant — **isog·o·ny** \ī-'säg-ə-nē\ *n*
isogonic line *n* : an imaginary line or a line on a map joining points on the earth's surface at which the magnetic declination is the same
iso·gram \'ī-sə-ˌgram\ *n* : a line on a map or chart along which there is a constant value (as of temperature, pressure, or rainfall)
iso·hel \'ī-sō-ˌhel\ *n* [*is-* + Gk *hēlios* sun — more at SOLAR] : a line drawn on a map or chart connecting places of equal duration of sunshine
iso·he·mol·y·sis \ˌī-sō-hi-'mäl-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : lysis of the red blood cells of one individual by antibodies in the serum of another of the same species
iso·hy·et \ˌī-sō-'hī-ət\ *n* [ISV *is-* + Gk *hyetos* rain — more at HYET-] : a line on a map or chart connecting areas of equal rainfall — **iso·hy·et·al** \-ət-əl\ *adj*
iso·la·ble \'ī-sə-lə-bəl *also* 'is-ə-\ *also* **iso·lat·able** \-ˌlāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being isolated
[1]iso·late \'ī-sə-ˌlāt *also* 'is-ə-\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back-formation fr. *isolated* set apart, fr. F *isolé,* fr. It *isolato,* fr. *isola* island, fr. L *insula*] **1** : to set apart from others; *also* : QUARANTINE **2** : to select from among others; *esp* : to separate from another substance so as to obtain pure or in a free state **3** : INSULATE — **iso·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
[2]iso·late \-lət, -ˌlāt\ *adj* : being alone : SOLITARY, ISOLATED ⟨standing there, ~, and still —D. H. Lawrence⟩
[3]iso·late \-lət, -ˌlat\ *n* : a product of isolating : an individual or kind obtained by selection or separation
iso·la·tion \ˌī-sə-'lā-shən *also* ˌis-ə-\ *n* : the action of isolating : the condition of being isolated ***syn*** see SOLITUDE
iso·la·tion·ism \-shə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a policy of national isolation by abstention from alliances and other international political and economic relations — **iso·la·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n or adj*
Isol·de \i-'zōl-də\ *n* [G, fr. OF *Isolt, Iseut*] **1** : an Irish princess married to King Mark of Cornwall and loved by Tristram **2** : the daughter of the King of Brittany and wife of Tristram
iso·leu·cine \ˌī-sō-'lü-ˌsēn\ *n* [ISV] : a crystalline essential amino acid $C_6H_{13}NO_2$ isomeric with leucine
iso·line \'ī-(ˌ)sō-ˌlīn\ *n* : ISOGRAM
isoln *abbr* isolation
isol·o·gous \ī-'säl-ə-gəs\ *adj* [ISV *is-* + *-logous* (as in *homologous*)] : relating to or being any of two or more compounds of related structure and a characteristic difference of composition other than CH_2 or a multiple thereof — **iso·logue** *or* **iso·log** \'ī-sə-ˌlȯg, -ˌläg\ *n*
iso·mag·net·ic \ˌī-sō-mag-'net-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of or relating to points of equal magnetic intensity or of equal value of a component of such intensity **2** : connecting isomagnetic points ⟨~ line on a map⟩
iso·mer \'ī-sə-mər\ *n* [ISV, back-formation fr. *isomeric*] : a compound, radical, ion, or nuclide isomeric with one or more others
isom·er·ase \ī-'säm-ə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes the conversion of its substrate to an isomeric form
iso·mer·ic \ˌī-sə-'mer-ik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *isomerēs* equally divided, fr. *is-* + *meros* part — more at MERIT] : of, relating to, or exhibiting isomerism
isom·er·ism \ī-'säm-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* **1** : the relation of two or more compounds, radicals, or ions that contain the same numbers of atoms of the same elements but differ in structural arrangement and properties **2** : the relation of two or more nuclides with the same mass numbers and atomic numbers but different energy states and rates of radioactive decay **3** : the condition of being isomerous
isom·er·ize \ī-'säm-ə-ˌrīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to become changed into an isomeric form ~ *vt* : to cause to isomerize — **isom·er·iza·tion** \-ˌsäm-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*
isom·er·ous \ī-'säm-ə-rəs\ *adj* : having an equal number of parts (as ridges or markings); *esp* : having the members of each floral whorl equal in number
iso·met·ric \ˌī-sə-'me-trik\ *also* **iso·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by equality of measure: as **a** : of, relating to, or being an isometric drawing or projection **b** : relating to or being a crystallographic system characterized by three equal axes at right angles **2** : of, relating to, or involving isometrics — **iso·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

isometric drawing *n* : the representation of an object in isometric projection but with lines parallel to the edges drawn in true length — see ISOMETRIC PROJECTION illustration

isometric line *n* **1** : a line (as a contour line) drawn on a map and indicating a true constant value throughout its extent **2** : a line representing changes of pressure or temperature under conditions of constant volume

isometric projection *n* : axonometric projection in which all three faces are equally inclined to the drawing surface so that all the edges are equally foreshortened



1 isometric drawing, in which the lines of the cube are drawn in their actual length; *2* isometric projection, in which the lines of the cube are foreshortened

iso·met·rics \ˌī-sə-ˈme-triks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : exercise or a system of exercises in which opposing muscles are so contracted that there is little shortening but great increase in tone of muscle fibers involved

isom·e·try \ī-ˈsäm-ə-trē\ *n, pl* **-tries** : a mapping of a metric space onto another or onto itself so that the distance between any two points in the original space is the same as the distance between their images in the second space ⟨rotation and translation are *isometries* of the plane⟩

iso·morph \ˈī-sə-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [ISV] : something identical with or similar to something else in form or structure: as **a** : one of two or more substances related by isomorphism **b** : an individual or group exhibiting isomorphism — **iso·mor·phous** \ˌī-sə-ˈmȯr-fəs\ *adj*

iso·mor·phic \ˌī-sə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* **1** : being of identical or similar form or shape or structure; *esp* : having sporophytic and gametophytic generations alike in size and shape ⟨some algae and fungi are ~⟩ **2** : related by an isomorphism ⟨~ mathematical rings⟩ — **iso·mor·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

iso·mor·phism \ˌī-sə-ˈmȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* [ISV] **1** : similarity in organisms of different ancestry resulting from convergence **2 a** : similarity of crystalline form between substances of similar composition **b** : HOMEOMORPHISM 1 **3** : a one-to-one correspondence between two mathematical sets; *esp* : a homomorphism that is one-to-one — compare ENDOMORPHISM

iso·ni·a·zid \ˌī-sə-ˈnī-ə-zəd\ *n* [*isonic*otinic acid hyd*razide*] : a crystalline compound $C_6H_7N_3O$ used in treating tuberculosis

ison·o·my \ī-ˈsän-ə-mē\ *n* [Gk *isonomia*, fr. *isonomos* characterized by isonomy, fr. *is-* + *nomos* right, law] : equality before the law

iso·oc·tane \ˌī-sō-ˈäk-ˌtān\ *n* [ISV] : an octane of branched-chain structure or a mixture of such octanes; *esp* : a flammable liquid octane used to determine the octane number of fuels

iso·phote \ˈī-sə-ˌfōt\ *n* [ISV *is-* + *-phote* (fr. Gk *phōt-, phōs* light) — more at FANCY] : a curve on a chart joining points of equal light intensity from a given source — **iso·phot·al** \ˌī-sə-ˈfōt-əl\ *adj*

iso·pi·es·tic \ˌī-sō-pē-ˈes-tik, -pī-\ *adj* [*is-* + Gk *piestos*, verbal of *piezein* to press] : of, relating to, or marked by equal pressure

iso·pleth \ˈī-sə-ˌpleth\ *n* [ISV *is-* + Gk *plēthos* quantity; akin to Gk *plēthein* to be full — more at FULL] **1** : an isogram on a graph showing the occurrence or frequency of a phenomenon as a function of two variables **2** : a line on a map connecting points at which a given variable has a specified constant value — **iso·pleth·ic** \ˌī-sə-ˈpleth-ik\ *adj*

iso·pod \ˈī-sə-ˌpäd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *is-* + *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] : any of a large order (Isopoda) of small sessile-eyed crustaceans with the body composed of seven free thoracic segments each bearing a pair of similar legs — **isopod** *adj* — **isop·o·dan** \ī-ˈsäp-əd-ən\ *adj or n*

iso·pren·a·line \ˌī-sə-ˈpren-ᵊl-ən\ *n* [prob. fr. *isopr*opyl + adr*enaline*] : ISOPROTERANOL

iso·prene \ˈī-sə-ˌprēn\ *n* [prob. fr. *is-* + *pr*opyl + *-ene*] : a flammable liquid unsaturated hydrocarbon C_5H_8 used esp. in synthetic rubber

iso·pren·oid \ˌī-sə-ˈprē-ˌnȯid\ *adj* : relating to, containing, or being a branched-chain grouping characteristic of isoprene

iso·pro·pyl \ˌī-sə-ˈprō-pəl\ *n* [ISV] : the alkyl radical isomeric with normal propyl

isopropyl alcohol *n* : a volatile flammable alcohol C_3H_8O used esp. as a solvent and rubbing alcohol

iso·pro·ter·e·nol \ˈī-sə-prō-ˈter-ə-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* [*isopro*pyl + ar*terenol* (norepinephrine), fr. *Arterenol*, a trademark] : a drug $C_{11}H_{17}NO_3$ used in the treatment of asthma

isos·ce·les triangle \ī-ˌsäs-(ə-)ˌlēz-\ *n* [LL *isosceles* having two equal sides, fr. Gk *isoskelēs*, fr. *is-* + *skelos* leg — more at CYLINDER] : a triangle having two equal sides — see TRIANGLE illustration

iso·seis·mal \ˌī-sə-ˈsīz-məl, -ˈsīs-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by equal intensity of earthquake shock

is·os·mot·ic \ˌī-ˌsäz-ˈmät-ik, -ˌsäs-\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or exhibiting equal osmotic pressure ⟨~ solutions⟩ — **is·os·mot·i·cal·ly** \-ˈmät-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

iso·spin \ˈī-sə-ˌspin\ *n* : a quantum characteristic of a group of closely related elementary particles (as a proton and a neutron) handled mathematically like ordinary spin with the possible orientations in a hypothetical space specifying the number of particles of different electric charge comprising the group — called also *isotopic spin*

iso·spon·dy·lous \ī-sō-ˈspän-də-ləs\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *isos* equal + Gk *spondylos* vertebra — more at SPONDYLITIS] : of or relating to an order (Isospondyli) of primitive soft-finned teleost fishes

iso·spo·rous \ˌī-sə-ˈspōr-əs, -ˈspȯr-; ī-ˈsäs-pə-rəs\ *adj* : producing sexual or asexual spores of but one kind — **iso·spo·ry** \ˈī-sə-ˌspōr-ē, -ˌspȯr-; ī-säs-pə-rē\ *n*

isos·ta·sy \ī-ˈsäs-tə-sē\ *n* [ISV *is-* + Gk *-stasia* condition of standing, fr. *histanai* to cause to stand — more at STAND] **1** : the quality or state of being subjected to equal pressure from every side **2** : general equilibrium in the earth's crust maintained by a yielding flow of rock material beneath the surface under gravitative stress — **iso·stat·ic** \ˌī-sə-ˈstat-ik\ *adj* — **iso·stat·i·cal·ly** \-ˈstat-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

iso·tach \ˈī-sə-ˌtak\ *n* [ISV *is-* + *-tach* (fr. Gk *tachys* quick)] : a line on a map or chart connecting points of equal wind velocity

iso·therm \ˈī-sə-ˌthərm\ *n* [F *isotherme*, adj.] **1** : a line on a map or chart of the earth's surface connecting points having the same temperature at a given time or the same mean temperature for a given period **2** : a line on a chart representing changes of volume or pressure under conditions of constant temperature

iso·ther·mal \ˌī-sə-ˈthər-məl\ *adj* [F *isotherme*, fr. *is-* + Gk *thermos* hot — more at WARM] **1** : of, relating to, or marked by equality of temperature **2** : of, relating to, or marked by changes of volume or pressure under conditions of constant temperature — **iso·ther·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

iso·ton·ic \ˌī-sə-ˈtän-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of, relating to, or exhibiting equal tension **2** : ISOSMOTIC — used of solutions — **iso·ton·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **iso·to·nic·i·ty** \-tō-ˈnis-ət-ē\ *n*

iso·tope \ˈī-sə-ˌtōp\ *n* [*is-* + Gk *topos* place — more at TOPIC] **1** : any of two or more species of atoms of a chemical element with the same atomic number and position in the periodic table and nearly identical chemical behavior but with differing atomic mass or mass number and different physical properties **2** : NUCLIDE — **iso·to·pic** \ˌī-sə-ˈtäp-ik, -ˈtō-pik\ *adj* — **iso·to·pi·cal·ly** \-ˈtäp-i-k(ə-)lē, -ˈtō-pi-\ *adv* — **iso·to·py** \ˈī-sə-ˌtō-pē, ī-ˈsät-ə-pē\ *n*

iso·tro·pic \ˌī-sə-ˈtrō-pik, -ˈträp-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : exhibiting properties (as velocity of light transmission) with the same values when measured along axes in all directions ⟨an ~ crystal⟩ **2** : lacking predetermined axes ⟨an ~ egg⟩ — **isot·ro·py** \ī-ˈsä-trə-pē\ *n*

iso·zyme \ˈī-sə-ˌzīm\ *n* : any of two or more chemically distinct but functionally like enzymes — **iso·zy·mic** \ˌī-sə-ˈzī-mik\ *adj*

Isr *abbr* Israel; Israeli

Is·ra·el \ˈiz-rē-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. LL, fr. Gk *Israēl*, fr. Heb *Yiśrā'ēl*] **1** : JACOB **2** : the Jewish people **3** : a people chosen by God — **Israel** *adj*

[1]Is·rae·li \iz-ˈrā-lē\ *adj* [NHeb *yiśrĕ'ēlī*, fr. Heb, Israelite, n. & adj., fr. *Yiśrā'ēl*] : of or relating to the republic of Israel

[2]Israeli *n, pl* **Israelis** *also* **Israeli** : a native or inhabitant of the republic of Israel

Is·ra·el·ite \ˈiz-rē-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *Israelita*, fr. Gk *Israēlitēs*, fr. *Israēl*] : a descendant of the Hebrew patriarch Jacob; *specif* : a native or inhabitant of the ancient northern kingdom of Israel — **Israelite** *or* **Is·ra·el·it·ish** \-ˌlīt-ish\ *adj*

Is·sa \ē-ˈsä\ *n, pl* **Issa** *or* **Is·sas** \-ˈsä(z)\ : a member of a Somali people of eastern Ethiopia, Somalia, and the French Territory of the Afars and the Issas

Is·sa·char \ˈis-ə-ˌkär\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *Yiśśākhār*] : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel

is·su·able \ˈish-ü-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : open to contest, debate, or litigation **2** : authorized for issue ⟨bonds ~ under the merger terms⟩ **3** : possible as a result or consequence — **is·su·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

is·su·ance \ˈish-ə-wən(t)s\ *n* : ISSUE

is·su·ant \-wənt\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : coming forth : EMERGING **2** *of a heraldic animal* : rising with only the upper part visible

[1]is·sue \ˈish-(ˌ)ü, ˈish-ə(-w), *chiefly Brit* ˈis-(ˌ)yü\ *n* [ME, exit, proceeds, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *issir* to come out, go out, fr. L *exire* to go out, fr. *ex-* + *ire* to go; akin to Goth *iddja* he went, Gk *ienai* to go, Skt *eti* he goes] **1** *pl* : proceeds from a source of revenue (as an estate) **2** : the action of going, coming, or flowing out : EGRESS, EMERGENCE **3** : a means or place of going out : EXIT, OUTLET **4** : OFFSPRING, PROGENY ⟨died without ~⟩ **5 a** : a final outcome that usu. constitutes a solution (as of a problem) or resolution (as of a difficulty) **b** *obs* : a final conclusion or decision about something arrived at after consideration **c** *archaic* : TERMINATION, END ⟨hope that his enterprise would have a prosperous ~ —T. B. Macaulay⟩ **6 a** : a matter that is in dispute between two or more parties : a point of debate or controversy **b** : the point at which an unsettled matter is ready for a decision ⟨brought the matter to an ~⟩ **7** : a discharge (as of blood) from the body **8 a** : something coming forth from a specified source ⟨~s of a disordered imagination⟩ **b** *obs* : DEED **9 a** : the act of publishing or officially giving out or making available ⟨the next ~ of commemorative stamps⟩ ⟨~ of supplies by the quartermaster⟩ **b** : the thing or the whole quantity of things given out at one time ⟨read the latest ~⟩ ***syn*** see EFFECT — **is·sue·less** \ˈish-ü-ləs\ *adj* — **at issue** **1** : in a state of controversy : in disagreement **2** *also* **in issue** : under discussion or in dispute

[2]issue *vb* **is·sued; is·su·ing** *vi* **1 a** : to go, come, or flow out **b** : to come forth : EMERGE **c** : to come to an issue of law or fact in pleading **2** : ACCRUE ⟨profits *issuing* from the sale of the stock⟩ **3** : to descend from a specified parent or ancestor **4** : to be a consequence or final outcome : EMANATE, RESULT **5** : to appear or become available through being officially put forth or distributed : appear through issuance or publication ⟨no new editions are expected to ~ from that press⟩ **6** : EVENTUATE, TERMINATE ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to come forth : DISCHARGE, EMIT **2 a** : to put forth or distribute officially ⟨government *issued* a new airmail stamp⟩ ⟨~ orders to advance⟩ **b** : to send out for sale or circulation : PUBLISH ***syn*** see SPRING — **is·su·er** *n*

IST *abbr* insulin shock therapy

[1]-ist \əst\ *n suffix* [ME *-iste*, fr. OF & L; OF *-iste*, fr. L *-ista, -istes*, fr. Gk *-istēs*, fr. verbs in *-izein* -ize] **1 a** : one that performs a (specified) action ⟨cyclist⟩ : one that makes or produces a (specified) thing ⟨novelist⟩ **b** : one that plays a (specified) musical instrument ⟨harpist⟩ **c** : one that operates a (specified) mechanical

instrument or contrivance ⟨automobil*ist*⟩ **2** : one that specializes in a (specified) art or science or skill ⟨geolog*ist*⟩ ⟨ventriloqu*ist*⟩ **3** : one that adheres to or advocates a (specified) doctrine or system or code of behavior ⟨social*ist*⟩ ⟨royal*ist*⟩ ⟨hedon*ist*⟩ or that of a (specified) individual (Calvin*ist*⟩ ⟨Darwin*ist*⟩

2-ist *adj suffix* : of, relating to, or characteristic of ⟨dilettant*ist*⟩

isth *abbr* isthmus

1isth·mi·an \'is-mē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of an isthmus **2** *cap* : a native or inhabitant of the Isthmus of Panama

2isthmian *adj* : of, relating to, or situated in or near an isthmus: as **a** *often cap* : of or relating to the Isthmus of Corinth in Greece or the games held there in ancient times **b** *often cap* : of or relating to the Isthmus of Panama connecting the No. American and So. American continents

isth·mic \'is-mik\ *adj* : ISTHMIAN

isth·mus \'is-məs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *isthmos*] **1** : a narrow strip of land connecting two larger land areas **2** : a contracted anatomical part or passage connecting two larger structures or cavities

is·tle \'ist-lē\ *n* [AmerSp *ixtle*, fr. Nahuatl *ichtli*] : a strong fiber (as for cordage or basketry) from various tropical American plants

ISV *abbr* International Scientific Vocabulary

1it \(')it, ət\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *hit* — more at HE] **1** : that one — used as subject or direct object or indirect object of a verb or object of a preposition usu. in reference to a lifeless thing ⟨took a quick look at the house and noticed ~ was very old⟩, a plant ⟨there is a rosebush near the fence and ~ is now blooming⟩, a person or animal whose sex is unknown or disregarded ⟨don't know who ~ is⟩, a group of individuals or things, or an abstract entity ⟨beauty is everywhere and ~ is a source of joy⟩; compare HE, ITS, SHE, THEY **2** — used as subject of an impersonal verb that expresses a condition or action without reference to an agent ⟨~ is raining⟩ **3 a** — used as anticipatory subject or object of a verb ⟨~ is necessary to repeat the whole thing⟩; often used to shift emphasis to a part of a statement other than the subject ⟨~ was in this city that the treaty was signed⟩ **b** — used with many verbs as a direct object with little or no meaning ⟨footed ~ back to camp⟩ **4** — used to refer to an explicit or implicit state of affairs or circumstances ⟨how is ~ going⟩

2it \'it\ *n* : the player in a game who performs a function (as trying to catch others in a game of tag) essential to the nature of the game

It *abbr* Italian; Italy

ITA \ˌī-ˌtē-'ā\ *abbr* Initial Teaching Alphabet

it·a·col·u·mite \ˌit-ə-'käl-(y)ə-ˌmīt\ *n* [*Itacolumi*, mountain in Brazil] : a quartzite resembling mica and flexible when split into thin slabs

it·a·con·ic acid \ˌit-ə-ˌkän-ik-\ *n* [ISV, anagram of *aconitic acid*, $C_3H_3(COOH)_3$] : a crystalline dicarboxylic acid $C_5H_6O_4$ obtained usu. by fermentation of sugars with molds (genus *Aspergillus*) and used as a monomer for vinyl-type polymers and polyesters

ital *abbr* italic; italicized

Ital *abbr* Italian

Ital·ian \ə-'tal-yən, i-\ *n* **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Italy **b** : a person of Italian descent **2** : the Romance language of the Italians — **Italian** *adj*

ital·ian·ate \-yə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : ITALIANIZE

Ital·ian·ate \-nət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* : Italian in quality or characteristics

Italian greyhound *n* : any of a breed of toy dogs developed by selective breeding from standard greyhounds

Ital·ian·ism \ə-'tal-yə-ˌniz-əm, i-\ *n* **1 a** : a quality characteristic of Italy or the Italian people **b** : a characteristic feature of Italian occurring in another language **2 a** : specialized interest in or emulation of Italian qualities or achievements **b** : promotion or love of Italian policies or ideals

ital·ian·ize \ə-'tal-yə-ˌnīz, i-\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi, often cap* : to act Italian; *specif* : to follow the style or technique of recognized Italian painters ~ *vt, often cap* : to make Italian (as in appearance or behavior) — **Ital·ian·iza·tion** \-ˌtal-yə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

Italian sandwich *n* : SUBMARINE 2

Italian sonnet *n* : a sonnet consisting of an octave rhyming *abba abba* and a sestet rhyming in any of various patterns (as *cde cde* or *cdc dcd*) — called also *Petrarchan sonnet*

1ital·ic \ə-'tal-ik, i-, ī-\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to ancient Italy, its peoples, or their Indo-European languages **2** : of or relating to a type style with characters that slant upward to the right (as in "*these words are italic*")

2italic *n* **1** : an italic character or type **2** *cap* : the Italic branch of the Indo-European language family — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

Ital·i·cism \ə-'tal-ə-ˌsiz-əm, i-\ *n* : ITALIANISM 1b

ital·i·cize \ə-'tal-ə-ˌsīz, i-, ī-\ *vt* **-cized; -ciz·ing** : to print in italics or underscore with a single line — **ital·i·ci·za·tion** \-ˌtal-ə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*

Ita·lo- *comb form* **1** : Italian **2** \'it-ᵊl-ō *also* ə-'tal-ō *or* i-'tal-ō\ : Italian and ⟨*Italo*-Austrian⟩

Italo·phile \ə-'tal-ə-ˌfīl, i-\ *adj* : friendly to or favoring what is Italian — **Italophile** *n*

1itch \'ich\ *vb* [ME *icchen*, fr. OE *giccan*; akin to OHG *jucchen* to itch] *vi* **1 a** : to have an itch ⟨her arm ~*ed*⟩ **b** : to produce such a sensation ⟨long underwear that ~*es*⟩ **2** : to have a restless desire or hankering for something ⟨were ~*ing* to go outside⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to itch **2** : VEX, IRRITATE

2itch *n* **1 a** : an uneasy irritating sensation in the upper surface of the skin usu. held to result from mild stimulation of pain receptors **b** : a skin disorder accompanied by such a sensation; *esp* : a contagious eruption caused by a mite (*Sarcoptes scabiei*) that burrows in the skin and causes intense itching **2 a** : a restless usu. constant often compulsive desire ⟨an ~ to travel⟩ **b** : LUST, PRURIENCE — **itch·i·ness** \'ich-ē-nəs\ *n* — **itchy** \-ē\ *adj*

it'd \ˌit-əd\ : it had : it would

1-ite \ˌīt\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *-ita, -ites*, fr. Gk *-itēs*] **1 a** : native : resident ⟨Brooklyn*ite*⟩ **b** : descendant ⟨Ephraim*ite*⟩ **c** : adherent : follower ⟨Jacob*ite*⟩ ⟨Pusey*ite*⟩ **2 a** (1) : product ⟨metabol*ite*⟩ (2) : commercially manufactured product ⟨ebon*ite*⟩ **b** : -ITOL ⟨inos*ite*⟩ **3** [NL *-ites*, fr. L] : fossil ⟨ammon*ite*⟩ **4** : mineral ⟨erythr*ite*⟩ : rock ⟨anorthos*ite*⟩ **5** [F, fr. L *-ita, -ites*] : segment or constituent part of a body or of a bodily part ⟨som*ite*⟩ ⟨dendr*ite*⟩

2-ite *n suffix* [F, alter. of *-ate* -ate, fr. NL *-atum*] : salt or ester of an acid with a name ending in *-ous*

1item \'ī-ˌtem, 'īt-əm\ *adv* [ME, fr. L, fr. *ita* thus] : and in addition : ALSO — used to introduce each article in a list or enumeration

2item \'īt-əm\ *n* **1** *obs* : WARNING, HINT **2** : a separate particular in an enumeration, account, or series : ARTICLE **3** : a separate piece of news or information ⟨column of local ~*s*⟩
syn ITEM, DETAIL, PARTICULAR *shared meaning element* : one of the distinct parts of a whole

3item \'īt-əm\ *vt* **1** *archaic* : COMPUTE, RECKON **2** *archaic* : to set down the particular details of

item·iza·tion \ˌīt-ə-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* : the act of itemizing; *also* : an itemized list

item·ize \'īt-ə-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to set down in detail or by particulars : LIST ⟨*itemized* all expenses⟩

it·er·ance \'it-ə-rən(t)s\ *n* : REPETITION

it·er·ant \-rənt\ *adj* : marked by repetition, reiteration, or recurrence ⟨~ echoes⟩

it·er·ate \'it-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *iteratus*, pp. of *iterare*, fr. *iterum* again; akin to L *is* he, that, *ita* thus, Skt *itara* the other, *iti* thus] : to say or do again or again and again : REITERATE ***syn*** see REPEAT — **it·er·a·tion** \ˌit-ə-'rā-shən\ *n*

it·er·a·tive \'it-ə-ˌrāt-iv, -rət-\ *adj* : involving repetition: as **a** : expressing repetition of a verbal action **b** : relating to or being a computational procedure in which replication of a cycle of operations produces results which approximate the desired result more and more closely — **it·er·a·tive·ly** *adv*

ithy·phal·lic \ˌith-i-'fal-ik\ *adj* [LL *ithyphallicus*, fr. Gk *ithyphallikos*, fr. *ithyphallos* erect phallus, fr. *ithys* straight + *phallos* phallus; akin to Skt *sādhati* he reaches the goal] **1** : of or relating to the phallus carried in procession in ancient festivals of Bacchus **2 a** : having an erect penis — usu. used of figures in an art representation **b** : LEWD, OBSCENE

itin·er·a·cy \ī-'tin-ə-rə-sē, ə-\ *n* [*itinerate*, adj. (itinerant)] : ITINERANCY

itin·er·an·cy \-rən-sē\ *n* **1 a** : the act of itinerating **b** : the state of being itinerant **2** : a system (as in the Methodist Church) of rotating ministers who itinerate

itin·er·ant \-rənt\ *adj* [LL *itinerant-, itinerans*, prp. of *itinerari* to journey, fr. L *itiner-, iter* journey, way, fr. *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] : traveling from place to place; *esp* : covering a circuit ⟨~ preacher⟩ — **itinerant** *n* — **itin·er·ant·ly** *adv*

itin·er·ary \ī-'tin-ə-ˌrer-ē, ə- *also* -'tin-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** **1** : the route of a journey or the proposed outline of one **2** : a travel diary **3** : a traveler's guidebook — **itinerary** *adj*

itin·er·ate \ī-'tin-ə-ˌrāt, ə-\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : to travel a preaching or judicial circuit — **itin·er·a·tion** \-ˌtin-ə-'rā-shən, ə-\ *n*

-i·tious \'ish-əs\ *adj suffix* [L *-icius, -itius*] : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of ⟨excrement*itious*⟩

-i·tis \'īt-əs *also but not shown at individual entries* 'ēt-\ *n suffix, pl* **-i·tis·es** *also* **-it·i·des** \'it-ə-ˌdēz\ *sometimes* **-i·tes** \'īt-(ˌ)ēz, 'ēt-\ [NL, fr. L & Gk; L, fr. Gk, fr. fem. of *-ītēs* -ite] **1** : disease or inflammation ⟨bronch*itis*⟩ **2** *pl usu -itises* **a** (1) : malady arising from ⟨vacation*itis*⟩ **2** (2) : forced endurance of ⟨television*itis*⟩ **b** (1) : marked proneness to ⟨accident*itis*⟩ (2) : infatuation with ⟨jazz*itis*⟩ (3) : excessive advocacy of or reliance on ⟨education*itis*⟩ **c** : excess of the qualities of ⟨big-business*itis*⟩

it'll \ˌit-ᵊl\ : it will : it shall

ITO *abbr* International Trade Organization

-i·tol \ə-ˌtȯl, -ˌtōl\ *n suffix* [ISV *-īte* (fr. 1*-ite*) + *-ol*] : polyhydroxy alcohol usu. related to a sugar ⟨mann*itol*⟩

its \(ˌ)its, əts\ *adj* : of or relating to it or itself esp. as possessor, agent, or object of an action ⟨going to ~ kennel⟩ ⟨a child proud of ~ first drawings⟩ ⟨~ final enactment into law⟩

it's \(ˌ)its, əts\ **1** : it is **2** : it has

it·self \it-'self, ət-\ *pron* **1** : that identical one — compare 1IT 1; used reflexively ⟨watched the cat giving ~ a bath⟩, for emphasis ⟨the letter ~ was missing⟩, or in absolute constructions ⟨~ a splendid specimen of classic art, it is sure to be exhibited throughout the world⟩ **2** : its normal, healthy, or sane condition

ITT *abbr* insulin tolerance test

it·ty-bit·ty \ˌit-ē-'bit-ē\ *or* **it·sy-bit·sy** \ˌit-sē-'bit-sē\ *adj* [prob. fr. baby talk for *little bit*] : extremely small : TINY

ITU *abbr* **1** International Telecommunication Union **2** International Typographical Union

ITV *abbr* instructional television

-ity \ət-ē\ *n suffix* [ME *-ite*, fr. OF or L; OF *-ité*, fr. L *-itat-, -itas*, fr. *-i-* (stem vowel of adjs.) + *-tat-, -tas* -ity; akin to Gk *-tēt-, -tēs* -ity] : quality : state : degree ⟨alkalin*ity*⟩ ⟨theatrical*ity*⟩

IU *abbr* international unit

IUD \ˌī-ˌyü-'dē\ *n* : INTRAUTERINE DEVICE

-ium *n suffix* **1** [NL, fr. L, ending of some neut. nouns] **a** (1) : a chemical element ⟨sod*ium*⟩ **1** (2) : chemical radical ⟨ammon*ium*⟩ **b** : positive ion ⟨imidazol*ium* $[C_3H_4N_2H]^+$⟩ **2** *pl* **-iums** *or* **-ia** [NL, fr. L, fr. Gk *-ion*] : small one : mass — esp. in botanical terms ⟨pollin*ium*⟩

IUPAC *abbr* International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry

IV *abbr* intravenous; intravenously

-ive \iv\ *adj suffix* [ME *-if, -ive*, fr. MF & L; MF *-if*, fr. L *-ivus*] : that performs or tends toward an (indicated) action ⟨amus*ive*⟩

I've \(ˌ)īv\ : I have

ivied \'ī-vēd\ *adj* : overgrown with ivy ⟨~ walls⟩

ivo·ry \'īv-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *ivorie*, fr. OF *ivoire*, fr. L *eboreus* of ivory, fr. *ebor-, ebur* ivory, fr. Egypt ỉb, ỉbw elephant, ivory] **1 a** : the hard creamy-white modified dentine that composes the tusks of a tusked mammal and esp. the elephant **b** : a tusk (as of an elephant) that yields ivory **2** : a variable color averaging a pale yellow **3** *slang* : TOOTH **4** : something (as dice or piano keys) made of ivory or of a similar substance — **ivory** *adj*

ivo·ry-bill \'īv-(ə-)rē-ˌbil\ *n* : IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER

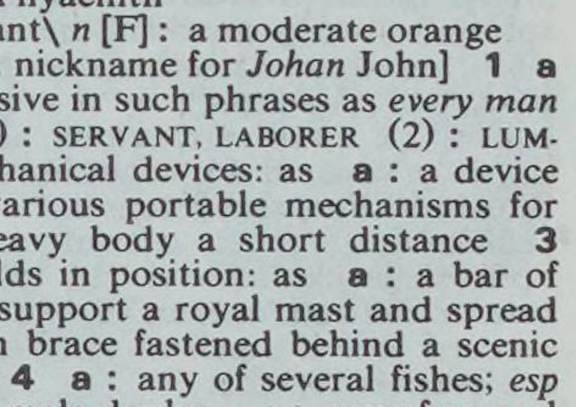
ivo·ry–billed woodpecker \ˌīv-(ə-)rē-ˌbild-\ *n* : a very large, nearly extinct, black-and-white woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*) of the southeastern U.S. that has a showy red crest in the male
ivory black *n* : a fine black pigment made by calcining ivory
ivory nut *n* : the nutlike seed of a So. American palm (*Phytelephas macrocarpa*) containing a very hard endosperm used for carving and turning — compare VEGETABLE IVORY
ivory tower *n* [trans. of F *tour d'ivoire*] **1** : an impractical often escapist attitude marked by aloof lack of concern with or interest in practical matters or urgent problems **2** : a secluded place for meditation : RETREAT ⟨viewing college as an *ivory tower*⟩ — **ivory-tower** *adj* — **ivo·ry–tow·er·ish** \ˌīv-(ə-)rē-ˈtaù-(ə-)rish\ *adj*
ivo·ry–tow·ered \ˌīv-(ə-)rē-ˈtaù(-ə)rd\ *adj* : divorced from reality and practical matters ⟨an ~ recluse⟩
[1]ivy \ˈī-vē\ *n, pl* **ivies** [ME, fr. OE *īfig*; akin to OHG *ebah* ivy] **1** : a widely cultivated ornamental climbing or prostrate or sometimes shrubby Eurasian vine (*Hedera helix*) of the ginseng family with evergreen leaves, small yellowish flowers, and black berries **2** : POISON IVY


ivy 1

[2]ivy *adj* [fr. the prevalence of ivy-covered buildings on the campuses of the older U.S. colleges] **1** : ACADEMIC **2** : IVY LEAGUE
Ivy League *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a group of long-established eastern U.S. colleges widely regarded as high in scholastic and social prestige **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the students of Ivy League colleges
Ivy Leaguer *n* : a student at or a graduate of an Ivy League college
IW *abbr* **1** index word **2** inside width **3** Isle of Wight **4** isotopic weight
iwis \ē-ˈwis, ī-\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *gewis* certain; akin to OHG *giwisso* certainly, OE *witan* to know — more at WIT] *archaic* : CERTAINLY
IWW *abbr* Industrial Workers of the World
Ix·i·on \ik-ˈsī-ən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Ixiōn*] : a Thessalian king bound on a burning wheel in Tartarus for attempting while a guest of Zeus to seduce Hera
ix·o·did \ˈik-sə-ˌdid, ik-ˈsōd-əd\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *ixōdēs* sticky, fr. *ixos* birdlime] : of, relating to, or being a typical tick (family Ixodidae) — **ixodid** *n*
Iyar \ˈē-ˌyär\ *n* [Heb *Iyyār*] : the 8th month of the civil year or the 2d month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table
-iza·tion \ə-ˈzā-shən *also esp when an unstressed syllable precedes but not shown at individual entries* (ˌ)ī-ˈzā-\ *n suffix* : action, process, or result of making ⟨social*ization*⟩
-ize \ˌīz\ *vb suffix* [ME *-isen*, fr. OF *-iser*, fr. LL *-izare*, fr. Gk *-izein*] **1 a** (1) : cause to be or conform to or resemble ⟨system*ize*⟩ ⟨american*ize*⟩ : cause to be formed into ⟨union*ize*⟩ (2) : subject to a (specified) action ⟨plagiar*ize*⟩ (3) : impregnate or treat or combine with ⟨albumin*ize*⟩ **b** : treat like ⟨idol*ize*⟩ **c** : treat according to the method of ⟨bowdler*ize*⟩ **2 a** : become : become like ⟨crystall*ize*⟩ **b** : be productive in or of ⟨hypothes*ize*⟩ : engage in a (specified) activity ⟨philosoph*ize*⟩ **c** : adopt or spread the manner of activity or the teaching of ⟨calvin*ize*⟩
iz·zard \ˈiz-ərd\ *n* [alter. of earlier *ezod, ezed*, prob. fr. MF *et zede* and Z] *chiefly dial* : the letter *z*



[1]j \ˈjā\ *n, pl* **j's** *or* **js** \ˈjāz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 10th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *j* **2 a** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *j* **b** : a unit vector parallel to the y-axis **3** : one designated *j* esp. as the 10th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter J
[2]j *abbr, often cap* **1** jack **2** joule **3** journal **4** judge **5** justice
JA *abbr* **1** joint account **2** judge advocate
[1]jab \ˈjab\ *vb* **jabbed; jab·bing** [alter. of *job* (to strike)] *vt* **1 a** : to pierce with or as if with a sharp object : STAB **b** : to poke quickly or abruptly : THRUST **2** : to strike with a short straight blow ~ *vi* **1** : to make quick or abrupt thrusts with a sharp object **2** : to strike a person with a short straight blow
[2]jab *n* : an act of jabbing; *specif* : a short straight boxing punch delivered with the leading hand
[1]jab·ber \ˈjab-ər\ *vb* **jab·bered; jab·ber·ing** \ˈjab-(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *jaberen*, of imit. origin] *vi* : to talk rapidly, indistinctly, or unintelligibly ~ *vt* : to speak rapidly or indistinctly — **jab·ber·er** \ˈjab-ər-ər\ *n*
[2]jabber *n* : GIBBERISH, CHATTER
[3]jabber *n* : one that jabs
jab·ber·wocky \ˈjab-ər-ˌwäk-ē\ *n* [*Jabberwocky*, nonsense poem by Lewis Carroll] : meaningless speech or writing
ja·bi·ru \ˌzhab-ə-ˈrü\ *n* [Pg, fr. Tupi & Guarani *jabirú*] : any of several large tropical storks
ja·bo·ran·di \ˌzhab-ə-ˌran-ˈdē, -ˈran-dē\ *n* [Pg, fr. Tupi *yaborandí*] : the dried leaves of two So. American shrubs (*Pilocarpus jaborandi* and *P. microphyllus*) of the rue family that are a source of pilocarpine
ja·bot \zha-ˈbō, ˈjab-ˌō\ *n* [F] **1** : a fall of lace or cloth attached to the front of a neckband and worn esp. by men in the 18th century **2** : a pleated frill of cloth or lace attached down the center front of a woman's blouse or dress
ja·bo·ti·ca·ba \zhə-ˌbüt-i-ˈkäb-ə\ *n* [Pg, fr. Tupi] : a tropical American shrubby tree (*Myrciaria cauiflora*) of the myrtle family cultivated in warm regions for its edible purplish fruit
ja·cal \hə-ˈkäl\ *n, pl* **ja·ca·les** \-ˈkäl-(ˌ)ās\ *also* **ja·cals** [MexSp, fr. Nahuatl *xacallí*] : a hut in Mexico and southwestern U.S. with a thatched roof and walls made of upright poles or sticks covered and chinked with mud or clay
jac·a·mar \ˈzhak-ə-ˌmär\ *n* [F, fr. Tupi *jacamá-cirí*] : any of a family (Galbulidae) of usu. iridescent green or bronze insectivorous birds of American tropical forests
ja·ca·na \ˌzhas-ᵊn-ˈaⁿ\ *n* [Pg *jaçanã*, fr. Tupi & Guarani] : any of several long-legged and long-toed wading birds (family Jacanidae) that frequent coastal freshwater marshes and ponds in warm regions
jac·a·ran·da \ˌjak-ə-ˈran-də\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Pg, a tree of this genus] : any of a genus (*Jacaranda*) of pinnate-leaved tropical American trees of the trumpet-creeper family with showy blue flowers in panicles
ja·cinth \ˈjās-ᵊn(t)th, ˈjas-\ *n* [ME *iacinct*, fr. OF *jacinthe*, fr. L *hyacinthus*, a flowering plant, a gem] **1** : HYACINTH **2** : a gem more nearly orange in color than a hyacinth
ja·cinthe \ˈjās-ᵊn(t)th, ˈjas-; zhä-ˈsant\ *n* [F] : a moderate orange
[1]jack \ˈjak\ *n* [ME *jacke*, fr. *Jacke*, nickname for *Johan* John] **1 a** : MAN — usually used as an intensive in such phrases as *every man jack* **b** *often cap* : SAILOR **c** (1) : SERVANT, LABORER (2) : LUMBERJACK **2** : any of various mechanical devices: as **a** : a device for turning a spit **b** : any of various portable mechanisms for exerting pressure or lifting a heavy body a short distance **3** : something that supports or holds in position: as **a** : a bar of iron at a topgallant masthead to support a royal mast and spread the royal shrouds **b** : a wooden brace fastened behind a scenic unit in a stage set to prop it up **4 a** : any of several fishes; *esp* : any of various carangids **b** : a male donkey **c** : any of several birds (as a jackdaw) **5 a** : a small white target ball in lawn bowling **b** : a small national flag flown by a ship **c** (1) *pl but sing in constr* : a game played with a set of small objects that are tossed, caught, and moved in various figures (2) : a small 6-pointed metal object used in the game of jacks **6 a** : a playing card carrying the figure of a soldier or servant and ranking usu. below the queen **b** [by shortening] : JACKPOT 1a(2) **7** *slang* : MONEY **8** : a female fitting in an electric circuit used with a plug to make a connection with another circuit **9 a** [by shortening] : APPLEJACK **b** : BRANDY **10** [by shortening] : JACKKNIFE 2
[2]jack *vi* : to hunt or fish at night with a jacklight ~ *vt* **1** : to hunt or fish for at night with a jacklight **2 a** : to move or lift by or as if by a jack **b** : to raise the level or quality of ⟨~ up the price⟩ **c** : to take to task — **jack·er** *n*
jack·al \ˈjak-əl, -ˌȯl\ *n* [Turk *çakal*, fr. Per *shagāl*, fr. Skt *srgāla*] **1** : any of several Old World wild dogs smaller than the related wolves **2 a** : a person who performs routine or menial tasks for another **b** : a person who serves or collaborates with another esp. in the commission of base acts


jackal 1

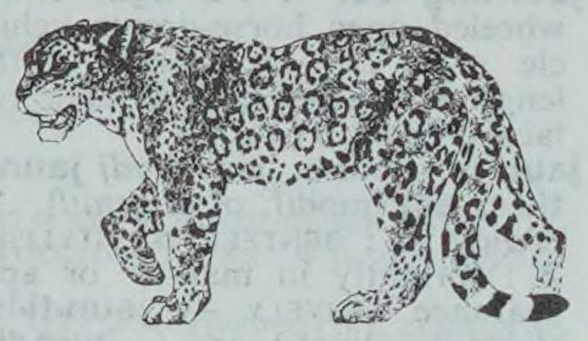
Jack–a–Lent \'jak-ə-ˌlent\ *n* [*¹jack* + *a* (of) + *Lent*] **1** : a small stuffed puppet set up to be pelted for fun in Lent **2** : a simple or insignificant person
jack·a·napes \'jak-ə-ˌnāps\ *n* [ME *Jack Napis*, nickname for William de la Pole †1450 duke of Suffolk] **1** : MONKEY, APE **2 a** : an impudent or conceited fellow **b** : a saucy or mischievous child
jack·ass \'jak-ˌas\ *n* **1** : a male ass; *also* : DONKEY **2** : a stupid person : FOOL
jack·ass·ery \'jak-ˌas-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** : a stupid or foolish act
jack bean *n* : a bushy annual tropical American legume (genus *Canavalia*); *esp* : a plant (*C. ensiformis*) grown esp. for forage
jack·boot \'jak-ˌbüt\ *n* **1** : a heavy military boot made of glossy black leather extending above the knee and worn esp. during the 17th and 18th centuries **2** : a laceless military boot reaching to the calf
jack·boot·ed \-ˌbüt-əd\ *adj* **1** : wearing jackboots **2** : ruthlessly and violently oppressive ⟨~ force⟩
jack crevalle *n* [*¹jack* + *crevalle*] : a carangid fish (*Caranx hippos*) that is an important food fish along the west coast of Florida
jack·daw \'jak-ˌdȯ\ *n* **1** : a common black and gray Eurasian bird (*Corvus monedula*) that is related to but smaller than the common crow **2** : GRACKLE 2
¹jack·et \'jak-ət\ *n* [ME *jaket*, fr. MF *jaquet*, dim. of *jaque* short jacket, fr. *jacque* peasant, fr. the name *Jacques* James] **1 a** : a garment for the upper body usu. having a front opening, collar, lapels, sleeves, and pockets **b** : something worn or fastened around the body but not for use as clothing **2 a** (1) : the natural covering of an animal (2) : the fur or wool of a mammal **b** : the skin of a potato **3** : an outer covering or casing: as **a** (1) : a thermally nonconducting cover (2) : a covering that encloses an intermediate space through which a temperature-controlling fluid circulates (3) : a tough cold-worked metal casing that forms the outer shell of a built-up bullet **b** (1) : a wrapper or open envelope for a document (2) : an envelope for enclosing registered mail during delivery from one post office to another **c** (1) : a detachable protective cover for a book (2) : the cover of a paperback book (3) : the outside leaves for a booklet, pamphlet, or catalog that is to be stitched or wired through the center of the fold (4) : a paper or paperboard envelope for a phonograph record
²jacket *vt* : to put a jacket on : enclose in or with a jacket
Jack Frost *n* : frost or frosty weather personified
jack·fruit \'jak-ˌfrüt\ *n* [Pg *jaca* jackfruit + E *fruit*] **1 a** : a large widely cultivated tropical tree (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*) related to the breadfruit that yields a fine-grained yellow wood and immense fruits which contain an edible pulp and nutritious seeds **b** : the fruit of this tree **2** : DURIAN
jack·ham·mer \'jak-ˌham-ər\ *n* **1** : a pneumatically operated percussive rock-drilling tool usu. held in the hands **2** : a device in which a tool (as a chisel for breaking up pavements) is driven percussively by compressed air
jack–in–the–box \'jak-ən-thə-ˌbäks\ *n, pl* **jack–in–the–box·es** *or* **jacks–in–the–box** : a small box out of which a figure (as of a clown's head) springs when the lid is raised
jack–in–the–pul·pit \ˌjak-ən-thə-'pu̇l-ˌpit, -pət *also* -'pəl-\ *n, pl* **jack–in–the–pulpits** *or* **jacks–in–the–pulpit** : any of several plants (genus *Arisaema*) of the arum family; *esp* : an American spring-flowering woodland herb (*A. atrorubens*) having an upright club-shaped spadix arched over by a green and purple spathe
¹jack·knife \'jak-ˌnīf\ *n* **1** : a large strong clasp knife for the pocket **2** : a dive executed headfirst in which the diver bends from the waist and touches his ankles while holding his knees unflexed and then straightens out
²jackknife *vt* **1** : to cut with a jackknife **2** : to cause to double up like a jackknife ~ *vi* **1** : to double up like a jackknife **2** : to turn or rise and form an angle of 90 degrees or less with each other — used esp. of a pair of vehicles (as a tractor and its trailer) that are fastened together
jack·leg \'jak-ˌleg, -ˌlāg\ *adj* [*¹jack* + *-leg* (as in *blackleg*)] **1 a** : lacking skill or training : AMATEUR ⟨a ~ carpenter⟩ **b** : characterized by unscrupulousness, dishonesty, or lack of professional standards ⟨a ~ lawyer⟩ **2** : designed as a temporary expedient : MAKESHIFT — **jackleg** *n*
jack·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* : a light used esp. in hunting or fishing at night
jack mackerel *n* : a California market fish (*Trachurus symmetricus*) that is iridescent green or bluish above and silvery below; *also* : a closely related Australian fish (*T. novaezelandiae*)
jack–of–all–trades \ˌjak-ə-'vȯl-ˌtrādz\ *n, pl* **jacks–of–all–trades** : a person who can do passable work at various tasks : a handy versatile person
jack off *vb* [prob. alter. of *jerk off*] : MASTURBATE — usu. considered vulgar
jack–o'–lan·tern \'jak-ə-ˌlant-ərn\ *n* **1 a** : IGNIS FATUUS **b** : SAINT ELMO'S FIRE **2** : a lantern made of a pumpkin cut to look like a human face
jack pine *n* : a slender No. American pine (*Pinus banksiana*) that has two stout twisted leaves in each fascicle and wood used esp. for pulpwood
jack·pot \'jak-ˌpät\ *n* **1 a** (1) : a hand or game of draw poker in which a pair of jacks or better is required to open (2) : a large pot (as in poker) formed by the accumulation of stakes from previous play **b** (1) : a combination on a slot machine that wins a top prize or all the coins in the machine (2) : the sum so won **c** : a large fund of money or other reward formed by the accumulation of unwon prizes **2** : an impressive often unexpected success or reward **3** *chiefly West* : a tight spot : JAM
jack·rab·bit \-ˌrab-ət\ *n* [*¹jack* (jackass) + *rabbit*; fr. its long ears] : any of several large hares (genus *Lepus*) of western No. America having very long ears and long hind legs



jackrabbit

jack salmon *n* **1** : WALLEYE 4 **2** : GRILSE
jack·screw \'jak-ˌskrü\ *n* : a screw-operated jack for lifting or for exerting pressure
jack·smelt \-ˌsmelt\ *n* : a large silversides (*Atherinopsis californiensis*) of the Pacific coast of No. America that is the chief commercial smelt of the California markets
jack·snipe \-ˌsnīp\ *n* : an Old World true snipe (*Limnocryptes minima*) that is smaller and more highly colored than the common snipe
Jack·son Day \'jak-sən-\ *n* [Andrew *Jackson*, defender of New Orleans] : January 8 celebrated as a legal holiday in Louisiana commemorating the successful defense of New Orleans in 1815
Jack·so·ni·an \jak-'sō-nē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Andrew Jackson or his political principles or policies — **Jacksonian** *n*
jack·stay \-ˌstā\ *n* **1** : an iron rod, wooden bar, or wire rope along a yard of a ship to which the sails are fastened **2** : a support of wood, iron, or rope running up a mast on which the parrel of a yard travels
jack·straw \'jak-ˌstrȯ\ *n* **1** : one of the pieces used in the game jackstraws **2** *pl but sing in constr* : a game in which a set of straws or thin strips are let fall in a heap with each player in turn trying to remove them one at a time without disturbing the rest
jack–tar \-'tär\ *n, often cap* : SAILOR
Ja·cob \'jā-kəb\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Iacōb*, fr. Heb *Ya'ăqōbh*] **1** : a son of Isaac and Rebekah, the twin brother of Esau, and heir of God's promise of blessing to Abraham **2** : the ancient Hebrew nation
Ja·co·be·an \ˌjak-ə-'bē-ən\ *adj* [NL *Jacobaeus*, fr. *Jacobus* James] : of, relating to, or characteristic of James I of England or his age — **Jacobean** *n*
jacobean lily *n, often cap J* [LL *Jacobus* (St. James)] : a Mexican bulbous herb (*Sprekelia formosissima*) of the amaryllis family cultivated for its bright red solitary flower
Ja·co·bi·an \jə-'kō-bē-ən, yä-\ *n* [K. G. J. *Jacobi* †1851 G mathematician] : a determinant defined for a finite number of functions of the same number of variables in which each row consists of the first partial derivatives of the same function with respect to each of the variables
Jac·o·bin \'jak-ə-bən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *Jacobinus*, fr. LL *Jacobus* (St. James); fr. the location of the first Dominican convent in the street of St. James, Paris] **1** : DOMINICAN **2** [F, fr. *Jacobin* Dominican; fr. the group's founding in the Dominican convent in Paris] : a member of an extremist or radical political group; *esp* : a member of such a group advocating egalitarian democracy and engaging in terrorist activities during the French Revolution of 1789 — **Jac·o·bin·ic** \ˌjak-ə-'bin-ik\ *or* **Jac·o·bin·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **Jac·o·bin·ism** \'jak-ə-bə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* — **jac·o·bin·ize** \-ˌnīz\ *vt, often cap*
¹Jac·o·bite \'jak-ə-ˌbīt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *Jacobita*, fr. *Jacobus* Baradaeus (Jacob Baradai) †578 Syrian monk] : a member of any of various Monophysite Eastern churches; *esp* : a member of the Monophysite Syrian church
²Jacobite *n* [*Jacobus* (James II)] : a partisan of James II of England or of the Stuarts after the revolution of 1688 — **Jac·o·bit·ical** \ˌjak-ə-'bit-i-kəl\ *adj* — **Jac·o·bit·ism** \'jak-ə-ˌbīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
Ja·cob's ladder \ˌjā-kəbz-\ *n* [fr. the ladder seen in a dream by Jacob in Gen 28:12] **1** : any of a genus (*Polemonium*) of herbs of the phlox family that have pinnate leaves, an herbaceous calyx, a bell-shaped corolla with declinate stamens, and a several-seeded capsule; *esp* : a perennial (*P. caeruleum*) of European origin with bright blue or white flowers **2** : a marine ladder of rope or chain with wooden or iron rungs
Ja·co·bus \jə-'kō-bəs\ *n* [*Jacobus* (James I), during whose reign unites were coined] : UNITE
jac·o·net \'jak-ə-ˌnet\ *n* [modif. of Urdu *jagannāthī*] : a lightweight cotton cloth used for clothing and bandages
jac·quard \'jak-ˌärd\ *n, often cap* [Joseph *Jacquard*] **1 a** : a loom apparatus or head for weaving figured fabrics **b** : a loom having a jacquard **2** : a fabric of intricate variegated weave or pattern
jac·que·rie \ˌzhäk-ə-'rē, ˌzhak-\ *n, often cap* [F, fr. the French peasant revolt in 1358, fr. MF, fr. *jacque* peasant — more at JACKET] : a peasants' revolt
jac·ti·ta·tion \ˌjak-tə-'tā-shən\ *n* [LL *jactitation-*, *jactitatio*, fr. *jactitatus*, pp. of *jactitare*, freq. of *jactare* to throw — more at JET] : a tossing to and fro or jerking and twitching of the body
¹jade \'jād\ *n* [ME] **1** : a broken-down, vicious, or worthless horse **2 a** : a disreputable woman **b** : a flirtatious girl
²jade *vb* **jad·ed; jad·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to wear out by overwork or abuse **b** : to tire by severe or tedious tasks **2** *obs* : to make ridiculous ~ *vi* : to become weary or dulled ***syn*** see TIRE
³jade *n* [F, fr. obs. Sp (*piedra de la*) *ijada*, lit., loin stone; fr. the belief that jade cures renal colic] : either of two tough compact typically green gemstones that take a high polish: **a** : JADEITE **b** : NEPHRITE
jad·ed *adj* **1** : fatigued by overwork : EXHAUSTED **2** : dulled by surfeit or excess — **jad·ed·ly** *adv* — **jad·ed·ness** *n*
jade green *n* : a variable color averaging a light bluish green
jade·ite \'jā-ˌdīt\ *n* [F] : a monoclinic mineral that is a jade — **jadit·ic** \jā-'dit-ik\ *adj*
jade plant *n* : any of several stonecrops (genus *Crassula*) cultivated as foliage plants
jae·ger \'yā-gər\ *n* [G *jäger*] **1 a** : HUNTER, HUNTSMAN **b** : one attending a person of rank or wealth and wearing hunter's costume **2** : any of several large dark-colored birds (genus *Stercorarius* of the family Stercorariidae) of northern seas that are strong fliers and that tend to harass weaker birds until they drop or disgorge their prey
¹jag \'jag\ *vb* **jagged; jag·ging** [ME *jaggen*] *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : PRICK, STAB **2** : to cut indentations into; *also* : to form teeth on (a saw) by cutting indentations ~ *vi* **1** : PRICK, THRUST **2** : to move in jerks — **jag·ger** *n*
²jag *n* : a sharp projecting part : BARB

³jag *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a small load **2** **a** : a state or feeling of exhilaration or intoxication usu. induced by liquor **b** : SPREE
JAG *abbr* judge advocate general
jag·ged \'jag-əd\ *adj* **1** : having a sharply uneven edge or surface **2** : having a harsh, rough, or irregular quality — **jag·ged·ly** *adv* — **jag·ged·ness** *n*
jag·gery \'jag-ə-rē\ *n* [Hindi *jāgrī*] : an unrefined brown sugar made from palm sap
jag·gy \'jag-ē\ *adj* : JAGGED, NOTCHED
jag·uar \'jag(-yə)-ˌwär, *esp Brit* -wər\ *n* [Sp *yaguar* & Pg *jaguar*, fr. Guarani *yaguara* & Tupi *jaguara*] : a large cat (*Felis onca*) of tropical America that is larger and stockier than the leopard and is brownish yellow or buff with black spots


jaguar

jag·ua·run·di \ˌzhag-wə-'rən-dē\ *n* [AmerSp & Pg, fr. Tupi *jaguarundi* & Guarani *yaguarundí*] : a slender long-tailed short-legged grayish wildcat (*Felis jaguarondi*) of Central and So. America
Jah·veh \'yä-(ˌ)vā\ *var of* YAHWEH
jai alai \'hī-ˌlī, ˌhī-ə-'lī\ *n* [Sp, fr. Basque, fr. *jai* festival + *alai* merry] : a court game somewhat like handball played by two or four players with a ball and a long curved wicker basket strapped to the right wrist
¹jail \'jā(ə)l\ *n* [ME *jaiole*, fr. OF, fr. LL *caveola*, dim. of L *cavea* cage — more at CAGE] : PRISON; *esp* : a building for the confinement of persons held in lawful custody
²jail *vt* : to confine in or as if in a jail
jail·bait \'jā(ə)l-ˌbāt\ *n* : a girl under the age of consent with whom unlawful sexual intercourse constitutes statutory rape
jail·bird \-ˌbərd\ *n* : a person confined in jail; *specif* : an habitual criminal
jail·break \-ˌbrāk\ *n* : a forcible escape from jail
jail delivery *n* **1** : the clearing of a jail by bringing the prisoners to trial **2** : the freeing of prisoners by force
jail·er *or* **jail·or** \'jā-lər\ *n* **1** : a keeper of a jail **2** : one that restricts another's liberty as if by imprisonment
Jain \'jīn\ *or* **Jai·na** \'jī-nə\ *n* [Hindi *Jain*, fr. Skt *Jaina*] : an adherent of Jainism
Jain·ism \'jī-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : a religion of India originating in the 6th century B.C. and teaching liberation of the soul by right knowledge, right faith, and right conduct
jake leg \'jā-ˌkleg, -ˌklāg\ *n* [*jake* (strong liquor)] : a paralysis caused by drinking strong liquor
jakes \'jāks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [perh. fr. F *Jacques* James] *archaic* : PRIVY 2
jal·ap \'jal-əp, 'jäl-\ *n* [F & Sp; F *jalap*, fr. Sp *jalapa*, fr. *Jalapa*, Mexico] **1** **a** : the dried purgative tuberous root of a Mexican plant (*Exogonium purga*) of the morning-glory family; *also* : a powdered drug prepared from it that contains resinous glycosides **b** : the root or derived drug of plants related to the one supplying jalap **2** : a plant yielding jalap
ja·lopy \jə-'läp-ē\ *n, pl* **jalopies** [origin unknown] : a dilapidated old automobile or airplane
jal·ou·sie \'jal-ə-sē\ *n* [F, lit., jealousy, fr. OF *jelous* jealous] **1** : a blind with adjustable horizontal slats for admitting light and air while excluding sun and rain **2** : a window made of adjustable glass louvers that control ventilation
¹jam \'jam\ *vb* **jammed; jam·ming** [perh. of imit. origin] *vt* **1** **a** : to press into a close or tight position ⟨~ his hat on⟩ **b** (1) : to cause to become wedged so as to be unworkable ⟨~ the typewriter keys⟩ (2) : to make unworkable by jamming **c** : to block passage of : OBSTRUCT **d** : to fill often to excess : PACK **2** : to push forcibly; *esp* : to apply (brakes) suddenly and forcibly — used with *on* **3** : CRUSH, BRUISE **4** **a** : to make unintelligible by sending out interfering signals or messages **b** : to make (as a radar apparatus) ineffective by jamming signals or by causing reflection of radar waves ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to become blocked or wedged **b** : to become unworkable through the jamming of a movable part **2** : to force one's way into a restricted space **3** : to take part in a jam session
²jam *n* **1** **a** : an act or instance of jamming **b** : a crowded mass that impedes or blocks **2** **a** : the quality or state of being jammed **b** : the pressure or congestion of a crowd : CRUSH **3** : a difficult state of affairs **4** : JAM SESSION **5** : a round in Roller Derby in which a jammer from each team tries to lap members of the opposing team and score points ***syn*** see PREDICAMENT
³jam *n* [prob. fr. ¹*jam*] : a food made by boiling fruit and sugar to a thick consistency
Jam *abbr* Jamaica
Ja·mai·ca ginger \jə-ˌmā-kə-\ *n* [*Jamaica*, W. Indies] **1** : an alcoholic extract of ginger used as a flavoring essence **2** : the powdered root of ginger used as an intestinal stimulant and carminative
Jamaica rum *n* : a heavy-bodied rum made by slow fermentation and marked by a pungent bouquet
jamb \'jam\ *n* [ME *jambe*, fr. MF, lit., leg, fr. LL *gamba* — more at GAMBIT] **1** : an upright piece or surface forming the side of an opening (as for a door, window, or fireplace) **2** : a projecting columnar part or mass
jam·ba·laya \ˌjəm-bə-'lī-ə\ *n* [LaF, fr. Prov *jambalaia*] **1** : rice cooked with ham, sausage, chicken, shrimp, or oysters and seasoned with herbs **2** : a mixture of diverse elements
jam·beau \'jam-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **jam·beaux** \-(ˌ)bōz\ [ME, fr. (assumed) AF, fr. MF *jambe*] : a piece of medieval armor for the leg below the knee — see ARMOR illustration
jam·bo·ree \ˌjam-bə-'rē\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a noisy or unrestrained carouse **2** **a** : a large festive gathering **b** : a national or international camping assembly of boy scouts **3** : a long mixed program of entertainment
James \'jāmz\ *n* [F, fr. LL *Jacobus*] **1** : an apostle, son of Zebedee, and brother of the apostle John according to the Gospel accounts **2** : an apostle and son of Alphaeus according to the Gospel accounts — called also *James the Less* **3** : a brother of Jesus traditionally held to be the author of the New Testament Epistle of James **4** : a moral lecture addressed to early Christians and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table
James·ian \'jām-zē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of William James or his teachings **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of Henry James or his writings
jam·mer \'jam-ər\ *n* **1** : one that jams; *esp* : a usu. modulated transmitter that emits a signal that is intended to interfere with or make unintelligible radio or radar signals **2** : a player on a Roller Derby team who attempts to lap members of the opposing team in order to score points
jams \'jamz\ *n pl* [prob. by shortening fr. *pajamas*] : knee-length loose-fitting swim trunks usu. having a drawstring waist and large brightly colored patterns
jam session *n* [²*jam*] : an impromptu performance engaged in by a group of jazz musicians and characterized by group improvisation
Jam·shid *or* **Jam·shyd** \jam-'shēd\ *n* [Per *Jamshīd*] : an early legendary king of Persia who reigned for 700 years
Jan *abbr* January
Jane Doe \'jān-'dō\ *n* : a female party to legal proceedings whose true name is unknown
¹jan·gle \'jaŋ-gəl\ *vb* **jan·gled; jan·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *janglen*, fr. OF *jangler*, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *jangelen* to grumble] *vi* **1** *archaic* : to talk idly **2** : to quarrel verbally **3** : to make a harsh or discordant often ringing sound ~ *vt* **1** : to utter or sound in a discordant, babbling, or chattering way **2** **a** : to cause to sound harshly or inharmoniously **b** : to excite to tense irritation — **jan·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*
²jangle *n* **1** : idle talk **2** : noisy quarreling **3** : a discordant often ringing sound
jan·is·sary *or* **jan·i·zary** \'jan-ə-ˌser-ē, -ˌzer-\ *n, pl* **-saries** *or* **-zaries** [It *gianizzero*, fr. Turk *yeniçeri*] **1** *often cap* : a soldier of an elite corps of Turkish troops organized in the 14th century and abolished in 1826 **2** : a member of a group of loyal or subservient troops, officials, or supporters
jan·i·tor \'jan-ət-ər\ *n* [L, fr. *janua* door, fr. *janus* arch, gate] **1** : DOORKEEPER **2** : one who keeps the premises of an apartment, office, or other building clean, tends the heating system, and makes minor repairs — **jan·i·to·ri·al** \ˌjan-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **jan·i·tress** \'jan-ə-trəs\ *n*
Jan·sen·ism \'jan(t)-sə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [F *jansénisme*, fr. Cornelis *Jansen*] **1** : a system of doctrine based on moral determinism, defended by various reformist factions among 17th and 18th century western European Roman Catholic clergy, religious, and scholars, and condemned as heretical by papal authority **2** : a puritanical attitude (as toward sex) — **Jan·sen·ist** \-nəst\ *n* — **Jan·sen·is·tic** \ˌjan(t)-sə-'nis-tik\ *adj*
Jan·u·ary \'jan-yə-ˌwer-ē\ *n* [ME *Januarie*, fr. L *Januarius*, 1st month of the ancient Roman year, fr. *Janus*] : the 1st month of the Gregorian calendar
Ja·nus \'jā-nəs\ *n* [L] : a Roman god that is identified with doors, gates, and all beginnings and that is represented artistically with two opposite faces

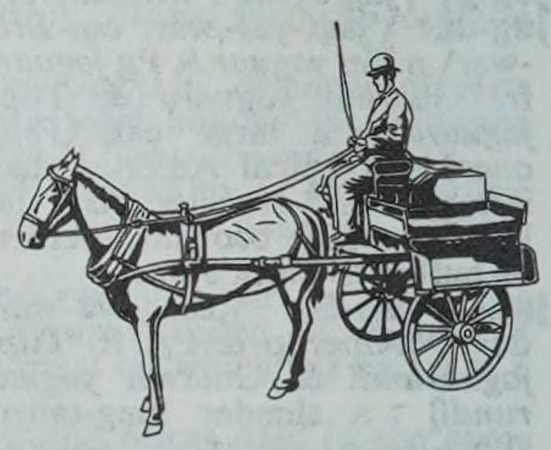

the head of Janus on a Roman coin

Janus green *n* [prob. fr. *Janus*, a trademark] : a basic azine dye used esp. as a biological stain (as for mitochondria)
Jap \'jap\ *n* : JAPANESE — usu. used disparagingly
¹ja·pan \jə-'pan\ *adj* : of, relating to, or originating in Japan : of a kind or style characteristic of Japanese workmanship
²japan *n* **1** **a** : any of several varnishes yielding a hard brilliant finish **b** : a hard dark coating containing asphalt and a drier that is used esp. on metal and fixed by heating — called also *japan black* **2** : work (as lacquer ware) finished and decorated in the Japanese manner
³japan *vt* **ja·panned; ja·pan·ning** **1** : to cover with or as if with a coat of japan **2** : to give a high gloss to — **ja·pan·ner** *n*
Japan allspice *n* : a Japanese shrub (*Chimonanthus praecox*) cultivated for its fragrant yellow flowers
Japan clover *n* : an annual lespedeza (*Lespedeza striata*) used as a forage, soil-improving, and pasture crop esp. in the southeastern U.S. — called also *Japanese clover*
Jap·a·nese \ˌjap-ə-'nēz, -'nēs\ *n, pl* **Japanese** **1** **a** : a native or inhabitant of Japan **b** : a person of Japanese descent **2** : the language of the Japanese — **Japanese** *adj*
Japanese an·drom·e·da \-ˌan-'dräm-əd-ə\ *n* [NL *Andromeda* (genus of plants), fr. L *Andromeda*, Ethiopian princess, fr. Gk *Andromedē*] : a shrubby evergreen Asiatic heath (*Pieris japonica*) with glossy leaves and drooping clusters of whitish flowers


Japanese beetle

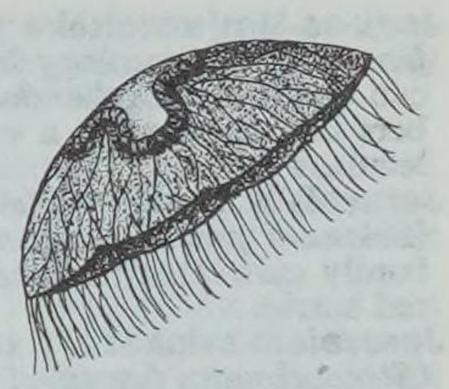
Japanese barnyard millet *n* : JAPANESE MILLET
Japanese beetle *n* : a small metallic green and brown scarab beetle (*Popillia japonica*) that has been introduced into America from Japan and as a grub feeds on the roots of grasses and decaying vegetation and as an adult eats foliage and fruits
Japanese cedar *n* : a large evergreen tree

(*Cryptomeria japonica*) grown esp. in China and Japan for its valuable soft wood
Japanese iris *n* : any of various beardless garden irises with very large showy flowers
Japanese lacquer *n* : LACQUER 1b
Japanese millet *n* : a coarse annual grass (*Echinochloa frumentacea*) cultivated esp. in Asia for its edible seeds
Japanese mink *n* : an Asiatic weasel (*Mustela sibirica*); *also* : its pale yellowish brown fur
Japanese persimmon *n* : an Asiatic persimmon (*Diospyros kaki*) widely cultivated for its large edible fruits; *also* : its fruit
Japanese plum *n* **1** : any of numerous large showy usu. yellow to light red cultivated plums **2** : a tree that bears Japanese plums and is derived from a Chinese tree (*Prunus salicina*)
Japanese quail *n* : any of a subspecies (*Coturnix coturnix japonica*) of Old World quail from China and Japan that are used extensively in laboratory research
Japanese quince *n* : a hardy Chinese ornamental shrub (*Chaenomeles lagenaria*) of the rose family with scarlet flowers
Japanese spaniel *n* : any of a Japanese breed of toy dogs that have a silky undercoat and black and white or red and white coloring
Japanese spurge *n* : a low Japanese herb or subshrub (*Pachysandra terminales*) of the box family often used as a ground cover
jap·a·nize \'jap-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** *often cap* **1** : to make Japanese **2** : to bring (an area) under the influence of Japan — **jap·a·ni·za·tion** \ˌjap-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n, often cap*
Japan wax *n* : a yellowish fat obtained from the berries of several sumacs (as *Rhus verniciflua* and *R. succedanea*) and used chiefly in polishes
¹jape \'jāp\ *vb* **japed; jap·ing** [ME *japen*] *vi* : to say or do something jokingly or mockingly ~ *vt* : to make mocking fun of — **jap·er** \'jā-pər\ *n* — **jap·ery** \'jā-p(ə-)rē\ *n*
²jape *n* : something designed to arouse amusement or laughter: as **a** : an amusing literary or dramatic production **b** : GIBE
Ja·pheth \'jā-fəth\ *n* [L *Japheth* or Gk *Iapheth*, fr. Heb *Yepheth*] : a son of Noah and progenitor of the Medes and Greeks
ja·pon·i·ca \jə-'pän-i-kə\ *n* [NL, fr. fem. of *Japonicus* Japanese, fr. *Japonia* Japan] : JAPANESE QUINCE
¹jar \'jär\ *vb* **jarred; jar·ring** [prob. of imit. origin] *vi* **1 a** : to make a harsh or discordant sound **b** : to be out of harmony; *specif* : BICKER **c** : to have a harshly disagreeable or disconcerting effect **2** : to undergo severe vibration ~ *vt* : to cause to jar: as **a** : to affect disagreeably **b** : to make unstable : SHAKE — **jar·ring·ly** \'jär-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
²jar *n* **1 a** : a harsh grating sound **b** : a state or manifestation of discord or conflict **2 a** : a sudden or unexpected shake **b** : an unsettling shock **c** : an unpleasant break or conflict in rhythm, flow, or transition
³jar *n* [MF *jarre*, fr. OProv *jarra*, fr. Ar *jarrah* earthen water vessel] **1** : a widemouthed container made typically of earthenware or glass **2** : as much as a jar will hold — **jar·ful** \-ˌfůl\ *n*
⁴jar *n* [alter. of earlier *char* turn, fr. ME — more at CHARE] *archaic* : the position of being ajar — usu. used in the phrase *on the jar*
jar·di·niere \ˌjärd-ᵊn-'i(ə)r, ˌzhärd-ᵊn-'(y)e(ə)r\ *n* [F *jardinière*, lit., female gardener] **1 a** : an ornamental stand for plants or flowers **b** : a large usu. ceramic flowerpot holder **2** : a garnish for meat consisting of several cooked vegetables cut into pieces
¹jar·gon \'jär-gən, -ˌgän\ *n* [ME, fr. MF] **1 a** : confused unintelligible language **b** : a strange, outlandish, or barbarous language or dialect **c** : a hybrid language or dialect simplified in vocabulary and grammar and used for communication between peoples of different speech **2** : the technical terminology or characteristic idiom of a special activity or group **3** : obscure and often pretentious language marked by circumlocutions and long words ***syn*** see DIALECT — **jar·gon·is·tic** \ˌjär-gə-'nis-tik\ *adj*
²jargon *vi* **1** : TWITTER, WARBLE **2** : JARGONIZE
jar·gon·ize \'jär-gə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to speak or write jargon ~ *vt* **1** : to express in jargon **2** : to make into jargon
jar·goon \jär-'gün\ *or* **jar·gon** \-'gän\ *n* [F *jargon* — more at ZIRCON] : a colorless, pale yellow, or smoky zircon
jarl \'yär(-ə)l\ *n* [ON — more at EARL] : a Scandinavian noble ranking immediately below the king
jar·rah \'jar-ə\ *n* [native name in Australia] : an Australian eucalypt (*Eucalyptus marginata*) with rough bark and ovate leaves; *also* : its wood
Jas *abbr* James
jas·mine \'jaz-mən\ *n* [F *jasmin*, fr. Ar *yāsamīn*, fr. Per] **1 a** : any of numerous often climbing shrubs (genus *Jasminum*) of the olive family that usu. have extremely fragrant flowers; *esp* : a tall climbing half-evergreen Asiatic shrub (*J. officinale*) with fragrant white flowers from which a perfume is extracted **b** : any of numerous plants having sweet-scented flowers; *esp* : YELLOW JESSAMINE 2 **2** : a light yellow
Ja·son \'jās-ᵊn\ *n* [L *Iason*, fr. Gk *Iasōn*] : a legendary Greek hero distinguished for his successful quest of the Golden Fleece
jas·per \'jas-pər\ *n* [ME *jaspre*, fr. MF, fr. L *jaspis*, fr. Gk *iaspis*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *yāshēpheh* jasper] **1** : an opaque cryptocrystalline quartz of any of several colors; *esp* : green chalcedony **2** : colored stoneware with raised white decoration **3** : a blackish green — **jas·pery** \-pə-rē\ *adj*
jas·per·ware \'jas-pər-ˌwa(ə)r, -we(ə)r\ *n* : JASPER 2
jas·sid \'jas-əd\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *Iasos*, town in Asia Minor] : any of a large cosmopolitan family (Jassidae) of small leafhoppers that include many economically significant pests of cultivated plants; *broadly* : LEAFHOPPER
Jat \'jät\ *n* [Hindi *Jāṭ*] : a member of an Indo-Aryan people of the Punjab and Uttar Pradesh
ja·to unit \'jāt-(ˌ)ō-\ *n* [*j*et-*a*ssisted *to*keoff] : a unit for assisting the takeoff of an airplane consisting of one or more rocket engines
jaunce \'jȯn(t)s, 'jän(t)s\ *vi* [origin unknown] *archaic* : PRANCE
jaun·dice \'jȯn-dəs, 'jän-\ *n* [ME *jaundis*, fr. MF *jaunisse*, fr. *jaune* yellow, fr. L *galbinus* yellowish green, fr. *galbus* yellow] **1** : yellowish pigmentation of the skin, tissues, and body fluids caused by the deposition of bile pigments **2** : a disease or abnormal condition characterized by jaundice **3** : a state or attitude characterized by satiety, distaste, or hostility
jaun·diced \-dəst\ *adj* **1** : affected with or as if with jaundice **2** : exhibiting or influenced by envy, distaste, or hostility
¹jaunt \'jȯnt, 'jänt\ *vi* [origin unknown] **1** *archaic* : to trudge about **2** : to make a short journey for pleasure
²jaunt *n* **1** *archaic* : a tiring trip **2** : an excursion undertaken for pleasure
jaunting car *n* : a light two-wheeled open horse-drawn vehicle used esp. in Ireland with lengthwise seats placed face to face or back to back


jaunting car

jaun·ty \'jȯnt-ē, 'jänt-\ *adj* **jaun·ti·er; -est** [modif. of F *gentil*] **1** *archaic* **a** : GENTEEL **b** : STYLISH **2** : sprightly in manner or appearance : LIVELY — **jaun·ti·ly** \'jȯnt-ᵊl-ē, 'jänt-\ *adv* — **jaun·ti·ness** \'jȯnt-ē-nəs, 'jänt-\ *n*
Jav *abbr* Javanese
Ja·va *n* [*Java*, island of Indonesia] **1** \'jav-ə, -ē\ *often not cap* : COFFEE **2** \'jäv-ə, 'jav-ə\ : any of a breed of large general-purpose domestic fowls
Ja·va man \ˌjäv-ə-, ˌjav-ə-\ *n* : either of two small-brained prehistoric men (*Pithecanthropus erectus* and *P. robustus*) known chiefly from more or less fragmentary skulls found in Trinil, Java
Ja·va·nese \ˌjav-ə-'nēz, ˌjäv-, -'nēs\ *n, pl* **Javanese** [*Java* + *-nese* (as in *Japanese*)] **1** : a member of an Indonesian people inhabiting the island of Java **2** : an Austronesian language of the Javanese people — **Javanese** *adj*
Java sparrow *n* : a Javanese weaverbird (*Padda oryzivora*) that is glaucous gray and black above with pinkish underparts, white cheeks, and large pink bill and that is a common cage bird
jav·e·lin \'jav-(ə-)lən\ *n* [MF *javeline*, alter. of *javelot*, of Celt origin; akin to OIr *gabul* forked stick] **1** : a light spear thrown as a weapon of war or in hunting **2** : a slender usu. metal shaft at least 260 centimeters long that is thrown for distance in a field event
ja·ve·li·na \ˌhäv-ə-'lē-nə\ *n* [AmerSp *jabalina*, fr. Sp, fem. of *jabalí* wild boar, fr. Ar *jabalīy*] : PECCARY
Ja·velle water \zha-'vel, zhə-\ *n* [*Javel*, former village in France] : an aqueous solution of sodium hypochlorite used as a disinfectant or a bleaching agent and in photography
¹jaw \'jȯ\ *n* [ME] **1 a** : either of two complex cartilaginous or bony structures in most vertebrates that border the mouth, support the soft parts enclosing it, usu. bear teeth on their oral margin, and are an upper that is more or less firmly fused with the skull and a lower that is hinged, movable, and articulated with the temporal bone of either side **b** : the parts constituting the walls of the mouth and serving to open and close it — usu. used in pl. **c** : any of various organs of invertebrates that perform the function of the vertebrate jaws **2** : something resembling the jaw of an animal: as **a** : one of the sides of a narrow pass or channel **b** : either of two or more opposable parts that open and close for holding or crushing something between them **3** *slang* **a** : impudent or offensive talk **b** : a friendly chat
²jaw *vt* : to talk to in a scolding or boring manner ~ *vi* : to talk abusively, indignantly, or longwindedly
jaw·bone \'jȯ-'bōn, -ˌbōn\ *n* : JAW 1a; *esp* : MANDIBLE
jaw·break·er \-ˌbrā-kər\ *n* **1** : a word difficult to pronounce **2** : a round hard candy
jawed \'jȯd\ *adj* : having jaws ⟨~ fishes⟩ — usu. used in combination ⟨square-*jawed*⟩ ⟨a 3-*jawed* chuck⟩
jaw·less fish \ˌjȯ-ləs-\ *n* : any of the taxonomic group (Agnatha) of primitive vertebrates without jaws that is comprised of cyclostomes and extinct related forms
jaw·line \'jȯ-ˌlīn\ *n* : the outline of the lower jaw
¹jay \'jā\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *jai*, fr. LL *gaius*] **1 a** : a predominantly fawn-colored Old World bird (*Garrulus glandarius*) of the crow family with a black-and-white crest and wings marked with black, white, and blue **b** : any of various usu. crested and largely blue birds that with the common Old World jay constitute a subfamily of the crow family, have roving habits and harsh voices, and are often destructive to the eggs and young of other birds **2 a** : an impertinent chatterer **b** : DANDY 1 **c** : GREENHORN **3** : a moderate blue
²jay *n* : the letter *j*
jay·bird \'jā-ˌbərd\ *n* : JAY 1, 2
Jay·cee \'jā-'sē\ *n* [fr. the initials of U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, former name of the organization] : a member of a major national and international civic organization
jay·gee \'jā-'jē\ *n* [*j*unior grade] : LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE
jay·hawk·er \'jā-ˌhȯ-kər\ *n* [*jayhawk* (fictitious bird of Kansas)] **1 a** *often cap* : a member of a band of antislavery guerrillas in Kansas and Missouri before and during the Civil War **b** : BANDIT **2** *cap* : a native or resident of Kansas — used as a nickname
jay·vee \'jā-'vē\ *n* [*j*unior *v*arsity] **1** : JUNIOR VARSITY **2** : a member of a junior varsity team
jay·walk \'jā-ˌwȯk\ *vi* : to cross a street carelessly or in an illegal manner so as to be endangered by traffic — **jay·walk·er** *n*
¹jazz \'jaz\ *vb* [E slang *jazz* to copulate with, of unknown origin] *vt* **1 a** : ENLIVEN — usu. used with *up* **b** : ACCELERATE **2** : to play in the manner of jazz ~ *vi* **1** : to go here and there : GAD **2** : to dance to or play jazz
²jazz *n, often attrib* **1 a** : American music developed esp. from ragtime and blues and characterized by syncopated rhythms, contrapuntal ensemble playing, and usu. improvisation often with special melodic features (as blue notes) peculiar to the individual interpretation of the player **b** : popular dance music influenced by jazz and played in a loud rhythmic manner **2** : empty talk : HUMBUG ⟨spouted all the scientific ~ —Pete Martin⟩ **3** : similar

but unspecified things : STUFF ⟨that wind, and the waves, and all that ~ —John Updike⟩
jazz·man \'jaz-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : a jazz musician
jazzy \'jaz-ē\ *adj* **jazz·i·er; -est** **1** : having the characteristics of jazz **2** : marked by unrestraint, animation, or flashiness — **jazz·i·ly** \'jaz-ə-lē\ *adv* — **jazz·i·ness** \'jaz-ē-nəs\ *n*
J–bar lift \ˌjā-ˌbär-\ *n* : a ski lift having a series of J-shaped bars each of which pulls one skier
JBS *abbr* John Birch Society
JCB *abbr* **1** junior college of business **2** [NL *juris canonici baccalaureus*] bachelor of canon law
JCC *abbr* junior chamber of commerce
JCD *abbr* [NL *juris canonici doctor*] doctor of canon law
JCL *abbr* [NL *juris canonici licentiatus*] licentiate in canon law
JCS *abbr* joint chiefs of staff
jct *abbr* junction
JD *abbr* **1** junior dean **2** [L *juris doctor*] doctor of jurisprudence; doctor of law **3** [L *jurum doctor*] doctor of laws **4** justice department **5** juvenile delinquent
jeal·ous \'jel-əs\ *adj* [ME *jelous*, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *zelosus*, fr. LL *zelus* zeal — more at ZEAL] **1 a** : intolerant of rivalry or unfaithfulness **b** : disposed to suspect rivalry or unfaithfulness : apprehensive of the loss of another's exclusive devotion **2** : hostile toward a rival or one believed to enjoy an advantage **3** : vigilant in guarding a possession ⟨his ~ love of privacy —J. W. Beach⟩ **4** : distrustfully watchful : SUSPICIOUS ⟨kept a ~ eye on her husband⟩ ***syn*** see ENVIOUS — **jeal·ous·ly** *adv* — **jeal·ous·ness** *n*
jeal·ou·sy \'jel-ə-sē\ *n* **1** : a jealous disposition, attitude, or feeling **2** : zealous vigilance
jean \'jēn\ *n* [short for *jean fustian*, fr. ME *Gene* Genoa, Italy + *fustian*] **1** : a durable twilled cotton cloth used esp. for sportswear and work clothes **2** *pl* **a** : pants made of jean or denim **b** : TROUSERS
jeep \'jēp\ *n* [prob. fr. *g. p.* (abbr. of *general purpose*)] : a small general-purpose motor vehicle with 80-inch wheelbase, ¼-ton capacity, and four-wheel drive used by the U.S. army in World War II; *also* : a similar but larger and more powerful U.S. army vehicle
Jeep *trademark* — used for a civilian automotive vehicle
¹jeer \'ji(ə)r\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* : to speak or cry out with derision or mockery ~ *vt* : to deride with jeers : TAUNT ***syn*** see SCOFF — **jeer·er** *n* — **jeer·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
²jeer *n* : a jeering remark or sound : TAUNT
Jef·fer·son Da·vis's Birthday \ˌjef-ər-sən-ˌdā-və-səz-\ *n* : the first Monday in June observed as a legal holiday in many Southern states
Jef·fer·son Day \'jef-ər-sən-\ *n* : April 13 observed as a holiday in Alabama in commemoration of Thomas Jefferson's birthday
Jef·fer·so·nian \ˌjef-ər-'sō-nē-ən, -nyən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Thomas Jefferson or his political principles or policies — **Jeffersonian** *n* — **Jef·fer·so·nian·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
Jef·frey pine \ˌjef-rē-\ *n* [John *Jeffrey*, 19th cent. Sc botanical explorer] : a pine (*Pinus jeffreyi*) of western No. America with long needles in groups of three
jehad *var of* JIHAD
Je·hosh·a·phat \ji-'häs(h)-ə-ˌfat\ *n* [Heb *Yĕhōshāphāth*] : a king of Judah who brought Judah into an alliance with the northern kingdom of Israel in the 9th century B.C.
Je·ho·vah \ji-'hō-və\ *n* [NL, false reading (as *Yĕhōwāh*) of Heb *Yahweh*] : GOD 1 ⟨in the Lord ~ is everlasting strength —Isa 26:4 (AV)⟩
Jehovah's Witness *n* : a member of a group that witness by distributing literature and by personal evangelism to beliefs in the theocratic rule of God, the sinfulness of organized religions and governments, and an imminent millennium
je·hu \'jē-(ˌ)h(y)ü\ *n* [Heb *Yēhū*] **1** *cap* : a king of Israel in the 9th century B.C. who according to the account in II Kings had Jezebel killed in accordance with Elijah's prophecy **2** : a driver of a coach or cab
jejun- *or* **jejuno-** *comb form* [L *jejunum*] : jejunum ⟨*jejun*ectomy⟩
je·ju·nal \ji-'jün-ᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the jejunum
je·june \ji-'jün\ *adj* [L *jejunus*] **1** : lacking nutritive value ⟨~ diets⟩ **2** : lacking interest or significance : DULL ⟨~ lectures⟩ **3** : lacking maturity : PUERILE ⟨~ remarks on world affairs⟩ ***syn*** see INSIPID — **je·june·ly** *adv* — **je·june·ness** \-'jün-nəs\ *n*
je·ju·num \ji-'jü-nəm\ *n* [L, fr. neut. of *jejunus*] : the section of the small intestine that comprises the first two fifths beyond the duodenum and that is larger, thicker-walled, and more vascular and has more circular folds than the ileum
Je·kyll and Hyde \ˌjek-ə-lən-'hīd, ˌjē-kə-, ˌjā-kə-\ *n* [Dr. *Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*, representing the split personality of the protagonist in *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1886) by R. L. Stevenson] : a person having a split personality one side of which is good and the other evil
jell \'jel\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *jelly*] *vi* **1** : to come to the consistency of jelly **2** : to take shape : CRYSTALLIZE ~ *vt* : to cause to take form
jellied gasoline *n* : NAPALM
Jell–O \'jel-(ˌ)ō\ *trademark* — used for a gelatin dessert usu. with the flavor and color of fruit
¹jel·ly \'jel-ē\ *n, pl* **jellies** [ME *gelly*, fr. MF *gelee*, fr. fem. of *gelé*, pp. of *geler* to freeze, congeal, fr. L *gelare* — more at COLD] **1** : a soft somewhat elastic food product made usu. with gelatin or pectin; *esp* : a fruit product made by boiling sugar and the juice of fruit **2** : a substance resembling jelly in consistency **3** : a state of fear or irresolution **4** : a shapeless structureless mass : PULP — **jel·ly·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
²jelly *vb* **jel·lied; jel·ly·ing** *vi* **1** : JELL **2** : to make jelly ~ *vt* : to bring to the consistency of jelly
jelly bean *n* **1** : a sugar-glazed bean-shaped candy **2** : a weak, spineless, or effeminate person
jel·ly·fish \'jel-ē-ˌfish\ *n* **1 a** : a free-swimming marine coelenterate that is the sexually reproducing form of a hydrozoan or scyphozoan and has a nearly transparent saucer-shaped body and extensile marginal tentacles studded with stinging cells **b** : SIPHONOPHORE **c** : CTENOPHORE **2** : a person lacking backbone or firmness


jellyfish 1a

jelly roll *n* : a thin sheet of sponge cake spread with jelly and rolled up
jel·u·tong \'jel-ə-ˌtȯŋ\ *n* [Malay *jĕlutong*] **1** : any of several trees (genus *Dyera*) of the dogbane family **2** : the resinous rubbery latex of a jelutong (esp. *Dyera costulata*) used esp. as a chicle substitute
je ne sais quoi \zhə-nə-ˌsā-'kwä\ *n* [F, lit., I know not what] : something that cannot be adequately described or expressed
jen·net \'jen-ət\ *n* [ME *genett*, fr. MF *genet*, fr. Catal, Zenete (member of a Berber people), horse] **1** : a small Spanish horse **2 a** : a female donkey **b** : HINNY
jen·ny \'jen-ē\ *n, pl* **jennies** [fr. the name *Jenny*] **1 a** : a female bird ⟨~ wren⟩ **b** : a female donkey **2** : SPINNING JENNY
jeop·ard \'jep-ərd\ *vt* [ME *jeoparden*, back-formation fr. *jeopardie*] : JEOPARDIZE
jeop·ar·dize \'jep-ər-ˌdīz\ *vt* **-dized; -diz·ing** : to expose to danger : IMPERIL
jeop·ar·dy \'jep-ərd-ē\ *n* [ME *jeopardie*, fr. AF *juparti*, fr. OF *jeu parti* alternative, lit., divided game] **1** : exposure to or imminence of death, loss, or injury : DANGER **2** : the danger that an accused person is subjected to when on trial for a criminal offense
je·quir·i·ty bean \jə-'kwir-ət-ē-\ *n* [Pg *jequiriti*] **1** : the poisonous scarlet and black seed of the Rosary pea often used for beads **2** : ROSARY PEA 1
Jer *abbr* Jeremiah; Jeremias
jer·boa \jər-'bō-ə, jer-\ *n* [Ar *yarbū'*] : any of several social nocturnal Old World jumping rodents (family Dipodidae) with long hind legs and long tail
jerboa mouse *n* : any of various leaping rodents usu. with elongated hind legs
jer·e·mi·ad \ˌjer-ə-'mī-əd, -ˌad\ *n* [F *jérémiade*, fr. *Jérémie* Jeremiah, fr. LL *Jeremias*] : a prolonged lamentation or complaint
Jer·e·mi·ah \-'mī-ə\ *n* [LL *Jeremias*, fr. Gk *Hieremias*, fr. Heb *Yirmĕyāh*] **1** : a major Hebrew prophet of the 6th and 7th centuries B.C. **2** : one who is pessimistic about the present and foresees a calamitous future **3** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
Jer·e·mi·as \-'mī-əs\ *n* [LL] : JEREMIAH
¹jerk \'jərk\ *vb* [prob. alter. of *yerk*] *vt* **1** : to give a quick suddenly arrested push, pull, or twist to **2** : to propel with a quick suddenly arrested motion **3** : to utter in an abrupt, snappy, or sharply broken manner **4** : to mix and dispense (as sodas) behind a soda fountain ~ *vi* **1** : to make a sudden spasmodic motion **2** : to move in short abrupt motions or with frequent jolts **3** : to throw an object with a jerk — **jerk·er** *n*
syn JERK, SNAP, TWITCH, YANK *shared meaning element* : to make or act on with a sudden sharp quick movement
²jerk *n* **1** : a single quick motion of short duration **2 a** : jolting, bouncing, or thrusting motions **b** : a tendency to produce spasmodic motions **3 a** : an involuntary spasmodic muscular movement due to reflex action **b** *pl* (1) : CHOREA (2) : involuntary twitchings due to nervous excitement **4** : a stupid, foolish, or unconventional person **5** : the pushing of a weight from shoulder height to a position overhead in weight lifting : the second phase of the clean and jerk
³jerk *vt* [back-formation fr. ²*jerky*] : to cut (meat) into long slices or strips and dry in the sun
jer·kin \'jər-kən\ *n* [origin unknown] : a close-fitting hip-length sleeveless jacket
jerk off *vb* : MASTURBATE — usu. considered vulgar
jerk·wa·ter \'jər-ˌkwȯt-ər, -ˌkwät-\ *adj* [fr. *jerkwater* (rural train); fr. the fact that it took on water carried in buckets from the source of supply] **1** : remote and unimportant ⟨~ towns⟩ **2** : PIDDLING
¹jerky \'jər-kē\ *adj* **jerk·i·er; -est** **1 a** : moving along with or marked by fits and starts **b** : characterized by abrupt transitions **2** : INANE, FOOLISH — **jerk·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **jerk·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*
²jer·ky \'jər-kē\ *n* [Sp *charquí*] : jerked meat
jer·o·bo·am \ˌjer-ə-'bō-əm\ *n* [*Jeroboam* I †*ab*912 B.C. king of the northern kingdom of Israel] : an oversize wine bottle holding about four 26-ounce quarts ⟨a ~ of champagne⟩
jer·ri·can *or* **jerry can** \'jer-ē-ˌkan\ *n* [*Jerry* + *can*; fr. its German design] : a narrow flat-sided 5-gallon liquid container
Jer·ry \'jer-ē\ *n, pl* **Jerries** [by shortening & alter.] *chiefly Brit* : GERMAN
jer·ry–build \'jer-ē-ˌbild\ *vt* **-built** \-ˌbilt\; **-build·ing** [back-formation fr. *jerry-built*] : to build cheaply and flimsily — **jerry–build·er** *n*
jer·ry–built *adj* [origin unknown] **1** : built cheaply and unsubstantially **2** : carelessly or hastily put together
jer·sey \'jər-zē\ *n, pl* **jerseys** [*Jersey*, one of the Channel islands] **1** : a plain weft-knitted fabric made of wool, cotton, nylon, rayon, or silk and used esp. for clothing **2** : any of various close-fitting usu. circular-knitted garments esp. for the upper body **3** : any of a breed of small short-horned predominantly yellowish brown or fawn dairy cattle noted for their rich milk
Jersey giant *n* [*New Jersey*, state of U.S.] : any of a breed of large usu. black domestic fowls developed by interbreeding large Asiatic fowls with Langshans
Jersey pine *n* : VIRGINIA PINE

Je·ru·sa·lem artichoke \jə-ˌrü-s(ə-)ləm, -ˌrüz-(ə-)ləm-\ *n* [*Jerusalem* by folk etymology fr. It *girasole* girasol] : a perennial American sunflower (*Helianthus tuberosus*) widely cultivated for its tubers that are used as a vegetable, a livestock feed, and a source of levulose

Jerusalem cherry *n* [*Jerusalem*, Palestine] : either of two plants (*Solanum pseudo-capsicum* or *S. capsicastrum*) of the nightshade family cultivated as ornamental house plants for their orange to red berries

Jerusalem cricket *n* : a large-headed burrowing nocturnal insect (*Stenopelmatus fuscus*) of the southwestern U.S. related to the katydids

Jerusalem thorn *n* **1** : CHRIST'S-THORN **2** : a tropical American leguminous spiny shrub or shrubby tree (*Parkinsonia aculeata*) with pinnate leaves and showy racemose yellow flowers that is used for hedging and as emergency food for livestock

jess \'jes\ *n* [ME *ges*, fr. MF *gies*, fr. pl. of *jet* throw, fr. *jeter* to throw — more at JET] : a short strap secured on the leg of a hawk and usu. provided with a ring for attaching a leash — **jessed** \'jest\ *adj*

jes·sa·mine \'jes-(ə-)mən\ *var of* JASMINE

Jes·se \'jes-ē\ *n* [Heb *Yishay*] : the father of David, king of Israel according to the account in I Samuel

¹jest \'jest\ *n* [ME *geste*, fr. OF, fr. L *gesta* deeds, fr. neut. pl. of *gestus*, pp. of *gerere* to bear, wage — more at CAST] **1 a** : an act intended to provoke laughter : PRANK **b** : a comic incident **2** : an utterance (as a jeer or a witty quip) intended to be taken as mockery or humor rather than literal truth **3 a** : a frivolous mood or manner ⟨spoken in ~⟩ **b** : gaiety and merriment **4** : LAUGHINGSTOCK

syn **1** JEST, JOKE, QUIP, WITTICISM, WISECRACK, GAG *shared meaning element* : a remark, story, or action intended to evoke laughter **2** see FUN

²jest *vi* **1** : to utter taunts : GIBE **2** : to speak or act without seriousness **3** : to make a witty remark ~ *vt* : to make fun of

jest·er \'jes-tər\ *n* **1** : FOOL 2a **2** : one given to jests

Je·su·it \'jezh-(ə-)wət, 'jez-\ *n* [NL *Jesuita*, fr. LL *Jesus*] **1** : a member of the Roman Catholic Society of Jesus founded by St. Ignatius Loyola in 1534 and devoted to missionary and educational work **2** : one given to intrigue or equivocation — **je·su·it·ic** \ˌjez(h)-ə-'wit-ik\ *or* **je·su·it·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj, often cap* — **je·su·it·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv, often cap* — **je·su·it·ism** \'jezh-(ə-)wət-ˌiz-əm, 'jez-\ *or* **je·su·it·ry** \-(ə-)wə-trē\ *n, often cap* — **je·su·it·ize** \-(ə-)wət-ˌīz\ *vb, often cap*

Je·sus \'jē-zəs, *-zəz clerically also* -ˌzəs *and* -ˌzəz\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Iēsous*, fr. Heb *Yēshūa'*] **1** : the Jewish religious teacher whose life, death, and resurrection as reported by the Evangelists are the basis of the Christian message of salvation — called also *Jesus Christ* **2** *Christian Science* : the highest human corporeal concept of the divine idea rebuking and destroying error and bringing to light man's immortality

¹jet \'jet\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *jaiet*, fr. L *gagates*, fr. Gk *gagatēs*, fr. *Gagas*, town and river in Asia Minor] **1** : a compact velvet-black coal that takes a good polish and is often used for jewelry **2** : an intense black

²jet *vb* **jet·ted; jet·ting** [MF *jeter*, lit., to throw, fr. L *jactare* to throw, fr. *jactus*, pp. of *jacere* to throw; akin to Gk *hienai* to send] *vi* : to spout forth : GUSH ~ *vt* **1** : to emit in a stream : SPOUT **2** : to place (as a pile) in the ground by means of a jet of water

³jet *n* **1 a** : a usu. forceful stream of fluid (as water or gas) discharged from a narrow opening or a nozzle **b** : a nozzle for a jet of fluid **2** : something issuing as if in a jet ⟨talk poured from her in a brilliant ~ —*Time*⟩ **3 a** : JET ENGINE **b** : JET AIRPLANE **4** : JET STREAM

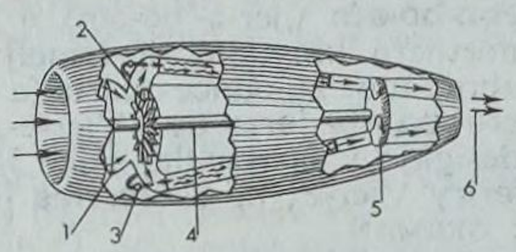
⁴jet *vi* **jet·ted; jet·ting** : to travel by jet airplane

jet airplane *n* : an airplane powered by a jet engine that utilizes the surrounding air in the combustion of fuel or by a rocket-type jet engine that carries its fuel and all the oxygen needed for combustion

jet·bead \'jet-ˌbēd\ *n* : a shrub (*Rhodotypos scandens*) that has black shining fruit and is used as an ornamental

je·té \zhə-'tā\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *jeter*] : a broad leap in ballet with one leg stretched forward and the other leg backward

jet engine *n* : an engine that produces motion as a result of the rearward discharge of a jet of fluid; *specif* : an airplane engine having one or more exhaust nozzles for discharging rearwardly a jet of heated air and exhaust gases to produce forward propulsion



jet engine, simplified cutaway: *1* air intake, *2* compressor, *3* fuel injection, *4* drive shaft, *5* turbine, *6* exhaust

Jeth \'jet\ *n* [Hindi *Jēṭh*, fr. Skt *Jyaiṣṭha*] : a month of the Hindu year — see MONTH table

jet lag *n* : a group of mental and physical symptoms (as fatigue and irritability) following rapid travel through several time zones that prob. result from disruption of circadian rhythms in the human body

jet·port \'jet-ˌpō(ə)rt, -ˌpȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : an airport designed to handle jet airplanes

jet–pro·pelled \ˌjet-prə-'peld\ *adj* **1** : moving by jet propulsion **2** : suggestive of the speed and force of a jet airplane

jet propulsion *n* : propulsion of a body produced by the forwardly directed forces of the reaction resulting from the rearward discharge of a jet of fluid; *specif* : propulsion of an airplane by jet engines

jet·sam \'jet-səm\ *n* [alter. of *jettison*] **1** : the part of a ship, its equipment, or cargo that is cast overboard to lighten the load in time of distress and that sinks or is washed ashore **2** : FLOTSAM 2

jet set *n* [fr. the surpassing speed of jet airplanes] : an international social group of wealthy individuals who frequent fashionable resorts — **jet–set·ter** \-ˌset-ər\ *n*

jet stream *n* : a long narrow meandering current of high-speed winds near the tropopause blowing from a generally westerly direction and often exceeding a speed of 250 miles per hour

¹jet·ti·son \'jet-ə-sən, -ə-zən\ *n* [ME *jetteson*, fr. AF *getteson*, fr. OF *getaison* action of throwing, fr. L *jactation-*, *jactatio*, fr. *jactatus*, pp. of *jactare* — more at JET] **1** : a voluntary sacrifice of cargo to lighten a ship's load in time of distress **2** : ABANDONMENT

²jettison *vt* **1** : to make jettison of **2** : to cast off as superfluous or encumbering : DISCARD **3** : to drop from an airplane or spacecraft in flight — **jet·ti·son·able** \-sə-nə-bəl, -zə-\ *adj*

¹jet·ty \'jet-ē\ *n, pl* **jetties** [ME *jette*, fr. MF *jetee*, fr. fem. of *jeté*, pp. of *jeter* to throw — more at JET] **1 a** : a structure extended into a sea, lake, or river to influence the current or tide or to protect a harbor **b** : a protecting frame of a pier **2** : a landing wharf

²jetty *vi* **jet·tied; jet·ty·ing** : PROJECT, JUT

³jetty *adj* : black as jet

jeu d'es·prit \zhœ-des-prē\ *n, pl* **jeux d'esprit** *same*\ [F, lit., play of the mind] : a witty comment or composition

jeu·nesse do·rée \zhœ-nes-dȯ-rā\ *n* [F, gilded youth] : young people of wealth and fashion

Jew \'jü\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *gyu*, fr. L *Judaeus*, fr. Gk *Ioudaios*, fr. Heb *Yĕhūdhī*, fr. *Yĕhūdhāh* Judah, Jewish kingdom] **1 a** : a member of the tribe of Judah **b** : ISRAELITE **2** : a member of a nation existing in Palestine from the 6th century B.C. to the 1st century A.D. **3** : a person belonging to a continuation through descent or conversion of the ancient Jewish people **4** : one whose religion is Judaism

¹jew·el \'jü-əl\ *n, often attrib* [ME *juel*, fr. OF, dim. of *jeu* game, play, fr. L *jocus* game, joke — more at JOKE] **1** : an ornament of precious metal often set with stones or decorated with enamel and worn as an accessory of dress **2** : one that is highly esteemed **3** : a precious stone : GEM **4** : a bearing for a pivot (as in a watch or compass) made of crystal, precious stone, or glass

²jewel *vt* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** **1** : to adorn or equip with jewels **2** : to give beauty to as if with jewels

jew·el·er *or* **jew·el·ler** \'jü-ə-lər\ *n* **1** : one who makes or repairs jewelry **2** : one who deals in jewelry, precious stones, watches, and usu. silverware and china

jew·el·ry \'jü-əl-rē\ *n* : JEWELS; *esp* : objects of precious metal often set with gems and worn for personal adornment

jew·el·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* : IMPATIENS

Jew·ess \'jü-əs\ *n* : a female Jew

jew·fish \'jü-ˌfish\ *n* : any of various large groupers that are usu. dusky green or blackish, thickheaded, and rough-scaled

Jew·ish \'jü-ish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Jews — **Jew·ish·ly** *adv* — **Jew·ish·ness** *n*

Jewish calendar *n* : a calendar in use among Jewish peoples that is reckoned from the year 3761 B.C. and dates in its present form from about A.D. 360 — see MONTH table

JEWISH YEARS 5734 – 5753

JEWISH YEAR		A.D.
5734	begins	Sept. 27, 1973
5735	"	Sept. 17, 1974
5736	"	Sept. 6, 1975
5737	"	Sept. 25, 1976
5738	"	Sept. 13, 1977
5739	"	Oct. 2, 1978
5740	"	Sept. 22, 1979
5741	"	Sept. 11, 1980
5742	"	Sept. 29, 1981
5743	"	Sept. 18, 1982
5744	"	Sept. 8, 1983
5745	"	Sept. 27, 1984
5746	"	Sept. 16, 1985
5747	"	Oct. 4, 1986
5748	"	Sept. 24, 1987
5749	"	Sept. 12, 1988
5750	"	Sept. 30, 1989
5751	"	Sept. 20, 1990
5752	"	Sept. 9, 1991
5753	"	Sept. 28, 1992

Jew·ry \'jü(ə)r-ē, 'jü-rē\ *n* **1** *pl* **Jewries** : a community of Jews : GHETTO **2** : the Jewish people

Jew's harp *or* **Jews' harp** \'jüz-ˌhärp, 'jüs-\ *n* : a small lyre-shaped instrument that when placed between the teeth gives tones from a metal tongue struck by the finger


Jew's harp

Jez·e·bel \'jez-ə-ˌbel\ *n* [Heb *Izebhel*] **1** : the Phoenician wife of Ahab who according to the account in I and II Kings pressed the cult of Baal on the Israelite kingdom but was finally killed in accordance with Elijah's prophecy **2** *often not cap* : an impudent, shameless, or abandoned woman

jg *abbr* junior grade

JHVH *var of* YHWH

¹jib \'jib\ *n* [origin unknown] : a triangular sail set on a stay extending from the head of the foremast to the bowsprit or the jibboom — see SAIL illustration

²jib *vb* **jibbed; jib·bing** *vt* : to cause (as a sail or yard) to swing from one side of a ship to the other ~ *vi* : to shift across or swing round from one side of a ship to the other

³jib *n* [prob. by shortening & alter. fr. *gibbet*] **1** : the projecting arm of a crane **2** : a derrick boom

⁴jib *vi* **jibbed; jib·bing** [prob. fr. ²*jib*] : to refuse to proceed further : BALK — **jib·ber** *n*

jib·boom \'jib-'(b)üm\ *n* [*jib* + *boom*] : a spar that forms an extension of the bowsprit
[1]jibe \'jīb\ *vb* **jibed; jib·ing** [perh. modif. of D *gijben*] *vi* **1** : to shift suddenly and forcibly from one side to the other — used of a fore-and-aft sail **2** : to change a ship's course so that the sail jibes ~ *vt* : to cause to jibe
[2]jibe *var of* GIBE
[3]jibe *vi* **jibed; jib·ing** [origin unknown] : to be in accord : AGREE ⟨moral claims do not ~ with . . . actual traditions —John Cogley⟩
jiff \'jif\ *n* [by shortening] : JIFFY
jif·fy \'jif-ē\ *n, pl* **jiffies** [origin unknown] : MOMENT, INSTANT ⟨ready in a ~⟩
[1]jig \'jig\ *n* [prob. fr. MF *giguer* to dance, fr. *gigue* fiddle, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *gīga* fiddle; akin to ON *geiga* to turn aside — more at GIG] **1 a** : any of several lively springy dances in triple rhythm **b** : music to which a jig may be danced **2** : TRICK, STRATAGEM ⟨the ~ is up⟩ **3 a** : any of several fishing devices that are jerked up and down or drawn through the water **b** : a device used to maintain mechanically the correct positional relationship between a piece of work and the tool or between parts of work during assembly **c** : a device in which crushed ore is concentrated or coal is cleaned by agitating in water
[2]jig *vb* **jigged; jig·ging** *vt* **1** : to dance in the rapid lively manner of a jig **2 a** : to give a rapid jerky motion to **b** : to separate (a mineral or ore from waste) with a jig **3** : to catch (a fish) with a jig **4** : to machine by means of a jig-controlled tool operation ~ *vi* **1 a** : to dance a jig **b** : to move with rapid jerky motions **2** : to fish with a jig **3** : to work with the aid of a jig
[1]jig·ger \'jig-ər\ *n* **1** : one that jigs or operates a jig **2** : any of several sails **3** : [1]JIG 3a **4 a** (1) : a mechanical device usu. with a jerky reciprocating motion (2) : a mold or a machine incorporating a revolving mold on which ceramic items (as plates) are formed **b** : something too complex, tricky, or trivial to designate accurately : GADGET **5** : a measure that is used in mixing drinks and that usu. holds 1½ ounces
[2]jigger *n* [of African origin; akin to Wolof *jiga* insect] : CHIGGER
[1]jig·gle \'jig-əl\ *vb* **jig·gled; jig·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [freq. of [2]*jig*] *vi* : to move with quick little jerks or oscillating motions ~ *vt* : to cause to jiggle
[2]jiggle *n* : a jiggling motion
jig·gly \'jig-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **jig·gli·er; -est** : UNSTEADY, JIGGLING
[1]jig·saw \'jig-ˌsȯ\ *n* **1** : a machine saw with a narrow vertically reciprocating blade for cutting curved and irregular lines or ornamental patterns in openwork **2** : SCROLL SAW 1
[2]jigsaw *vt* **1** : to cut or form by or as if by a jigsaw **2** : to arrange or place in an intricate or interlocking way
jigsaw puzzle *n* : a puzzle consisting of small irregularly cut pieces that are to be fitted together to form a picture
ji·had \ji-'häd, -'had\ *n* [Ar *jihād*] **1** : a holy war waged on behalf of Islam as a religious duty **2** : a crusade for a principle or belief
jil·lion \'jil-yən\ *n* [*j* + *-illion* (as in *million*)] : an indeterminately large number — **jillion** *adj*
[1]jilt \'jilt\ *n* [alter. of *jillet* (flirtatious girl)] : a woman who capriciously or unfeelingly drops her lover
[2]jilt *vt* : to drop (one's lover) capriciously or unfeelingly — **jilt·er** *n*
jim crow \'jim-'krō\ *n, often cap J & C* [*Jim Crow*, stereotype Negro in a 19th cent. song-and-dance act] **1** : NEGRO — usu. taken to be offensive **2** : ethnic discrimination esp. against the Negro by legal enforcement or traditional sanctions — **jim crow** *adj, often cap J & C* — **jim crow·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n, often cap J & C*
jim–dan·dy \'jim-'dan-dē\ *n* [fr. the name *Jim*] : something excellent of its kind
jim·jams \'jim-ˌjamz\ *n pl* [perh. alter. of *delirium tremens*] **1** : DELIRIUM TREMENS **2** : JITTERS
[1]jim·my \'jim-ē\ *n, pl* **jimmies** [fr. the name *Jimmy*] : a short crowbar
[2]jimmy *vt* **jim·mied; jim·my·ing** : to force open with or as if with a jimmy ⟨the burglar *jimmied* a window⟩
jim·son·weed \'jim(p)-sən-ˌwēd\ *n, often cap* [*Jamestown*, Va.] : a poisonous tall coarse annual weed (*Datura stramonium*) of the nightshade family with rank-smelling foliage and large white or violet trumpet-shaped flowers succeeded by globose prickly fruits
[1]jin·gle \'jiŋ-gəl\ *vb* **jin·gled; jin·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *ginglen*, of imit. origin] *vi* **1** : to make a light clinking or tinkling sound **2** : to rhyme or sound in a catchy repetitious manner ~ *vt* : to cause to jingle — **jin·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*
[2]jingle *n* **1 a** : a light clinking or tinkling sound **b** : a catchy repetition of sounds in a poem **2 a** : something that jingles **b** : a short verse or song marked by catchy repetition **3** : a 2-wheeled horse-drawn covered vehicle used esp. in Ireland and Australia as a public conveyance — **jin·gly** \-g(ə-)lē\ *adj*
[1]jin·go \'jiŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *interj* [prob. euphemism for *Jesus*] — used as a mild oath usu. in the phrase *by jingo*
[2]jingo *n, pl* **jingoes** [fr. the fact that the phrase *by jingo* appeared in the refrain of a chauvinistic song] : one characterized by jingoism — **jin·go·ish** \-ish\ *adj*
jin·go·ism \'jiŋ-(ˌ)gō-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : extreme chauvinism or nationalism marked esp. by a belligerent foreign policy — **jin·go·ist** \-əst\ *n* — **jin·go·is·tic** \ˌjiŋ-gō-'is-tik\ *adj* — **jin·go·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[1]jink \'jiŋk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a quick evasive turn : SLIP **2** *pl* : PRANKS, FROLICS ⟨high ~*s*⟩
[2]jink *vi* : to move quickly or unexpectedly with sudden turns and shifts (as in dodging)
jinn \'jin\ *or* **jin·ni** \jə-'nē, 'jin-ē\ *n, pl* **jinns** *or* **jinn** [Ar *jinnīy* demon] **1** : one of a class of spirits that according to Muslim demonology inhabit the earth, assume various forms, and exercise supernatural power **2** : a supernatural spirit that often takes human form and serves his summoner
jin·rik·i·sha \jin-'rik-ˌshȯ\ *n* [Jap] : RICKSHA
[1]jinx \'jiŋ(k)s\ *n* [prob. alter. of *jynx* (wryneck); fr. the use of wrynecks in witchcraft] : one that brings bad luck; *also* : the state or spell of bad luck brought on by a jinx
[2]jinx *vt* : to foredoom to failure or misfortune : bring bad luck to
ji·pi·ja·pa \ˌhē-pē-'häp-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. *Jipijapa*, Ecuador] **1** : a Central and So. American plant (*Carludovica palmata* of the family Cyclanthaceae) resembling a palm **2** : PANAMA
JIT *abbr* job instruction training
jit·ney \'jit-nē\ *n, pl* **jitneys** [origin unknown] **1** *slang* : NICKEL 2a(1) **2** [fr. the original 5 cent fare] : BUS 1a; *esp* : a small bus that carries passengers over a regular route according to a flexible schedule
[1]jit·ter \'jit-ər\ *vi* [origin unknown] **1** : to be nervous or act in a nervous way **2** : to make continuous fast repetitive movements
[2]jitter *n* **1** : the state of mind or the movement of one that jitters **2** *pl* : a sense of panic or extreme nervousness ⟨had a bad case of the ~*s* before his performance⟩ **3** : irregular random movement (as of a pointer or an image on a screen)
[1]jit·ter·bug \'jit-ər-ˌbəg\ *n* **1** : a jazz variation of the two-step in which couples swing, balance, and twirl in standardized patterns and often with vigorous acrobatics **2** : one who dances the jitterbug
[2]jitterbug *vi* **1** : to dance the jitterbug **2** : to move around or back and forth with quick often jerky movements esp. to confuse or disconcert an opponent in sports
jit·tery \'jit-ə-rē\ *adj* **1** : suffering from the jitters **2** : marked by jittering movements
jiu·jit·su *or* **jiu·jut·su** *var of* JUJITSU
[1]jive \'jīv\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : swing music or the dancing performed to it **2 a** : glib, deceptive, or foolish talk **b** : the jargon of hipsters **c** : a special jargon of difficult or slang terms
[2]jive *vb* **jived; jiv·ing** *vi* **1** : KID **2** : to dance to or play jive ~ *vt* **1** : TEASE 3, CAJOLE **2** : SWING 5
[3]jive *adj, slang* : PHONY
Jn *or* **Jno** *abbr* John
JND *abbr* just noticeable difference
jnr *abbr, Brit* junior
jo \'jō\ *n, pl* **joes** [alter. of *joy*] *chiefly Scot* : SWEETHEART, DEAR
Jo *abbr* Joel
[1]job \'jäb\ *n* [perh. fr. obs. E *job* (lump)] **1 a** : a piece of work; *esp* : a small miscellaneous piece of work undertaken on order at a stated rate **b** : the object or material on which work is being done **c** : something produced by or as if by work ⟨do a better ~ next time⟩ **d** : an example of a usu. specified type : ITEM ⟨this ~ is round-necked and sleeveless —Lois Long⟩ **2 a** : something done for private advantage ⟨suspected the whole incident was a put-up ~⟩ **b** : a criminal enterprise; *specif* : ROBBERY **c** : a damaging or destructive bit of work ⟨did a ~ on him⟩ **3 a** (1) : something that has to be done : TASK (2) : an undertaking requiring unusual exertion ⟨it was a real ~ to talk over that noise⟩ **b** : a specific duty, role, or function **c** : a regular remunerative position **d** *chiefly Brit* : state of affairs — used with *bad* or *good* ⟨it was a good ~ you didn't hit the old man —E. L. Thomas⟩ ***syn*** see TASK — **on the job** : on the alert : on duty ⟨safety devices that are constantly *on the job*⟩
[2]job *vb* **jobbed; job·bing** *vi* **1** : to do odd or occasional pieces of work for hire **2** : to carry on public business for private gain **3** : to carry on the business of a middleman or wholesaler ⟨his company ~*s* and doesn't sell to the homeowner⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to buy and sell (as stock) for profit : SPECULATE **2** : to hire or let by the job or for a period of service **3** : to get, deal with, or effect by jobbery **4** : to do or cause to be done by separate portions or lots : SUBCONTRACT **5** : SWINDLE, TRICK
[3]job *adj* **1** *Brit* : that is for hire for a given service or period **2** : used in, engaged in, or done as job work ⟨a ~ shop⟩ **3** : of or relating to a job or to employment ⟨a guarantee of ~ security⟩
Job \'jōb\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Iōb*, fr. Heb *Iyyōbh*] **1** : the hero of the book of Job who endures afflictions with fortitude and faith **2** : a narrative and poetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
job action *n* : a temporary refusal (as by policemen) to work as a means of enforcing compliance with demands
job·ber \'jäb-ər\ *n* : one that jobs: as **a** (1) : STOCKJOBBER **a** (2) : WHOLESALER; *specif* : a wholesaler who operates on a small scale or who sells only to retailers and institutions **b** : one who works by the job or on job work
job·bery \'jäb-(ə-)rē\ *n* : the act or practice of jobbing; *esp* : corruption in public office
job·hold·er \'jäb-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : one having a regular job
job–hop·ping \-ˌhäp-iŋ\ *n* : the practice of moving (as for immediate financial gain) from job to job — **job–hop·per** \-ˌhäp-ər\ *n*
job·less \'jäb-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no job **2** : of or relating to those having no job — **job·less·ness** *n*
job lot *n* **1** : a miscellaneous collection of goods for sale as a lot usu. to a retailer **2** : a miscellaneous and usu. inferior collection or group
Job's comforter \'jōbz-\ *n* [fr. the tone of the speeches made to Job by his friends] : one who discourages or depresses while seemingly giving comfort and consolation
Job's tears *n pl* **1** : hard pearly white seeds often used as beads **2** *sing in constr* : an Asiatic grass (*Coix lacryma-jobi*) whose seeds are Job's tears
Jo·cas·ta \jō-'kas-tə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Iokastē*] : a queen of Thebes and mother of Oedipus who unknowingly becomes her husband
[1]jock \'jäk\ *n* **1** : JOCKEY 1 **2** : DISC JOCKEY
[2]jock *n* [*jockstrap*] **1** : ATHLETIC SUPPORTER **2** : ATHLETE; *esp* : a college athlete
[1]jock·ey \'jäk-ē\ *n, pl* **jockeys** [*Jockey*, Sc nickname for *John*] **1** : one who rides a horse esp. as a professional in a race **2** : one who operates or works with a specified vehicle, device, or object

: OPERATOR ⟨an accountant, a pencil ~ — with almost no association with the out-of-doors —James Selder⟩

²jockey *vb* **jock·eyed; jock·ey·ing** *vt* **1** : to deal shrewdly or fraudulently with **2 a** : to ride (a horse) as a jockey **b** : DRIVE, OPERATE **3 a** : to maneuver or manipulate by adroit or devious means ⟨was *jockeyed* out of a political job⟩ **b** : to change the position of by a series of movements ⟨~ a truck into position⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to act as a jockey **2** : to maneuver for advantage ⟨~ for a starting position on the team⟩

jockey club *n* : an association for the promotion and regulation of horse racing

jock itch *n* [²*jock*] : ringworm of the crotch : TINEA CRURIS

jock·strap \'jäk-ˌstrap\ *n* [E slang *jock* (penis) + E *strap*] : ATHLETIC SUPPORTER

jo·cose \jō-'kōs\ *adj* [L *jocosus*, fr. *jocus* joke] **1** : given to joking : MERRY **2** : characterized by joking : HUMOROUS ***syn*** see WITTY — **jo·cose·ly** *adv* — **jo·cose·ness** *n* — **jo·cos·i·ty** \jō-'käs-ət-ē\ *n*

joc·u·lar \'jäk-yə-lər\ *adj* [L *jocularis*, fr. *joculus*, dim. of *jocus*] **1** : given to jesting : habitually jolly or jocund **2** : characterized by jesting : PLAYFUL ***syn*** see WITTY — **joc·u·lar·i·ty** \ˌjäk-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **joc·u·lar·ly** \'jäk-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*

jo·cund \'jäk-ənd *also* 'jōk-(ˌ)ənd\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *jocundus*, alter. of L *jucundus*, fr. *juvare* to help] : marked by or suggestive of high spirits and lively mirthfulness ⟨a poet could not but be gay, in such a ~ company —William Wordsworth⟩ ***syn*** see MERRY — **jo·cun·di·ty** \jō-'kən-dət-ē, jä-\ *n* — **jo·cund·ly** \'jäk-ən-dlē, 'jōk-(ˌ)-\ *adv*

jodh·pur \'jäd-pər\ *n* [*Jodhpur*, India] **1** *pl* : riding breeches cut full through the hips and close-fitting from knee to ankle **2** : an ankle-high boot fastened with a strap that is buckled at the side

Jo·el \'jō-əl\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Iōēl*, fr. Heb *Yō'ēl*] **1** : the traditionally assumed author of the book of Joel **2** : a narrative and apocalyptic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

joe–pye weed \'jō-'pī-\ *n* [perh. alter. of earlier *eupatory*, fr. NL *Eupatorium*, genus name] : any of several tall American perennial composite herbs (genus *Eupatorium*) with whorled leaves and corymbose heads of typically purple tubular flowers

jo·ey \'jō-ē\ *n* [native name in Australia] *Austral* : a baby animal; *esp* : a baby kangaroo

¹jog \'jäg\ *vb* **jogged; jog·ging** [prob. alter. of *shog*] *vt* **1** : to give a slight shake or push to : NUDGE **2** : to rouse to alertness ⟨*jogged* his memory⟩ **3** : to cause (as a horse) to go at a jog **4** : to align the edges of (piled sheets of paper) by hitting or shaking against a flat surface ~ *vi* **1** : to move up and down or about with a short heavy motion ⟨his . . . holster *jogging* against his hip —Thomas Williams⟩ **2 a** : to run or ride at a slow trot **b** : to go at a slow, leisurely, or monotonous pace : TRUDGE

²jog *n* **1** : a slight shake : PUSH **2 a** : a jogging movement, pace, or trip **b** : a horse's slow gait with marked beats

³jog *n* [prob. alter. of ²*jag*] **1 a** : a projecting or retreating part (as of a line or surface) **b** : the space in the angle of a jog **2** : a brief abrupt change in direction

⁴jog *vi* **jogged; jog·ging** : to make a jog ⟨the road ~*s* to the right⟩

jog·ger \'jäg-ər\ *n* **1** : one that jogs **2** : a device for jogging piled sheets of paper

¹jog·gle \'jäg-əl\ *vb* **jog·gled; jog·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [freq. of ¹*jog*] *vt* : to shake slightly ~ *vi* : to move shakily or jerkily — **jog·gler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

²joggle *n* : ²JOG 2a

³joggle *n* [dim. of ³*jog*] **1** : a notch or tooth in a joining surface (as of a piece of building material) to prevent slipping **2** : a dowel for joining two adjacent blocks of masonry

⁴joggle *vt* **jog·gled; jog·gling** \'jäg-(ə-)liŋ\ : to join by means of a joggle so as to prevent sliding apart

jog trot *n* **1** : a slow regular jolting gait (as of a horse) **2** : a routine habit or course of action

jo·han·nes \jō-'han-əs\ *n, pl* **johannes** [*Johannes* John V †1750 king of Portugal] : a Portuguese gold coin of the 18th and 19th centuries equivalent to 6400 reis

Jo·han·nine \jō-'han-ˌīn, -ən\ *adj* [LL *Johannes* John] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the apostle John or the New Testament books ascribed to him

john \'jän\ *n* [fr. the name *John*] **1** : TOILET **2** : a prostitute's client

John \'jän\ *n* [LL *Johannes*, fr. Gk *Iōannēs*, fr. Heb *Yōhānān*] **1** : a Jewish prophet who according to Gospel accounts foretold Jesus's messianic ministry and baptized him — called also *John the Baptist* **2** : an apostle who according to various Christian traditions wrote the fourth Gospel, the three Johannine Epistles, and the Book of Revelation **3** : the fourth Gospel in the New Testament — see BIBLE table **4** : any of three short didactic letters addressed to early Christians and included in the New Testament — see BIBLE table

John Barleycorn *n* : alcoholic liquor personified

john·boat \'jän-ˌbōt\ *n* [fr. the name *John*] : a narrow flat-bottomed square-ended boat usu. propelled by a pole or paddle and used on inland waterways

John Bull \-'bu̇l\ *n* [*John Bull*, character typifying the English nation in *The History of John Bull* (1712) by John Arbuthnot] **1** : the English nation personified : the English people **2** : a typical Englishman — **John Bull·ish** \-ish\ *adj* — **John Bull·ish·ness** *n* — **John Bull·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

John Doe \-'dō\ *n* **1** : a party to legal proceedings whose true name is unknown **2** : an average man ⟨brilliant educators and plain *John Does* —K. D. Wells⟩

John Do·ry \-'dōr-ē, -'dȯr-\ *n, pl* **John Dories** [earlier *dory*, fr. ME *dorre*, fr. MF *doree*, lit., gilded one] : a common yellow to olive European food fish (*Zeus faber*) with an oval compressed body, long dorsal spines, and a dark spot on each side; *also* : a closely related and possibly identical fish (*Z. capensis*) widely distributed in southern seas

Joh·ne's disease \'yō-nəz-\ *n* [Heinrich A. *Johne* †1910 G bacteriologist] : a chronic often fatal enteritis esp. of cattle that is caused by a bacillus (*Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*) and is characterized by persistent diarrhea and gradual emaciation

John Han·cock \'jän-'han-ˌkäk\ *n* [*John Hancock*; fr. the prominence of his signature on the Declaration of Independence] : an autograph signature

John Hen·ry \-'hen-rē\ *n* [fr. the name *John Henry*] : an autograph signature

John Mark *n* : MARK 1a

john·ny \'jän-ē\ *n, pl* **johnnies** [fr. the name *Johnny*] **1** *often cap* : FELLOW, GUY **2** : a short-sleeved collarless gown with an opening in the back for wear by persons (as hospital patients) undergoing medical examination or treatment

john·ny·cake \'jän-ē-ˌkāk\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Johnny*] : a bread made with cornmeal

John·ny–come–late·ly \ˌjän-ē-(ˌ)kəm-'lāt-lē\ *n, pl* **Johnny–come–latelies** *or* **Johnnies–come–lately** **1** : a late or recent arrival : NEWCOMER **2** : UPSTART ⟨established families tend to hold themselves above the *Johnny-come-latelies* —William Zeckendorf *b*1905⟩

John·ny–jump–up \ˌjän-ē-'jəm-ˌpəp\ *n* **1** : WILD PANSY; *broadly* : any of various small-flowered cultivated pansies **2** : any of various American violets

John·ny–on–the–spot \ˌjän-ē-ˌȯn-thə-'spät, -ē-ˌän-\ *n* : one who is on hand and ready to perform a service or respond to an emergency

Johnny Reb \-'reb\ *n* [fr. the name *Johnny* + *reb* (rebel)] : a Confederate soldier

John·son·ese \ˌjän(t)-sə-'nēz, -'nēs\ *n* [Samuel *Johnson*] : a literary style characterized by balanced phraseology and Latinate diction

John·son grass \'jän(t)-sən-\ *n* [William *Johnston* †1859 Am agriculturist] : a tall perennial sorghum (*Sorghum halepense*) naturalized as a hay and forage grass in warm regions

joie de vi·vre \ˌzhwäd-ə-'vēvrᵊ\ *n* [F, lit., joy of living] : keen or buoyant enjoyment of life

¹join \'jȯin\ *vb* [ME *joinen*, fr. OF *joindre*, fr. L *jungere* — more at YOKE] *vt* **1 a** : to put or bring together so as to form a unit ⟨~ two blocks of wood with glue⟩ **b** : to connect (as points) by a line **c** : ADJOIN **2** : to put or bring into close association or relationship ⟨~*ed* in marriage⟩ **3** : to engage in (battle) **4 a** : to come into the company of ⟨~*ed* us for lunch⟩ **b** : to associate oneself with ⟨~*ed* the church⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to come together so as to be connected ⟨nouns ~ to form compounds⟩ **b** : ADJOIN ⟨the two estates ~⟩ **2** : to come into close association or relationship: as **a** : to form an alliance ⟨~*ed* to combat crime⟩ **b** : to become a member of a group **c** : to take part in a collective activity ⟨~ in singing⟩ — **join·able** \'jȯi-nə-bəl\ *adj*

syn JOIN, COMBINE, UNITE, CONNECT, LINK, ASSOCIATE, RELATE *shared meaning element* : to bring or come together into some manner of union ***ant*** disjoin, part

²join *n* **1** : JOINT **2** : UNION 2d

join·der \'jȯin-dər\ *n* [F *joindre* to join] **1** : CONJUNCTION **2 a** (1) : a joining of parties as plaintiffs or defendants in a suit (2) : a joining of causes of action or defense **b** : acceptance of an issue tendered

join·er \'jȯi-nər\ *n* : one that joins: as **a** : a person whose occupation is to construct articles by joining pieces of wood **b** : a gregarious or civic-minded person who joins many organizations

join·ery \'jȯin-(ə-)rē\ *n* **1** : the art or trade of a joiner **2** : work done by a joiner

join·ing \'jȯi-niŋ\ *n* : the act or instance of joining one thing to another : JUNCTURE

¹joint \'jȯint\ *n* [ME *jointe*, fr. OF, fr. *joindre*] **1 a** (1) : the point of contact between elements of an animal skeleton with the parts that surround and support it (2) : NODE 4b **b** : a part or space included between two articulations, knots, or nodes **c** : a large piece of meat for roasting **2 a** : a place where two things or parts are joined **b** : a space between the adjacent surfaces of two bodies joined and held together (as by cement or mortar) **c** : a fracture or crack in rock not accompanied by dislocation **d** : the flexing part of a cover along either backbone edge of a book **e** : the junction of two or more members of a framed structure **f** : a union formed by two abutting rails in a track including the elements (as bars and bolts) necessary to hold the abutting rails together **g** : an area at which two ends, surfaces, or edges are attached **3 a** : a shabby or disreputable place of entertainment **b** : PLACE, ESTABLISHMENT **4** : a marijuana cigarette — **joint·ed** \-əd\ *adj* — **joint·ed·ly** *adv* — **joint·ed·ness** *n* — **out of joint** **1 a** *of a bone* : having the head slipped from its socket **b** : at variance **2 a** : DISORDERED 2a **b** : being out of humor : DISSATISFIED

²joint *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. pp. of *joindre*] **1** : UNITED, COMBINED ⟨the ~ influences of culture and climate⟩ **2** : common to two or more: as **a** (1) : involving the united activity of two or more ⟨a ~ effort⟩ (2) : constituting an activity, operation, or organization in which elements of more than one armed service participate ⟨~ maneuvers⟩ (3) : constituting an action or expression of two or more governments ⟨~ peace talks⟩ **b** : shared by or affecting two or more ⟨a ~ fine⟩ **3** : united, joined, or sharing with another (as in a right or status) ⟨~ heirs⟩ **4** : being a function of or involving two or more variables and esp. random variables ⟨a ~ probability density function⟩

³joint *vb* [¹*joint*] *vt* **1 a** : to unite by a joint : fit together **b** : to provide with a joint : ARTICULATE **c** : to prepare (as a board) for joining by planing the edge **2** : to separate the joints of (as meat) ~ *vi* **1** : to fit as if by joints ⟨the stones ~ neatly⟩ **2** : to form joints as a stage in growth — used esp. of small grains

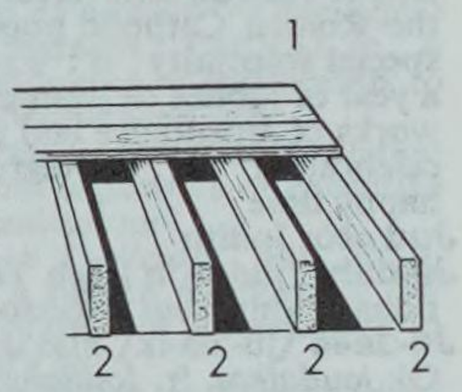
Joint Chiefs of Staff : a military advisory group composed of the chiefs of staff of the army and air force, the chief of naval operations, and sometimes the commandant of the marine corps

joint·er \'jȯint-ər\ *n* : one that joints; *esp* : any of various tools used in making joints

joint grass *n* : a coarse creeping grass (*Paspalum distichum*) with jointed stems that is used for fodder and for erosion control

joint·ly *adv* : in a joint manner : TOGETHER

joint resolution *n* : a resolution passed by both houses of a legislative body that has the force of law when signed by or passed over the veto of the executive
join·tress \'jȯin-trəs\ *n* : a woman having a legal jointure
joint–stock company *n* : a company or association consisting of individuals organized to conduct a business for gain and having a joint stock of capital represented by shares owned individually by the members and transferable without the consent of the group
join·ture \'jȯin-chər\ *n* **1 a** : an act of joining : the state of being joined **b** : JOINT **2 a** : an estate settled on a wife to be taken by her in lieu of dower **b** : a settlement on the wife of a freehold estate for her lifetime
joint·worm \'jȯint-ˌwərm\ *n* : the larva of any of several small chalcid wasps (genus *Harmolita*) that attack the stems of grain and cause swellings like galls at or just above the first joint
joist \'jȯist\ *n* [ME *giste*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *jacitum*, fr. L *jacēre* to lie — more at ADJACENT] : any of the small timbers or metal beams ranged parallel from wall to wall in a structure to support a floor or ceiling



joists: *1* floor, *2* joists

jo·jo·ba \hə-'hō-bə\ *n* [MexSp] : a shrub or small tree (*Simmondsia californica*) of the box family of southwestern No. America with edible seeds that yield a valuable liquid wax
¹joke \'jōk\ *n* [L *jocus*; akin to OHG *gehan* to say, Skt *yācati* he implores] **1 a** : something said or done to provoke laughter; *esp* : a brief oral narrative with a climactic humorous twist **b** (1) : the humorous or ridiculous element in something (2) : an instance of jesting : KIDDING ⟨can't take a ~⟩ **c** : PRACTICAL JOKE **d** : LAUGHINGSTOCK **2 a** : something not to be taken seriously : a trifling matter ⟨consider his skiing a ~ —Harold Callender⟩ — often used in negative construction ⟨it is no ~ to be lost in the desert⟩ **b** : something presenting no difficulty ⟨that exam was a ~⟩ ***syn*** see JEST
²joke *vb* **joked; jok·ing** *vi* : to make jokes : JEST ~ *vt* : to make the object of a joke : KID — **jok·ing·ly** \'jō-kiŋ-lē\ *adv*
jok·er \'jō-kər\ *n* **1 a** : a person given to joking : WAG **b** : FELLOW, GUY; *esp* : an insignificant, obnoxious, or incompetent person ⟨a shame to let a ~ like this win —Harold Robbins⟩ **2** : a playing card added to a pack as a wild card or as the highest-ranking card **3 a** (1) : an ambiguous or apparently immaterial clause inserted in a legislative bill to make it inoperative or uncertain in some respect (2) : an unsuspected, misleading, or misunderstood clause, phrase, or word in a document that nullifies or greatly alters it **b** : something (as an expedient or stratagem) held in reserve to gain an end or escape from a predicament **c** : an unsuspected or not readily apparent fact, factor, or condition that thwarts or nullifies a seeming advantage
jol·li·fi·ca·tion \ˌjäl-i-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* : FESTIVITY, MERRYMAKING
jol·li·ty \'jäl-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being jolly : MERRIMENT **2** *Brit* : a festive gathering ***syn*** see MIRTH
¹jol·ly \'jäl-ē\ *adj* **jol·li·er; -est** [ME *joli*, fr. OF] **1 a** (1) : full of high spirits : JOYOUS (2) : given to conviviality : JOVIAL **b** : expressing, suggesting, or inspiring gaiety : CHEERFUL **2** : extremely pleasant or agreeable : SPLENDID ***syn*** see MERRY
²jolly *adv* : VERY ⟨would . . . do as they were ~ well told —John Stockbridge⟩
³jolly *vb* **jol·lied; jol·ly·ing** *vi* : to engage in good-natured banter : KID ~ *vt* : to put or try to put in good humor esp. to gain an end : WHEEDLE
⁴jolly *n, pl* **jollies** **1** *chiefly Brit* : a good time : JOLLIFICATION **2** *pl* : KICKS ⟨get their *jollies* by reenacting famous murders —H. F. Waters⟩
jol·ly boat \'jäl-ē-\ *n* [origin unknown] : a ship's boat of medium size used for general rough or small work
Jol·ly Rog·er \ˌjäl-ē-'räj-ər\ *n* [prob. fr. ¹*jolly* + the name *Roger*] : a black flag with a white skull and crossbones
¹jolt \'jōlt\ *vb* [prob. blend of obs. *joll* (to strike) and *jot* (to bump)] *vt* **1** : to cause to move with a sudden jerky motion **2** : to give a knock or blow to; *specif* : to jar with a quick or hard blow **3 a** : to disturb the composure of ⟨crudely ~*ed* out of that mood — Virginia Woolf⟩ **b** : to interfere with roughly, abruptly, and disconcertingly ⟨determination to pursue his own course was ~*ed* badly —F. L. Paxson⟩ ~ *vi* : to move with a sudden jerky motion — **jolt·er** *n*
²jolt *n* **1** : an abrupt sharp jerky blow or movement knocking or shaking violently and tending to unsettle or dislodge : JOUNCE **2 a** (1) : a sudden feeling of shock, surprise, or disappointment (2) : an event or development causing such a feeling ⟨his defeat was quite a ~ to him⟩ **b** : a serious check or reverse ⟨had a severe financial ~⟩ **3** : a small potent or bracing portion : SHOT ⟨a ~ of fresh air⟩ — **jolty** \'jōl-tē\ *adj*
jolt–wag·on \'jōlt-ˌwag-ən\ *n, Midland* : a farm wagon
Jo·nah \'jō-nə, *3 is also* -nər\ *n* [Heb *Yōnāh*] **1** : an Israelite prophet who according to the account in the book of Jonah resisted a divine call to preach repentance to the people of Nineveh, was swallowed and vomited by a great fish, and eventually carried out his mission **2** : a narrative book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table **3** : one believed to bring bad luck
Jo·nas \'jō-nəs\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Yōnāh*] : JONAH
Jon·a·than \'jän-ə-thən\ *n* [Heb *Yōnāthān*] **1** : a son of Saul and friend of David according to the account in I Samuel **2** : AMERICAN; *esp* : a New Englander
jon·gleur \zhōⁿ-'glər\ *n* [F, fr. OF *jogleour* — more at JUGGLER] : an itinerant medieval minstrel providing entertainment chiefly by song or recitation
jon·quil \'jän-kwəl, 'jäŋ-\ *n* [F *jonquille*, fr. Sp *junquillo*, dim. of *junco* reed, fr. L *juncus*; akin to ON *einir* juniper, L *juniperus*] : a Mediterranean perennial bulbous herb (*Narcissus jonquilla*) of the amaryllis family with long linear leaves that is widely cultivated for its yellow or white fragrant short-tubed clustered flowers — compare DAFFODIL
Jor·dan almond \ˌjȯrd-ᵊn-\ *n* [ME *jardin almande*, fr. MF *jardin* garden + ME *almande* almond] : a large Spanish almond that is salted or coated with sugar of various colors
Jor·dan curve \zhȯr-ˌdäⁿ-, ˌjȯrd-ᵊn-\ *n* [Camille *Jordan* †1922 F mathematician] : SIMPLE CLOSED CURVE
Jordan curve theorem *n* : a fundamental theorem of topology: every simple closed curve divides the plane into two regions for which it is the common boundary
jo·rum \'jōr-əm, 'jȯr-\ *n* [perh. fr. *Joram* in the Bible who "brought with him vessels of silver" (2 Sam 8:10—AV)] : a large drinking vessel or its contents
jo·seph \'jō-zəf *also* -səf\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Iōsēph*, fr. Heb *Yōsēph*] **1** *cap* **a** : a son of Jacob who according to the account in Genesis rose to high political office in Egypt after being sold into slavery by his brothers **b** : the husband of Mary the mother of Jesus according to the Gospel accounts **2** : a long cloak worn esp. by women in the 18th century
Jo·seph·ite \-ˌīt\ *n* : a member of St. Joseph's Society of the Sacred Heart founded in 1871 in Baltimore, Md. and devoted to missionary work among American Negroes
Joseph of Ar·i·ma·thea \-ˌar-ə-mə-'thē-ə\ : a rich councillor of the Sanhedrin who according to the Gospel accounts placed the body of Jesus in his own tomb and according to medieval legend took the Holy Grail to England
¹josh \'jäsh\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vt* : to make fun of : TEASE ~ *vi* : to engage in banter : JOKE — **josh·er** *n*
²josh *n* : a good-humored joke : JEST
Josh *abbr* Joshua
Josh·ua \'jäsh-(ə-)wə\ *n* [Heb *Yehōshūa'*] **1** : the divinely commissioned successor of Moses and military leader of the Israelites during the conquest of Canaan according to the account in the book of Joshua **2** : a mainly narrative book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
Joshua tree *n* : a tall branched arborescent yucca (*Yucca brevifolia*) of the southwestern U.S. that has short leaves and clustered greenish white flowers


Joshua tree

joss \'jäs, 'jȯs\ *n* [Pidgin E, fr. Pg *deus* god, fr. L — more at DEITY] : a Chinese idol or cult image
joss house *n* : a Chinese temple or shrine
joss stick *n* : a slender stick of incense burned in front of a joss
¹jos·tle \'jäs-əl\ *vb* **jos·tled; jos·tling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [alter. of *justle*, freq. of ¹*joust*] *vi* **1 a** : to come in contact or into collision **b** : to make one's way by pushing and shoving **c** : to exist in close proximity **2** : to vie in gaining an objective : CONTEND ~ *vt* **1 a** : to come in contact or into collision with **b** : to force by pushing : ELBOW **c** : to stir up : AGITATE **d** : to exist in close proximity with **2** : to vie with in attaining an objective
²jostle *n* **1** : a jostling encounter or experience **2** : the state of being crowded or jostled together
Jos·ue \'jä-ü-ē\ *n* [LL, fr. Heb *Yĕhōshūa'*] : JOSHUA
¹jot \'jät\ *n* [L *iota*, *jota* iota] : the least bit : IOTA ⟨nothing . . . has caused the author to change his mind one ~ —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩
²jot *vt* **jot·ted; jot·ting** : to write briefly or hurriedly : set down in the form of a note ⟨~ this down⟩
jot·ting \'jät-iŋ\ *n* : a brief note : MEMORANDUM
Jo·tun *also* **Jo·tunn** \'yōt-ᵊn, 'yō-ˌtün\ *n* [ON *jöttun*] : a member of a race of giants in Norse mythology
Jo·tun·heim *also* **Jo·tunn·heim** \'yōt-ᵊn-ˌhīm, -ˌhām\ *n* [ON *Jötunheimar*] : the home of the Jotuns in Norse mythology
joule \'jü(ə)l, 'jaù(ə)l\ *n* [James P. *Joule*] : the absolute mks unit of work or energy equal to 10^7 ergs or approximately 0.7375 foot-pounds
¹jounce \'jaùn(t)s\ *vb* **jounced; jounc·ing** [ME *jouncen*] *vi* : to move in an up-and-down manner : BOUNCE ~ *vt* : to cause to jounce
²jounce *n* : JOLT
jouncy \'jaùn(t)-sē\ *adj* **jounc·i·er; -est** : marked by a jouncing motion or effect
jour *abbr* **1** journal **2** journeyman
jour·nal \'jərn-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, service book containing the day hours, fr. MF, fr. *journal* daily, fr. L *diurnalis*, fr. *diurnus* of the day, fr. *dies* day — more at DEITY] **1 a** : a record of current transactions: as (1) : DAYBOOK 2 (2) : a book of original entry in double-entry bookkeeping **b** : an account of day-to-day events **c** : a record of experiences, ideas, or reflections kept regularly for private use **d** : a record of transactions kept by a deliberative or legislative body **e** : LOG 3, 4 **2 a** : a daily newspaper **b** : a periodical dealing esp. with matters of current interest **3** : the part of a rotating shaft, axle, roll, or spindle that turns in a bearing
journal box *n* : a metal housing to support and protect a journal bearing
jour·nal·ese \ˌjərn-ᵊl-'ēz, -'ēs\ *n* : a style of writing held to be characteristic of newspapers
jour·nal·ism \'jərn-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : the collection and editing of material of current interest for presentation through news media **b** : the editorial or business management of an agency engaged in the collection and dissemination of news **c** : an academic study

concerned with the collection and editing of news or the management of a news medium **2 a** : writing designed for publication in a newspaper or popular magazine **b** : writing characterized by a direct presentation of facts or description of events without an attempt at interpretation **c** : writing designed to appeal to current popular taste or public interest **3** : newspapers and magazines

jour·nal·ist \-ᵊl-əst\ *n* **1 a** : one engaged in journalism; *esp* : a writer or editor for a news medium **b** : a writer who aims at a mass audience **2** : one who keeps a journal

jour·nal·is·tic \ˌjərn-ᵊl-ˈis-tik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of journalism or journalists — **jour·nal·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

jour·nal·ize \ˈjərn-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to record in a journal ~ *vi* **1** : to keep a journal in accounting **2** : to keep a personal journal — **jour·nal·iz·er** *n*

¹jour·ney \ˈjər-nē\ *n, pl* **journeys** [ME, fr. OF *journee* day's journey, fr. *jour* day, fr. LL *diurnum*, fr. L, neut. of *diurnus*] **1** : travel or passage from one place to another : TRIP **2** *chiefly dial* : a day's travel **3** : something suggesting travel or passage from one place to another ⟨the . . . ~ from childhood through adolescence to maturity —Peter Marin⟩

²journey *vb* **jour·neyed; jour·ney·ing** *vi* : to go on a journey : TRAVEL ~ *vt* : to travel over or through : TRAVERSE — **jour·ney·er** *n*

jour·ney·man \-nē-mən\ *n* [ME, fr. *journey* journey, a day's labor + *man*] **1** : a worker who has learned a trade and works for another person usu. by the day **2** : an experienced reliable worker or performer esp. as distinguished from one who is brilliant or colorful ⟨a good ~ trumpeter —*New Yorker*⟩ ⟨a ~ outfielder⟩

jour·ney·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : work done by a journeyman **2** : HACKWORK

¹joust \ˈjaůst *sometimes* ˈjəst *or* ˈjüst\ *vi* [ME *jousten*, fr. OF *juster*, fr. (assumed) VL *juxtare*, fr. L *juxta* near; akin to L *jungere* to join — more at YOKE] **1 a** : to fight on horseback as a knight or man-at-arms **b** : to engage in combat with lances on horseback **2** : to engage in personal combat or competition — **joust·er** *n*

²joust *n* **1 a** : a combat on horseback between two knights with lances esp. as part of a tournament **b** *pl* : TOURNAMENT **2** : a personal combat or competition : STRUGGLE

Jove \ˈjōv\ *n* [L *Jov-, Juppiter*] : JUPITER — often used interjectionally to express surprise or agreement esp. in the phrase *by Jove*

jo·vial \ˈjō-vē-əl, -vyəl\ *adj* **1** *cap* : of or relating to Jove **2** : markedly good-humored esp. as evidenced by jollity and conviviality *syn* see MERRY — **jo·vi·al·i·ty** \ˌjō-vē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n* — **jo·vial·ly** \ˈjō-vē-ə-lē, -vyə-\ *adv*

Jo·vi·an \ˈjō-vē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of the god or planet Jupiter

jow \ˈjaů\ *n* [E dial. *jow* (to strike, toll)] *chiefly Scot* : STROKE, TOLL

¹jowl \ˈjaů(ə)l *sometimes* ˈjōl\ *n* [alter. of ME *chavel*, fr. OE *ceafl*; akin to MHG *kivel* jaw, Av *zafar-* mouth] **1 a** : JAW; *esp* : MANDIBLE **b** : one of the lateral halves of the mandible **2 a** : CHEEK 1 **b** : the cheek meat of a hog ⟨a dinner of boiled ~*s*⟩ — see PORK illustration an-1,2a fo-2b

²jowl *n* [ME *cholle*] : usu. slack flesh (as a dewlap, wattle, or the pendulous part of a double chin) associated with the lower jaw or throat

³jowl *n* [ME *choll*] : a cut of fish consisting of the head and usu. adjacent parts

jowly \ˈjaů-lē *sometimes* ˈjō-\ *adj* **jowl·i·er; -est** : having marked jowls : having full or saggy flesh about the lower cheeks and jaw area ⟨elderly man with a disillusioned ~ face —John Dos Passos⟩

¹joy \ˈjȯi\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *joie*, fr. L *gaudia*, pl. of *gaudium*, fr. *gaudēre* to rejoice; akin to Gk *gēthein* to rejoice] **1 a** : the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires : DELIGHT **b** : the expression or exhibition of such emotion : GAIETY **2** : a state of happiness or felicity : BLISS **3** : a source or cause of delight — **joy·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **joy·less·ly** *adv* — **joy·less·ness** *n*

²joy *vi* : to experience great pleasure or delight : REJOICE ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : GLADDEN **2** *archaic* : ENJOY

joy·ance \ˈjȯi-ən(t)s\ *n* : DELIGHT, ENJOYMENT

joy·ful \ˈjȯi-fəl\ *adj* : experiencing, causing, or showing joy : HAPPY *syn* see GLAD *ant* joyless — **joy·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **joy·ful·ness** *n*

joy·ous \ˈjȯi-əs\ *adj* : filled with or expressive of joy ⟨a ~ heart⟩ *syn* see GLAD *ant* lugubrious — **joy·ous·ly** *adv* — **joy·ous·ness** *n*

joy·pop \ˈjȯi-ˌpäp\ *vi* : to use habit-forming drugs occasionally or irregularly without becoming addicted — **joy·pop·per** *n*

joy·ride \ˈjȯi-ˌrīd\ *n* **1** : a ride taken for pleasure and often marked by reckless driving **2** : conduct or action resembling a joyride esp. in disregard of cost or consequences — **joy·rid·er** \-ˌrīd-ər\ *n* — **joy·rid·ing** *n*

joy·stick \-ˌstik\ *n* [perh. fr. E slang *joystick* penis] **1** : a lever in an airplane that operates the elevators by a fore-and-aft motion and the ailerons by a side-to-side motion **2** : a control for any of various devices that resembles an airplane's joystick esp. in being capable of motion in two or more directions

JP *abbr* **1** jet propulsion **2** justice of the peace

JPS *abbr* Jewish Publication Society

Jr *abbr* junior

JRC *abbr* Junior Red Cross

JSD *abbr* [NL *juris scientiae doctor*] doctor of science of law

jt *or* **jnt** *abbr* joint

ju·ba \ˈjü-bə\ *n* [origin unknown] : a dance of Southern plantation Negroes accompanied by complexly rhythmic hand clapping and slapping of the knees and thighs

Ju·bal \ˈjü-bəl\ *n* [Heb *Yūbhāl*] : a descendant of Cain who according to the account in Genesis is the father of those who play the harp and organ

ju·bi·lant \ˈjü-bə-lənt\ *adj* : filled with or expressing great joy : EXULTANT — **ju·bi·lant·ly** *adv*

ju·bi·lar·i·an \ˌjü-bə-ˈler-ē-ən, -ˈlar-\ *n* : one celebrating a jubilee

ju·bi·late \ˈjü-bə-ˌlāt\ *vi* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *jubilatus*, pp. of *jubilare*; akin to MHG *jū* (exclamation of joy), Gk *iygē* shout] : REJOICE

Ju·bi·la·te \ˌyü-bə-ˈlä-ˌtā, ˌjü-\ *n* [L, 2d pers. pl. imper. of *jubilare*] **1 a** : the 100th Psalm in the Authorized Version **b** *not cap* : a joyous song or outburst **2** : the third Sunday after Easter

ju·bi·la·tion \ˌjü-bə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of rejoicing : the state of being jubilant **2** : an expression of great joy

ju·bi·lee \ˈjü-bə-(ˌ)lē, ˌjü-bə-ˈlē\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & LL; MF *jubilé*, fr. LL *jubilaeus*, modif. of LGk *iōbēlaios*, fr. Heb *yōbhēl* ram's horn, jubilee] **1** *often cap* : a year of emancipation and restoration provided by ancient Hebrew law to be kept every 50 years by the emancipation of Hebrew slaves, restoration of alienated lands to their former owners, and omission of all cultivation of the land **2 a** : a special anniversary; *esp* : a 50th anniversary **b** : a celebration of such an anniversary **3 a** : a period of time proclaimed by the Roman Catholic pope ordinarily every 25 years as a time of special solemnity **b** : a special plenary indulgence granted during a year of jubilee to Roman Catholics who perform certain specified works of repentance and piety **4 a** : JUBILATION **b** : a season of celebration **5** : a Negro folk song with references to a future happy time

Jud *abbr* Judith

Ju·dah \ˈjüd-ə\ *n* [Heb *Yĕhūdhāh*] : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel

Ju·da·ic \jü-ˈdā-ik\ *also* **Ju·da·ical** \-ˈdā-ə-kəl\ *adj* [L *judaicus*, fr. Gk *ioudaikos*, fr. *Ioudaios* Jew — more at JEW] : of, relating to, or characteristic of Jews or Judaism

Ju·da·ica \-ˈdā-ə-kə\ *n pl* [L, neut. pl. of *Judaicus*] : literary or historical materials relating to Jews or Judaism

Ju·da·ism \ˈjüd-ə-ˌiz-əm, ˈjüd-ē-ˌiz-\ *n* **1** : a religion developed among the ancient Hebrews and characterized by belief in one transcendent God who has revealed himself to Abraham, Moses, and the Hebrew prophets and by a religious life in accordance with Scriptures and rabbinic traditions **2** : conformity to Jewish rites, ceremonies, and practices **3** : the cultural, social, and religious beliefs and practices of the Jews **4** : the whole body of Jews : the Jewish people

Ju·da·ist \ˈjüd-ə-əst, ˈjüd-ē-, jü-ˈdā-\ *n* : one that believes in or practices Judaism — **Ju·da·is·tic** \ˌjüd-ə-ˈis-tik, ˌjüd-ē-\ *adj*

Ju·da·ize \ˈjüd-ə-ˌīz, ˈjüd-ē-\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to adopt the customs, beliefs, or character of a Jew ~ *vt* : to make Jewish — **Ju·da·iza·tion** \ˌjüd-ə-ə-ˈzā-shən, ˌjüd-ē-ə-\ *n* — **Ju·da·iz·er** \ˈjüd-ə-ˌīz-ər, ˈjüd-ē-\ *n*

Ju·das \ˈjüd-əs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Ioudas*, fr. Heb *Yĕhūdhāh*] **1 a** : the apostle who in the Gospel accounts betrayed Jesus **b** : a son of James and one of the twelve apostles **2** : TRAITOR; *esp* : one who betrays under the guise of friendship **3** *not cap* : PEEPHOLE — called also *judas hole, judas window*

Judas Is·car·i·ot \-is-ˈkar-ē-ət\ *n* [LL *Judas Iscariotes*, fr. Gk *Ioudas Iskariōtēs*] : JUDAS 1a

Judas tree *n* [fr. the belief that Judas Iscariot hanged himself from a tree of this kind] : any of a genus (*Cercis*) of leguminous trees and shrubs (as a redbud) often cultivated for their showy flowers; *esp* : a Eurasian tree (*C. siliquastrum*) with purplish rosy flowers

¹jud·der \ˈjəd-ər\ *vi* [prob. alter. of *shudder*] *chiefly Brit* : to vibrate with intensity ⟨the engine stalled and kept ~*ing* —Roy Spicer⟩

²judder *n, chiefly Brit* : the action or sound of juddering

Jude \ˈjüd\ *n* [LL *Judas*] **1** : the author of the New Testament Epistle of Jude **2** : a short hortatory epistle addressed to early Christians and included as a book in the New Testament — see BIBLE table

Ju·deo–Chris·tian \jü-ˌdā-ō-ˈkris(h)-chən *also* ˌjüd-ē-ō- *or* jü-ˌdē-ō-\ *adj* [L *Judaeus* Jew — more at JEW] : having historical roots in both Judaism and Christianity

Ju·deo–Span·ish \-ˈspan-ish\ *n* : the Romance language of Sephardic Jews in the Balkans and Asia Minor

Judg *abbr* Judges

¹judge \ˈjəj\ *vb* **judged; judg·ing** [ME *juggen*, fr. OF *jugier*, fr. L *judicare*, fr. *judic-, judex* judge, fr. *jus* right, law + *dicere* to decide, say — more at JUST, DICTION] *vt* **1** : to form an opinion about through careful weighing of evidence and testing of premises **2** : to sit in judgment on : TRY **3** : to determine or pronounce after inquiry and deliberation **4** : GOVERN, RULE — used of a Hebrew tribal leader **5** : to form an estimate or evaluation of **6** : to hold as an opinion : GUESS, THINK ⟨I ~ she knew what she was doing⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to form an opinion **2** : to decide as a judge *syn* see INFER — **judg·er** *n*

²judge *n* [ME *juge*, fr. MF, fr. L *judex*] : one who judges: as **a** : a public official authorized to decide questions brought before a court **b** *often cap* : a tribal hero exercising leadership among the Hebrews after the death of Joshua **c** : one appointed to decide in a contest or competition : UMPIRE **d** : one who gives an authoritative opinion **e** : CRITIC — **judge·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

judge advocate *n* **1** : an officer assigned to the judge advocate general's corps or department **2** : a staff officer serving as legal adviser to a military commander

judge advocate general *n* : the senior legal officer and chief legal adviser in the army, air force, or navy

Judg·es \ˈjəj-əz\ *n* : a narrative and historical book of Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

judg·mat·ic \ˌjəj-ˈmat-ik\ *or* **judg·ma·ti·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [prob. irreg. fr. *judgment*] : JUDICIOUS — **judg·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

judg·ment *or* **judge·ment** \ˈjəj-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : a formal utterance of an authoritative opinion **b** : an opinion so pronounced **2 a** : a formal decision given by a court **b** (1) : an obligation (as a debt) created by the decree of a court (2) : a certificate evidencing such a decree **3 a** *cap* : the final judging of mankind by God **b** : a divine sentence or decision; *specif* : a calamity held to be sent by God **4 a** : the process of forming an opinion or evaluation by discerning and comparing **b** : an opinion or estimate so formed **5 a** : the capacity for judging : DISCERNMENT **b** : the exercise of this capacity **6** : a proposition stating something believed or asserted *syn* see SENSE — **judg·men·tal** \ˌjəj-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj*

judgment day *n* **1** *cap J&D* : the day of God's judgment of mankind at the end of the world according to various theologies **2** : a day of final judgment
ju·di·ca·to·ry \'jüd-i-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** : JUDICIARY 1a **2** : JUDICATURE 2
ju·di·ca·ture \'jüd-i-kə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [MF, fr. ML *judicatura*, fr. L *judicatus*, pp. of *judicare*] **1** : the action of judging : the administration of justice **2** : a court of justice **3** : JUDICIARY 1
ju·di·cial \jü-'dish-əl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *judicialis*, fr. *judicium* judgment, fr. *judex*] **1 a** : of or relating to a judgment, the function of judging, the administration of justice, or the judiciary ⟨~ processes⟩ **b** : belonging to the branch of government that is charged with trying all cases that involve the government and with the administration of justice within its jurisdiction — compare EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE **2** : ordered or enforced by a court ⟨~ decisions⟩ **3** : of, characterized by, or expressing judgment : CRITICAL 1c **4** : arising from a judgment of God **5** : belonging or appropriate to a judge or the judiciary — **ju·di·cial·ly** \-'dish-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
judicial review *n* **1** : REVIEW 5 **2** : a constitutional doctrine that gives to a court system the power to annul legislative or executive acts which the judges declare to be unconstitutional
ju·di·cia·ry \jü-'dish-ē-ˌer-ē, -'dish-ə-rē\ *n* [*judiciary*, adj., fr. L *judiciarius* judicial, fr. *judicium*] **1 a** : a system of courts of law **b** : the judges of these courts **2** : a branch of government in which judicial power is vested — **judiciary** *adj*
ju·di·cious \jü-'dish-əs\ *adj* : having, exercising, or characterized by sound judgment : DISCREET *syn* see WISE *ant* injudicious, asinine — **ju·di·cious·ly** *adv* — **ju·di·cious·ness** *n*
Ju·dith \'jüd-əth\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Ioudith*, fr. Heb *Yĕhūdhīth*] **1** : the Jewish heroine who saves the city of Bethulia in the book of Judith **2** : a book of Scripture included in the Roman Catholic canon of the Old Testament and in the Protestant Apocrypha — see BIBLE table
ju·do \'jüd-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [Jap *jūdō*, fr. *jū* weakness, gentleness + *dō* art] : a sport developed from jujitsu that emphasizes the use of quick movement and leverage to throw an opponent — **judo·ist** \-ˌō-əst, -ə-wəst\ *n*
¹jug \'jəg\ *n* [perh. fr. *Jug*, nickname for *Joan*] **1 a** *chiefly Brit* : a small pitcher **b** (1) : a large deep earthenware or glass container with a narrow mouth and a handle (2) : the contents of such a container : JUGFUL **2** : JAIL, PRISON
²jug *vt* **jugged; jug·ging** **1** : to stew (as a hare) in an earthenware vessel **2** : JAIL, IMPRISON
ju·gate \'jü-ˌgāt, -gət\ *adj* [NL *jugum*] **1** : having parts arranged in pairs : PAIRED **2** : having a jugum
jug band *n* : a band that uses crude improvised instruments (as jugs, washboards, and stovepipes)
jug·ful \'jəg-ˌfu̇l\ *n* **1** : as much as a jug will hold **2** : a great deal — used in the phrase *not by a jugful*
jug·ger·naut \'jəg-ər-ˌnȯt, -ˌnät\ *n* [Hindi *Jagannāth*, title of Vishnu, lit., lord of the world] : a massive inexorable force or object that crushes whatever is in its path
¹jug·gle \'jəg-əl\ *vb* **jug·gled; jug·gling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *jogelen*, fr. MF *jogler* to joke, fr. L *joculari*, fr. *joculus*, dim. of *jocus* joke] *vi* **1** : to perform the tricks of a juggler **2** : to engage in manipulation esp. in order to achieve a desired end ~ *vt* **1 a** : to practice deceit or trickery on : BEGUILE **b** : to manipulate esp. in order to achieve a desired end ⟨~ an account to hide a loss⟩ **2 a** : to toss in the manner of a juggler **b** : to hold or balance precariously
²juggle *n* : an act or instance of juggling: **a** : a trick of magic **b** : a show of manual dexterity **c** : an act of manipulation esp. to achieve a desired end
jug·gler \'jəg-(ə-)lər\ *n* [ME *jogelour*, fr. OE *geogelere*, fr. OF *jogleour*, fr. L *joculator*, fr. *joculatus*, pp. of *joculari*] **1 a** : one who performs tricks or acts of magic **b** : one skilled in keeping several objects in motion in the air at the same time by alternately tossing and catching them **2** : one who manipulates esp. in order to achieve a desired end
jug·glery \'jəg-lə-rē\ *n* **1** : the art or practice of a juggler **2** : manipulation or trickery esp. to achieve a desired end ⟨advertising agencies with all their ~ of public sentiment —Gilbert Seldes⟩
¹jug·u·lar \'jəg-yə-lər *also* 'jüg-\ *adj* [LL *jugularis*, fr. L *jugulum* collarbone, throat; akin to L *jungere* to join — more at YOKE] **1 a** : of or relating to the throat or neck **b** : of or relating to the jugular vein **2 a** *of a fish* : having the ventral fins on the throat anterior to the pectoral fins **b** *of a fin* : located on the throat
²jugular *n* : JUGULAR VEIN
jugular vein *n* : any of several veins of each side of the neck that return blood from the head
jug·u·lum \'jəg-yə-ləm, 'jüg-\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L] **1** : the part of the neck just above the breast of a bird **2** : JUGUM 2
ju·gum \'jü-gəm\ *n, pl* **ju·ga** \-gə\ *or* **jugums** [NL, fr. L, yoke — more at YOKE] **1** : a pair of the opposite leaflets of a pinnate leaf **2** : the most posterior and basal region of an insect's wing modified in some lepidopterans into a lobe that couples the fore and hind wings during flight
¹juice \'jüs\ *n* [ME *jus*, fr. OF, broth, juice, fr. L; akin to Skt *yūṣa* broth] **1** : the extractable fluid contents of cells or tissues **2 a** *pl* : the natural fluids of an animal body **b** : the liquid or moisture contained in something **3 a** : the inherent quality of a thing : ESSENCE **b** : virile strength and vigor ⟨pioneers . . . full of ~ and jests —Sinclair Lewis⟩ **4** : a medium (as electricity or gasoline) that supplies power **5** *slang* : LIQUOR **6** : exorbitant interest exacted of a borrower under the threat of violence — **juice·less** \'jü-sləs\ *adj*
²juice *vt* **juiced; juic·ing** **1** : to extract the juice of **2** : to add juice to
juiced \'jüst\ *adj* **1** : containing juice — usu. used in combination ⟨precious-*juiced* flowers —Shak.⟩ **2** *slang* : DRUNK 1
juice·head \'jüs-ˌhed\ *n, slang* : ALCOHOLIC
juic·er \'jü-sər\ *n* **1** : ELECTRICIAN; *esp* : one who arranges the lighting for a stage set **2** : an appliance for extracting juice from fruit or vegetables **3** *slang* : a heavy or habitual drinker
juice up *vt* : to give life, energy, or spirit to
juicy \'jü-sē\ *adj* **juic·i·er; -est** **1** : having much juice : SUCCULENT **2** : financially rewarding ⟨a ~ contract⟩ **3 a** : rich in interest : COLORFUL ⟨~ details⟩ **b** : PIQUANT, RACY ⟨a ~ scandal⟩ **c** : full of vitality — **juic·i·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv* — **juic·i·ness** \-sē-nəs\ *n*
ju·jit·su *or* **ju·jut·su** \jü-'jit-(ˌ)sü\ *n* [Jap *jūjutsu*, fr. *jū* weakness, gentleness + *jutsu* art, skill] : an art of weaponless fighting employing holds, throws, and paralyzing blows to subdue or disable an opponent
ju·ju \'jü-(ˌ)jü\ *n* [of W. African origin; akin to Hausa *djudju* fetish] **1** : a fetish, charm, or amulet of West African peoples **2** : the magic attributed to or associated with jujus
ju·jube \'jü-ˌjüb, *esp for 2 often* 'jü-jü-ˌbē\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *jujuba*, alter. of L *zizyphum*, fr. Gk *zizyphon*] **1 a** : an edible drupaceous fruit of any of several trees (genus *Ziziphus*) of the buckthorn family; *esp* : CHINESE DATE **b** : a tree producing this fruit **2** : a fruit-flavored gumdrop or lozenge
juke \'jük\ *vt* **juked; juk·ing** [prob. alter. of E dial. *jouk* (to cheat, deceive)] : to fake out of position (as in football)
juke·box \'jük-ˌbäks, 'jüt-\ *n* [Gullah *juke* disorderly, of W. African origin; akin to Bambara *dzugu* wicked] : a coin-operated phonograph that automatically plays records selected from its list
juke joint *n* : a small inexpensive establishment for eating, drinking, or dancing to the music of a jukebox
ju·lep \'jü-ləp\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. Ar *julāb*, fr. Per *gulāb*, fr. *gul* rose + *āb* water] **1** : a drink consisting of sweet syrup, flavoring, and water **2** : a drink consisting of a liquor (as bourbon or brandy) and sugar poured over crushed ice and garnished with mint
Ju·lian calendar \ˌjül-yən-\ *n* [L *julianus*, fr. Gaius *Julius* Caesar] : a calendar introduced in Rome in 46 B.C. establishing the 12-month year of 365 days with each fourth year having 366 days and the months each having 31 or 30 days except for February which has 28 or in leap years 29 days — compare GREGORIAN CALENDAR
¹ju·li·enne \ˌjü-lē-'en, ˌzhü-\ *n* [F] : a clear soup containing julienne vegetables
²julienne *adj* : cut in long thin strips ⟨~ potatoes⟩ ⟨green beans ~⟩
Ju·liet \'jül-yət; ˌjü-lē-'et, 'jü-lē-ˌ\ *n* : the heroine of Shakespeare's tragedy *Romeo and Juliet*
Ju·li·ett \ˌjül-ē-'et\ [prob. irreg. fr. *Juliet*] — a communications code word for the letter *j*
Ju·ly \jù-'lī\ *n* [ME *Julie*, fr. OE *Julius*, fr. L, fr. Gaius *Julius* Caesar] : the 7th month of the Gregorian calendar
Ju·ma·da \jù-'mäd-ə\ *n* [Ar *Jumāda*] : either of two months of the Muhammadan year: **a** : the 5th month **b** : the 6th month — see MONTH table
¹jum·ble \'jəm-bəl\ *vb* **jum·bled; jum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [perh. imit.] *vi* : to move in a confused or disordered manner ~ *vt* : to mix in a confused or disordered mass — often used with *up*
²jumble *n* **1 a** : a mass of things mingled together without order or plan : HODGEPODGE **b** : a state of confusion **2** *Brit* : articles for a rummage sale
³jumble *n* [origin unknown] : a small thin usu. ring-shaped sugared cookie or cake
jumble sale *n, Brit* : RUMMAGE SALE
jum·bo \'jəm-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **jumbos** [*Jumbo*, a huge elephant exhibited by P. T. Barnum] : a very large specimen of its kind — **jumbo** *adj*
¹jump \'jəmp\ *vb* [prob. akin to LG *gumpen* to jump] *vi* **1 a** : to spring into the air : LEAP; *esp* : to spring free from the ground or other base by the muscular action of feet and legs **b** : to move suddenly or involuntarily : START **c** : to move over a position occupied by an opponent's man in a board game often thereby capturing the man **d** : SKIP ⟨his typewriter ~*s*⟩ **e** : to undergo a vertical or lateral displacement owing to improper alignment of the film on a projector mechanism **f** : to begin a forward movement — usu. used with *off* **g** : to move energetically : HUSTLE **h** : to go from one sequence of instructions in a computer program to another ⟨~ to a subroutine⟩ **2** : COINCIDE, AGREE **3 a** : to move haphazardly or aimlessly ⟨~*ed* from job to job⟩ **b** : to change employment in violation of contract **c** : to rise suddenly in rank or status **d** : to undergo a sudden sharp increase ⟨prices ~*ed*⟩ **e** : to make a jump in bridge **f** : to make a hurried judgment ⟨~ to conclusions⟩ **g** : to show eagerness ⟨~*ed* at the chance⟩ **h** : to enter eagerly — usu. used with *in* or *into* **4** : to make a sudden physical or verbal attack ⟨~*ed* on him for his criticism⟩ **5** : to bustle with activity ~ *vt* **1 a** : to leap over ⟨~ a hurdle⟩ **b** : to move over (a man) in a board game **c** : BYPASS ⟨~ electrical connections⟩ **d** : to act, move, or begin before (as a signal) ⟨~ the green light⟩ **e** : to leap aboard ⟨~ a freight⟩ **2** *obs* : RISK, HAZARD **3 a** : to escape from **b** : to leave hastily or in violation of contract ⟨~ town without paying their bills —Hamilton Basso⟩ **c** : to depart from (a normal course) ⟨~ the track⟩ **4 a** : to make a sudden physical or verbal attack on **b** : to occupy illegally ⟨~ a mining claim⟩ **5 a** (1) : to cause to leap (2) : to cause (game) to break cover : START, FLUSH **b** : to elevate in rank or status **c** : to raise (a bridge partner's bid) by more than one rank **d** : to increase suddenly and sharply — **jump the gun** **1** : to start in a race before the starting signal **2** : to act, move, or begin something before the proper time
²jump *adv, obs* : EXACTLY, PAT
³jump *n* **1 a** (1) : an act of jumping : LEAP (2) : any of several sports competitions featuring a leap, spring, or bound (3) : a space cleared or covered by a leap (4) : an obstacle to be jumped over **b** (1) : a sudden involuntary movement : START (2) *pl* : FIDGETS **c** : a move made in a board game by jumping **d** : a transfer from one sequence of instructions in a computer program

to a different sequence ⟨conditional ~⟩ **2** *obs* : VENTURE **3 a** (1) : a sharp sudden increase (2) : a bid in bridge of more tricks than are necessary to overcall the preceding bid — compare SHIFT **b** : a sudden change **c** (1) : a quick short journey (2) : one in a series of moves from one place to another **4** : an advantage at the start ⟨desirous of getting the ~ on the competition —Elmer Davis⟩

jump ball *n* : a method of putting a basketball into play by tossing it into the air between two opponents who jump up and attempt to tap the ball to a teammate

jump boot *n* : a boot worn esp. by paratroopers

jump cut *n* : a discontinuity or acceleration in the action of a filmed scene brought about by removal of medial portions of the shot

[1]jump·er \'jəm-pər\ *n* **1** : a person who jumps **2 a** : any of various devices operating with a jumping motion **b** : any of several sleds **c** : a short wire used to close a break or cut out part of a circuit **3** : any of several jumping animals; *esp* : a saddle horse trained to jump obstacles **4** : JUMP SHOT

[2]jum·per \'jəm-pər\ *n* [prob. fr. E dial. *jump* (jumper)] **1** : a loose blouse or jacket worn by workmen **2** : a sleeveless one-piece dress worn usu. with a blouse **3** : a child's one-piece coverall — usu. used in pl.

jumping bean *n* : a seed of any of several Mexican shrubs (genera *Sebastiania* and *Sapium*) of the spurge family that tumbles about because of the movements of the larva of a small moth (*Carpocapsa saltitans*) inside it



cross section of jumping beans

jumping jack *n* **1** : a toy figure of a man jointed and made to jump or dance by means of strings or a sliding stick **2** : a conditioning exercise performed from a standing position by jumping to a position with legs spread and hands touching overhead and then to the original position — called also *side-straddle hop*

jumping mouse *n* : any of several small hibernating No. American rodents (family Zapodidae) with long hind legs and tail and no cheek pouches

jumping–off place \ˌjəm-piŋ-'ȯf-\ *n* **1** : a remote or isolated place **2** : a place from which an enterprise is launched — called also *jumping–off point*

jumping plant louse *n* : any of numerous plant lice (family Psyllidae) with the femurs thickened and adapted for leaping

jumping spider *n* : any of a family (Salticidae) of small spiders that stalk and leap upon their prey

jump–off \'jəm-ˌpȯf\ *n* **1** : the start of a race or an attack **2** : the jumping competition in a horse show

jump pass *n* : a pass made by a player (as in football or basketball) while jumping

jump rope *n* : a rope used in a child's game in which a player jumps over a usu. twirling rope each time it reaches its lowest point

jump seat *n* **1** : a movable carriage seat **2** : a folding seat between the front and rear seats of a passenger automobile

jump shot *n* : a shot in basketball made by jumping into the air and releasing the ball with one or both hands at the peak of the jump

jump suit *n* **1** : a uniform worn by parachutists for jumping **2** : a one-piece garment consisting of a blouse or shirt with attached trousers or shorts

jumpy \'jəm-pē\ *adj* **jump·i·er; -est** **1** : characterized by jumps or sudden variations **2** : NERVOUS, JITTERY — **jump·i·ness** *n*

[1]jun \'jən\ *n, pl* **jun** [Korean] — see *won* at MONEY table

[2]jun *abbr* junior

Jun *abbr* June

junc *abbr* junction

jun·co \'jəŋ-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **juncos** *or* **juncoes** [NL, genus name, fr. Sp, reed — more at JONQUIL] : any of a genus (*Junco*) of small widely distributed American finches usu. having a pink bill, ashy gray head and back, and conspicuous white lateral tail feathers

junc·tion \'jəŋ(k)-shən\ *n* [L *junction-, junctio,* fr. *junctus,* pp. of *jungere* to join — more at YOKE] **1** : an act of joining : the state of being joined **2 a** : a place or point of meeting **b** : an intersection of roads esp. where one terminates **c** : a point (as in a thermocouple) at which dissimilar metals make contact **d** : an interface in a semiconductor device between regions with different electrical characteristics **3** : something that joins — **junc·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

syn JUNCTION, CONFLUENCE, CONCOURSE *shared meaning element* : an act, state, or place of meeting or uniting

junc·tur·al \'jəŋ(k)-chə-rəl, 'jəŋ(k)-shrəl\ *adj* : of or relating to phonetic juncture

junc·ture \'jəŋ(k)-chər\ *n* **1** : an instance of joining : UNION **2 a** : JOINT, CONNECTION **b** : the manner of transition or mode of relationship between two consecutive sounds in speech **3** : a point of time; *esp* : one made critical by a concurrence of circumstances

syn JUNCTURE, PASS, EXIGENCY, EMERGENCY, CONTINGENCY, PINCH, STRAIT, CRISIS *shared meaning element* : a critical or crucial time or state of affairs

June \'jün\ *n* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *Juin,* fr. L *Junius*] : the 6th month of the Gregorian calendar

june beetle *n, often cap J* : any of numerous rather large leaf-eating beetles (family Melolonthidae) that fly chiefly in late spring and have as larvae white grubs that live in soil and feed chiefly on the roots of grasses and other plants — called also *june bug*

June·ber·ry \'jün-ˌber-ē\ *n* : SERVICEBERRY 2

[1]Jung·ian \'yůŋ-ē-ən\ *n* : an adherent of the psychological doctrines of C. G. Jung

[2]Jungian *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of C. G. Jung or his psychological doctrines

jun·gle \'jəŋ-gəl\ *n, often attrib* [Hindi *jaṅgal*] **1 a** : an impenetrable thicket or tangled mass of tropical vegetation **b** : a tract overgrown with thickets or masses of vegetation **2** : a hobo camp **3 a** (1) : a confused or disordered mass of objects : JUMBLE (2) : something that baffles or frustrates by its tangled or complex character : MAZE ⟨the ~ of housing laws —Bernard Taper⟩ **b** : a place of ruthless struggle for survival ⟨the city is a ~ where no one is safe after dark —Stuart Chase⟩ — **jun·gly** \-g(ə-)lē\ *adj*

jungle fowl *n* : any of several Asiatic wild birds (genus *Gallus*); *esp* : a bird (*G. gallus*) of southeastern Asia from which domestic fowls have prob. descended

jungle gym *n* [fr. *Junglegym,* a trademark] : a structure of vertical and horizontal bars for use by children at play

[1]ju·nior \'jün-yər\ *n* [L, n. & adj.] **1 a** (1) : a person who is younger than another (2) : a male child : SON **b** : a clothing size for women and girls with slight figures **2 a** : a person holding a lower position in a hierarchy of ranks **b** : a student in his next-to-the-last year before graduating from an educational institution

[2]junior *adj* [L, compar. of *juvenis* young — more at YOUNG] **1 a** : YOUNGER — used chiefly to distinguish a son with the same given name as his father **b** (1) : YOUTHFUL (2) : designed esp. for adolescents **c** : of more recent date and therefore inferior or subordinate ⟨a ~ lien⟩ **2** : lower in standing or rank ⟨~ partners⟩ **3** : of or relating to juniors or the class of juniors at an educational institution ⟨the ~ prom⟩

ju·nior·ate \'jün-yə-ˌrāt, -rət\ *n* **1** : a course of high school or college study for candidates for the priesthood, brotherhood, or sisterhood; *specif* : one preparatory to the course in philosophy **2** : a seminary for juniorate training

junior college *n* : an educational institution that offers two years of studies corresponding to those in the first two years of a four-year college and that often offers technical, vocational, and liberal studies to the adults of a community

junior high school *n* : a school usu. including grades 7-9

Junior Leaguer *n* : a member of a league of young women organized for volunteer service to civic and social organizations

junior miss *n* **1** : an adolescent girl **2** : JUNIOR 1b

junior varsity *n* : a team composed of members lacking the experience or qualification required for the varsity

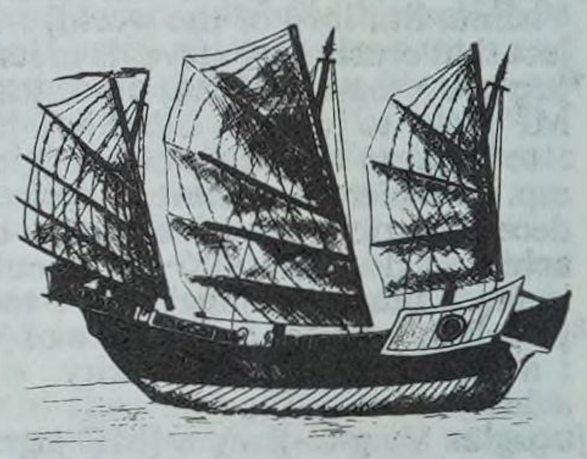
ju·ni·per \'jü-nə-pər\ *n* [ME *junipere,* fr. L *juniperus* — more at JONQUIL] **1** : an evergreen shrub or tree (genus *Juniperus*) of the pine family; *esp* : one having a prostrate or shrubby habit **2** : any of several coniferous trees resembling true junipers

juniper oil *n* : an acrid essential oil obtained from the fruit of the common juniper and used esp. in gin and liqueurs

[1]junk \'jəŋk\ *n* [ME *jonke*] **1** : pieces of old cable or cordage used esp. to make gaskets, mats, swabs, or oakum **2** : hard salted beef for use on shipboard **3 a** (1) : old iron, glass, paper, or other waste that may be used again in some form (2) : secondhand, worn, or discarded articles **b** : a shoddy product : TRASH **c** : something of little meaning or significance **4** *slang* : NARCOTICS; *esp* : HEROIN — **junky** \'jəŋ-kē\ *adj*

[2]junk *vt* : to get rid of as worthless : SCRAP ***syn*** see DISCARD

[3]junk *n* [Pg *junco,* fr. Jav *joṅ*] : any of various ships of Chinese waters with bluff lines, a high poop and overhanging stem, little or no keel, high pole masts, and a deep rudder



junk

junk art *n* : three-dimensional art made from discarded material (as metal, mortar, glass, or wood) — **junk artist** *n*

junk·er \'jəŋ-kər\ *n* [[1]*junk* + *-er*] : something (as an automobile) of such age and condition as to be ready for scrapping

Jun·ker \'yůŋ-kər\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *junchērro,* lit., young lord] : a member of the Prussian landed aristocracy — **Jun·ker·dom** \-kərd-əm\ *n* — **Jun·ker·ism** \-kə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*

[1]jun·ket \'jəŋ-kət\ *n* [ME *ioncate,* deriv. of (assumed) VL *juncata,* fr. L *juncus* rush] **1** : a dessert of sweetened flavored milk set with rennet **2 a** : a festive social affair **b** : TRIP, JOURNEY; *esp* : a trip made by an official at public expense

[2]junket *vi* **1** : FEAST, BANQUET **2** : to go on a junket — **jun·ke·teer** \ˌjəŋ-kə-'ti(ə)r\ *or* **jun·ket·er** \'jəŋ-kət-ər\ *n*

junk·ie *or* **junky** \'jəŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **junk·ies** **1** : a junk dealer **2** *slang* : a narcotics peddler or addict

junk mail *n* : third-class mail (as advertising circulars) that is often addressed to "occupant" or "resident"

junk·yard \'jəŋk-ˌyärd\ *n* : a yard used to store usu. resalable junk

Ju·no \'jü-(ˌ)nō\ *n* : the wife of Jupiter, queen of heaven, and goddess of light, beginnings, birth, women, and marriage — compare HERA

Ju·no·esque \ˌjü-(ˌ)nō-'esk\ *adj* : marked by stately beauty

jun·ta \'hůn-tə, 'jənt-ə, 'hən-tə\ *n* [Sp, fr. fem. of *junto* joined, fr. L *junctus,* pp. of *jungere* to join — more at YOKE] **1** : a council or committee for political or governmental purposes; *esp* : a group of persons controlling a government esp. after a revolutionary seizure of power **2** : JUNTO

jun·to \'jənt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **juntos** [prob. alter. of *junta*] : a group of persons joined for a common purpose

Ju·pi·ter \'jü-pət-ər\ *n* [L] **1** : the chief Roman god, husband of Juno, and god of light, of the sky and weather, and of the state and its welfare and its laws — compare ZEUS **2** : the largest of the planets and fifth in order from the sun — see PLANET table

Ju·ra \'jůr-ə\ *n* [prob. G, fr. the *Jura* mountain range] : the Jurassic geological period or the rocks belonging to it

ju·ral \'jůr-əl\ *adj* [L *jur-, jus* law] **1** : of or relating to law **2** : of or relating to rights or obligations — **ju·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

Ju·ras·sic \jů-'ras-ik\ *adj* [F *jurassique,* fr. *Jura* mountain range] : of, relating to, or being the period of the Mesozoic era between the Cretaceous and the Triassic or the corresponding system of rocks marked by the presence of dinosaurs and the first appearance of birds — **Jurassic** *n*

ju·rat \'jù(ə)r-ˌat\ *n* [short for L *juratum (est)* it has been sworn, 3d sing. perf. pass. of *jurare* to swear] : a certificate added to an affidavit stating when, before whom, and where it was made
ju·rel \hü-'rel\ *n* [Sp] : any of several food fishes (family Carangidae) of warm seas
ju·rid·i·cal \jù-'rid-i-kəl\ *or* **ju·rid·ic** \-ik\ *adj* [L *juridicus*, fr. *jur-*, *jus* + *dicere* to say — more at DICTION] **1** : of or relating to the administration of justice or the office of a judge **2** : of or relating to law in general or jurisprudence : LEGAL ⟨~ terms⟩ — **ju·rid·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ju·ris·con·sult \ˌjùr-ə-'skän-ˌsəlt, -skən-'\ *n* [L *jurisconsultus*, fr. *juris* (gen. of *jus*) + *consultus*, pp. of *consulere* to consult] : JURIST; *esp* : one learned in international and public law
ju·ris·dic·tion \ˌjùr-əs-'dik-shən\ *n* [ME *jurisdiccioun*, fr. OF & L; OF *juridiction*, fr. L *jurisdiction-*, *jurisdictio*, fr. *juris* + *diction-*, *dictio* act of saying — more at DICTION] **1** : the power, right, or authority to interpret and apply the law **2** : the authority of a sovereign power to govern or legislate **3** : the limits or territory within which authority may be exercised : CONTROL — **ju·ris·dic·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ju·ris·dic·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
ju·ris·pru·dence \ˌjùr-ə-'sprüd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : a system or body of law **b** : the course of court decisions **2** : the science or philosophy of law **3** : a department of law ⟨medical ~⟩ — **ju·ris·pru·den·tial** \-sprü-'den-chəl\ *adj* — **ju·ris·pru·den·tial·ly** \-'dench-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ju·ris·pru·dent \-'sprüd-ᵊnt\ *n* [LL *jurisprudent-*, *jurisprudens*, fr. L *juris* + *prudent-*, *prudens* skilled, prudent] : JURIST
ju·rist \'jù(ə)r-əst\ *n* [MF *juriste*, fr. ML *jurista*, fr. L *jur-*, *jus*] : one having a thorough knowledge of law: **a** : LAWYER **b** : JUDGE
ju·ris·tic \jù-'ris-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a jurist or jurisprudence **2** : of, relating to, or recognized in law — **ju·ris·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
ju·ror \'jùr-ər, 'jù(ə)r-ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* **1 a** : a member of a jury **b** : a person summoned to serve on a jury **2** : a person who takes an oath (as of allegiance)
¹ju·ry \'jù(ə)r-ē\ *n, pl* **juries** [ME *jure*, fr. AF *juree*, fr. OF *jurer* to swear, fr. L *jurare*, fr. *jur-*, *jus*] **1** : a body of men sworn to give a verdict on some matter submitted to them; *esp* : a body of men legally selected and sworn to inquire into any matter of fact and to give their verdict according to the evidence **2** : a committee for judging and awarding prizes at a contest or exhibition
²jury *adj* [origin unknown] : improvised for temporary use esp. in an emergency : MAKESHIFT ⟨a ~ mast⟩ ⟨a ~ rig⟩
jus gen·ti·um \'yüs-'gent-ē-əm\ *n* [L, law of nations] : INTERNATIONAL LAW
jus san·gui·nis \-'säŋ-gwə-nəs\ *n* [L, right of blood] : a rule that a child's citizenship is determined by its parents' citizenship
jus·sive \'jəs-iv\ *n* [L *jussus*, pp. of *jubēre* to order; akin to Gk *hysminē* battle] : a word, form, case, or mood expressing command — **jussive** *adj*
jus so·li \'yüs-'sō-ˌlē\ *n* [L, right of the soil] : a rule that the citizenship of a child is determined by the place of its birth
¹just \'jəst, 'jüst\ *var of* JOUST
²just \'jəst\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *juste*, fr. L *justus*, fr. *jus* right, law; akin to Skt *yos* welfare] **1 a** : having a basis in or conforming sometimes rigidly to fact or reason : REASONABLE ⟨a ~ but not a generous decision⟩ ⟨~ anger⟩ **b** *archaic* : faithful to an original **c** : conforming to a standard of correctness : PROPER ⟨~ proportions⟩ **2 a** (1) : acting or being in conformity with what is morally upright or good : RIGHTEOUS ⟨a ~ ruler rules for the good of the people⟩ (2) : being what is merited : DESERVED ⟨a ~ punishment⟩ **b** : legally correct : LAWFUL ⟨~ title to an estate⟩ ***syn*** **1** see UPRIGHT **2** see FAIR ***ant*** unjust — **just·ly** *adv* — **just·ness** \'jəs(t)-nəs\ *n*
³just \(ˌ)jəst, (ˌ)jist, (ˌ)jest\ *adv* **1 a** : EXACTLY, PRECISELY ⟨~ right⟩ **b** : very recently ⟨the bell ~ rang⟩ **2 a** : by a very small margin : BARELY ⟨~ too late⟩ **b** : IMMEDIATELY, DIRECTLY ⟨~ west of here⟩ **3 a** : ONLY, SIMPLY ⟨~ a note⟩ **b** : QUITE, VERY ⟨~ wonderful⟩ **4** : POSSIBLY, PERHAPS ⟨it ~ might work⟩ — **just about** : ALMOST ⟨the work is *just about* done⟩ — **just in case** : by way of precaution against a possible eventuality — **just the same** : even so : NEVERTHELESS
jus·tice \'jəs-təs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *justitia*, fr. *justus*] **1 a** : the maintenance or administration of what is just esp. by the impartial adjustment of conflicting claims or the assignment of merited rewards or punishments **b** : JUDGE **c** : the administration of law; *esp* : the establishment or determination of rights according to the rules of law or equity **2 a** : the quality of being just, impartial, or fair **b** (1) : the principle or ideal of just dealing or right action (2) : conformity to this principle or ideal : RIGHTEOUSNESS **c** : the quality of conforming to law **3** : conformity to truth, fact, or reason : CORRECTNESS — **do justice** **1 a** : to act justly **b** : to treat fairly or adequately **c** : to show due appreciation for **2** : to acquit in a way worthy of one's powers
justice court *n* : an inferior court not of record that has limited criminal or civil jurisdiction and that is presided over by a justice of the peace
justice of the peace : a local magistrate empowered chiefly to administer summary justice in minor cases, to commit for trial, and to administer oaths and perform marriages
jus·ti·cia·ble \ˌjəs-'tish-(ē-)ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : liable to trial in a court of justice ⟨a ~ offense⟩ **2** : capable of being decided by legal principles or by a court of justice — **jus·ti·cia·bil·i·ty** \ˌjəs-ˌtish-(ē-)ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
jus·ti·ci·ar \ˌjəs-'tish-ē-ər, -ē-ˌär\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *justitiarius*, fr. L *justitia*] : the chief political and judicial officer of the Norman and later kings of England until the 13th century
jus·ti·fi·able \'jəs-tə-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being justified : EXCUSABLE ⟨~ family pride —*Current Biog.*⟩ — **jus·ti·fi·abil·i·ty** \ˌjəs-tə-ˌfī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **jus·ti·fi·ably** \'jəs-tə-ˌfī-ə-blē\ *adv*
jus·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌjəs-tə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act, process, or state of being justified by God **2 a** : the act or an instance of justifying : VINDICATION **b** : something that justifies
jus·ti·fi·ca·tive \'jəs-tə-fə-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj* : JUSTIFICATORY
jus·ti·fi·ca·to·ry \ˌjəs-'tif-i-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-; 'jəs-tə-fə-ˌkāt-ə-rē\ *adj* : tending or serving to justify : VINDICATORY
jus·ti·fy \'jəs-tə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *justifien*, fr. MF or LL; MF *justifier*, fr. LL *justificare*, fr. L *justus*] *vt* **1 a** : to prove or show to be just, right, or reasonable **b** (1) : to show to have had a sufficient legal reason (2) : to qualify (oneself) as a surety by taking oath to the ownership of sufficient property **2 a** *archaic* : to administer justice to **b** *archaic* : ABSOLVE **c** : to judge, regard, or treat as righteous and worthy of salvation **3** : to adjust or arrange exactly; *specif* : to set (type) so as to fill a full line ~ *vi* **1 a** : to show a sufficient lawful reason for an act done **b** : to qualify as bail or surety **2** : to fit exactly; *specif* : to fill a full line — **jus·ti·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
syn **1** see MAINTAIN
2 JUSTIFY, WARRANT *shared meaning element* : to be what constitutes sufficient grounds (as for doing, using, saying, or preferring something). JUSTIFY may be preferred when the emphasis is on provision of grounds that satisfy both conscience and reason; often it suggests that in the absence of such grounds the thing in question would draw down disapproval ⟨we know that the pursuit of good ends does not *justify* the employment of bad means —Aldous Huxley⟩ ⟨your behavior *justified* his harsh rebuke⟩ WARRANT is especially appropriate when the emphasis is to be placed on explanation or reason rather than excuse; it is likely to suggest support by the authority of precedent, experience, or logic ⟨the deposit has shown enough ore to *warrant* further testing⟩ ⟨the history and appearance clearly *warrant* such assumption —H. G. Armstrong⟩
¹jut \'jət\ *vb* **jut·ted; jut·ting** [perh. short for ²*jutty*] *vi* : to shoot out, up, or forward : PROJECT ⟨mountains *jutting* into the sky⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause to project
²jut *n* : something that juts : PROJECTION
jute \'jüt\ *n* [Hindi & Bengali *jūṭ*] : the glossy fiber of either of two East Indian plants (*Corchorus olitorius* and *C. capsularis*) of the linden family used chiefly for sacking, burlap, and twine; *also* : a plant producing jute
Jute \'jüt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *Jutae* Jutes] : a member of a Germanic people invading England from the Continent and settling in Kent in the 5th century — **Jut·ish** \'jüt-ish\ *adj*
¹jut·ty \'jət-ē\ *n, pl* **jutties** [ME] **1** *archaic* : JETTY **2** : a projecting part of a building
²jutty *vt* **jut·tied; jut·ty·ing** *obs* : to project beyond
juv *abbr* juvenile
ju·ve·nes·cence \ˌjü-və-'nes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : the state of being youthful or of growing young — **ju·ve·nes·cent** \-ᵊnt\ *adj*
¹ju·ve·nile \'jü-və-ˌnīl, -vən-ᵊl\ *adj* [F or L; F *juvénile*, fr. L *juvenilis*, fr. *juvenis* young person — more at YOUNG] **1 a** : physiologically immature or undeveloped : YOUNG **b** : derived from sources within the earth and coming to the surface for the first time — used esp. of water and gas **2** : of, relating to, characteristic of, or suitable for children or young people ⟨~ books⟩ **3** : reflecting psychological or intellectual immaturity : CHILDISH
²juvenile *n* **1 a** : a young person : YOUTH **b** : a book for children or young people **2** : a young individual resembling an adult of its kind except in size and reproductive activity: as **a** : a fledged bird not yet in adult plumage **b** : a 2-year-old racehorse **3** : an actor or actress who plays youthful parts
juvenile court *n* : a court that has special jurisdiction over delinquent and dependent children usu. up to the age of 18
juvenile delinquency *n* **1** : a status in a juvenile characterized by antisocial behavior that is beyond parental control and therefore subject to legal action **2** : a violation of the law committed by a juvenile and not punishable by death or life imprisonment — **juvenile delinquent** *n*
juvenile hormone *n* : an insect hormone that is secreted by the corpora allata, inhibits maturation to the imago, and plays a role in reproduction
juvenile officer *n* : a police officer charged with the detection, prosecution, and care of juvenile delinquents
ju·ve·nil·ia \'jü-və-'nil-ē-ə\ *n pl* [L, neut. pl. of *juvenilis*] **1** : artistic or literary compositions produced in the artist's or author's youth **2** : artistic or literary compositions suited to or designed for the young
ju·ve·nil·i·ty \ˌjü-və-'nil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being juvenile : YOUTHFULNESS **2 a** : immaturity of thought or conduct **b** : an instance of being juvenile
ju·ve·noc·ra·cy \ˌjü-və-'näk-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [L *juvenis* + E *-o-* + *-cracy*] : a state ruled or greatly influenced by youth
jux·ta- \ˌjək-stə\ *comb form* [L *juxta* near] : situated near ⟨*juxta*glomerular cells⟩
jux·ta·pose \'jək-stə-ˌpōz\ *vt* **-posed; -pos·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *juxtaposition*] : to place side by side ⟨~ unexpected combinations of colors, shapes and ideas —J. F. T. Bugental⟩
jux·ta·po·si·tion \ˌjək-stə-pə-'zish-ən\ *n* [L *juxta* near + E *position* — more at JOUST] : the act or an instance of placing two or more things side by side; *also* : the state of being so placed — **jux·ta·po·si·tion·al** \-'zish-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj*
JV *abbr* junior varsity
JWB *abbr* Jewish Welfare Board



[1]k \ˈkā\ *n, pl* **k's** *or* **ks** \ˈkāz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 11th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *k* **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *k* **3** : one designated *k* esp. as the 11th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter K **5** : a unit vector parallel to the z-axis **6** [*kilo-*] : THOUSAND ⟨a salary of $14*K*⟩ **7** [*kilo-*] : a unit of computer storage capacity equal to 1024 bytes ⟨a computer memory of 64*K*⟩

[2]k *abbr, often cap* **1** karat **2** kelvin **3** kilogram **4** kindergarten **5** king **6** kitchen **7** knit **8** knot **9** koruna **10** kosher **11** kyat

K *symbol* [NL *kalium*] potassium

ka *abbr* [G *kathode*] cathode

Kaa·ba \ˈkäb-ə\ *n* [Ar *ka'bah*, lit., square building] : a small stone building in the court of the Great Mosque at Mecca that contains a sacred black stone and is the goal of Islamic pilgrimage and the point toward which Muslims turn in praying

KAB *abbr* Keep America Beautiful

kabala *or* **kabbala** *or* **kabbalah** *var of* CABALA

ka·bob \ˈkā-ˌbäb, kə-ˈ\ *n* [Per, Hindi, Ar & Turk; Per & Hindi *kabāb*, fr. Ar, fr. Turk *kebap*] : cubes of meat (as lamb or beef) marinated and cooked with vegetables (as onions, tomatoes, and green peppers) usu. on a skewer

Ka·bu·ki \kə-ˈbü-kē, ˈkäb-ù-(ˌ)kē\ *n* [Jap, lit., art of singing and dancing] : traditional Japanese popular drama with singing and dancing performed in a highly stylized manner

Ka·byle \kə-ˈbī(ə)l\ *n* [Ar *qabā'il*, pl. of *qabīlah* tribe] **1** : a Berber of the mountainous coastal area east of Algiers **2** : the Berber language of the Kabyles

kad·dish \ˈkäd-ish\ *n, often cap* [Aram *qaddīsh* holy] : a Jewish prayer recited in the daily ritual of the synagogue and by mourners at public services after the death of a close relative

kaf·fee·klatsch \ˈkȯ-fē-ˌklach; ˈkäf-ē-ˌklach, -ˌkläch\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *kaffee* coffee + *klatsch* gossip] : an informal social gathering for coffee and conversation

Kaf·fir *or* **Kaf·ir** \ˈkaf-ər\ *n* [Ar *kāfir* infidel] : a member of a group of southern African Bantu-speaking peoples

kaf·ir \ˈkaf-ər\ *n* : a grain sorghum with stout short-jointed somewhat juicy stalks and erect heads

Kaf·ir \ˈkaf-ər\ *n* [Ar *kāfir*] : a member of a people of the Hindu Kush in northeastern Afghanistan

Kaf·iri \ˈkaf-ə-rē\ *n* : the Dard language of the Kafir people

kaftan *var of* CAFTAN

ka·hu·na \kə-ˈhü-nə\ *n* [Hawaiian] : a Hawaiian witch doctor

kail·yard school \ˈkā(ə)l-ˌyärd-\ *n, often cap K* [Sc *kailyard* (kitchen garden), fr. *kail, kale* + E *yard*] : a group of writers whose work is characterized by sentimental description of Scottish life and considerable use of Scots dialect

kai·nite \ˈkī-ˌnīt, ˈkā-\ *also* **kai·nit** \kī-ˈnēt\ *n* [G *kainit*, fr. Gk *kainos* new — more at RECENT] : a natural salt $KMg(SO_4)Cl.3H_2O$ consisting of a hydrous sulfate and chloride of magnesium and potassium that is used as a fertilizer and as a source of potassium and magnesium compounds

kai·ser \ˈkī-zər\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *keisari*; akin to OHG *keisur* emperor; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc word borrowed fr. L *Caesar*, cognomen of the Emperor Augustus] : EMPEROR; *esp* : the ruler of Germany from 1871 to 1918 — **kai·ser·dom** \-zərd-əm\ *n* — **kai·ser·ism** \-zə-ˌriz-əm\ *n*

kai·se·rin \ˈkī-zə-rən\ *n* [G, fem. of *kaiser*] : the wife of a kaiser

ka·ka \ˈkäk-ə\ *n* [Maori] : an olive brown New Zealand parrot (*Nestor meridionalis*) with gray and red markings

ka·ka·po \ˌkäk-ə-ˈpō\ *n, pl* **-pos** [Maori] : a chiefly nocturnal burrowing New Zealand parrot (*Strigops habroptilus*) with green and brown barred plumage

ka·ke·mo·no \ˌkäk-i-ˈmō-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [Jap] : a vertical Japanese ornamental pictorial or calligraphic scroll

kala-azar \ˌkäl-ə-ə-ˈzär, ˌkal-\ *n* [Hindi *kālā-āzār* black disease, fr. Hindi *kālā* black + Per *āzār* disease] : a severe infectious disease chiefly of Asia marked by fever, progressive anemia, leukopenia, and enlargement of the spleen and liver and caused by a flagellate (*Leishmania donovani*) transmitted by the bite of sand flies

kale \ˈkā(ə)l\ *n* [Sc, fr. ME (northern) *cal*, fr. OE *cāl* — more at COLE] **1 a** : COLE **b** : a hardy cabbage (*Brassica oleracea acephala*) with curled often finely incised leaves that do not form a dense head **2** *slang* : MONEY



kale 1b

ka·lei·do·scope \kə-ˈlīd-ə-ˌskōp\ *n* [Gk *kalos* beautiful + *eidos* form + E *-scope* — more at CALLIGRAPHY, IDOL] **1** : an instrument containing loose bits of colored glass between two flat plates and two plane mirrors so placed that changes of position of the bits of glass are reflected in an endless variety of patterns **2 a** : a variegated changing pattern or scene ⟨the lake a ~ of changing colors —Robert Gibbings⟩ **b** : a succession of changing phases or actions ⟨a . . . ~ of shifting values, information, fashions — Frank McLaughlin⟩ — **ka·lei·do·scop·ic** \-ˌlīd-ə-ˈskäp-ik\ *or* **ka·lei·do·scop·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ka·lei·do·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

kalends *var of* CALENDS

ka·lim·ba \kə-ˈlim-bə\ *n* [of Bantu origin; akin to Bemba *akalimba* zanza, Kimbundu *marimba* xylophone] : an African musical instrument derived from the zanza

kal·li·din \ˈkal-əd-ən\ *n* [G, fr. *kallikrein* + *-d-* (prob. fr. *deka-*) + *-in*] : any of several kinins formed from blood plasma globulin by the action of kallikrein

kal·li·krein \ˈkal-ə-ˌkrīn\ *n* [G, fr. *kalli-* beautiful (fr. Gk) + *pankreas* pancreas + *-in*; prob. fr. its therapeutic use in pancreatic disorders — more at CALLIGRAPHY] : an enzyme that liberates kinins from blood plasma

Kal·muck *or* **Kal·muk** \ˈkal-ˌmək, kal-ˈ\ *or* **Kal·myk** \kal-ˈmik\ *n* [Russ *Kalmyk*, fr. Kazan Tatar] **1** : a member of a Buddhist Mongol people orig. of Dzungaria **2** : the Mongolian language of the Kalmucks

kal·pa \ˈkäl-pə\ *n* [Skt] : a period in which according to Hindu cosmology the universe undergoes a cycle of creation and destruction

kalsomine *var of* CALCIMINE

Ka·ma \ˈkäm-ə\ *n* [Skt *Kāma*, fr. *kāma* love] : the Hindu god of love

ka·ma·ai·na \ˌkäm-ə-ˈī-nə\ *n* [Hawaiian *kama'āina*, fr. *kama* child + *'āina* land] : one who has lived in Hawaii for a long time

ka·ma·la \ˈkäm-ə-lə\ *n* [Skt] **1** : an East Indian tree (*Mallotus philippinensis*) of the spurge family **2** : an orange red powder from kamala capsules used for dyeing silk and wool or as a vermifuge

kame \ˈkām\ *n* [Sc, kame, comb, fr. ME (northern) *camb* comb, fr. OE] : a short ridge, hill, or mound of stratified drift deposited by glacial meltwater

Ka·me·ha·me·ha Day \kə-ˌmā-ə-ˈmā-(ˌ)hä-\ *n* : June 11 observed as a holiday in Hawaii in commemoration of the birthday of Kamehameha I

[1]ka·mi·ka·ze \ˌkäm-i-ˈkäz-ē\ *n* [Jap, lit., divine wind] **1** : a member of a Japanese air attack corps in World War II assigned to make a suicidal crash on a target (as a ship) **2** : an airplane containing explosives to be flown in a suicide crash on a target

[2]kamikaze *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a kamikaze **2** : SUICIDAL ⟨the city's ~ taxi drivers⟩

kam·pong \ˈkäm-ˌpȯŋ, ˈkam-\ *n* [Malay] : a native hamlet or village in a Malay-speaking country

kana·my·cin \ˌkan-ə-ˈmīs-ᵊn\ *n* [NL *kanamyceticus*, specific epithet of *Streptomyces kanamyceticus*] : a broad-spectrum antibiotic from a Japanese soil actinomycete (*Streptomyces kanamyceticus*)

Kan·a·rese \ˌkan-ə-ˈrēz, -ˈrēs\ *n, pl* **Kanarese** [*Kanara*, India] **1** : a member of a Kannada-speaking people of Mysore, southern India **2** : KANNADA

kan·ga·roo \ˌkaŋ-gə-ˈrü\ *n, pl* **-roos** [prob. native name in Australia] : any of various herbivorous leaping marsupial mammals (family Macropodidae) of Australia, New Guinea, and adjacent islands with a small head, large ears, long powerful hind legs, a long thick tail used as a support and in balancing, and rather small forelegs not used in progression



kangaroo

kangaroo court *n* **1** : a mock court in which the principles of law and justice are disregarded or perverted **2** : a court characterized by irresponsible, unauthorized, or irregular status or procedures **3** : judgment or punishment given outside of legal procedure

kangaroo rat *n* : any of numerous pouched nocturnal burrowing rodents (genus *Dipodomys*) of arid parts of the western U.S.

Kan·na·da \ˈkän-əd-ə\ *n* [Kannada *kannaḍa*] : the major Dravidian language of Mysore, southern India

Kans *abbr* Kansas

kan·te·le \ˈkän-tə-lə\ *n* [Finn] : a traditional Finnish harp orig. having 5 strings but now having as many as 30

Kant·ian \ˈkant-ē-ən, ˈkänt-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Kant or his philosophy — **Kantian** *n* — **Kant·ian·ism** \-ē-əˌniz-əm\ *n*

ka·olin *also* **ka·oline** \ˈkā-ə-lən\ *n* [F *kaolin*, fr. *Kao-ling*, hill in China] : a fine usu. white clay that is used in ceramics and refractories, as an adsorbent, and as a filler or extender

ka·olin·ite \-lə-ˌnīt\ *n* : a mineral $Al_2Si_2O_5(OH)_4$ consisting of a hydrous silicate of aluminum that constitutes the principal mineral in kaolin — **ka·olin·it·ic** \ˌkā-ə-lə-ˈnit-ik\ *adj*

ka·on \ˈkā-ˌän\ *n* [ISV *ka* kay (fr. *K-meson*, its earlier name) + *[2]-on*] : an unstable meson produced in high-energy particle collisions with its electrically charged forms being 966.3 times more massive than the electron and its neutral form being 974.6 times more massive than the electron

ka·pell·mei·ster \kə-ˈpel-ˌmī-stər, kä-\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *kapelle* choir + *meister* master] : the director of a choir or orchestra

kaph \ˈkäf, ˈkȯf\ *n* [Heb, lit., palm of the hand] : the 11th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table

ka·pok \ˈkā-ˌpäk\ *n* [Malay] : a mass of silky fibers that clothe the seeds of the ceiba tree and are used esp. as a filling for mattresses, life preservers, and sleeping bags and as insulation

kap·pa \ˈkap-ə\ *n* [Gk, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *kaph*] : the 10th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table

ka·put *also* **ka·putt** \kä-ˈpůt, kə-, -ˈpüt\ *adj* [G, fr. F *capot* not having made a trick at piquet] **1** : utterly finished, defeated, or destroyed **2** : unable to function : USELESS ⟨my battery went ~ — Henry James Jr.⟩ **3** : hopelessly outmoded

karabiner *var of* CARABINER

Kara·ism \ˈkar-ə-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [LHeb *qĕrāīm* Karaites] : a Jewish doctrine originating in Baghdad in the 8th century that rejects rabbinism and talmudism and bases its tenets on Scripture alone — **Kara·ite** \-ˌīt\ *n*

kar·a·kul \ˈkar-ə-kəl\ *n* [*Karakul*, village in Bukhara] **1** *often cap* : any of a breed of hardy fat-tailed sheep from Bukhara with a

narrow body and coarse wiry brown fur **2** : the tightly curled glossy black coat of the newborn lamb of a karakul valued as fur

kar·at \'kar-ət\ *n* [prob. fr. MF *carat*, fr. ML *carratus* unit of weight for precious stones — more at CARAT] : a unit of fineness for gold equal to $^1/_{24}$ part of pure gold in an alloy

ka·ra·te \kə-'rät-ē\ *n* [Jap, lit., empty hand] : an Oriental art of self-defense in which an attacker is disabled by crippling kicks and punches — **ka·ra·te·ist** \-ē-əst\ *n*

ka·ra·ya gum \kə-,rī-ə-\ *n* [Hindi *karāyal* resin] : STERCULIA GUM; *esp* : a gum derived from an Indian tree (*Sterculia urens*)

Ka·re·lian \kə-'rē-lē-ən, -'rēl-yən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Karelia **2** : the Finno-Ugric language of the Karelians — **Karelian** *adj*

Ka·ren \kə-'ren\ *n, pl* **Karen** *or* **Karens** **1** **a** : a group of peoples of eastern and southern Burma **b** : a member of any of these peoples **2** **a** : a group of languages spoken by the Karen peoples **b** : a language of this group

kar·ma \'kär-mə, 'kər-\ *n, often cap* [Skt *karman* (nom. *karma*), lit., work] **1** : the force generated by a person's actions held in Hinduism and Buddhism to perpetuate transmigration and in its ethical consequences to determine his destiny in his next existence **2** : VIBRATION 4 — **kar·mic** \-mik\ *adj, often cap*

ka·roo *or* **kar·roo** \kə-'rü\ *n, pl* **karoos** *or* **karroos** [Afrik *karo*] : a dry tableland of southern Africa

ka·ross \kə-'räs\ *n* [Afrik *karos*] : a simple garment or rug of skins used esp. by native tribesmen of southern Africa

karst \'kärst\ *n* [G] : an irregular limestone region with sinks, underground streams, and caverns — **karst·ic** \'kär-stik\ *adj*

kart \'kärt\ *n* [prob. fr. *GoKart*, a trademark] : a miniature motorcar used esp. in racing

Kar·tik \'kärt-ik\ *n* [Hindi *Kārtik*, fr. Skt *Kārttika*] : a month of the Hindu year — see MONTH table

kart·ing \'kärt-iŋ\ *n* : the sport of racing miniature motorcars

kary- *or* **karyo-** *also* **cary-** *or* **caryo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *karyon* nut — more at CAREEN] **1** : nucleus of a cell ⟨*karyo*kinesis⟩ **2** : nut : kernel ⟨*caryo*psis⟩

karyo·ki·ne·sis \,kar-ē-ō-kə-'nē-səs, -kī-\ *n* [NL, fr. *kary-* + Gk *kinēsis* motion — more at KINESIOLOGY] **1** : the nuclear phenomena characteristic of mitosis **2** : the whole process of mitosis — **karyo·ki·net·ic** \-'net-ik\ *adj*

kary·ol·o·gy \,kar-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of cytology that deals with the minute anatomy of cell nuclei and esp. the nature and structure of chromosomes — **kary·o·log·i·cal** \-ē-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **kary·o·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

karyo·lymph \'kar-ē-ō-,lim(p)f\ *n* [ISV] : NUCLEAR SAP

karyo·some \'kar-ē-ə-,sōm\ *n* [ISV] : a mass of chromatin in a cell nucleus that resembles a nucleolus

karyo·sys·tem·at·ics \,kar-ē-ō-,sis-tə-'mat-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of systematics that seeks to determine natural relationships by the study of karyotypes

karyo·type \'kar-ē-ə-,tīp\ *n* [ISV] : the sum of the specific characteristics of the chromosomes of a cell; *also* : the chromosomes themselves — **karyo·typ·ic** \,kar-ē-ə-'tip-ik\ *or* **karyo·typ·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

Kasbah *var of* CASBAH

Kash·mir goat \,kash-,mi(ə)r-, ,kazh-\ *n* [*Kashmir*, region in India] : an Indian goat raised esp. for its undercoat of fine soft wool that constitutes the cashmere wool of commerce

Kash·miri \kash-'mi(ə)r-ē, kazh-\ *n, pl* **Kashmiris** *or* **Kashmiri** **1** : a native or inhabitant of Kashmir **2** : the Indic language of Kashmir

kash·ruth *or* **kash·rut** \kä-'shrüt(h)\ *n* [Heb *kashrūth*, lit., fitness] **1** : the state of being kosher **2** : the Jewish dietary laws

Ka·shu·bi·an \kə-'shü-bē-ən\ *n* [*Kashube* (a member of a Slavic people)] : a West Slavic language spoken in the vicinity of Gdansk

kat \'kät\ *n* [Ar *qāt*] : a shrub (*Caltha edulis*) cultivated by the Arabs for its leaves and buds that are the source of an habituating stimulant when chewed or used as a tea

Ka·tha·re·vu·sa \,käth-ə-'rev-ə-,sä\ *n* [NGk *kathareuousa*, fr. Gk, fem. of *kathareuōn*, prp. of *kathareuein* to be pure, fr. *katharos* pure] : modern Greek conforming to classic Greek usage

katharsis *var of* CATHARSIS

ka·ty·did \'kāt-ē-,did\ *n* [imit.] : any of several large green American long-horned grasshoppers usu. having stridulating organs on the fore wings of the males that produce a loud shrill sound



katydid

kat·zen·jam·mer \'kat-sən-,jam-ər\ *n* [G, fr. *katzen* cats + *jammer* distress] **1** : HANGOVER **2** : DISTRESS, DEPRESSION **3** : a discordant clamor

kau·ri \'kaù(ə)r-ē\ *n* [Maori *kawri*] **1** : any of various trees (genus *Agathis*) of the pine family; *esp* : a tall timber tree (*A. australis*) of New Zealand having fine white straight-grained wood **2** : a light-colored to brown resin from the kauri tree found as a fossil in the ground or collected from living trees and used esp. in varnishes and linoleum — called also *kauri gum, kauri copal, kauri resin*

ka·va \'käv-ə\ *n* [Tongan & Marquesan, lit., bitter] **1** : an Australasian shrubby pepper (*Piper methysticum*) from whose crushed root an intoxicating beverage is made **2** : the beverage made from kava

kay \'kā\ *n* : the letter *k*

Kay \'kā\ *n* : a boastful malicious knight of the Round Table who in Arthurian legend is foster brother and seneschal of King Arthur

kay·ak \'kī-,ak\ *n* [Esk *qajaq*] **1** : an Eskimo canoe made of a frame covered with skins except for a small opening in the center and propelled by a double-bladed paddle **2** : a portable boat styled like an Eskimo kayak and used widely in the U.S. — **kay·ak·er** \-,ak-ər\ *n*



kayak 1

[1]kayo \(')kā-'ō, 'kā-(,)ō\ *n* [pronunciation of *KO*, abbr.] : KNOCKOUT

[2]kayo *vt* **kay·oed; kayo·ing** **1** : to knock out **2** : to cause the removal of (a baseball pitcher) by a batting rally

ka·zoo \kə-'zü\ *n, pl* **kazoos** [imit.] : a toy musical instrument consisting of a tube with a membrane sealing one end and a side hole into which one sings or hums

kb *or* **kbar** *abbr* kilobar

kc *abbr* kilocycle

KC *abbr* **1** Kansas City **2** King's Counsel **3** Knights of Columbus

kcal *abbr* kilocalorie; kilogram calorie

KCB *abbr* knight commander of the Order of the Bath

kc/s *abbr* kilocycles per second

KD *abbr* **1** kiln-dried **2** knocked down

kea \'kē-ə\ *n* [Maori] : a large predominantly green New Zealand parrot (*Nestor notabilis*) that is normally insectivorous but sometimes destroys sheep by slashing the back to feed on the kidney fat

ke·bab *or* **ke·bob** \'kā-,bäb, kə-'\ *var of* KABOB

keb·buck *or* **keb·bock** \'keb-ək\ *n* [ME (Sc dial.) *cabok*, fr. ScGael *ceapag*] *dial Brit* : a whole cheese

Ke·chu·ma·ran \,kech-ə-mə-'rän, kə-,chü-\ *n* [*Kechua* (Quechua) + Aymara + *-an*] : a language stock comprising Aymara and Quechua

[1]kedge \'kej\ *vt* **kedged; kedg·ing** [ME *caggen*] : to move (a ship) by means of a line attached to a kedge dropped at the distance and in the direction desired

[2]kedge *n* : a small anchor used esp. in kedging

[1]keek \'kēk\ *vi* [ME *kiken*] *chiefly Scot* : PEEP, LOOK

[2]keek *n, chiefly Scot* : PEEP, LOOK

[1]keel \'kē(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *kelen*, fr. OE *cēlan*, fr. *cōl* cool] *chiefly dial* : COOL

[2]keel *n* [ME *kele*, fr. MD *kiel*; akin to OE *cēol* ship, *cot* small house — more at COT] **1** **a** : a flat-bottomed ship; *esp* : a barge used on the Tyne to carry coal **b** : a barge load of coal **2** : a British unit of weight for coal equal to 21.2 long tons

[3]keel *n* [ME *kele*, fr. ON *kjölr*; akin to OE *ceole* throat, beak of a ship — more at GLUTTON] **1** **a** : a longitudinal timber or plate extending along the center of the bottom of a ship and often projecting from the bottom **b** : SHIP **c** : the assembly of members at the bottom of the hull of a semirigid or rigid airship **2** : a projection suggesting a keel; *esp* : CARINA — **keeled** \'kē(ə)ld\ *adj* — **keel·less** \'kē(ə)l-ləs\ *adj*

[4]keel *vt* : to cause to turn over ~ *vi* **1** : to turn over **2** : to fall in or as if in a faint — usu. used with *over* ⟨~*ed* over with laughter — Bud Freeman⟩

[5]keel *n* [ME (Sc dial.) *keyle*] **1** *chiefly dial* : RED OCHER **2** : a colored marking crayon used esp. for chalking lines or marking lumber

keel·boat \'kē(ə)l-,bōt\ *n* : a shallow covered keeled riverboat that is usu. rowed, poled, or towed and that is used for freight

keel·haul \-,hȯl\ *vt* [D *kielhalen*, fr. *kiel* keel + *halen* to haul] **1** : to haul under the keel of a ship as punishment or torture **2** : to rebuke severely

keel·son \'kel-sən, 'kē(ə)l-\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Sw *kölsvin* keelson] : a longitudinal structure running above and fastened to the keel of a ship in order to stiffen and strengthen its framework

[1]keen \'kēn\ *adj* [ME *kene* brave, sharp, fr. OE *cēne* brave; akin to OHG *kuoni* brave, OE *cnāwan* to know — more at KNOW] **1** **a** : having a fine edge or point : SHARP ⟨a ~ sword⟩ **b** : affecting one as if by cutting ⟨~ sarcasm⟩ **c** : pungent to the sense ⟨a ~ scent⟩ **2** **a** : showing a quick and ardent responsiveness : ENTHUSIASTIC ⟨a ~ swimmer⟩ **b** *of emotion or feeling* : INTENSE ⟨the ~ delight in the chase —F. W. Maitland⟩ **3** **a** : intellectually alert : having or characteristic of a quick penetrating mind ⟨a ~ student⟩ ⟨had a ~ awareness of the problem⟩; *also* : shrewdly astute ⟨~ bargainers⟩ **b** : sharply contested ⟨~ debate⟩ **c** : extremely sensitive in perception ⟨~ eyesight⟩ **4** : WONDERFUL, EXCELLENT ***syn*** **1** see SHARP ***ant*** blunt **2** see EAGER — **keen·ly** *adv* — **keen·ness** \'kēn-nəs\ *n*

[2]keen *vb* [IrGael *caoinim* I lament] *vi* **1** **a** : to lament with a keen **b** : to make a sound suggestive of a keen **2** : to lament, mourn, or complain loudly ~ *vt* : to utter by keening — **keen·er** *n*

[3]keen *n* : a lamentation for the dead uttered in a loud wailing voice or sometimes in a wordless cry

[1]keep \'kēp\ *vb* **kept** \'kept\; **keep·ing** [ME *kepen*, fr. OE *cēpan*; akin to OHG *chapfēn* to look] *vt* **1** : to take notice of by appropriate conduct : FULFILL: as **a** : to be faithful to ⟨~ a promise⟩ **b** : to act fittingly in relation to ⟨~ the Sabbath⟩ **c** : to conform to in habits or conduct ⟨~ late hours⟩ **d** : to stay in accord with (a beat) ⟨~ time⟩ **2** : PRESERVE, MAINTAIN: as **a** : to watch over and defend ⟨~ us from harm⟩ **b** (1) : to take care of : TEND ⟨~ a garden⟩ (2) : SUPPORT ⟨~ a wife⟩ (3) : to maintain in a good, fitting, or orderly condition ⟨~ house⟩ **c** : to continue to maintain ⟨~ silence⟩ **d** (1) : to cause to remain in a given place, situation, or condition ⟨~ him waiting⟩ (2) : to preserve (food) in an unspoiled condition **e** : to have or maintain in one's service or at one's disposal ⟨~ a mistress⟩ — often used with *on* ⟨*kept* the cook on until he found another job⟩; *also* : to lodge or feed for pay ⟨~ boarders⟩ **f** (1) : to maintain a record in ⟨~ a diary⟩ (2) : to enter in a book ⟨~ records⟩ **g** : to have customarily in stock for sale **3** **a** : to restrain from departure or removal : DETAIN ⟨~ children in after school⟩ **b** : to hold back : RESTRAIN ⟨~ him from going⟩ ⟨*kept* him back with difficulty⟩ **c** : SAVE, RESERVE ⟨~ some for later⟩ ⟨*kept* some out for a friend⟩ **d** : to refrain from revealing ⟨~ a secret⟩ **4** **a** : to retain in one's possession or power ⟨*kept* the money he found⟩ **b** : to refrain from granting,

giving, or allowing ⟨*kept* the news back⟩ **c** : to have in control ⟨~ your temper⟩ **5** : to confine oneself to ⟨~*s* her room⟩ **6 a** : to stay or continue in ⟨~ the path⟩ ⟨~ your seat⟩ **b** : to stay or remain on or in usu. against opposition : HOLD ⟨*kept* his ground⟩ **7** : to carry on : CONDUCT, MANAGE ⟨~ a tearoom⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *chiefly Brit* : LIVE, LODGE **2 a** : to maintain a course, direction, or progress ⟨~ to the right⟩ **b** : to continue usu. without interruption ⟨~ talking⟩ ⟨~ on smiling⟩ **c** : to persist in a practice ⟨*kept* bothering them⟩ ⟨*kept* on smoking in spite of warnings⟩ **3** : STAY, REMAIN ⟨~ out of the way⟩ ⟨~ off the grass⟩: as **a** : to stay even — usu. used with *up* ⟨~ up with the Joneses⟩ **b** : to remain in good condition ⟨meat will ~ in the freezer⟩ **c** : to remain undivulged ⟨the secret would ~⟩ **d** : to call for no immediate action ⟨the matter will ~ until morning⟩ **4** : ABSTAIN, REFRAIN ⟨can't ~ from talking⟩ **5** : to be in session ⟨school will ~ through the winter —W. M. Thayer⟩ **6** *of a quarterback* : to retain possession of a football esp. after faking a handoff

syn **1** KEEP, OBSERVE, CELEBRATE, COMMEMORATE *shared meaning element* : to notice or honor a day, occasion, or deed ***ant*** break **2** KEEP, RETAIN, DETAIN, WITHHOLD, RESERVE *shared meaning element* : to hold in one's possession or under one's control ***ant*** relinquish

— **keep an eye on** : WATCH — **keep at** : to persist in doing or concerning oneself with — **keep company** : to go together as frequent companions or in courtship — **keep one's distance** *or* **keep at a distance** : to stay aloof : maintain a reserved attitude — **keep one's eyes open** *or* **keep one's eyes peeled** : to be on the alert : be watchful — **keep one's hand in** : to keep in practice — **keep pace** : to stay even — **keep step** : to keep in step — **keep to** **1a** : to stay in **b** : to limit oneself to **2** : to abide by — **keep to oneself** **1** : to keep secret ⟨*kept* the facts *to himself*⟩ **2** : to remain solitary or apart from other people

²keep *n* **1 a** *archaic* : CUSTODY, CHARGE **b** : MAINTENANCE **2** : one that keeps or protects: as **a** : FORTRESS, CASTLE; *specif* : the strongest and securest part of a medieval castle **b** : one whose job is to keep or tend **c** : PRISON, JAIL **3** : the means or provisions by which one is kept ⟨earned his ~⟩ **4** : KEEPER 4 — **for keeps** **1 a** : with the provision that one keep what he has won ⟨played marbles *for keeps*⟩ **b** : with deadly seriousness **2** : for an indefinitely long time : PERMANENTLY **3** : with the result of ending the matter

keep back *vi* : to refrain from approaching or advancing near something ⟨policemen asked the spectators to *keep back*⟩

keep down *vt* **1** : to keep in control ⟨*keep* expenses *down*⟩ **2** : to prevent from growing, advancing, or succeeding ⟨can't *keep* a good man *down*⟩

keep·er \'kē-pər\ *n* **1** : one that keeps: as **a** : PROTECTOR **b** : GAMEKEEPER **c** : WARDEN **d** : CUSTODIAN **e** : CURATOR **2** : any of various devices for keeping something in position **3** : one fit or suitable for keeping; *esp* : a fish large enough to be legally caught **4** : an offensive football play in which the quarterback runs with the ball

keep·ing \'kē-piŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of one that keeps: as **a** : CUSTODY, MAINTENANCE **b** : OBSERVANCE **c** : a reserving or preserving for future use **2 a** : the means by which something is kept : SUPPORT, PROVISION **b** : the state of being kept or the condition in which something is kept ⟨the house is in good ~⟩ **3** : CONFORMITY ⟨in ~ with good taste⟩ ⟨out of ~ with accepted standards⟩

keep·sake \'kēp-ˌsāk\ *n* [¹*keep* + *-sake* (as in *namesake*)] : something kept or given to be kept as a memento

keep up *vt* : to persist or persevere in ⟨*kept up* the good work⟩; *also* : MAINTAIN, SUSTAIN ⟨*keep* standards *up*⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to keep adequately informed ⟨*keep up* on international affairs⟩ **b** : to maintain a harmonious relationship ⟨*keep up* with the times⟩ **2** : to continue without interruption ⟨rain *kept up* all night⟩

kees·hond \'kās-ˌhȯnt\ *n, pl* **kees·hon·den** \-ˌhȯn-dən\ [D, prob. fr. *Kees* (nickname for *Cornelis* Cornelius) + *hond* dog, fr. MD; akin to OE *hund* hound] : any of a breed of small gray heavy-coated dogs that have a thick coat around the neck, shoulders, and chest, a face and head suggesting those of a fox, and small pointed ears

keet \'kēt\ *n* [imit.] : GUINEA FOWL; *esp* : a young guinea fowl

kef \'kef, 'kēf, 'kāf\ *n* [Ar *kayf* pleasure] **1** : a state of dreamy tranquillity **2** : a smoking material (as marijuana) that produces kef

ke·fir \ke-'fi(ə)r\ *n* [Russ] : a slightly effervescent acidulous beverage made of fermented cow's milk

keg \'keg, 'kag, 'kāg\ *n* [ME *kag*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *kaggi* keg] **1** : a small cask or barrel having a capacity of 30 gallons or less **2** : the contents of a keg

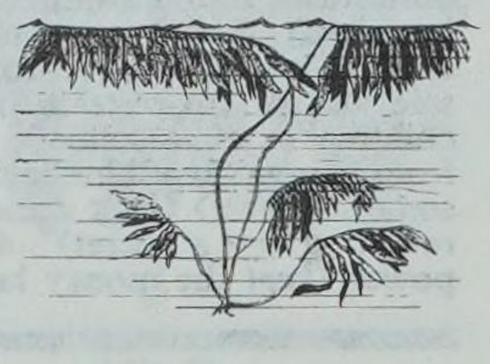
keg·ler \'keg-lər, 'kāg-\ *n* [G] : ¹BOWLER

keg·ling \'keg-liŋ, 'kāg-\ *n* : BOWLING

kelly green \'kel-ē-\ *n, often cap K* [fr. the common Irish name *Kelly*; fr. green's being a traditional Irish color] : a variable color averaging a strong yellowish green

ke·loid \'kē-ˌlȯid\ *n* [F *kiloïde*, fr. Gk *chēlē* claw] : a thick scar resulting from excessive growth of fibrous tissue — **ke·loi·dal** \kē-'lȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*

kelp \'kelp\ *n* [ME *culp*] **1 a** : any of various large brown seaweeds (orders Laminariales and Fucales) **b** : a mass of large seaweeds **2** : the ashes of seaweed used esp. as a source of iodine



kelp 1a

kelp bass *n* : a mottled California sea bass (*Paralabrax clathratus*) that is an important sport fish

¹kel·pie \'kel-pē\ *n* [perh. fr. ScGael *cailpeach, colpach* heifer, colt] : a water sprite of Scottish folklore that delights in or brings about the drowning of wayfarers

²kelpie *n* [*Kelpie*, a dog of this breed] : an Australian sheep dog of a breed developed by crossing the dingo with various British sheep dogs

Kelt \'kelt\, **Kelt·ic** \'kel-tik\ *var of* CELT, CELTIC

kel·vin \'kel-vən\ *n* : a unit of temperature equal to 1/273.16 of the Kelvin scale temperature of the triple point of water

Kelvin *adj* [William Thomson, Lord *Kelvin*] : relating to, conforming to, or having a thermometric scale on which the unit of measurement equals the centigrade degree and according to which absolute zero is 0°, the equivalent of –273.16°C

kemp \'kemp\ *n* [ME *kempe*, fr. OE *cempa*; akin to OHG *kempho* warrior] *dial Brit* : CHAMPION

kempt \'kem(p)t\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *kemben* to comb, fr. OE *cemban*; akin to OE *camb* comb] : neatly kept : TRIM ⟨old but ~ homes —David Bourdon⟩

¹ken \'ken\ *vb* **kenned; ken·ning** [ME *kennen*, fr. OE *cennan* to make known & ON *kenna* to perceive; both akin to OE *can* know — more at CAN] *vt* **1** *archaic* : SEE **2** *chiefly dial* : RECOGNIZE **3** *chiefly Scot* : KNOW ~ *vi, chiefly Scot* : KNOW

²ken *n* **1 a** : the range of vision **b** : SIGHT, VIEW ⟨'tis double death to drown in ~ of shore —Shak.⟩ **2** : the range of perception, understanding, or knowledge ⟨abstract words that are beyond the ~ of young children —Lois M. Rettie⟩

ke·naf \kə-'naf\ *n* [Per] : an East Indian hibiscus (*Hibiscus cannabinus*) widely cultivated for its fiber; *also* : the fiber used esp. for cordage

Ken·dal green \ˌken-dᵊl-\ *n* [ME, fr. *Kendal*, England] : a green woolen cloth resembling homespun or tweed

ken·do \'ken-(ˌ)dō\ *n* [Jap *kendō*, fr. *ken* sword + *dō* art] : a Japanese sport of fencing with bamboo staves

¹ken·nel \'ken-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *kenel*, deriv. of (assumed) VL *canile*, fr. L *canis* dog — more at HOUND] **1 a** : a shelter for a dog **b** : an establishment for the breeding or boarding of dogs **2** : a pack of dogs

²kennel *vb* **-neled** *or* **-nelled; -nel·ing** *or* **-nel·ling** *vi* : to take shelter in or as if in a kennel ~ *vt* : to put or keep in or as if in a kennel

³kennel *n* [alter. of *cannel* (gutter)] : a gutter in a street

¹ken·ning \'ken-iŋ\ *n* [ME, sight, view, fr. gerund of *kennen*] *chiefly Scot* : a perceptible but small amount ⟨his father was . . . a ~ on the wrong side of the law —R. L. Stevenson⟩

²kenning *n* [ON, fr. *kenna*] : a metaphorical compound word or phrase used esp. in Old English and Old Norse poetry ⟨*swan-road* for *ocean* is an example of a ~⟩

Ken·ny method \'ken-ē-\ *n* [Elizabeth *Kenny*] : a method of treating poliomyelitis consisting basically of application of hot fomentations and reeducation — called also *Kenny treatment*

ke·no \'kē-(ˌ)nō\ *n* [F *quine*, set of five winning numbers in a lottery + E *-o* (as in *lotto*)] : a game resembling bingo

ken·speck·le \'ken-ˌspek-əl\ *adj* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *kjennspak* quick to recognize] *chiefly Scot* : CONSPICUOUS

kent·ledge \'kent-lij\ *n* [origin unknown] : pig iron or scrap metal used as ballast

Ken·tucky bluegrass \kən-ˌtək-ē-\ *n* [*Kentucky*, U.S.] : a valuable pasture and meadow grass (*Poa pratensis*) of both Europe and America — called also *bluegrass*

Kentucky coffee tree *n* : a tall No. American leguminous tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*) with bipinnate leaves and large woody brown pods whose seeds have been used as a substitute for coffee

Kentucky rifle *n* : a muzzle-loading long-barreled flintlock rifle developed in the 18th century in Pennsylvania and used extensively on the American frontier

ke·pi \'kā-pē, 'kep-ē\ *n* [F *képi*] : a military cap with a round flat top sloping toward the front and a visor

Kep·le·ri·an \kep-'lir-ē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to the astronomer Kepler or his laws concerning the motions of the planets in their orbits

kept *past of* KEEP

Ker *abbr* Kerry

kerat- *or* **kerato-** — see CERAT-

ker·a·tin \'ker-ət-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV] : any of various sulfur-containing fibrous proteins that form the chemical basis of horny epidermal tissues — **ke·ra·ti·nous** \kə-'rat-ᵊn-əs, ˌker-ə-'tī-nəs\ *adj*

ke·ra·ti·ni·za·tion \ˌker-ə-tə-nə-'zā-shən, kə-ˌrat-ᵊn-ə-\ *n* : conversion into keratin or keratinous tissue

ke·ra·ti·no·phil·ic \ˌker-ə-tə-nə-'fil-ik, kə-ˌrat-ᵊn-ə-\ *adj* : exhibiting affinity for keratin (as in hair, skin, feathers, or horns) — used chiefly of fungi capable of growing on such materials

ker·a·ti·tis \ˌker-ə-'tīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-tit·i·des** \-'tit-ə-ˌdēz\ [NL] : inflammation of the cornea of the eye

ker·a·to·con·junc·ti·vi·tis \'ker-ə-(ˌ)tō-kən-ˌjəŋ(k)-tə-'vīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : combined inflammation of the cornea and conjunctiva

ker·a·to·sis \ˌker-ə-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : an area of skin marked by overgrowth of horny tissue — **ker·a·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*

kerb \'kərb\ *n, Brit* : CURB 5

ker·chief \'kər-chəf, -ˌchēf\ *n, pl* **kerchiefs** \-chəfs, -ˌchēfs\ *also* **ker·chieves** \-ˌchēvz\ [ME *courchef*, fr. OF *cuevrechief*, fr. *covrir* to cover + *chief* head — more at CHIEF] **1** : a square of cloth used by women as a head covering or worn as a scarf around the neck **2** : HANDKERCHIEF 1 — **ker·chiefed** \-chəft, -ˌchēft\ *adj*

kerf \'kərf\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cyrf* action of cutting; akin to OE *ceorfan* to carve — more at CARVE] **1** : a slit or notch made by a saw or cutting torch **2** : the width of cut made by a saw or cutting torch

Ker·man \kər-'män, ke(ə)r-\ *var of* KIRMAN

ker·mes \'kər-(ˌ)mēz\ *n* [F *kermès*, fr. Ar *qirmiz*] : the dried bodies of the females of various scale insects (genus *Kermes*) that are found on a Mediterranean oak (*Quercus coccinea*) and constitute a red dyestuff

ker·mis \'kər-məs\ *or* **ker·mess** \'kər-məs, (ˌ)kər-'mes\ *n* [D *kermis*] **1** : an outdoor festival of the Low Countries **2** : a fair held usu. for charitable purposes

¹kern *or* **kerne** \'kərn, 'ke(ə)rn\ *n* [ME *kerne*, fr. MIr *cethern* band of soldiers] **1** : a light-armed foot soldier of medieval Ireland or Scotland **2** : YOKEL

²kern \'kərn\ *n* [F *carne* corner, fr. L *cardin-, cardo* hinge — more at CARDINAL] : a part of a typeset letter that projects beyond its side bearings

³kern *vt* : to form or set with a kern ⟨~*ed* letters⟩ ~ *vi* : to become kerned



kern

ker·nel \'kərn-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cyrnel*, dim. of *corn*] **1** *chiefly dial* : a fruit seed **2** : the inner softer part of a seed, fruit stone, or nut **3** : a whole seed of a cereal **4** : a central or essential part ⟨like many stereotypes . . . this one too contains some ~*s* of truth —S. M. Lyman⟩ **5** : a subset of the elements of one set (as a group) that a function (as a homomorphism) maps onto an identity element of another set

kern·ite \'kər-ˌnīt\ *n* [*Kern* co., Calif.] : a mineral $Na_2B_4O_7.4H_2O$ that consists of a hydrous sodium borate and is an important source of borax

ker·o·gen \'ker-ə-jən\ *n* [Gk *kēros* wax + E *-gen* — more at CERUMEN] : bituminous material occurring in shale and yielding oil when heated

ker·o·sene *or* **ker·o·sine** \'ker-əˌsēn, ˌker-ə-', 'kar-, ˌkar-\ *n* [Gk *kēros* + E *-ene* (as in *camphene*)] : a flammable hydrocarbon oil usu. obtained by distillation of petroleum and used for a fuel and as a solvent and thinner

ker·ria \'ker-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. William *Kerr* †1814 E gardener] : any of a genus (*Kerria*) of Chinese shrubs of the rose family with solitary yellow and often double flowers

ker·ry \'ker-ē\ *n, pl* **kerries** *often cap* [County *Kerry*, Ireland] : any of an Irish breed of small hardy long-lived black dairy cattle

Kerry blue terrier *n* : any of an Irish breed of medium-sized terriers with a long head, deep chest, and silky bluish coat

ker·sey \'kər-zē\ *n, pl* **kerseys** [ME, fr. *Kersey*, England] **1 a** : a coarse ribbed woolen cloth for hose and work clothes **b** : a heavy wool or wool and cotton fabric used esp. for uniforms and coats **2** : a garment of kersey

ker·sey·mere \'kər-zē-ˌmi(ə)r\ *n* [alter. of *cassimere*] : a fine woolen fabric with a close nap made in fancy twill weaves

ke·ryg·ma \kə-'rig-mə\ *n* [Gk *kērygma*, fr. *kēryssein* to proclaim, fr. *kēryx* herald — more at CADUCEUS] : the apostolic proclamation of salvation through Jesus Christ — **ker·yg·mat·ic** \ˌker-ig-'mat-ik\ *adj*

kes·trel \'kes-trəl\ *n* [ME *castrel*, fr. MF *crecerelle*] : a small European falcon (*Falco tinnunculus*) that is noted for its habit of hovering in the air against a wind and that is about a foot long, bluish gray above in the male, and reddish brown in the female; *broadly* : any of various small Old World falcons

ket- *or* **keto-** *comb form* [ISV] : ketone ⟨*ket*osis⟩

ketch \'kech\ *n* [ME *cache*] : a fore-and-aft rigged ship similar to a yawl but with a larger mizzen and with the mizzenmast stepped farther forward



ketch

ketch·up *var of* CATSUP

ke·tene \'kē-ˌtēn\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless poisonous gas C_2H_2O of penetrating odor used esp. as an acetylating agent

ke·to \'kēt-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [*ket-*] : of or relating to a ketone; *also* : containing a ketone group

ke·to·gen·e·sis \ˌkēt-ō-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the production of ketone bodies (as in diabetes) — **ke·to·gen·ic** \-'jen-ik\ *adj*

ke·to·glu·tar·ic acid \-glü-ˌtar-ik-\ *n* : either of two crystalline keto derivatives $C_5H_6O_5$ of glutaric acid; *esp* : the alpha keto isomer formed in various metabolic processes (as the Krebs cycle)

ke·tone \'kē-ˌtōn\ *n* [G *keton*, alter. of *aceton* acetone] : an organic compound (as acetone) with a carbonyl group attached to two carbon atoms — **ke·ton·ic** \kē-'tän-ik\ *adj*

ketone body *n* : any of the three compounds acetoacetic acid, acetone, and beta-hydroxybutyric acid found in the blood and urine in abnormal amounts in conditions of impaired metabolism (as diabetes mellitus)

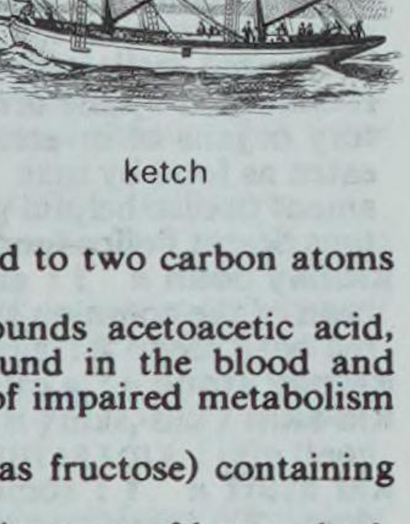
ke·tose \'kē-ˌtōs, -ˌtōz\ *n* [ISV] : a sugar (as fructose) containing one ketone group per molecule

ke·to·sis \kē-'tō-səs\ *n* [NL] : an abnormal increase of ketone bodies in the body — **ke·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*

ke·to·ste·roid \ˌkēt-ō-'sti(ə)r-ˌȯid *also* -'ste(ə)r-\ *n* [ISV] : a steroid (as cortisone or estrone) containing a ketone group

ket·tle \'ket-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *ketel*, fr. ON *ketill*; akin to OE *cietel* kettle; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc word borrowed fr. L *catillus*, dim. of *catinus* bowl] **1** : a metallic vessel for boiling liquids; *esp* : TEAKETTLE **2** : KETTLEDRUM **3 a** : POTHOLE **b** : a steep-sided hollow without surface drainage esp. in a deposit of glacial drift

ket·tle·drum \-ˌdrəm\ *n* : a percussion instrument that consists of a hollow brass or copper hemisphere with a parchment head whose tension can be changed to vary the pitch



kettledrum

kettle of fish **1** : a bad state of affairs : MESS **2** : something to be considered or reckoned with : MATTER ⟨books and discs . . . were two very different *kettles of fish* —Roland Gelatt⟩

keV *abbr* kilo-electron volt

Kew·pie \'kyü-pē\ *trademark* — used for a small chubby doll with a topknot of hair

¹key \'kē\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cǣg*; akin to MLG *keige* spear] **1 a** : a usu. metal instrument by which the bolt of a lock is turned **b** : any of various devices having the form or function of such a key **2 a** : a means of gaining or preventing entrance, possession, or control **b** : an instrumental or deciding factor **3 a** : something that gives an explanation or identification or provides a solution ⟨the ~ to a riddle⟩ **b** : a list of words or phrases giving an explanation of symbols or abbreviations **c** : an aid to interpretation or identification : CLUE ⟨can spot a zone defense by the one ~ of the strong-side safety who plays . . . more to the outside —John Unitas⟩ **d** : an arrangement of the salient characters of a group of plants or animals or of taxa designed to facilitate identification **e** : a map legend **4 a** (1) : COTTER PIN (2) : ²COTTER **b** : a keystone in an arch **c** : a small piece of wood or metal used as a wedge or for preventing motion between parts **5 a** : one of the levers of a keyboard musical instrument that actuates the mechanism and produces the tones **b** : a lever that controls a vent in the side of a woodwind instrument or a valve in a brass instrument **c** : a digital that serves as one unit of a keyboard and that works usu. by lever action to set in motion a character or an escapement (as in some typesetting machines) **d** : KEYBUTTON **6** : SAMARA **7** : a system of seven tones based on their relationship to a tonic; *specif* : the tonality of a scale **8 a** : characteristic style or tone **b** : the tone or pitch of a voice **c** : the predominant tone of a photograph with respect to its lightness or darkness **9** : a decoration or charm resembling a key **10** : a small switch for opening or closing an electric circuit **11** : the set of instructions governing the encipherment and decipherment of messages **12** : KEYHOLE 2 — **keyed** \'kēd\ *adj* — **key·less** \'kē-ləs\ *adj*

²key *vt* **1** : to lock with or as if with a key : FASTEN: as **a** : to secure (as a pulley on a shaft) by a key **b** : to finish off (an arch) by inserting a keystone **2** : to regulate the musical pitch of **3** : to bring into harmony or conformity : make appropriate : ATTUNE ⟨remarks ~*ed* to a situation⟩ **4** : to identify (a biological specimen) by a key **5** : to provide with identifying or explanatory cross-references ⟨instructions ~*ed* to accompanying drawings — John Gartner⟩ **6** : to make nervous, tense, or excited — usu. used with *up* ⟨was ~*ed* up over her impending operation⟩ **7** : KEYBOARD ~ *vi* **1** : to use a key **2** : to observe the position or movement of an opposing player in football in order to anticipate the play — usu. used with *on* ⟨the middle linebacker was ~*ing* on the halfback⟩

³key *adj* : of basic importance : FUNDAMENTAL ⟨~ issues⟩

⁴key *n* [Sp *cayo*, fr. Lucayo] : a low island or reef; *specif* : one of the coral islets off the southern coast of Florida

⁵key *n* [by shortening and alter. fr. *kilo*] *slang* : a kilogram of marijuana

¹key·board \'kē-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : a bank of keys on a musical instrument (as a piano) that consists of seven white and five raised black keys to the octave **2** : an assemblage of systematically arranged keys by which a machine is operated **3** : a board on which keys for locks are hung

²keyboard *vi* : to operate a machine (as for typesetting) by means of a keyboard ~ *vt* : to capture or set (as data or text) by means of a keyboard — **key·board·er** *n*

key·but·ton \'kē-ˌbət-ᵊn\ *n* : any of the small buttons or knobs depressed by the fingers in operating a keyboard machine

key club *n* [so called because each member is provided with a key to the premises] : an informal private club serving liquor and providing entertainment

¹key·hole \'kē-ˌhōl\ *n* **1** : a hole for receiving a key **2** : a free-throw area in basketball

²keyhole *adj* **1** : revealingly intimate ⟨a ~ report⟩ **2** : intent on revealing intimate details ⟨~ columnists⟩

keyhole saw *n* : a narrow pointed fine-toothed saw used for cutting curves of short radius

keying sequence *n* : a sequence of letters or numbers that enciphers or deciphers a polyalphabetic substitution cipher letter by letter

key light *n* : the main light illuminating a subject in photography

Keynes·ian \'kān-zē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of John M. Keynes or his economic theories and programs — **Keynes·ian** *n*

Keynes·ian·ism \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the economic theories and programs ascribed to John M. Keynes and his followers; *specif* : the advocacy of monetary and fiscal programs by government to increase employment

¹key·note \'kē-ˌnōt\ *n* **1** : the first and harmonically fundamental tone of a scale **2** : the fundamental or central fact, idea, or mood ⟨sadness is the ~ of this little collection —*Books Abroad*⟩

²keynote *vt* **1** : to set the keynote of **2** : to deliver the keynote address at — **key·not·er** *n*

keynote address *n* : an address designed to present the issues of primary interest to an assembly (as a political convention) and often to arouse unity and enthusiasm — called also *keynote speech*

keynote speaker *n* : one who delivers a keynote address : KEYNOTER

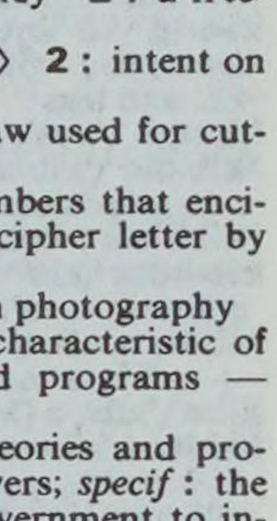
¹key·punch \'kē-ˌpənch\ *n* : a machine with a keyboard used to cut holes or notches in punch cards

²keypunch *vt* : to cut holes or notches in (a punch card) with a keypunch — **key·punch·er** *n*

key·set \'kē-ˌset\ *n* : KEYBOARD 2

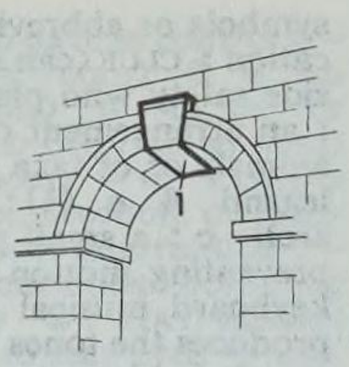
key signature *n* : the sharps or flats placed after a clef in music to indicate the key

key·stone \'kē-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : the wedge-shaped piece at the crown of an arch that locks the other pieces in place **2** : something on which associated things depend for support ⟨collective bargaining — the ~ of industrial democracy —A. E. Stevenson †1965⟩



key signatures

key·stroke \ˌstrōk\ *n* : the act or an instance of depressing a key on a keyboard — **keystroke** *vb*
key·way \-ˌwā\ *n* **1** : a groove or channel for a key **2** : the aperture for the key in a lock having a flat metal key
key word *n* : a word that is a key: as **a** : a word exemplifying the meaning or value of a letter or symbol **b** *usu* **key·word** : a significant word from a title or document that is used as an index to content
kg *abbr* **1** keg **2** kilogram **3** king
KG *abbr* **1** kilogauss **2** knight of the Order of the Garter
KGB *abbr* [Russ *Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopasnosti*] (Soviet) State Security Committee
KGPS *abbr* kilograms per second
khad·dar \ˈkäd-ər\ *or* **kha·di** \ˈkäd-ē\ *n* [Hindi *khādar, khādī*] : homespun cotton cloth of India
kha·ki \ˈkak-ē, ˈkäk-, *in Canada often* ˈkärk-\ *n* [Hindi *khākī* dust-colored, fr. *khāk* dust, fr. Per] **1 a** : a khaki-colored cloth made usu. of cotton or wool and used esp. for military uniforms **b** : a garment of this cloth; *esp* : a military uniform **2** : a light yellowish brown — **khaki** *adj*
Khal·kha \ˈkal-kə\ *n* **1** : a member of a Mongol people of Outer Mongolia **2** : the language of the Khalkha people used as the official language of the Mongolian People's Republic
kham·sin \kam-ˈsēn\ *n* [Ar *rīḥ al-khamsīn* the wind of the fifty (days between Easter and Pentecost)] : a hot southerly Egyptian wind
¹khan \ˈkän, ˈkan\ *n* [ME *caan*, fr. MF, of Turkic origin; akin to Turk *han* prince] **1** : a medieval sovereign of China and ruler over the Turkish, Tatar, and Mongol tribes **2** : a local chieftain or man of rank in some countries of central Asia
²khan *n* [Ar *khān*] : a caravansary or rest house in some Asian countries
khan·ate \-ˌāt\ *n* : the state or jurisdiction of a khan
khap·ra beetle \ˌkap-rə-, ˌkäp-\ *n* [Hindi *khaprā*, lit., destroyer] : a dermestid beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*) that is native to the Indian subcontinent and is now a serious pest of stored grain in most parts of the world
khat *var of* KAT
khe·dive \kə-ˈdēv\ *n* [F *khédive*, fr. Turk *hidiv*] : a ruler of Egypt from 1867 to 1914 governing as a viceroy of the sultan of Turkey — **khe·div·ial** \-ˈdē-vē-əl\ *or* **khe·div·al** \-ˈdē-vəl\ *adj*
Khmer \kə-ˈme(ə)r\ *n, pl* **Khmer** *or* **Khmers** **1** : a member of an aboriginal people of Cambodia **2** : the Mon-Khmer language of the Khmer people that is the official language of Cambodia — **Khmer·ian** \-ˈmer-ē-ən\ *adj*
Khoi·san \ˈkȯi-ˌsän\ *n* **1** : a group of African peoples speaking Khoisan languages **2** : a subfamily of African languages comprising Hottentot and the several languages known as Bushman
Kho·war \ˈkō-ˌwär\ *n* : a Dard language of northwest Pakistan
kHz *abbr* kilohertz
KIA *abbr* killed in action
ki·ang \kē-ˈäŋ\ *n* [Tibetan *rkyaṅ*] : an Asiatic wild ass (*Equus hemionus*) usu. with reddish back and sides and white underparts, muzzle, and legs
kiaugh \ˈkyȧk\ *n* [prob. fr. ScGael *cabhag*] *Scot* : TROUBLE, ANXIETY
¹kib·ble \ˈkib-əl\ *vt* **kib·bled; kib·bling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] : to grind coarsely ⟨*kibbled* dog biscuit⟩ ⟨*kibbled* grain⟩
²kibble *n* : coarsely ground meal or grain
kib·butz \kib-ˈüts, -ˈüts\ *n, pl* **kib·but·zim** \-ˌüt-ˈsēm, -ˌüt-\ [NHeb *qibbūṣ*] : a collective farm or settlement in Israel
kib·butz·nik \-ˈüt-snik, -ˈüt-\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. *kibbutz* (fr. Heb *qibbūṣ*) + *-nik*] : a member of a kibbutz
kibe \ˈkīb\ *n* [ME] : an ulcerated chilblain esp. on the heel
ki·bitz \ˈkib-əts, kə-ˈbits\ *vb* [Yiddish *kibitsen*, fr. G *kiebitzen*, fr. *kiebitz*, lit., pewit] *vi* : to act as a kibitzer ~ *vt* : to observe as a kibitzer; *esp* : to be a kibitzer at ⟨~ a card game⟩
ki·bitz·er \ˈkib-ət-sər, kə-ˈbit-\ *n* : one who looks on and often offers unwanted advice or comment esp. at a card game
ki·bosh \ˈkī-ˌbäsh, kī-ˈ; kib-ˈäsh\ *n* [origin unknown] : something that serves as a check or stop ⟨put the ~ on that⟩ — **kibosh** *vt*
¹kick \ˈkik\ *vb* [ME *kiken*] *vi* **1 a** : to strike out with the foot or feet **b** : to make a kick in football **2 a** : to show opposition : RESIST, REBEL **b** : to protest strenuously or urgently : express grave discontent; *broadly* : COMPLAIN **3** *of a firearm* : to recoil when fired **4** : to go from one place to another as circumstance or whim dictates ~ *vt* **1 a** : to strike, thrust, or hit with the foot **b** : to strike suddenly and forcefully as if with the foot **2** : to score by kicking a ball **3** *slang* : to free oneself of (a drug habit) ***syn*** see OBJECT — **kick over the traces** : to cast off restraint, authority, or control — **kick the bucket** : DIE — **kick up one's heels** **1** : to show sudden delight **2** : to have a lively time — **kick upstairs** : to promote to a higher but less desirable position
²kick *n* **1 a** : a blow or sudden forceful thrust with the foot; *specif* : a sudden propelling of a ball with the foot **b** : the power to kick **c** : a rhythmic motion of the legs used in swimming **d** : a burst of speed in racing **2** : a sudden forceful jolt or thrust suggesting a kick; *specif* : the recoil of a gun **3 a** : a feeling or expression of opposition or objection ⟨all sorts of ~*s* against the administration⟩ **b** : the grounds for objection **4 a** : a stimulating or pleasurable effect or experience **b** : pursuit of an absorbing or obsessive new interest ⟨went on a mystery-reading ~ —*Time*⟩ **5** : a sudden and striking surprise, revelation, or turn of events : TWIST
kick around *vt* **1** : to treat in an inconsiderate or high-handed fashion **2** : to consider, examine, or discuss from various angles
kick·back \ˈkik-ˌbak\ *n* **1** : a sharp violent reaction **2** : a return of a part of a sum received often because of confidential agreement or coercion ⟨appointees paid a ~ to the ward boss out of each paycheck⟩
kick·er *n* **1** : one that kicks or kicks something **2** : KICK 5



1, keystone 1

kick in *vt* : CONTRIBUTE ~ *vi* **1** *slang* : DIE **2** : to make a contribution
kick·off \ˈkik-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : a kick that puts the ball into play in a football or soccer game **2** : COMMENCEMENT 1
kick off *vi* **1** : to start or resume play in football by a placekick **2** : to begin proceedings **3** *slang* : DIE ~ *vt* : to mark the beginning of
kick out *vt* : to dismiss or eject forcefully or summarily
kick over *vi* : to begin to fire — used of an internal-combustion engine ~ *vt* : to cause (an internal-combustion engine) to turn over and usu. begin to fire
kick·shaw \ˈkik-ˌshȯ\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. F *quelque chose* something] **1** : a fancy dish : DELICACY **2** : BAUBLE, GEWGAW
kick·stand \ˈkik-ˌstand\ *n* [fr. its being put in position by a kick] : a swiveling metal bar or rod for holding up a 2-wheeled vehicle when not in use
kick turn *n* : a standing half turn in skiing made by swinging one ski high with a jerk and planting it in the desired direction and then lifting the other ski into a parallel position
kick·up \ˈkik-ˌəp\ *n* : a noisy quarrel : ROW
kick up \(ˈ)kik-ˈəp\ *vt* **1** : to cause to rise upward ⟨clouds of dust *kicked up* by passing cars⟩ **2** : to stir up : PROVOKE ⟨*kick up* a fuss⟩ ~ *vi* : to give evidence of disorder
¹kid \ˈkid\ *n* [ME *kide*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *kith* kid] **1 a** : a young goat **b** : a young individual of various animals related to the goat **2 a** : the flesh, fur, or skin of a kid **b** : something made of kid **3** : a young person : CHILD — **kid·dish** \ˈkid-ish\ *adj*
²kid *vi* **kid·ded; kid·ding** : to bring forth young — used of a goat or an antelope
³kid *vb* **kid·ded; kid·ding** [prob. fr. ¹*kid*] *vt* **1** : to deceive as a joke : FOOL ⟨it's the truth; I wouldn't ~ you⟩ **2** : to make fun of : TEASE ~ *vi* : to engage in good-humored fooling or horseplay : JOKE — often used with *around* — **kid·der** *n* — **kid·ding·ly** \ˈkid-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
Kid·der·min·ster \ˈkid-ər-ˌmin(t)-stər\ *n* [*Kidderminster*, England] : an ingrain carpet
kid·die *or* **kid·dy** \ˈkid-ē\ *n, pl* **kiddies** [¹*kid*] : a small child
kid·dush \ˈkid-əsh, -ish; kid-ˈüsh\ *n* [LHeb *qiddūsh* sanctification] : a ceremonial blessing pronounced over wine or bread in a Jewish home or synagogue on a sabbath or other holy day
kiddush ha·shem \-hə-ˈshām\ *n, often cap K & H* [LHeb *qiddūsh hash-shēm* sanctification of the name (of God)] : an act of moral uprightness or religious heroism that reflects credit on a Jew's commitment to Judaism; *specif* : martyrdom in the cause of Judaism
kid glove *n* : a dress glove made of kid leather — **kid-gloved** \ˈkid-ˈgləvd\ *adj* — **with kid gloves** : with special consideration
kid leather *n* **1** : a soft pliable leather made from kidskin **2** : a glove leather made from lambskin or goatskin
kid·nap \ˈkid-ˌnap\ *vt* **-napped** *or* **-naped** \-ˌnapt\; **-nap·ping** *or* **-nap·ing** [prob. back-formation fr. *kidnapper*, fr. *kid* + obs. *napper* (thief)] : to seize and detain or carry away by unlawful force or fraud and often with a demand for ransom — **kid·nap·per** *or* **kid·nap·er** *n*
kid·ney \ˈkid-nē\ *n, pl* **kidneys** [ME] **1 a** : one of a pair of vertebrate organs situated in the body cavity near the spinal column that excrete waste products of metabolism, in man are bean-shaped organs about 4½ inches long lying behind the peritoneum in a mass of fatty tissue, and consist chiefly of nephrons by which urine is secreted, collected, and discharged into a main cavity whence it is conveyed by the ureter to the bladder **b** : any of various excretory organs of invertebrate animals **2** : the kidney of an animal eaten as food by man **3** : sort or kind esp. with regard to temperament ⟨a nice helpful guy, of a different ~ entirely from the ubiquitous Secret Police functionaries —Paula Lecler⟩
kidney bean *n* **1** : an edible and nutritious seed of any cultivated bean of the common species (*Phaseolus vulgaris*); *esp* : a large dark-red bean seed **2** : a plant bearing kidney beans
kidney stone *n* : a calculus in the kidney
kid·skin \ˈkid-ˌskin\ *n* : the skin of a young or sometimes a mature goat; *also* : KID LEATHER
kid stuff *n* **1** : something befitting or appropriate only to children **2** : something extremely simple or easy
kiel·ba·sa \k(y)el-ˈbäs-ə, kil-\ *n, pl* **-basas** *also* **-ba·sy** \-ˈbäs-ē\ [Pol *kiełbasa;* akin to Russ *kolbasa* sausage] : a smoked sausage of Polish origin
kie·sel·guhr *or* **kie·sel·gur** \ˈkē-zəl-ˌgu̇(ə)r\ *n* [G *kieselgur*] : loose or porous diatomite
kie·ser·ite \ˈkē-zə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *kieserit*, fr. Dietrich *Kieser* †1862 G physician] : a mineral $MgSO_4H_2O$ that is a white hydrous magnesium sulfate
kif \ˈkif, ˈkēf\ *var of* KEF
kike \ˈkīk\ *n* [prob. alter. of *kiki*, redupl. of *-ki* common ending of names of Jews who lived in Slavic countries] : JEW — usu. taken to be offensive
Ki·ku·yu \ki-ˈkü-(ˌ)yü\ *n, pl* **Kikuyu** *or* **Kikuyus** **1** : a member of a Bantu-speaking people of Kenya **2** : the Bantu language of the Kikuyu people
Kild *abbr* Kildare
kil·der·kin \ˈkil-dər-kən\ *n* [ME, fr. MD *kindekijn*, fr. ML *quintale* quintal] **1** : CASK **2** : an English unit of capacity equal to ½ barrel
Kilk *abbr* Kilkenny
¹kill \ˈkil\ *vb* [ME *killen*] *vt* **1 a** : to deprive of life **b** (1) : to slaughter (as a hog) for food (2) : to convert a food animal into (as pork) by slaughtering **2 a** : to put an end to ⟨~ competition⟩ **b** : DEFEAT, VETO **c** : to mark for omission **3 a** : to destroy the vital or essential quality of ⟨~*ed* the pain with drugs⟩ **b** : to cause to stop ⟨~ the motor⟩ **c** : to check the flow of current through **4** : to cause to elapse ⟨~ time⟩ **5 a** : to cause extreme pain to **b** : to tire almost to the point of collapse **6** : to hit (a ball) so hard in a racket game that a return is impossible **7** : to consume (as a drink) totally ~ *vi* : to deprive one of life

syn KILL, SLAY, MURDER, ASSASSINATE, DISPATCH, EXECUTE *shared meaning element* : to deprive of life

²kill *n* **1** : an act or instance of killing **2** : something killed: as **a** (1) : an animal shot in a hunt (2) : animals killed in a hunt, season, or particular period of time **b** : an enemy airplane, submarine, or ship destroyed by military action **c** : a return shot in a racket game that is too hard for an opponent to handle

³kill *n, often cap* [D *kil*] : CHANNEL, CREEK — used chiefly in place names in Delaware and New York

kill·deer \'kil-ˌdi(ə)r\ *n, pl* **killdeers** *or* **killdeer** [imit.] : a plover (*Charadrius vociferus* syn. *Oxyechus vociferus*) of temperate No. America characterized by a plaintive penetrating cry

kill·er \'kil-ər\ *n* **1** : one that kills **2** : KILLER WHALE

killer whale *n* : a carnivorous gregarious largely black whale (*Orcinus orca* syn. *Orca orca*) 20 to 30 feet long



killer whale

kil·lick \'kil-ik\ *n* [origin unknown] : a small anchor; *also* : an anchor formed by a stone usu. enclosed by pieces of wood

kil·li·fish \'kil-i-ˌfish\ *n* [*killie* (killifish) + *fish*] **1** : any of numerous small oviparous fishes (family Cyprinodontidae) much used as bait and in mosquito control **2** : TOPMINNOW

¹kill·ing \'kil-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act of one that kills **2** : KILL 2a **3** : a sudden notable gain or profit

²killing *adj* **1** : that kills or relates to killing **2** : highly amusing

kill·joy \'kil-ˌjȯi\ *n* : one who spoils the pleasure of others

kill off *vt* : to destroy in large numbers or totally ⟨hunters *killed* the buffalo *off* rapidly until only a few were left⟩

¹kiln \'kiln, 'kil\ *n* [ME *kilne*, fr. OE *cyln*, fr. L *culina* kitchen, fr. *coquere* to cook — more at COOK] : an oven, furnace, or heated enclosure used for processing a substance by burning, firing, or drying

²kiln *vt* : to process in a kiln

ki·lo \'kē-(ˌ)lō\ *n, pl* **kilos** **1** : KILOGRAM **2** : KILOMETER

Kilo — a communications code word for the letter *k*

kilo- *comb form* [F, modif. of Gk *chilioi* — more at MILE] : thousand ⟨*kilo*ton⟩

ki·lo·bar \'kē-lə-ˌbär, 'kil-ə-\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of pressure equal to 1000 bars

ki·lo·bit \-ˌbit\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 bits

ki·lo·cal·o·rie \-ˌkal-(ə-)rē\ *n* [ISV] : CALORIE 1b

ki·lo·cu·rie \-ˌkyu̇(ə)r-(ˌ)ē, -kyu̇-ˌrē\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 curies

kilo·cy·cle \'kil-ə-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 cycles; *esp* : KILOHERTZ

ki·lo·gauss \'kē-lə-ˌgau̇s, 'kil-ə-\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 gauss

ki·lo·gram \'kē-lə-ˌgram, 'kil-ə-\ *n* [F *kilogramme*, fr. *kilo-* + *gramme* gram] **1** : the basic metric unit of mass and weight equal to the mass of a platinum-iridium cylinder kept at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures near Paris and nearly equal to 1000 cubic centimeters of water at the temperature of its maximum density — see METRIC SYSTEM table **2** : a unit of force equal to the weight of a kilogram mass under a gravitational attraction of 980.665 centimeters per second per second

kilogram calorie *n* : CALORIE 1b

kilogram–meter *n* : the mks gravitational unit of work and energy equal to the work done by a kilogram force acting through a distance of one meter in the direction of the force : about 7.235 foot-pounds

ki·lo·hertz \'kil-ə-ˌhərts, 'kē-lə-, -ˌhe(ə)rts\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 hertz

kilo·li·ter \'kil-ə-ˌlēt-ər\ *n* [F *kilolitre*, fr. *kilo-* + *litre* liter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table

ki·lo·me·ter \kil-'äm-ət-ər (*not parallel with other metric-system compounds*), 'kil-ə-ˌmēt-\ *n* [F *kilomètre*, fr. *kilo-* + *mètre* meter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table

ki·lo·oer·sted \'kē-lō-ˌər-stəd, 'kil-ō-, -ˌȯr-\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 oersteds

ki·lo·par·sec \-ˌpär-ˌsek\ *n* : 1000 parsecs

ki·lo·rad \-ˌrad\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 rads

ki·lo·ton \-ˌtən\ *n* **1** : 1000 tons **2** : an explosive force equivalent to that of 1000 tons of TNT

ki·lo·volt \-ˌvōlt\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of potential difference equal to 1000 volts

kilo·watt \'kil-ə-ˌwät\ *n* [ISV] : 1000 watts

kilowatt–hour *n* : a unit of work or energy equal to that expended by one kilowatt in one hour

¹kilt \'kilt\ *vb* [ME *kilten*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *kjalta* fold of a gathered skirt] *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : to tuck up (as a skirt) **2** : to equip with a kilt ~ *vi* : to move nimbly

²kilt *n* **1** : a knee-length pleated skirt usu. of tartan worn by men in Scotland and by Scottish regiments in the British armies **2** : a garment that resembles a Scottish kilt

kil·ter \'kil-tər\ *n* [origin unknown] : proper condition : ORDER ⟨out of ~⟩

Kim·bun·du \kim-'bu̇n-(ˌ)dü\ *n* : a Bantu language of northern Angola

ki·mo·no \kə-'mō-nə *also* -(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [Jap, clothes] **1** : a long robe with wide sleeves traditionally worn with a broad sash as an outer garment by the Japanese **2** : a loose dressing gown worn chiefly by women



kimono 1

¹kin \'kin\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cyn*; akin to OHG *chunni* race, L *genus* birth, race, kind, Gk *genos*, L *gignere* to beget, Gk *gignesthai* to be born] **1** : a group of persons of common ancestry : CLAN **2** **a** : one's relatives : KINDRED **b** : KINSMAN ⟨he wasn't any ~ to you —Jean Stafford⟩ **3** *archaic* : KINSHIP

²kin *adj* : KINDRED, RELATED

Kin *abbr* Kinross-shire

-kin \kən\ *also* **-kins** \kənz\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. MD *-kin*; akin to OHG *-chīn*, dim. suffix] : little ⟨cat*kin*⟩ ⟨baby-*kins*⟩

ki·na \'kē-nə\ *n* [native name in Papua New Guinea] — see MONEY table

ki·nase \'kī-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* [ISV, fr. *kinetic*] : an enzyme that catalyzes the transfer of phosphate groups from ATP or ADP to a substrate

Kinc *abbr* Kincardineshire

¹kind \'kīnd\ *n* [ME *kinde*, fr. OE *cynd*; akin to OE *cyn* kin] **1** **a** *archaic* : NATURE **b** *archaic* : FAMILY, LINEAGE **2** *archaic* : MANNER **3** : fundamental nature or quality : ESSENCE **4** **a** : a group united by common traits or interests : CATEGORY ⟨biting insects with habits characteristic of their ~⟩ **b** : a specific or recognized variety ⟨what ~ of car do you drive⟩ **c** : a doubtful or barely admissible member of a category ⟨a ~ of gray⟩ **5** **a** : goods or commodities as distinguished from money ⟨payment in ~ rather than in cash⟩ **b** : the equivalent of what has been offered or received ***syn*** see TYPE — **all kinds of** **1** : MANY ⟨likes *all kinds of* sports⟩ **2** : plenty of ⟨has *all kinds of* time to get there⟩

²kind *adj* **1** *chiefly dial* : AFFECTIONATE, LOVING **2** **a** : of a sympathetic nature : disposed to be helpful and solicitous **b** : of a forbearing nature : GENTLE **c** : arising from or characterized by sympathy or forbearance ⟨a ~ act⟩ **3** : of a kind to give pleasure or relief : AGREEABLE

syn KIND, KINDLY, BENIGN, BENIGNANT *shared meaning element* : showing or having a gentle considerate nature ***ant*** unkind

kin·der·gar·ten \'kin-də(r)-ˌgärt-ᵊn, -ˌgärd-\ *n* [G, fr. *kinder* children + *garten* garden] : a school or class for children usu. from four to six years old

kin·der·gart·ner \-ˌgärt-nər\ *n* **1** : a child attending or of an age to attend kindergarten **2** : a teacher at a kindergarten

kind·heart·ed \'kīnd-'härt-əd\ *adj* : marked by a sympathetic nature — **kind·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **kind·heart·ed·ness** *n*

¹kin·dle \'kin-dᵊl\ *vb* **kin·dled; kin·dling** \-(d)liŋ, -dᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *kindlen*, fr. ON *kynda*; akin to OHG *cuntesal* fire] *vt* **1** : to start (a fire) burning : LIGHT **2** : to stir up : AROUSE **3** : to cause to glow : ILLUMINATE ~ *vi* **1** : to catch fire **2** **a** : to flare up **b** : to become animated **3** : to become illuminated ***syn*** see LIGHT — **kin·dler** \-(d)lər, -dᵊl-ər\ *n*

²kindle *vb* **kin·dled; kin·dling** [ME *kindlen*] *vt* : BEAR — used esp. of a rabbit ~ *vi* : to bring forth young — used esp. of a rabbit

kind·less \'kīn-(d)ləs\ *adj* **1** *obs* : INHUMAN **2** : DISAGREEABLE, UNCONGENIAL — **kind·less·ly** *adv*

kind·li·ness \'kīn-(d)lē-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being kindly **2** : a kindly deed

kin·dling \'kin-(d)liŋ, 'kin-lən\ *n* : easily combustible material for starting a fire

¹kind·ly \'kīn-(d)lē\ *adj* **kind·li·er; -est** **1** **a** *obs* : NATURAL **b** *archaic* : LAWFUL **2** : of an agreeable or beneficial nature : PLEASANT ⟨~ climate⟩ **3** : of a sympathetic or generous nature : FRIENDLY ⟨~ men⟩ ***syn*** see KIND ***ant*** unkindly, acrid (*as of attitudes, comments*)

²kindly *adv* **1** **a** : in the normal way : NATURALLY ⟨old wounds which had healed ~ —*Amer. Mercury*⟩ **b** : READILY ⟨did not take ~ to suggestions⟩ **2** **a** : in a kind manner : SYMPATHETICALLY **b** : as a gesture of goodwill ⟨would take it ~ if you would put in a good word for the boy⟩ **c** : in a gracious manner : COURTEOUSLY, OBLIGINGLY ⟨~ fill out the attached questionnaire⟩

kind·ness \'kīn(d)-nəs\ *n* **1** : a kind deed : FAVOR **2** **a** : the quality or state of being kind **b** *archaic* : AFFECTION

kind of \ˌkīn-də(v)\ *adv* : to a moderate degree : SOMEWHAT ⟨it's *kind of* late to begin⟩

¹kin·dred \'kin-drəd\ *n* [ME, fr. *kin* + OE *rǣden* condition, fr. *rǣdan* to advise, read] **1** **a** : a group of related individuals **b** : one's relatives **2** : family relationship : KINSHIP

²kindred *adj* **1** : of a similar nature or character : LIKE **2** : of the same ancestry ***syn*** see RELATED

kine \'kīn\ *archaic pl of* COW

kin·e·ma \'kin-ə-mə\ *Brit var of* CINEMA

ki·ne·mat·ics \ˌkin-ə-'mat-iks, ˌkī-nə-\ *n pl but sing in constr* [F *cinématique*, fr. Gk *kinēmat-, kinēma* motion — more at CINEMATOGRAPH] : a branch of dynamics that deals with aspects of motion apart from considerations of mass and force — **ki·ne·mat·ic** \-ik\ *or* **ki·ne·mat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **ki·ne·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹ki·ne·scope \'kin-ə-ˌskōp, 'kī-nə-\ *n* [fr. *Kinescope*, a trademark] **1** : PICTURE TUBE **2** : a motion picture made from an image on a picture tube

²kinescope *vt* **-scoped; -scop·ing** : to make a kinescope of

ki·ne·sics \kə-'nē-siks, kī-, -ziks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [Gk *kinēsis* + E *-ics*] : a systematic study of the relationship between nonlinguistic body motions (as blushes, shrugs, or eye movement) and communication

ki·ne·si·ol·o·gy \kə-ˌnē-sē-'äl-ə-jē, kī-, -zē-\ *n* [Gk *kinēsis* motion] : the study of the principles of mechanics and anatomy in relation to human movement

ki·ne·sis \kə-'nē-səs, kī-\ *n, pl* **ki·ne·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *kinēsis* motion] : a movement that lacks directional orientation and depends upon the intensity of stimulation

-ki·ne·sis \kə-'nē-səs, (ˌ)kī-\ *n comb form, pl* **-ki·ne·ses** \-'nē-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *kinēsis* motion, fr. *kinein* to move — more at HIGHT] : division ⟨karyo*kinesis*⟩

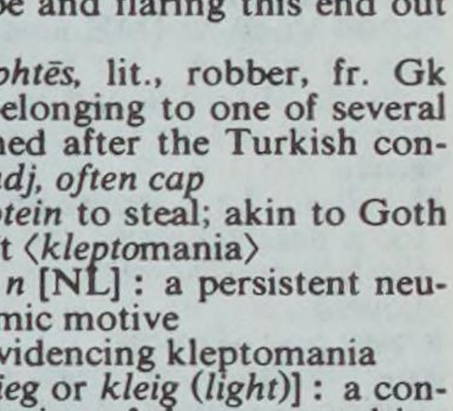
kin·es·the·sia \ˌkin-əs-'thē-zh(ē-)ə, ˌkī-nəs-\ *or* **kin·es·the·sis** \-'thē-səs\ *n, pl* **-the·sias** *or* **-the·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *kinein* + *aisthēsis* perception — more at ANESTHESIA] : a sense mediated by end organs located in muscles, tendons, and joints and stimulated by bodily movements and tensions; *also* : sensory experience derived from this sense — **kin·es·thet·ic** \-'thet-ik\ *adj* — **kin·es·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

kinet- *or* **kineto-** *comb form* [Gk *kinētos* moving] : movement : motion ⟨*kinetogenic*⟩
ki·net·ic \kə-'net-ik, kī-\ *adj* [Gk *kinētikos*, fr. *kinētos* moving, fr. *kinein*] **1** : of or relating to the motion of material bodies and the forces and energy associated therewith **2 a** : ACTIVE, LIVELY **b** : DYNAMIC, ENERGIZING
kinetic art *n* : art (as sculpture or assemblage) having mechanical parts which can be set in motion (as by a motor) — **kinetic artist** *n*
kinetic energy *n* : energy associated with motion
ki·net·i·cist \kə-'net-ə-səst, kī-\ *n* **1** : a specialist in kinetics **2** : one who works in kinetic art : KINETIC ARTIST
kinetic potential *n* : LAGRANGIAN
ki·net·ics \kə-'net-iks, kī-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1 a** : a branch of science that deals with the effects of forces upon the motions of material bodies or with changes in a physical or chemical system **b** : the rate of change in such a system **2** : the mechanism by which a physical or chemical change is effected
kinetic theory *n* : either of two theories in physics based on the fact that the minute particles of a substance are in vigorous motion: **a** : a theory that the particles of a gas move in straight lines with high average velocity, continually encounter one another and thus change their individual velocities and directions, and cause pressure by their impact against the walls of a container — called also *kinetic theory of gases* **b** : a theory that the temperature of a substance increases with an increase in either the average kinetic energy of the particles or the average potential energy of separation (as in fusion) of the particles or in both when heat is added — called also *kinetic theory of heat*
ki·ne·tin \'kī-nə-tən\ *n* [*kinet-* + *-in*] : a plant growth substance that increases mitosis and callus formation
ki·net·o·chore \kə-'net-ə-ˌkō(ə)r, kī-, -ˌkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*kinet-* + Gk *chōros* place] : CENTROMERE
ki·neto·nu·cle·us \kə-ˌnet-ō-'n(y)ü-klē-əs, kī-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *kinētos* + NL *nucleus*] : KINETOPLAST
ki·neto·plast \kə-'net-ə-ˌplast, kī-\ *n* [ISV] : an extranuclear cell organelle esp. of trypanosomes that contains DNA and has some mitochondrial characteristics — **ki·neto·plas·tic** \-ˌnet-ə-'plas-tik\ *adj*
ki·neto·scope \kə-'net-ə-ˌskōp, kī-\ *n* [fr. *Kinetoscope*, a trademark] : a device for viewing through a magnifying lens a sequence of pictures on an endless band of film moved continuously over a light source and a rapidly rotating shutter that creates an illusion of motion
ki·neto·some \-ˌsōm\ *n* : BASAL BODY
kin·folk \'kin-ˌfōk\ *or* **kinfolks** *n pl* : RELATIVES
king \'kiŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cyning*; akin to OHG *kuning* king, OE *cyn* kin] **1 a** : a male monarch of a major territorial unit; *esp* : one who inherits his position and rules for life **b** : a paramount chief **2** *cap* : GOD, CHRIST **3** : one that holds a preeminent position; *esp* : a chief among competitors **4** : the principal piece of each color in a set of chessmen having the power to move ordinarily one square in any direction and to capture opposing men but being obliged never to enter or remain in check **5** : a playing card that is marked with a stylized figure of a king **6** : a checker that has been crowned
king·bird \-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of various American tyrant flycatchers (genus *Tyrannus*)
king·bolt \-ˌbōlt\ *n* : a vertical bolt by which the forward axle and wheels of a vehicle or the trucks of a railroad car are connected with the other parts
King Charles spaniel \kiŋ-ˌchärlz-\ *n* [*Charles* II of England] : a dog of a black and tan variety of the English toy spaniel
king cobra *n* : a large venomous elapid snake (*Naja hannah*) of southeastern Asia and the Philippines — called also *hamadryad*
king crab *n* **1** : HORSESHOE CRAB **2** : any of several very large crabs
king·craft \'kiŋ-ˌkraft\ *n* : the art of governing as a king
king·cup \-ˌkəp\ *n* : any of various buttercups
king·dom \'kiŋ-dəm\ *n* **1** *archaic* : KINGSHIP **2** : a politically organized community or major territorial unit having a monarchical form of government headed by a king or queen **3** *often cap* **a** : the eternal kingship of God **b** : the realm in which God's will is fulfilled **4 a** : a realm or region in which something is dominant **b** : an area or sphere in which one holds a preeminent position **5** : one of the three primary divisions into which natural objects are commonly classified — compare ANIMAL KINGDOM, MINERAL KINGDOM, PLANT KINGDOM
king·fish \'kiŋ-ˌfish\ *n* **1 a** : any of several marine croakers (family Sciaenidae and esp. genus *Menticirrhus*) **b** : any of various scombroid fishes; *esp* : CERO **c** : any of various marine percoid fishes (as of the family Carangidae) **2** : an undisputed master in an area or group
king·fish·er \-ˌfish-ər\ *n* : any of numerous nonpasserine birds (family Alcedinidae) that are usu. crested and bright-colored with a short tail and a long stout sharp bill
King James Version \kiŋ-'jāmz-\ *n* [*James* I of England] : AUTHORIZED VERSION
king·let \'kiŋ-lət\ *n* **1** : a weak or petty king **2** : any of several small birds (genus *Regulus*) that resemble warblers but have some of the habits of titmice
king·ly \'kiŋ-lē\ *adj* **king·li·er; -est** **1** : having royal rank **2** : of, relating to, or befitting a king **3** : MONARCHICAL — **king·li·ness** *n* — **kingly** *adv*
king mackerel *n* : a cero (*Scomberomorus cavalla*) that is noted esp. as a fighting sport fish
king·mak·er \'kiŋ-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one having great influence over the choice of candidates for political office
king of arms : an officer of arms of the highest rank
king·pin \'kiŋ-ˌpin\ *n* **1** : any of several bowling pins: as **a** : HEADPIN **b** : the number 5 pin **2** : the chief person in a group or undertaking **3 a** : KINGBOLT **b** : a pin connecting the two parts of a knuckle joint
king post *n* : a vertical member connecting the apex of a triangular truss (as of a roof) with the base
Kings \'kiŋz\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : either of two narrative and historical books of canonical Jewish and Protestant Scripture — see BIBLE table **2** : any of four narrative and historical books in the Roman Catholic canon of the Old Testament — see BIBLE table
King's Bench *n* : a division in the English superior courts system that hears civil and criminal cases
king's blue *n* : COBALT BLUE
King's Counsel *n* : a barrister selected to serve as counsel to the British crown
King's English *n* : standard, pure, or correct English speech or usage
king's evil *n, often cap K&E* [fr. the former belief that it could be healed by a king's touch] : SCROFULA
king·ship \'kiŋ-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the position, office, or dignity of a king **2** : the personality of a king : MAJESTY **3** : government by a king
king·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : the side of a chessboard containing the file on which the king sits at the beginning of the game
king–size \-ˌsīz\ *or* **king–sized** \-ˌsīzd\ *adj* **1** : longer than the regular or standard size ⟨a ~ cigarette⟩ **2** : unusually large **3 a** : having dimensions of approximately 76 inches by 80 inches — used of a bed; compare FULL-SIZE, QUEEN-SIZE, TWIN-SIZE **b** : of a size that fits a king-size bed ⟨~ sheets⟩
king snake *n* : any of numerous brightly marked colubrid snakes (genus *Lampropeltis*) of the southern and central U.S. that are voracious consumers of rodents
king's yellow *n* : arsenic trisulfide used as a pigment
ki·nin \'kī-nən\ *n* [Gk *kinein* to move, stimulate + E *-in* — more at HIGHT] **1** : any of various polypeptide hormones that are formed locally in the tissues and have their chief effect on smooth muscle **2** : any of various plant growth factors that are related to adenine and play a part in fundamental growth processes
ki·nin·o·gen \kī-'nin-ə-jən\ *n* : an inactive precursor of a kinin — **ki·nin·o·gen·ic** \(ˌ)kī-ˌnin-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj*
¹kink \'kiŋk\ *n* [D; akin to MLG *kinke* kink] **1** : a short tight twist or curl caused by a doubling or winding of something upon itself **2 a** : a mental or physical peculiarity : ECCENTRICITY, QUIRK **b** : WHIM **3** : a clever unusual way of doing something **4** : a cramp in some part of the body **5** : an imperfection likely to cause difficulties in the operation of something
²kink *vi* : to form a kink ~ *vt* : to make a kink in
kin·ka·jou \'kiŋ-kə-ˌjü\ *n* [F, of Algonquian origin; akin to Ojibwa *qwĭngwâage* wolverine] : a slender nocturnal arboreal carnivorous mammal (*Potos caudivolvulus*, family Procyonidae) of Mexico and Central and So. America that is about three feet long and has a long prehensile tail, large lustrous eyes, and soft woolly yellowish brown fur
kinky \'kiŋ-kē\ *adj* **kink·i·er; -est** [¹*kink* + *-y*] **1** : closely twisted or curled ⟨~ hair⟩ **2** : FAR-OUT, OFFBEAT — **kink·i·ness** *n*
kin·ni·kin·nick *also* **kin·ni·ki·nic** \ˌkin-i-kə-'nik, 'kin-i-kə-ˌ\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *kinukkinuk* mixture] : a mixture of dried leaves and bark and sometimes tobacco smoked by the Indians and pioneers esp. in the Ohio valley; *also* : a plant (as a sumac or dogwood) used in it
-kins — see -KIN
kins·folk \'kinz-ˌfōk\ *n pl* : RELATIVES
kin·ship \'kin-ˌship\ *n* : the quality or state of being kin : RELATIONSHIP
kins·man \'kinz-mən\ *n* : RELATIVE; *specif* : a male relative
kins·wom·an \-ˌwu̇m-ən\ *n* : a female relative
ki·osk \'kē-ˌäsk, kē-'\ *n* [Turk *köşk*, fr. Per *kūshk* portico] **1** : an open summerhouse or pavilion **2** : a small light structure with one or more open sides used esp. as a newsstand or a telephone booth
Ki·o·wa \'kī-ə-ˌwȯ, -ˌwä, -ˌwā\ *n, pl* **Kiowa** *or* **Kiowas** **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas **2** : the language of the Kiowa people
¹kip \'kip\ *n* [obs. D; akin to MLG *kip* bundle of hides] : a bundle of undressed hides of young or small animals; *also* : one of the hides
²kip *n* [*kilo-* + *pound*] : a unit of weight equal to 1000 pounds used to express deadweight load
³kip \'kip, 'gip\ *n, pl* **kip** *or* **kips** [Thai] — see MONEY table
¹kip·per \'kip-ər\ *n* [ME *kypre*, fr. OE *cypera*; akin to OE *coper* copper] **1** : a male salmon or sea trout during or after the spawning season **2** : a kippered herring or salmon
²kipper *vt* **kip·pered; kip·per·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ : to cure (split dressed fish) by salting and smoking
Kir·ghiz \ki(ə)r-'gēz\ *n, pl* **Kirghiz** *or* **Kir·ghiz·es** [Kirghiz *Kyrghyz*] **1** : a member of a people of Mongolian ancestry prob. with some Caucasian intermixture who inhabit chiefly the Central Asian steppes **2** : the Turkic language of the Kirghiz
kirk \'ki(ə)rk, 'kərk\ *n* [ME (northern dial.), fr. ON *kirkja*, fr. OE *cirice* — more at CHURCH] **1** *chiefly Scot* : CHURCH **2** *cap* : the national church of Scotland as distinguished from the Church of England or the Episcopal Church in Scotland
Kirk *abbr* Kirkudbrightshire
Kir·man \kər-'män, ki(ə)r-\ *n* [*Kirman*, province in Iran] : a Persian carpet or rug characterized by elaborate fluid designs and soft colors
kir·mess \'kər-məs, (ˌ)kər-'mes\ *var of* KERMIS
kirsch \'ki(ə)rsh\ *n* [G, short for *kirschwasser*, fr. *kirsche* cherry + *wasser* water] : a dry colorless brandy distilled from the fermented juice of the black morello cherry
kir·tle \'kərt-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *kirtel*, fr. OE *cyrtel*, fr. (assumed) OE *curt* short, fr. L *curtus* shortened — more at SHEAR] **1** : a tunic or coat worn by men esp. in the Middle Ages **2** : a long gown or dress worn by women
kish·ke *also* **kish·ka** \'kish-kə\ *n* [Yiddish *kishke* gut, sausage, of Slavic origin; akin to Pol *kiszka* gut, sausage; akin to OE *hord* hoard] : beef or fowl casing stuffed (as with meat, flour, and spices) and cooked

Kis·lev \'kis-ləf\ *n* [Heb *Kislēw*] : the 3d month of the civil year or the 9th month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table
kis·met \'kiz-ˌmet, -mət\ *n, often cap* [Turk, fr. Ar *qismah* portion, lot] : FATE 1, 2a
¹kiss \'kis\ *vb* [ME *kissen*, fr. OE *cyssan;* akin to OHG *kussen* to kiss] *vt* **1** : to touch with the lips esp. as a mark of affection or greeting **2** : to touch gently or lightly ⟨wind gently ~*ing* the trees⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to salute or caress one another with the lips **2** : to come in gentle contact — **kiss·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **kiss good–bye** **1** : LEAVE **2** : to resign oneself to the loss of ⟨you might as well *kiss* the money you loaned him *good-bye*⟩
²kiss *n* **1** : a caress with the lips **2** : a gentle touch or contact **3 a** : a small drop cookie made of meringue **b** : a bite-size piece of candy often wrapped in paper or foil
kiss·er \'kis-ər\ *n* **1** : one that kisses **2** *slang* **a** : MOUTH **b** : FACE
kissing bug *n* : CONENOSE
kissing cousin *n* : a relative whom one knows well enough to kiss more or less formally upon meeting
kissing disease *n* [fr. the belief that it is frequently transmitted by kissing] : INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS
kiss of death [fr. the kiss with which Judas betrayed Jesus (Mk 14:44-46)] : an act or association ultimately causing ruin
kiss off *vt* : DISMISS ⟨*kisses* the other performers *off* as mere amateurs⟩
kiss of peace : a ceremonial kiss, embrace, or handclasp used in Christian liturgies and esp. the Eucharist as a sign of fraternal unity
kist \'kist\ *n* [ME *kiste*, fr. ON *kista* — more at CHEST] *chiefly dial* : CHEST
¹kit \'kit\ *n* [ME] **1** *dial Brit* : a wooden tub **2 a** (1) : a collection of articles usu. for personal use ⟨a travel ~⟩ (2) : a set of tools or implements ⟨a carpenter's ~⟩ (3) : a set of parts to be assembled ⟨model-airplane ~⟩ (4) : a packaged collection of related material ⟨convention ~⟩ **b** : a container for any of such sets or collections **3** : a group of persons or things — usu. used in the phrase *the whole kit and caboodle*
²kit *n* [origin unknown] : a small narrow violin
³kit *n* **1** : KITTEN **2** : a young or undersized fur-bearing animal; *also* : its pelt
kit bag *n* [¹*kit*] **1** : KNAPSACK **2** : a traveling bag with sides that fasten at the top or open to the full width of the bag
kitch·en \'kich-ən\ *n* [ME *kichene*, fr. OE *cycene;* akin to OHG *chuhhina* kitchen; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. LL *coquina*, fr. L *coquere* to cook — more at COOK] **1** : a place (as a room) with cooking facilities **2** : the personnel that prepares, cooks, and serves food
kitchen cabinet *n* **1** : a cupboard with drawers and shelves for use in a kitchen **2** : an informal group of advisers to the head of a government
kitch·en·ette \ˌkich-ə-'net\ *n* : a small kitchen or an alcove containing cooking facilities
kitchen garden *n* : a garden in which vegetables are cultivated
kitchen midden *n* : a refuse heap; *specif* : a mound marking the site of a primitive human habitation
kitchen police *n* **1** : enlisted men detailed to assist the cooks in a military mess **2** : the work of kitchen police
kitch·en·ware \'kich-ən-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : utensils and appliances for use in a kitchen
¹kite \'kīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cȳta;* akin to MHG *kūze* owl, Gk *goan* to lament] **1** : any of various hawks (family Accipitridae) with long narrow wings, a deeply forked tail, and feet adapted for taking insects and small reptiles as prey **2** : a person who preys on others **3** : a light frame covered with paper or cloth, often provided with a balancing tail, and designed to be flown in the air at the end of a long string **4 a** : ACCOMMODATION PAPER **b** : a check drawn against uncollected funds in a bank account or fraudulently raised before cashing **5** *pl* : the lightest and usu. the loftiest sails carried only in a light breeze


kite 1

²kite *vb* **kit·ed; kit·ing** *vi* **1 a** : to go in a rapid, carefree, or flighty manner **b** : to rise rapidly : SOAR ⟨the prices of necessities continue to ~⟩ **2** : to get money or credit by a kite ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to soar **2** : to use (a kite) to get credit or money
kit fox *n* [³*kit*] **1 a** : a small fox (*Vulpes velox*) of the plains of western No. America **b** : a fox (*Vulpes macrotis*) of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico **2** : the fur or pelt of a kit fox
kith \'kith\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cȳthth*, fr. *cūth* known — more at UNCOUTH] : familiar friends, neighbors, or relatives ⟨~ and kin⟩
kithe \'kīth\ *vb* **kithed; kith·ing** [ME *kithen*, fr. OE *cȳthan*, fr. *cūth*] *vt, chiefly Scot* : to make known ~ *vi, chiefly Scot* : to become known
kitsch \'kich\ *n* [G] : artistic or literary material of low quality designed to appeal to current popular taste — **kitschy** \-ē\ *adj*
¹kit·ten \'kit-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *kitoun*, fr. (assumed) ONF *caton*, dim. of *cat*, fr. LL *cattus*] : a young cat; *also* : an immature individual of various other small mammals
²kitten *vi* **kit·tened; kit·ten·ing** \'kit-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ : to give birth to kittens
kit·ten·ish \'kit-nish, -ᵊn-ish\ *adj* : resembling a kitten; *esp* : coyly playful — **kit·ten·ish·ly** *adv* — **kit·ten·ish·ness** *n*
kit·ti·wake \'kit-ē-ˌwāk\ *n* [*imit.*] : any of various gulls (genus *Rissa*) having the hind toe short or rudimentary
¹kit·tle \'kit-ᵊl\ *vt* **kit·tled; kit·tling** \'kit-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME (northern dial.) *kytyllen*] **1** *chiefly Scot* : TICKLE **2** *chiefly Scot* : PERPLEX
²kittle *adj* **1** *chiefly Scot* **a** : SKITTISH **b** : APT **c** : CAPRICIOUS **2** *chiefly Scot* : TICKLISH
¹kit·ty \'kit-ē\ *n, pl* **kitties** : CAT 1a; *esp* : KITTEN
²kitty *n, pl* **kitties** [¹*kit*] **1** : a fund in a poker game made up of contributions from each pot and used (as to pay expenses or buy refreshments) for the players **2** : a sum of money or collection of goods made up of small contributions : POOL
kit·ty–cor·ner *or* **kit·ty–cor·nered** *var of* CATERCORNER
ki·va \'kē-və\ *n* [Hopi] : a Pueblo Indian ceremonial structure that is usu. round and partly underground
Ki·wa·ni·an \kə-'wän-ē-ən\ *n* [*Kiwanis* (*club*)] : a member of a major national and international service club
ki·wi \'kē-(ˌ)wē\ *n* [Maori, of imit. origin] **1** : a flightless New Zealand bird (genus *Apteryx*) with rudimentary wings, stout legs, a long bill, and grayish brown hairlike plumage **2** *cap* : a native or resident of New Zealand — used as a nickname


kiwi

KJV *abbr* King James Version
KKK *abbr* Ku Klux Klan
kl *abbr* kiloliter
Klam·ath weed \'klam-əth-\ *n* [*Klamath* (*river*)] : a cosmopolitan yellow-flowered perennial St.-John's-wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) that is often a noxious weed esp. in rangelands
Klan \'klan\ *n* [(*Ku Klux*) *Klan*] : an organization of Ku Kluxers; *also* : a subordinate unit of such an organization — **Klan·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **Klans·man** \'klanz-mən\ *n*
klatch *or* **klatsch** \'klach, 'kläch\ *n* [G *klatsch* gossip] : a gathering characterized by informal conversation
Klax·on \'klak-sən\ *trademark* — used for an electrically operated horn or warning signal
kleb·si·el·la \ˌkleb-zē-'el-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Edwin *Klebs* †1913 G pathologist] : any of a genus (*Klebsiella*) of plump nonmotile gram-negative frequently encapsulated bacterial rods
Klee·nex \'klē-ˌneks\ *trademark* — used for a cleansing tissue
Klein bottle \'klīn-\ *n* [Felix *Klein* †1925 G mathematician] : a one-sided surface that is formed by passing the narrow end of a tapered tube through the side of the tube and flaring this end out to join the other end
klepht \'kleft\ *n, often cap* [NGk *klephtēs*, lit., robber, fr. Gk *kleptēs*, fr. *kleptein* to steal] : a Greek belonging to one of several independent guerrilla communities formed after the Turkish conquest of Greece — **kleph·tic** \'klef-tik\ *adj, often cap*
klept- *or* **klepto-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *kleptein* to steal; akin to Goth *hlifan* to steal, L *clepere*] : stealing : theft ⟨*klepto*mania⟩
klep·to·ma·nia \ˌklep-tə-'mā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL] : a persistent neurotic impulse to steal esp. without economic motive
klep·to·ma·ni·ac \-nē-ˌak\ *n* : a person evidencing kleptomania
klieg eyes *or* **kleig eyes** \'klēg-\ *n pl* [*klieg* or *kleig* (*light*)] : a condition marked by conjunctivitis and watering of the eyes resulting from excessive exposure to intense light
klieg light *or* **kleig light** *n* [John H. *Kliegl* †1959 & Anton T. *Kliegl* †1927 German-born Am lighting experts] : a carbon arc lamp used in taking motion pictures
Kline·fel·ter's syndrome \'klīn-ˌfel-tərz-\ *n* [Harry F. *Klinefelter b*1912 Am physician] : an abnormal condition characterized by two X and one Y chromosomes and an infertile male phenotype with small testicles
kloof \'klüf\ *n* [Afrik] *So Afr* : a deep glen : RAVINE
kludge \'klüj\ *n* [origin unknown] : a system and esp. a computer system made up of components that are poorly matched or were orig. intended for some other use
klutz \'kləts\ *n* [Yiddish *klotz, klutz*, fr. G *klotz*, lit., wooden block, fr. MHG *kloz* lumpy mass] : a clumsy person — **klutzy** \-ē\ *adj*
kly·stron \'klī-ˌsträn\ *n* [fr. *Klystron*, a trademark] : an electron tube in which bunching of electrons is produced by electric fields and which is used for the generation and amplification of ultrahigh-frequency current
km *abbr* kilometer
KMPS *abbr* kilometers per second
kn *abbr* knot
knack \'nak\ *n* [ME *knak*] **1 a** : a task requiring adroitness and dexterity **b** : a clever way of doing something **c** : TRICK, STRATAGEM **2** : a special ready capacity that is hard to analyze or teach **3** *archaic* : an ingenious device; *broadly* : TOY, KNICKKNACK ***syn*** see GIFT
knack·er \'nak-ər\ *n* [prob. fr. E dial., saddlemaker] **1** *Brit* : a buyer of worn-out domestic animals or their carcasses for use esp. as animal food or fertilizer **2** *Brit* : a buyer of old structures for their constituent materials — **knack·ery** \'nak-ə-rē\ *n*
¹knap \'nap\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cnæp;* akin to OE *cnotta* knot] **1** *chiefly dial* : a crest of a hill : SUMMIT **2** *chiefly dial* : a small hill
²knap *vt* **knapped; knap·ping** [ME *knappen*, of imit. origin] **1** *dial Brit* : ²RAP **2** : to break with a quick blow; *esp* : to shape (as flints) by breaking off pieces **3** *dial Brit* : SNAP, CROP **4** *dial Brit* : CHATTER — **knap·per** *n*
knap·sack \'nap-ˌsak\ *n* [LG *knappsack* or D *knapzak*, fr. LG & D *knappen* to make a snapping noise, eat + LG *sack* or D *zak* sack] : a bag (as of canvas or nylon) strapped on the back and used (as on a hike) for carrying supplies or personal belongings
knap·weed \-ˌwēd\ *n* [ME *knopwed*, fr. *knop* + *wed* weed] : any of various weedy centaureas; *esp* : a widely naturalized European perennial (*C. nigra*) with tough wiry stems and knobby heads of purple flowers
knave \'nāv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cnafa;* akin to OHG *knabo* boy] **1** *archaic* **a** : a boy servant **b** : a male servant **c** : a man of humble birth or position **2** : a tricky deceitful fellow **3** : JACK 6a

knav·ery \'nāv-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1 a** : RASCALITY **b** : a roguish or mischievous act **2** *obs* : roguish mischief
knav·ish \'nā-vish\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a knave; *esp* : DISHONEST — **knav·ish·ly** *adv*
knead \'nēd\ *vt* [ME *kneden*, fr. OE *cnedan;* akin to OHG *knetan* to knead, OE *cnotta* knot] **1** : to work and press into a mass with or as if with the hands ⟨~*ing* dough⟩ **2** : to form or shape by or as if by kneading ⟨~ and mold public opinion⟩ — **knead·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **knead·er** *n*
¹knee \'nē\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *cnēow;* akin to OHG *kneo* knee, L *genu*, Gk *gony*] **1 a** : a joint in the middle part of the human leg that is the articulation between the femur, tibia, and patella; *also* : the part of the leg that includes this joint **b** (1) : the joint in the hind leg of a four-footed vertebrate that corresponds to the human knee (2) : the carpal joint of the foreleg of a four-footed vertebrate **c** : the tarsal joint of a bird **d** : the joint between the femur and tibia of an insect **2 a** : something resembling the human knee **b** : a rounded or conical process rising from the roots of various swamp-growing trees ⟨cypress ~⟩ **3** : the part of a garment covering the knee **4** : a blow with the bent knee — **kneed** \'nēd\ *adj* — **to one's knees** : into a state of submission or defeat ⟨forced *to his knees* by competition⟩
²knee *vt* **kneed; knee·ing** **1** *archaic* : to bend the knee to **2** : to strike with the knee
knee action *n* : a front-wheel suspension of an automobile permitting independent vertical movement of each front wheel
knee·cap \'nē-ˌkap\ *n* : PATELLA
knee–deep \-'dēp\ *adj* **1** : KNEE-HIGH **2 a** : sunk to the knees ⟨~ in mud⟩ **b** : deeply engaged or occupied ⟨~ in work⟩
knee–high \-'hī\ *adj* : rising or reaching upward to the knees
knee·hole \-ˌhōl\ *n* : an open space (as under a desk) for the knees
knee jerk *n* : an involuntary forward kick produced by a light blow on the tendon below the patella
kneel \'nē(ə)l\ *vi* **knelt** \'nelt\ *or* **kneeled; kneel·ing** [ME *knelen*, fr. OE *cnēowlian;* akin to OE *cnēow* knee] : to bend the knee : fall or rest on the knees — **kneel·er** *n*
knee·pan \'nē-ˌpan\ *n* : PATELLA
¹knell \'nel\ *vb* [ME *knellen*, fr. OE *cnyllan;* akin to MHG er*knellen* to toll] *vi* **1** : to ring esp. for a death, funeral, or disaster : TOLL **2** : to sound in an ominous manner or with an ominous effect ~ *vt* : to summon, announce, or proclaim by or as if by a knell
²knell *n* **1** : a stroke or sound of a bell esp. when rung slowly (as for a death, funeral, or disaster) **2** : an indication of the end or the failure of something ⟨this decision sounded the death ~ for our hopes⟩
knew *past of* KNOW
knick·er·bock·er \'nik-ə(r)-ˌbäk-ər\ *n* [Diedrich *Knickerbocker*, fictitious author of *History of New York* (1809) by Washington Irving] **1** *cap* : a descendant of the early Dutch settlers of New York; *broadly* : a native or resident of the city or state of New York — used as a nickname **2** *pl* : KNICKERS
knick·ers \'nik-ərz\ *n pl* [short for *knickerbockers*] : loose-fitting short pants gathered at the knee


knickers

knick·knack \'nik-ˌnak\ *n* [redupl. of *knack*] : a small trivial article intended for ornament
¹knife \'nīf\ *n, pl* **knives** \'nīvz\ *often attrib* [ME *knif*, fr. OE *cnīf;* akin to MLG *knīf* knife, OE *cnotta* knot] **1 a** : a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle **b** : a weapon resembling a knife **2** : a sharp cutting blade or tool in a machine — **knife·like** \'nī-ˌflīk\ *adj* — **under the knife** : undergoing surgery ⟨was *under the knife* for 3 hours⟩
²knife *vb* **knifed; knif·ing** *vt* **1** : to use a knife on; *specif* : to stab, slash, or wound with a knife **2** : to cut, mark, or spread with a knife **3** : to try to defeat by underhand means **4** : to move like a knife in ⟨prows *knifing* the water⟩ ~ *vi* : to cut a way with or as if with a knife blade ⟨the cruiser *knifed* through the heavy seas⟩
knife–edge \'nī-ˌfej\ *n* **1** : a sharp narrow knifelike edge **2** : a sharp wedge of steel or other hard material used as a fulcrum for a lever beam in a precision instrument
¹knight \'nīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cniht;* akin to OHG *kneht* youth, military follower, OE *cnotta* knot] **1 a** (1) : a mounted man-at-arms serving a feudal superior; *esp* : a man ceremonially inducted into special military rank usu. after completing service as page and squire (2) : a man honored by a sovereign for merit and in Great Britain ranking below a baronet (3) : a person of antiquity equal to a knight in rank **b** : a man devoted to the service of a lady as her attendant or champion **c** : a member of an order or society **2** : either of two pieces of the same color in a set of chessmen having an L-shaped move of two squares in one row and one square in a perpendicular row over squares that may be occupied
²knight *vt* : to make a knight of
knight bachelor *n, pl* **knights bachelors** *or* **knights bachelor** : a knight of the most ancient and lowest order of English knights
knight–er·rant \'nīt-'er-ənt\ *n, pl* **knights–errant** : a knight traveling in search of adventures in which to exhibit military skill, prowess, and generosity
knight–er·rant·ry \'nīt-'er-ən-trē\ *n, pl* **knight–errantries** **1** : the practice or actions of a knight-errant **2** : quixotic conduct
knight·hood \'nīt-ˌhůd\ *n* **1** : the rank, dignity, or profession of a knight **2** : the qualities befitting a knight : CHIVALRY **3** : knights as a class or body
knight·ly \'nīt-lē\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a knight **2** : made up of knights — **knight·li·ness** *n* — **knightly** *adv*
Knight of Co·lum·bus \-kə-'ləm-bəs\ *n, pl* **Knights of Columbus** [Christopher *Columbus*] : a member of a benevolent and fraternal society of Roman Catholic men
Knight of Pyth·i·as \-'pith-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **Knights of Pythias** : a member of a secret benevolent and fraternal order
Knight of the Mac·ca·bees \-'mak-ə-ˌbēz\ *n, pl* **Knights of the Maccabees** : a member of a secret benevolent society
Knight Templar *n, pl* **Knights Templars** *or* **Knights Templar** **1** : TEMPLAR 1 **2** : a member of an order of Freemasonry conferring three degrees in the York rite
knish \kə-'nish\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. Russ] : a small round or square of dough stuffed with a filling (as of meat, cheese, or fruit) and baked or fried
¹knit \'nit\ *vb* **knit** *or* **knit·ted; knit·ting** [ME *knitten*, fr. OE *cnyttan;* akin to OE *cnotta* knot] *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : to tie together **2 a** : to link firmly or closely ⟨*knitted* her hands until the knuckles blanched⟩ **b** : to cause to grow together ⟨time and rest will ~ a fractured bone⟩ **c** : to contract into wrinkles ⟨*knitted* her brow in thought⟩ **3** : to form by interlacing yarn or thread in a series of connected loops with needles ~ *vi* **1** : to make knitted fabrics or objects **2 a** : to become compact **b** : to grow together **c** : to become drawn together ⟨closely ~ by common interests⟩ — **knit·ter** *n*
²knit *n* : KNIT STITCH
knit stitch *n* : a basic knitting stitch usu. made with the yarn at the back of the work by inserting the right needle into the front part of a loop on the left needle from the left side, catching the yarn with the point of the right needle, and bringing it through the first loop to form a new loop — compare PURL STITCH
knit·ting *n* **1** : the action or method of one that knits **2** : work done or being done by one that knits
knit·wear \'nit-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : knitted clothing
knob \'näb\ *n* [ME *knobbe;* akin to MLG *knubbe* knob, OE *-cnoppa* — more at KNOP] **1 a** : a rounded protuberance : LUMP **b** : a small rounded ornament or handle **2** : a rounded usu. isolated hill or mountain — **knobbed** \'näbd\ *adj* — **knob·by** \'näb-ē\ *adj*
knob·ker·rie \'näb-ˌker-ē\ *n* [Afrik *knopkierie*, fr. *knop* knob + *kierie* club] : a short wooden club with a knob at one end used as a missile or in close attack esp. by Zulus of southern Africa
¹knock \'näk\ *vb* [ME *knoken*, fr. OE *cnocian;* akin to MHG *knochen* to press] *vi* **1** : to strike something with a sharp blow **2** : to collide with something **3 a** : BUSTLE ⟨heard him ~*ing* around in the kitchen most of the morning⟩ **b** : WANDER ⟨~*ed* about Europe all summer⟩ **4 a** : to make a pounding noise **b** : to have engine knock **5** : to find fault ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to strike sharply (2) : to drive, force, or make by so striking **b** : to set forcibly in motion with a blow **2** : to cause to collide **3** : to find fault with ⟨always ~*ing* those in authority⟩ — **knock cold** : to knock out ⟨was *knocked cold* in the third round⟩ — **knock dead** : to move strongly esp. to admiration or applause ⟨a comedian who really *knocks* them *dead*⟩ — **knock for a loop** **1 a** : OVERCOME ⟨*knocked* his opponent *for a loop*⟩ **b** : DEMOLISH ⟨*knocked* his faith in human nature *for a loop*⟩ **2** : DUMBFOUND, AMAZE ⟨the news *knocked* them *for a loop*⟩ — **knock out of the box** : to cause (an opposing pitcher) to be retired from a baseball game by hitting pitched balls with marked effectiveness — **knock together** : to make or assemble esp. hurriedly or in a makeshift way ⟨*knocked together* his own desk and bookcase⟩
²knock *n* **1 a** : a sharp blow : RAP **b** (1) : a severe misfortune or hardship (2) : SETBACK, REVERSAL **2 a** : a pounding noise **b** : a sharp metallic noise caused by abnormal ignition in an automobile engine **3** : a harsh and often petty criticism ⟨likes praise but can't stand the ~*s*⟩
¹knock·about \'näk-ə-ˌbau̇t\ *adj* **1** : suitable for rough use ⟨~ clothing⟩ **2 a** : being noisy and rough : BOISTEROUS ⟨~ games⟩ **b** : characterized by boisterous antics and often extravagant burlesque ⟨~ comedy⟩
²knockabout *n* **1** : a performer or performance of knockabout comedy **2** : a sloop with a simplified rig marked by absence of bowsprit and topmast **3** : something (as an article of clothing) suitable for rough use
knock back *vt, chiefly Brit* : SWALLOW; *specif* : to toss down (an alcoholic beverage) ⟨you *knock back* a pint in the pub —John Braine⟩
¹knock·down \'näk-ˌdau̇n\ *n* **1** : the action of knocking down **2** : something (as a blow) that strikes down or overwhelms **3** : something (as a piece of furniture) that can be easily assembled or disassembled
²knockdown *adj* **1** : having such force as to strike down or overwhelm ⟨a bewildering assortment of ~ arguments —J. W. Krutch⟩ **2** : that can easily be assembled or disassembled ⟨a ~ table⟩
knock down \-'dau̇n\ *vt* **1** : to strike to the ground with or as if with a sharp blow : FELL **2** : to dispose of (an item) to a bidder at an auction sale **3** : to take apart : DISASSEMBLE **4** : to receive as income or salary : EARN ⟨positions where they were able to *knock down* good money —*Infantry Jour.*⟩ **5** : to make a reduction in ⟨*knocked* the price *down* a few dollars⟩
knock–down–and–drag–out *also* **knock–down–drag–out** *adj* : marked by extreme violence or bitterness and by the giving of no quarter ⟨~ political debates⟩ — **knock–down–and–drag–out** *n*
knock·er \'näk-ər\ *n* : one that knocks: as **a** : a metal ring, bar, or hammer hinged to a door for use in knocking **b** : a persistently pessimistic critic
knock–knee \'näk-'nē, -ˌnē\ *n* : a condition in which the legs curve inward at the knees — **knock–kneed** \-'nēd\ *adj*
knock·off \'näk-ˌȯf\ *n* : a copy (as of a dress design) that sells for less than the original
knock off \-'ȯf\ *vi* : to stop doing something ~ *vt* **1** : to do hurriedly or routinely ⟨*knocked off* one painting after another⟩ **2** : DISCONTINUE, STOP ⟨they *knocked off* work at five⟩ **3** : DEDUCT ⟨*knocked off* a few cents to make the price more attractive⟩ **4 a** : KILL ⟨*knocked off* two men . . . on mercenary grounds —Lewis Baker⟩ **b** : OVERCOME ⟨*knocked off* each center of rebellion⟩ **5** : ROB ⟨*knocked off* a couple of banks⟩
knock·out \'näk-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1 a** : the act of knocking out : the condition of being knocked out **b** (1) : the termination of a boxing match when one boxer has been knocked unconscious or has been

knocked down and is unable to rise and resume boxing within a specified time (2) : TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT **c** : a blow that knocks out an opponent **2** : something sensationally striking or attractive — **knockout** *adj*

knock out \-'au̇t\ *vt* **1** : to produce roughly or hastily **2 a** (1) : to defeat (a boxing opponent) by a knockout (2) : to make unconscious ⟨the drug *knocked* him *out*⟩ **b** : to make inoperative or useless ⟨telephone communications were *knocked out* by the storm⟩ **3** : to tire out : EXHAUST ⟨*knocked* themselves *out* with work⟩ **4** : to cause (an opposing pitcher) to be retired from a baseball game by a batting rally

knockout drops *n pl* : drops of a solution of a drug (as chloral hydrate) put into a drink and designed to produce unconsciousness or stupefaction

knock over *vt* **1 a** (1) : to strike to the ground : FELL (2) : OVERWHELM ⟨was *knocked over* by the news⟩ **b** : ELIMINATE ⟨*knocked over* every difficulty⟩ **2 a** : STEAL; *esp* : HIJACK ⟨*knocks over* a truckload of merchandise —J. B. Martin⟩ **b** : ROB ⟨*knocking over* a bank⟩ **3** : to move strongly esp. to admiration or applause ⟨his perception really *knocks* me *over*⟩

knock up *vt* **1** *Brit* : ROUSE, SUMMON **2** : to make pregnant

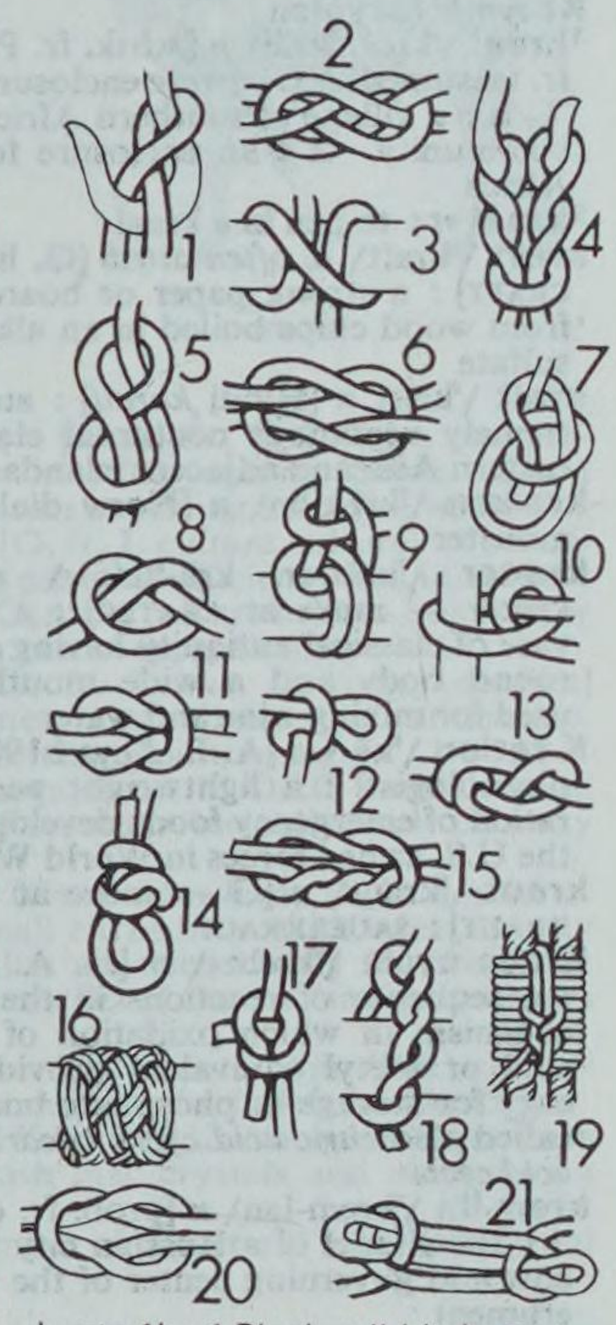
knock·wurst *or* **knack·wurst** \'näk-(,)wərst, -,vu̇(ə)rst, -,vu̇s(h)t\ *n* [G *knackwurst*, fr. *knacken* to crackle (of imit. origin) + *wurst*] : a short thick heavily seasoned sausage

[1]knoll \'nōl\ *n* [ME *knol*, fr. OE *cnoll*; akin to ON *knollr* mountaintop, OE *cnotta* knot] : a small round hill : MOUND

[2]knoll *vb* [ME *knollen*] *archaic* : KNELL

knop \'näp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *-cnoppa* knob; akin to OE *cnotta*] : a usu. ornamental knob — **knopped** \'näpt\ *adj*

[1]knot \'nät\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *cnotta*; akin to OHG *knoto* knot, Lith *gniusti* to press] **1 a** : an interlacement of the parts of one or more flexible bodies forming a lump or knob **b** : the lump or knob so formed **c** : a tight constriction or the sense of constriction ⟨his stomach was all in ~*s*⟩ **2** : something hard to solve : PROBLEM ⟨a matter full of legal ~*s*⟩ **3** : a bond of union; *esp* : the marriage bond **4 a** : a protuberant lump or swelling in tissue ⟨a ~ in a gland⟩ **b** : the base of a woody branch enclosed in the stem from which it arises; *also* : its section in lumber **5** : a cluster of persons or things : GROUP **6** : an ornamental bow of ribbon : COCKADE **7 a** : a division of the log's line serving to measure a ship's speed **b** (1) : one nautical mile per hour (2) : one nautical mile



knots 1b: *1* Blackwall hitch, *2* carrick bend, *3* clove hitch, *4* cat's-paw, *5* figure eight, *6* granny knot, *7* bowline, *8* overhand knot, *9* fisherman's bend, *10* half hitch, *11* reef knot, *12* slipknot, *13* stevedore knot, *14* true lover's knot, *15* surgeon's knot, *16* Turk's head, *17* sheet bend, *18* timber hitch, *19* seizing, *20* square knot, *21* sheepshank

[2]knot *vb* **knot·ted; knot·ting** *vt* **1** : to tie in or with a knot : form knots in **2** : to unite closely or intricately : ENTANGLE ~ *vi* : to form knots — **knot·ter** *n*

[3]knot *n, pl* **knots** *or* **knot** [ME *knott*] : any of several sandpipers (genus *Calidris*) that breed in the Arctic and winter in temperate or warm parts of the New and Old World

knot·grass \'nät-,gras\ *n* **1** : a cosmopolitan weed (*Polygonum aviculare*) of the buckwheat family with jointed stems, prominent sheathing stipules, and minute flowers; *broadly* : any of several congeneric plants **2** : any of several grasses with markedly jointed stems; *esp* : JOINT GRASS

knot·hole \-,hōl\ *n* : a hole in a board or tree trunk where a knot or branch has come out

knot·ted \'nät-əd\ *adj* **1** : tied in or with a knot **2** : full of knots : GNARLED **3** : KNOTTY **4** : ornamented with knots or knobs

knot·ty \'nät-ē\ *adj* **knot·ti·er; -est** : marked by or full of knots; *esp* : so full of difficulties and complications as to be likely to defy solution ***syn*** see COMPLEX — **knot·ti·ness** *n*

knotty pine *n* : pine wood that has a decorative distribution of knots and is used esp. for interior finish

knot·weed \'nät-,wēd\ *n* : any of several herbs (genus *Polygonum*) of the buckwheat family with leaves and bracts jointed and having a very short petiole; *broadly* : POLYGONUM

knout \'nau̇t, 'nüt\ *n* [Russ *knut*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *knūtr* knot; akin to OE *cnotta*] : a whip for flogging criminals — **knout** *vt*

[1]know \'nō\ *vb* **knew** \'n(y)ü\; **known** \'nōn\; **know·ing** [ME *knowen*, fr. OE *cnāwan*; akin to OHG bi*chnāan* to recognize, L *gnoscere, noscere* to come to know, Gk *gignōskein*] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to perceive directly : have direct cognition of (2) : to have understanding of ⟨importance of ~*ing* oneself⟩ (3) : to recognize the nature of : DISCERN **b** (1) : to recognize as being the same as something previously known (2) : to be acquainted or familiar with (3) : to have experience of **2 a** : to be aware of the truth or factuality of : be convinced or certain of **b** : to have a practical understanding of ⟨~*s* how to write⟩ **3** *archaic* : to have sexual intercourse with ~ *vi* **1** : to have knowledge **2** : to be or become cognizant — **know·able** \'nō-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **know·er** \'nō(-ə)r\ *n*

syn KNOW, BELIEVE, THINK *shared meaning element* : to hold something in one's mind as true or as being what it purports to be. These words are often used interchangeably with little thought of their basic signification but it is possible to employ them with discrimination so as to convey quite distinct ideas. In such use KNOW stresses assurance and implies a sound logical or factual basis; BELIEVE, too, stresses assurance but implies trust and faith (as in a higher power) as its basis; while THINK suggests probability rather than firm assurance and implies mental appraisal of pertinent circumstances as its basis. Thus, "I *know* he is telling the truth" implies such factual information in the hands of the speaker as fully confirms the questioned statement; "I *believe* he is telling the truth" can imply such knowledge of the character and personality of the one challenged as to inspire perfect trust; "I *think* he is telling the truth" implies no more than an acceptance of the probability of truthfulness in light of the circumstances ⟨every man *knows* he must die; many men *believe* in an afterlife; some men *think* life is not worth living⟩

[2]know *n* : KNOWLEDGE — **in the know** : in possession of confidential or otherwise exclusive knowledge or information

know–how \'nō-,hau̇\ *n* : knowledge of how to do something smoothly and efficiently : EXPERTISE

[1]know·ing \'nō-iŋ\ *n* : ACQUAINTANCE, COGNIZANCE

[2]knowing *adj* **1** : having or reflecting knowledge, information, or intelligence **2** : shrewdly and keenly alert : ASTUTE **3** : COGNITIVE **4** : DELIBERATE ⟨~ interference in the affairs of another⟩ ***syn*** see INTELLIGENT — **know·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*

know–it–all \'nō-ət-,ȯl\ *n* : one who claims to know everything : one who disdains advice — **know–it–all** *adj*

knowl·edge \'näl-ij\ *n* [ME *knowlege*, fr. *knowlechen* to acknowledge, irreg. fr. *knowen*] **1** *obs* : COGNIZANCE **2 a** (1) : the fact or condition of knowing something with familiarity gained through experience or association (2) : acquaintance with or understanding of a science, art, or technique **b** (1) : the fact or condition of being aware of something (2) : the range of one's information or understanding ⟨answered to the best of his ~⟩ **c** : the fact or condition of apprehending truth or fact : COGNITION **d** : the fact or condition of having information or of being learned ⟨a man of unusual ~⟩ **3** *archaic* : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE **4 a** : the sum of what is known : the body of truth, information, and principles acquired by mankind **b** *archaic* : a branch of learning

syn KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, ERUDITION, SCHOLARSHIP *shared meaning element* : what is or can be known by an individual or by mankind ***ant*** ignorance

knowl·edge·able \'näl-ij-ə-bəl\ *adj* : having or exhibiting knowledge or intelligence : KEEN — **knowl·edge·abil·i·ty** \,näl-ij-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **knowl·edge·able·ness** *n* — **knowl·edge·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

known \'nōn\ *adj* : generally recognized ⟨a ~ authority on art⟩

know–noth·ing \'nō-,nəth-iŋ\ *n* **1 a** : IGNORAMUS **b** : AGNOSTIC **2** *cap K & N* : a member of a 19th century secret American political organization hostile to the political influence of recent immigrants and Roman Catholics

know–noth·ing·ism \-iŋ-,iz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap K & N* : the principles and policies of the Know-Nothings **2** : the condition of knowing nothing or desiring to know nothing or the conviction that nothing can be known with certainty esp. in religion or morality **3** *often cap K&N* : a mid-twentieth century political attitude characterized by anti-intellectualism, exaggerated patriotism, and fear of foreign subversive influences

knubby *var of* NUBBY

[1]knuck·le \'nək-əl\ *n* [ME *knokel*; akin to MHG *knöchel* knuckle, OE *cnotta* knot] **1 a** : the rounded prominence formed by the ends of the two adjacent bones at a joint — used esp. of those at the joints of the fingers **b** : the joint of a knuckle **2** : a cut of meat consisting of the tarsal or carpal joint with the adjoining flesh **3** : something resembling a knuckle: as **a** (1) : one of the joining parts of a hinge through which a pin or rivet passes (2) : KNUCKLE JOINT **b** : the meeting of two surfaces at a sharp angle (as in a roof) **c** : a pivotal point **4** *pl* : a set of metal finger rings or guards attached to a transverse piece and worn over the front of the doubled fist for use as a weapon — called also *brass knuckles*

[2]knuckle *vb* **knuck·led; knuck·ling** \'nək-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* : to place the knuckles on the ground in shooting a marble ~ *vt* : to press or rub with the knuckles

knuck·le·ball \'nək-əl-,bȯl\ *n* : a baseball pitch in which the ball is gripped with the knuckles or the tips of the fingers pressed against the top and thrown with little speed or spin — called also *knuckler*

knuck·le·ball·er \-,bȯ-lər\ *n* : a pitcher who specializes in throwing knuckleballs

knuck·le·bone \,nək-əl-'bōn, 'nək-əl-,\ *n* : one of the bones forming a knuckle; *esp* : a metacarpal or metatarsal bone of a sheep formerly used in gaming or divination

knuckle down *vi* : to apply oneself earnestly ⟨let's *knuckle down* to business⟩

knuck·le–dust·er \'nək-əl-,dəs-tər\ *n* : KNUCKLE 4

knuck·le·head \-,hed\ *n* : DUMBBELL 2 — **knuck·le·head·ed** \,nək-əl-'hed-əd\ *adj*

knuckle joint *n* : a hinge joint in which a projection with an eye on one piece enters a jaw between two corresponding projections with eyes on another piece and is retained by a pin or rivet

knuckle under *vi* : to give in : SUBMIT ⟨refused to *knuckle under* to any dictatorship⟩

knur \'nər\ *n* [ME *knorre;* akin to OE *cnotta* knot] : a hard excrescence (as on a tree trunk) : GNARL
knurl \'nər(-ə)l\ *n* [prob. blend of *knur* and *gnarl*] **1** : a small protuberance, excrescence, or knob **2** : one of a series of small ridges or beads on a metal surface to aid in gripping — **knurled** \'nər(-ə)ld\ *adj* — **knurly** \'nər-lē\ *adj*
1KO \(')kā-'ō, 'kā-(,)ō\ *n* [*k*nock *o*ut] : KNOCKOUT
2KO *vt* **KO'd** \kā-'ōd, 'kā-(,)ōd\; **KO'ing** \-'ō-iŋ, -(,)ō-\ : to knock out (as in boxing)
koa \'kō-ə\ *n* [Hawaiian] **1** : a Hawaiian timber tree (*Acacia koa*) with crescent-shaped leaves and white flowers borne in small round heads **2** : the fine-grained red wood of the koa used esp. for furniture
koala \kō-'äl-ə, kə-'wäl-\ *n* [native name in Australia] : an Australian arboreal marsupial (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) about two feet long that has large hairy ears, gray fur, and sharp claws and feeds on eucalyptus leaves


koala

koan \'kō-,än\ *n* [Jap *kōan,* fr. *kō* public + *an* proposition] : a paradox to be meditated upon that is used to train Zen Buddhist monks to abandon ultimate dependence on reason and to force them into gaining sudden intuitive enlightenment
kobo \'kō-(,)bō\ *n* [native name in Nigeria] — see *naira* at MONEY table
kobold \'kō-,bōld\ *n* [G — more at COBALT] **1** : a gnome that in German folklore inhabits underground places **2** : an often mischievous domestic spirit of German folklore
Kodak \'kō-,dak\ *trademark* — used for a small hand camera
K of C *abbr* Knights of Columbus
K of P *abbr* Knights of Pythias
Koh-i-noor \'kō-ə-,nù(ə)r\ *n* [Per *Kōh-i-nūr,* lit., mountain of light] : a large diamond discovered in India and made one of the British crown jewels
kohl \'kōl\ *n* [Ar *kuḥl*] : a preparation used by women esp. in Arabia and Egypt to darken the edges of the eyelids
kohlrabi \kōl-'rab-ē, -'räb-\ *n, pl* **-bies** [G, fr. It *cavolo rapa,* fr. *cavolo* cabbage + *rapa* turnip] : any of a race of cabbages having a greatly enlarged, fleshy, turnip-shaped edible stem
koine \kȯi-'nā, 'kȯi-,; kē-'nē\ *n* [Gk *koinē,* fr. fem. of *koinos* common] **1** *cap* : the Greek language commonly spoken and written in eastern Mediterranean countries in the Hellenistic and Roman periods **2** : a dialect or language of a region that has become the common or standard language of a larger area
kokanee \kō-'kan-ē\ *n* [prob. fr. *Kokanee* creek, British Columbia] : a small landlocked sockeye salmon — called also *kokanee salmon*
kok-sa-ghyz *or* **kok-sa-gyz** \,kōk-sə-'gēz, ,käk-, -'giz\ *n* [Russ *kok-sagyz*] : a perennial Asiatic dandelion (*Taraxacum kok-saghyz*) cultivated for its fleshy roots that have a high rubber content
kola *var of* COLA
kola nut \'kō-lə-\ *n* : the bitter caffeine-containing seed of a kola tree used esp. as a masticatory and in beverages
kola tree *n* : an African tree (genus *Cola,* esp. *C. nitida*) of the chocolate family cultivated in various tropical areas for its kola nuts
kolinsky *or* **kolinski** \kə-'lin(t)-skē\ *n, pl* **-skies** [Russ *kolinskiĭ* of Kola, fr. *Kola,* town and peninsula in U.S.S.R.] **1** : any of several Asiatic minks (esp. *Mustela siberica*) **2** : the fur or pelt of a kolinsky
kolkhoz \käl-'kȯz, -'kȯs\ *n, pl* **kolkhozy** \-'kȯ-zē\ *or* **kolkhozes** \-'kȯ-zəz\ [Russ, fr. *kol*lektivnoe *khoz*yaistvo collective farm] : a collective farm of the U.S.S.R.
kolkhoznik \käl-'kȯz-nik\ *n, pl* **-niki** \-ni-kē\ *or* **-niks** [Russ, fr. *kolkhoz* + *-nik*] : a member of a kolkhoz
Kol Nidre \kōl-'nid-(,)rā, kȯl-, -rə\ *n* [Aram *kol nidhrē* all the vows; fr. the opening phrase of the prayer] : a formula for the annulment of private vows chanted in the synagogue on the eve of Yom Kippur
kolo \'kō-(,)lō\ *n, pl* **kolos** [Serbo-Croatian, fr. OSlav, wheel; akin to OE *hwēol* wheel] : a central European folk dance in which dancers form a circle and progress slowly to right or left while one or more dancers perform elaborate steps in the center of the circle
komatik \kō-'mat-ik\ *n* [Esk (Labrador dial.)] : an Eskimo sledge with wooden runners and crossbars lashed with rawhide
kommandatura \kə-,man-də-'tůr-ə\ *n* [prob. fr. G *kommandantur* command post] : a military government headquarters
komondor \'käm-ən-,dȯ(ə)r, 'kō-mən-\ *n* [Hung] : any of a Hungarian breed of large powerful shaggy-coated white dogs with a black nose and dark brown eyes that are used as guard dogs and as herd dogs
Kongo \'käŋ-(,)gō\ *n, pl* **Kongo** *or* **Kongos** **1** : a member of a Bantu people of the lower Congo river **2** : the Bantu language of the Kongo people
Konkani \'käŋ-kə-(,)nē\ *n* [Marathi *Koṅkaṇī*] : an Indic language of the west coast of India
koodoo *var of* KUDU
kook \'kük\ *n* [by shortening and alter. fr. *cuckoo*] : one whose ideas or actions are eccentric, fantastic, or insane : SCREWBALL
kookaburra \'kůk-ə-,bər-ə, -,bə-rə\ *n* [native name in Australia] : a kingfisher (*Dacelo gigas*) of Australia that is about the size of a crow and has a call resembling loud laughter — called also *laughing jackass*
kooky *also* **kookie** \'kü-kē\ *adj* **kooki·er; -est** : having the characteristics of a kook : CRAZY, OFFBEAT — **kooki·ness** *n*
kop *abbr* kopeck
kopeck *also* **kopek** \'kō-,pek\ *n* [Russ *kopeĭka*] — see *ruble* at MONEY table
koph *var of* QOPH
kopje *or* **kopie** \'käp-ē\ *n* [Afrik *koppie*] : a small hill esp. on the African veld
kor \'kȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Heb *kōr*] : an ancient Hebrew and Phoenician unit of measure of capacity
Kor *abbr* Korea; Korean
Koran \kə-'ran, -'rän; 'kō(ə)r-,an, 'kȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [Ar *qur'ān*] : the book composed of writings accepted by Muslims as revelations made to Muhammad by Allah through the angel Gabriel — **Koranic** \kə-'ran-ik\ *adj*
Korean \kə-'rē-ən, *esp South* (')kō-\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Korea **2** : the language of the Korean people — **Korean** *adj*
koruna \'kȯr-ə-,nä, 'kär-\ *n, pl* **koruny** \-ə-nē\ *or* **korunas** [Czech, lit., crown, fr. L *corona*] — see MONEY table
1kosher \'kō-shər\ *adj* [Yiddish, fr. Heb *kāshēr* fit, proper] **1 a** : sanctioned by Jewish law; *esp* : ritually fit for use ⟨~ meat⟩ **b** : selling or serving food ritually fit according to Jewish law ⟨a ~ restaurant⟩ **2** : PROPER ⟨found things going on that were not ~ — Homer Bigart⟩
2kosher *vt* **koshered; kosher·ing** \-sh(ə-)riŋ\ : to make kosher
kotow \'kōt-(,)ō\ *n* [Jap] : a long Japanese zither having 13 silk strings
koumiss *or* **kumiss** \kü-'mis, 'kü-məs\ *n* [Russ *kumys*] : a fermented beverage made orig. by the nomadic peoples of central Asia from mare's milk
1kowtow \(')kaù-'taù, 'kaù-,\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *k'o*^{1} *t'ou*^{2}, fr. *k'o*^{1} to bump + *t'ou*^{2} head] : an act of kowtowing
2kowtow *vi* **1** : to kneel and touch the forehead to the ground in token of homage, worship, or deep respect **2** : to show obsequious deference : FAWN
KP *abbr* kitchen police
kpc *abbr* kiloparsec
kr *abbr* **1** krona **2** krone
Kr *symbol* krypton
1kraal \'krȯl, 'kräl\ *n* [Afrik, fr. Pg *curral* pen for cattle, enclosure, fr. (assumed) VL *currale* enclosure for vehicles — more at CORRAL] **1 a** : a village of southern African natives **b** : the native village community **2** : an enclosure for domestic animals in southern Africa
2kraal *vt* : to pen in a kraal
kraft \'kraft\ *n, often attrib* [G, lit., strength, fr. OHG — more at CRAFT] : a strong paper or board made from wood pulp derived from wood chips boiled in an alkaline solution containing sodium sulfate
krait \'krīt\ *n* [Hindi *karait*] : any of several brightly banded extremely venomous nocturnal elapid snakes (genus *Bungarus*) of eastern Asia and adjacent islands
kraken \'kräk-ən\ *n* [Norw dial.] : a fabulous Scandinavian sea monster
krater \'krāt-ər, krä-'te(ə)r\ *n* [Gk *kratēr* — more at CRATER] : a jar or vase of classical antiquity having a large round body and a wide mouth, and used for mixing wine and water


1 krater

K ration \'kā-\ *n* [A. B. Keys *b*1904 Am physiologist] : a lightweight packaged ration of emergency foods developed for the U.S. armed forces in World War II
kraut \'kraůt\ *n* [G — more at SAUERKRAUT] : SAUERKRAUT
Krebs cycle \'krebz-\ *n* [H. A. *Krebs*] : a sequence of reactions in the living organism in which oxidation of acetic acid or acetyl equivalent provides energy for storage in phosphate bonds — called also *citric acid cycle, tricarboxylic acid cycle*
kremlin \'krem-lən\ *n* [prob. fr. obs. G *kremelin,* fr. Russ *kreml'*] **1** : the citadel of a Russian city **2** [the *Kremlin,* citadel of Moscow and governing center of the U.S.S.R.] *cap* : the Russian government
kremlinology \,krem-lə-'näl-ə-jē\ *n, often cap* : the study of the policies and practices of the Soviet government — **kremlinologist** \-jəst\ *n, often cap*
kreuzer \'krȯit-sər\ *n* [G] : a small coin formerly used in Austria and Germany
krill \'kril\ *n* [Norw *kril* fry of fish] : planktonic crustaceans and larvae that constitute the principal food of whalebone whales
krimmer \'krim-ər\ *n* [G, fr. *Krim* Crimea] : a gray fur made from the pelts of young lambs of the Crimean peninsula region
kris \'krēs\ *n* [Malay *kĕris*] : a Malay or Indonesian dagger with a ridged serpentine blade
Krishna \'krish-nə\ *n* [Skt *Kṛṣṇa*] : a deity or deified hero of later Hinduism worshiped as an incarnation of Vishnu
Krishnaism \-,iz-əm\ *n* : a widespread form of Hindu religion characterized by the worship of Krishna
Kriss Kringle \'kris-'kriŋ-gəl\ *n* [G *Christkindl* Christ child, Christmas gift, dim. of *Christkind* Christ child] : SANTA CLAUS
1krona \'krō-nə\ *n, pl* **kronur** \-nər\ [Icel *krōna,* lit., crown] — see MONEY table
2krona \'krō-nə\ *n, pl* **kronor** \-,nȯ(ə)r, -nər\ [Sw, lit., crown] — see MONEY table
1krone \'krō-nə\ *n, pl* **kronen** \-nən\ [G, lit., crown] **1** : the basic monetary unit of Austria from 1892 to 1925 **2** : a coin representing one krone
2krone \'krō-nə\ *n, pl* **kroner** \-nər\ [Dan, lit., crown] — see MONEY table
Kronecker delta \,krō-,nek-ər-\ *n* [Leopold *Kronecker* †1891 G mathematician] : a function of two variables that is 1 when the variables have the same value and is 0 when they have different values
Krugerrand \'krü-gə(r)-,rand, -,ränd, -,ränt\ *n* [S.J.P. *Kruger* + *rand*] : a one-ounce gold coin of the Republic of So. Africa equal in bullion value to 25 rand and having an official price of 31 rand
krummholz \'krům-,hōlts\ *n, pl* **krummholz** [G, fr. *krumm* crooked + *holz* wood] : stunted forest characteristic of timberline

kryp·ton \'krip-ˌtän\ *n* [Gk, neut. of *kryptos* hidden — more at CRYPT] : a colorless relatively inert gaseous element found in air at about one volume per million and used esp. in electric lamps — see ELEMENT table
KS *abbr* Kansas
Ksha·tri·ya \(kə-)'sha-trē-(y)ə, 'cha-\ *n* [Skt *kṣatriya*] : a Hindu of an upper caste traditionally assigned to governing and military occupations
kt *abbr* **1** karat **2** knight
Ku·che·an \kü-'chē-ən\ *n* [*Kuche, Kucha,* Sinkiang, China] : TOCHARIAN B
ku·chen \'kü-kən, -k̲ən\ *n, pl* **kuchen** [G, cake, fr. OHG *kuocho* — more at CAKE] : any of various coffee cakes made from sweet yeast dough
ku·do \'k(y)üd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **kudos** [back-formation fr. *kudos* (taken as a pl.)] **1** : AWARD, HONOR ⟨a score of honorary degrees and . . . other ~*s* —*Time*⟩ **2** : COMPLIMENT, PRAISE ⟨to all three should go some kind of special ~ for refusing to succumb —Al Hine⟩
ku·dos \'k(y)ü-ˌdäs, -ˌdōs\ *n* [Gk *kydos;* akin to Gk *akouein* to hear — more at HEAR] : fame and renown resulting from an act or achievement : PRESTIGE
ku·du \'küd-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [Afrik *koedoe*] : a large grayish brown African antelope (*Strepsiceros strepsiceros*) with large annulated spirally twisted horns
kud·zu \'kůd-(ˌ)zü\ *n* [Jap *kuzu*] : a prostrate Asiatic leguminous vine (*Pueraria thunbergiana*) used widely for hay and forage and for erosion control
Ku Klux·er \'k(y)ü-ˌklək-sər *also* 'klü-\ *n* : a member of the Ku Klux Klan — **Ku Klux·ism** \-ˌklək-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*
Ku Klux Klan \ˌk(y)ü-ˌkləks-'klan *also* ˌklü-\ *n* **1** : a post-Civil War secret society advocating white supremacy **2** : a 20th-century secret fraternal group held to confine its membership to American-born white Christians



kudu

ku·lak \k(y)ü-'lak, -'läk, 'k(y)ü-ˌ\ *n* [Russ, lit., fist] **1** : a prosperous or wealthy peasant farmer in 19th century Russia **2** : a farmer characterized by Communists as having excessive wealth
kul·tur \kůl-'tů(ə)r\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. L *cultura* culture] **1** : CULTURE 5 **2** : culture emphasizing practical efficiency and individual subordination to the state **3** : German culture held to be superior esp. by militant Nazi and Hohenzollern expansionists
Kul·tur·kampf \-ˌkäm(p)f\ *n* [G, fr. *kultur* + *kampf* conflict] : conflict between civil government and religious authorities esp. over control of education and church appointments
küm·mel \'kim-əl\ *n* [G, lit., caraway seed, fr. OHG *kumīn* cumin] : a colorless aromatic liqueur flavored principally with caraway seeds
kum·quat \'kəm-ˌkwät\ *n* [Chin (Cant) *kam kwat,* fr. *kam* gold + *kwat* orange] : any of several small citrus fruits with sweet spongy rind and somewhat acid pulp that are used chiefly for preserves; *also* : a tree or shrub (genus *Fortunella*) of the rue family that bears kumquats
kung fu \ˌkəŋ-'fü, ˌkůŋ-\ *n* [Chin dial.; akin to Chin (Pek) *ch'üan*^{2} *fa*^{3} lit., boxing principles] : a Chinese art of self-defense like karate
kunz·ite \'kůn(t)-ˌsīt\ *n* [G. F. *Kunz* †1932 Am gem expert] : a spodumene that occurs in pinkish lilac crystals and is used as a gem
Kurd \'ků(ə)rd, 'kərd\ *n* : a member of a pastoral and agricultural people who inhabit a plateau region in adjoining parts of Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria and in the Armenian and Azerbaidzhan sectors of the Soviet Caucasus — **Kurd·ish** \-ish\ *adj*
Kurdish *n* : the Iranian language of the Kurds
Kur·di·stan \ˌkůrd-ə-'stan, ˌkərd-\ *n* [*Kurdistan,* Asia] : an oriental rug woven by the Kurds and noted for fine colors and durability
kur·gan \ků(ə)r-'gän, -'gan\ *n* [Russ, of Turkic origin; akin to Turk *kurgan* fortress, castle] : a burial mound of eastern Europe or Siberia
kur·ra·jong \'kər-ə-ˌjȯŋ, 'kə-rə-, -ˌjäŋ\ *n* [native name in Australia] : any of several Australian trees or shrubs (family Sterculiaceae) having strong bast fiber used by Australian aborigines; *esp* : a widely planted shelter and forage tree (*Brachychiton populneum*)
kur·to·sis \(ˌ)kər-'tō-səs\ *n* [Gk *kyrtōsis* convexity, fr. *kyrtos* convex; akin to L *curvus* curved — more at CROWN] : the peakedness or flatness of the graph of a frequency distribution esp. as determining the concentration of values near the mean as compared with the normal distribution
ku·ru \'ků(ə)r-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [native name in New Guinea, lit., trembling] : a fatal disease of the nervous system that occurs among tribesmen in eastern New Guinea
ku·rus \kə-'rüsh\ *n, pl* **kurus** [Turk *kuruş*] : the Turkish piaster
kv *abbr* kilovolt
kvar *abbr* kilovar
kvass \kə-'väs, 'kfäs\ *n* [Russ *kvas*] : a sour-sweet beverage of slight alcoholic content made in eastern Europe usu. by fermenting mixed cereals and adding flavoring (as fruit or peppermint)
kw *abbr* kilowatt
Kwa \'kwä\ *n* : a branch of the Niger-Congo language family that is spoken along the African coast and a short distance inland from Liberia to Nigeria
kwa·cha \'kwäch-ə\ *n, pl* **kwacha** [native name in Zambia, lit., dawn] — see MONEY table
kwash·i·or·kor \ˌkwäsh-ē-'ȯr-kər, -ȯr-'kȯ(ə)r\ *n* [native name in Ghana, lit., red boy] : severe malnutrition in infants and children that is caused by a diet high in carbohydrate and low in protein
kwhr *or* **kwh** *abbr* kilowatt-hour
KWIC \'kwik\ *n* [*k*eyword *i*n *c*ontext] : a computer-generated index alphabetized on a keyword that appears within a portion of its context
KWOC \'kwäk\ *n* [*k*eyword *o*ut of *c*ontext] : a computer-generated index in which the keyword is followed by its context
Ky *or* **KY** *abbr* Kentucky
ky·ack \'kī-ˌak\ *n* [origin unknown] : a packsack to be swung on either side of a packsaddle
ky·a·nite \'kī-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [G *zyanit,* fr. Gk *kyanos* dark blue enamel, lapis lazuli] : an aluminum silicate Al_2SiO_5 that occurs usu. in blue thin-bladed triclinic crystals and crystalline aggregates and is sometimes used as a gemstone
kyat \'chät\ *n* [Burmese] — see MONEY table
ky·mo·gram \'kī-mə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : a record made by a kymograph
ky·mo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [Gk *kyma* wave + ISV *-graph* — more at CYME] : a device which graphically records motion or pressure (as of blood) — **ky·mo·graph·ic** \ˌkī-mə-'graf-ik\ *adj*
Kymric *var of* CYMRIC
ky·pho·sis \kī-'fō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *kyphōsis,* fr. *kyphos* humpbacked; akin to OE *hēah* high] : abnormal backward curvature of the spine — **ky·phot·ic** \-'fät-ik\ *adj*
ky·rie \'kir-ē-ˌā\ *n, often cap* [NL, fr. LL *kyrie eleison,* transliteration of Gk *kyrie eleēson* Lord, have mercy] : a short liturgical prayer that begins with or consists of the words "Lord, have mercy"
ky·rie elei·son \'kir-ē-ˌā-ə-'lā-(ə-)ˌsän, -(ə-)sən *also* ˌkir-ē-ə-'lā-\ *n, often cap K & E* : KYRIE
kyte \'kīt\ *n* [prob. fr. LG *küt* bowel] *chiefly Scot* : STOMACH, BELLY
kythe *var of* KITHE



1l \'el\ *n, pl* **l's** *or* **ls** \'elz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 12th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *l* **2** : fifty — see NUMBER table **3** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *l* **4** : one designated *l* esp. as the 12th in order or class **5** : something shaped like the letter L; *specif* : ELL **6** : ELEVATED RAILROAD

2l *abbr, often cap* **1** lady **2** lake **3** lambert **4** land **5** late **6** Latin **7** left **8** [L *libra*] pound **9** liquid **10** lira; lire **11** liter **12** little **13** low

L *symbol* **1** inductance **2** Lagrangian

l- *prefix* [ISV, fr. *lev-*] **1** \ˌlē-ˌō-ˌvō, ˌel, 'el\ : levorotatory ⟨*l*-tartaric acid⟩ **2** \ˌel, 'el\ : having a similar configuration at a selected carbon atom to the configuration of levorotatory glyceraldehyde ⟨L-fructose⟩

1la \'lä\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. the syllable sung to this note in a medieval hymn to St. John the Baptist] : the 6th tone of the diatonic scale in solmization

2la \'lȯ, 'lä\ *interj* [ME (northern dial.), fr. OE *lā*] *chiefly dial* — used for emphasis or expressing surprise

1La *abbr* Louisiana

2La *symbol* lanthanum

LA *abbr* **1** law agent **2** Los Angeles **3** Louisiana

laa-ger \'läg-ər\ *n* [obs. Afrik *lager* (now *laer*), fr. G] *South Africa* : CAMP; *esp* : an encampment protected by a circle of wagons or armored vehicles — **laager** *vi*

lab \'lab\ *n* : LABORATORY

Lab *abbr* Labrador

lab-a-rum \'lab-ə-rəm\ *n* [LL] : an imperial standard of the later Roman emperors resembling the vexillum; *esp* : the standard adopted by Constantine after his conversion to Christianity

lab-da-num \'lab-də-nəm\ *n* [ML *lapdanum*] : a soft dark fragrant bitter oleoresin derived from various rockroses (genus *Cistus*) and used in making perfumes

1la-bel \'lā-bəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF] **1** *archaic* : BAND, FILLET; *specif* : one attached to a document to hold an appended seal **2** : a heraldic charge that consists of a narrow horizontal band with usu. three pendants **3 a** : a slip (as of paper or cloth) inscribed and affixed to something for identification or description **b** : written or printed matter accompanying an article to furnish identification or other information **c** : a descriptive or identifying word or phrase: as (1) : EPITHET (2) : a word or phrase used with a dictionary definition to provide additional information **d** : material used in isotopic labeling **4** : a projecting molding by the sides and over the top of an opening **5** : an adhesive stamp (as for postage or revenue) **6** : BRAND 4a: as **a** : a brand of commercial recordings issued under a usu. trademarked name; *also* : a recording so issued **b** : the brand name of a retail store selling clothing, a clothing manufacturer, or a fashion designer

2label *vt* **la-beled** *or* **la-belled; la-bel-ing** *or* **la-bel-ling** \'lā-b(ə-)liŋ\ **1 a** : to affix a label to **b** : to describe or designate with a label **2 a** : to distinguish (an element or atom) by using a radioactive isotope or an isotope of unusual mass for tracing through chemical reactions or biological processes **b** : to distinguish (as a compound or molecule) by introducing a labeled atom — **la-bel-able** \'lā-bə-lə-bəl\ *adj* — **la-bel-er** \'lā-b(ə-)lər\ *n*

la-bel-lum \lə-'bel-əm\ *n, pl* **la-bel-la** \-'bel-ə\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *labrum* lip — more at LIP] **1** : the median member of the corolla of an orchid **2** : a terminal part of the labium or labrum of various insects — **la-bel-late** \lə-'bel-ət\ *adj*

1la-bi-al \'lā-bē-əl\ *adj* [ML *labialis*, fr. L *labium* lip] **1** : of or relating to the lips or labia **2** : uttered with the participation of one or both lips ⟨the ~ sounds \f\, \p\, and \ü\⟩ — **la-bi-al-ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

2labial *n* : a labial consonant

la-bi-al-ize \'lā-bē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz-ing** : to make labial : ROUND — **la-bi-al-iza-tion** \ˌlā-bē-ə-lə-'zā-shən, -byə-lə-\ *n*

la-bia ma-jo-ra \ˌlā-bē-ə-mə-'jōr-ə, -'jȯr-\ *n pl* [NL, lit., larger lips] : the outer fatty folds bounding the vulva

labia mi-no-ra \-mə-'nōr-ə, -'nȯr-\ *n pl* [NL, lit., smaller lips] : the inner highly vascular largely connective-tissue folds bounding the vulva

1la-bi-ate \'lā-bē-ət, -bē-ˌāt\ *adj* [NL *labiatus*, fr. L *labium*] **1** : having the limb of a tubular corolla or calyx divided into two unequal parts projecting one over the other like lips ⟨mints and the snapdragon are ~⟩ **2** : of or relating to the mint family

2labiate *n* : a plant of the mint family

la-bile \'lā-ˌbīl, -bəl\ *adj* [F, fr. MF, prone to err, fr. LL *labilis*, fr. L *labi* to slip — more at SLEEP] **1** : readily open to change : PLASTIC **2** : readily or continually undergoing chemical, physical, or biological change or breakdown : UNSTABLE ⟨a ~ mineral⟩ — **la-bil-i-ty** \lā-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

labio- *comb form* [L *labium*] : labial and ⟨*labio*dental⟩

la-bio-den-tal \ˌlā-bē-ō-'dent-ᵊl\ *adj* : uttered with the participation of the lip and teeth ⟨the ~ sounds \f\ and \v\⟩ — **labiodental** *n*

la-bio-ve-lar \-'vē-lər\ *adj* [ISV] : both labial and velar ⟨the ~ sound \w\⟩ — **labiovelar** *n*

la-bi-um \'lā-bē-əm\ *n, pl* **la-bia** \-ə\ [NL, fr. L, lip — more at LIP] **1** : any of the folds at the margin of the vulva — compare LABIA MAJORA, LABIA MINORA **2** : the lower lip of a labiate corolla **3 a** : a lower mouthpart of an insect that is formed by the second pair of maxillae united in the middle line **b** : a liplike part of various invertebrates

1la-bor \'lā-bər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *labor*] **1 a** : expenditure of physical or mental effort esp. when difficult or compulsory **b** (1) : human activity that provides the goods or services in an economy (2) : the services performed by workers for wages as distinguished from those rendered by entrepreneurs for profits **c** : the physical activities involved in parturition; *also* : the period of such labor **2** : an act or process requiring labor : TASK **3** : a product of labor **4 a** : an economic group comprising those who do manual labor or work for wages **b** (1) : workers employed in an establishment (2) workers available for employment **c** : the organizations or officials representing groups of workers **5** *usu Labour* : the Labour party of the United Kingdom or of another nation of the British Commonwealth ***syn*** see WORK

2labor *vb* **la-bored; la-bor-ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1** : to exert one's powers of body or mind esp. with painful or strenuous effort : WORK **2** : to move with great effort ⟨a fat man ~*ing* up the stairs⟩ **3** : to be in the labor of giving birth **4** : to suffer from some disadvantage or distress ⟨~ under a delusion⟩ **5** *of a ship* : to pitch or roll heavily ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* **a** : to spend labor on or produce by labor **b** : to strive to effect or achieve **2** : to treat or work out in often laborious detail ⟨~ the obvious⟩ **3** : BURDEN, DISTRESS **4** : to cause to labor — **la-bor-er** \-bər-ər, -brər\ *n*

3labor *adj* **1** : of or relating to labor **2** *cap* : of, relating to, or constituting a political party held to represent the interests of workingmen or characterized by a membership in which organized labor groups predominate

lab-o-ra-to-ry \'lab-(ə-)rə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-, *Brit usu* lə-'bär-ə-t(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** *often attrib* [ML *laboratorium*, fr. L *laboratus*, pp. of *laborare* to labor, fr. *labor*] **1** : a place equipped for experimental study in a science or for testing and analysis; *broadly* : a place providing opportunity for experimentation, observation, or practice in a field of study **2** : an academic period set aside for laboratory work

labor camp *n* **1** : a penal colony where forced labor is performed **2** : a camp for migratory laborers

Labor Day *n* : a day set aside for special recognition of the workingman: as **a** : the first Monday in September observed in the U.S. and Canada as a legal holiday **b** : May 1 in many countries

la-bored *adj* **1** : produced or performed with labor **2** : bearing marks of labor and effort; *esp* : lacking ease of expression ⟨a ~ speech⟩

la-bo-ri-ous \lə-'bōr-ē-əs, -'bȯr-\ *adj* **1** : devoted to labor : INDUSTRIOUS **2** : involving or characterized by hard or toilsome effort : LABORED — **la-bo-ri-ous-ly** *adv* — **la-bo-ri-ous-ness** *n*

la-bor-ite \'lā-bə-ˌrīt\ *n* **1** : a member of a group favoring the interests of labor **2** *cap* **a** : a member of a political party devoted chiefly to the interests of labor **b** *usu* **La-bour-ite** : a member of the British Labour party

la-bor-sav-ing \'lā-bər-ˌsā-viŋ\ *adj* : adapted to replace or decrease human and esp. manual labor

labor union *n* : an organization of workers formed for the purpose of advancing its members' interests in respect to wages, benefits, and working conditions

la-bour *chiefly Brit var of* LABOR

lab-ra-dor-ite \'lab-rə-ˌdȯ(ə)r-ˌīt\ *n* [*Labrador* peninsula, Canada] : a triclinic feldspar showing a play of several colors

Lab-ra-dor retriever \ˌlab-rə-ˌdȯr-\ *n* [*Labrador*, Newfoundland] : a retriever largely developed in England from stock originating in Newfoundland and characterized by a short dense usu. black coat and notable breadth of head and chest — called also *Labrador*

la-bret \'lā-brət\ *n* [L *labrum*] : an ornament worn in a perforation of the lip

la-brum \'lā-brəm\ *n* [NL, fr. L, lip, edge — more at LIP] : an upper or anterior mouthpart of an arthropod consisting of a single median piece in front of or above the mandibles

la-bur-num \lə-'bər-nəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, laburnum] : any of a small genus (*Laburnum*) of poisonous Eurasian leguminous shrubs and trees with pendulous racemes of bright yellow flowers; *esp* : an ornamental tree (*L. anagyroides*) often cultivated for Easter decoration

lab-y-rinth \'lab-ə-ˌrin(t)th, -rən(t)th\ *n* [ME *laborintus*, fr. L *labyrinthus*, fr. Gk *labyrinthos*] **1 a** : a place constructed of or full of intricate passageways and blind alleys **b** : a maze (as in a garden) formed by paths separated by high hedges **2** : something extremely complex or tortuous in structure, arrangement, or character : INTRICACY, PERPLEXITY ⟨a ~ of swamps and channels⟩ ⟨guided them through the ~*s* of city life —Paul Blanshard⟩ **3** : a tortuous anatomical structure; *esp* : the internal ear or its bony or membranous part

lab-y-rin-thi-an \ˌlab-ə-'rin(t)-thē-ən\ *adj* : LABYRINTHINE

lab-y-rin-thine \-'rin(t)-thən; -'rin-ˌthīn, -ˌthēn\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling a labyrinth : INTRICATE, INVOLVED **2** : of, relating to, affecting, or originating in the internal ear ⟨human ~ lesions⟩

1lac \'lak\ *n* [Per *lak* & Hindi *lākh*, fr. Skt *lākṣā*] : a resinous substance secreted by a scale insect (*Laccifer lacca*) and used chiefly in the form of shellac

2lac *var of* LAKH

lac-co-lith \'lak-ə-ˌlith\ *n* [Gk *lakkos* cistern + E *-lith*] : a mass of igneous rock that is intruded between sedimentary beds and produces a domical bulging of the overlying strata

1lace \'lās\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *laz*, fr. L *laqueus* snare — more at DELIGHT] **1** : a cord or string used for drawing together two edges (as of a garment or a shoe) **2** : an ornamental braid for trimming coats or uniforms **3** : an openwork usu. figured fabric made of thread or yarn and used for trimmings, household coverings, and entire garments — **laced** \'lāst\ *adj* — **lace-less** \'lā-sləs\ *adj* — **lace-like** \'lā-ˌslīk\ *adj*

2lace *vb* **laced; lac-ing** [ME *lacen*, fr. OF *lacier*, fr. L *laqueare* to ensnare, fr. *laqueus*] *vt* **1** : to draw together the edges of by or as if by a lace passed through eyelets **2** : to draw or pass (as a lace) through something (as eyelets) **3** : to confine or compress by tightening laces esp. of a corset **4 a** : to adorn with or as if with lace **b** : to mark with streaks of color **5** : BEAT, LASH **6 a** : to add a dash of an alcoholic liquor to **b** : to give savor or zest to ~ *vi* : to admit of being tied or fastened with a lace — **lac-er** *n*

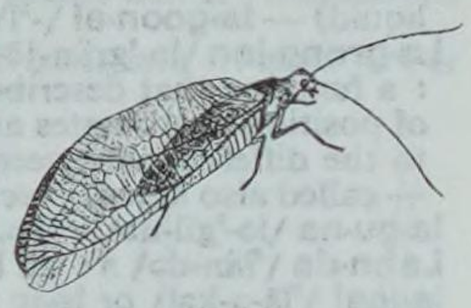
lace-curtain *adj* : copying middle-class attributes : aspiring to middle-class standing

1lac-er-ate \'las-ə-rət, -ˌrāt\ *or* **lac-er-at-ed** \-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj* **1 a** : TORN, MANGLED **b** : extremely harrowed or distracted **2** : having the edges deeply and irregularly cut ⟨a ~ petal⟩

²lac·er·ate \-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *laceratus*, pp. of *lacerare* to tear; akin to L *lacer* mangled, Gk *lakis* rent] **1** : to tear or rend roughly **2** : to cause sharp mental or emotional pain to : DISTRESS — **lac·er·a·tive** \-ˌrāt-iv\ *adj*

lac·er·a·tion \ˌlas-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of lacerating **2** : a torn and ragged wound

lace·wing \ˈlā-ˌswiŋ\ *n* : any of various neuropterous insects (as genera *Chrysopa* and *Hemerobius*) having delicate lacelike wing venation, long antennae, and brilliant eyes



lacewing

lace·work \ˈlā-ˌswərk\ *n* : objects or patterns consisting of or resembling lace

lac·ey *var of* LACY

la·ches \ˈlach-əz, ˈlā-chəz\ *n, pl* **laches** [ME *lachesse*, fr. MF *laschesse*] : negligence in the observance of duty or opportunity; *specif* : undue delay in asserting a legal right or privilege

lach·ry·mal *or* **lac·ri·mal** \ˈlak-rə-məl\ *adj* [MF or ML; MF *lacrymal*, fr. ML *lacrimalis*, fr. L *lacrima* tear — more at TEAR] **1** *usu* *lacrimal* : of, relating to, or constituting the glands that produce tears **2** : of, relating to, or marked by tears

lach·ry·mose \-ˌmōs\ *adj* **1** : given to tears or weeping : TEARFUL **2** : tending to cause tears : MOURNFUL — **lach·ry·mose·ly** *adv*

lac·ing \ˈlā-siŋ\ *n* **1** : the action of one that laces **2** : something that laces : LACE **3** : a contrasting marginal band of color (as on a feather) **4** **a** : a dash of alcoholic liquor in a food or beverage **b** : a trace or sprinkling that adds spice or savor **5** : an act or instance of beating or trouncing

la·cin·i·ate \lə-ˈsin-ē-ət, -ˌāt\ *adj* [L *lacinia* flap; akin to L *lacer*] : bordered with a fringe; *esp* : cut into deep irregular usu. pointed lobes ⟨~ petals⟩ — **la·cin·i·a·tion** \-ˌsin-ē-ˈā-shən\ *n*

¹lack \ˈlak\ *vb* [ME *laken*, fr. MD; akin to ON *leka* to leak] *vi* **1** : to be deficient or missing ⟨time ~*s* for a full explanation⟩ **2** : to be short or have need of something ⟨he will not ~ for advisers⟩ ~ *vt* : to stand in need of : suffer from the absence or deficiency of ⟨~ the necessities of life⟩ ⟨he ~*s* skill in debate⟩

syn LACK, WANT, NEED, REQUIRE *shared meaning element* : to be without something essential or greatly desired. LACK can imply either an absence or a shortage in supply ⟨good counselors *lack* no clients —Shak.⟩ WANT adds to *lack* the notion of urgency in needing or desiring ⟨the whole place *wanted* painting⟩ ⟨they *want* the very necessities of life⟩ NEED stresses urgent necessity more than absence or shortage ⟨all children *need* to succeed —John Holt⟩ ⟨felt he *needed* a change⟩ REQUIRE, often interchangeable with *need*, may heighten the implication of urgent necessity to the point of suggesting an imperativeness of needing or desiring ⟨they *require* help if they are to survive⟩ ⟨great acts *require* great means of enterprise —John Milton⟩

²lack *n* **1** : the fact or state of being wanting or deficient **2** : something that is lacking or is needed

lack·a·dai·si·cal \ˌlak-ə-ˈdā-zi-kəl\ *adj* [by folk etymology fr. *lackaday* + *-ical*] : lacking life, spirit, or zest : LANGUID — **lack·a·dai·si·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

lack·a·day \ˈlak-ə-ˌdā\ *interj* [by alter. & shortening of *alack the day*] *archaic* — used to express regret or deprecation

¹lack·ey \ˈlak-ē\ *n, pl* **lackeys** [MF *laquais*] **1** : a liveried retainer : FOOTMAN **2** : a servile follower : TOADY

²lackey *vb* **lack·eyed; lack·ey·ing** *vi, obs* : to act as a lackey : TOADY ~ *vt* : to wait upon or serve obsequiously

lack·lus·ter \ˈlak-ˌləs-tər\ *adj* : lacking in sheen, radiance, or vitality : DULL — **lackluster** *n*

La·combe \lə-ˈkōm\ *n* [*Lacombe* Experiment Station, Lacombe, Alta., Canada] : any of a breed of white bacon-type swine developed in Canada from Landrace, Chester White, and Berkshire stock

la·con·ic \lə-ˈkän-ik\ *adj* [L *laconicus* Spartan, fr. Gk *lakōnikos*; fr. the Spartan reputation for terseness of speech] : using or involving the use of a minimum of words : concise to the point of seeming rude or mysterious ***syn*** see CONCISE ***ant*** verbose — **la·con·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

lac·o·nism \ˈlak-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : brevity or terseness of expression or style

¹lac·quer \ˈlak-ər\ *n* [Pg *lacré* sealing wax, fr. *laca* lac, fr. Ar *lakk*, fr. Per *lak*] **1** **a** : a spirit varnish (as shellac) **b** : any of various durable natural varnishes; *esp* : a varnish obtained from an Asiatic sumac (*Rhus verniciflua*) — called also *Chinese lacquer*, *Japanese lacquer* **2** : any of various clear or colored synthetic organic coatings that typically dry to form a film by evaporation of the solvent; *esp* : a solution of a cellulose derivative (as nitrocellulose)

²lacquer *vt* **lac·quered; lac·quer·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to coat with lacquer **2** : to give a smooth finish or appearance to — **lac·quer·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

lac·ri·ma·tion \ˌlak-rə-ˈmā-shən\ *n* : the secretion of tears esp. when abnormal or excessive

lac·ri·ma·tor *or* **lach·ry·ma·tor** \ˈlak-rə-ˌmāt-ər\ *n* [L *lacrimatus*, pp. of *lacrimare* to weep, fr. *lacrima* tear — more at TEAR] : a tear-producing substance (as tear gas)

la·crosse \lə-ˈkrȯs\ *n* [CanF *la crosse*, lit., the crosier] : a goal game in which players use a long-handled stick that has a triangular head with a loose mesh pouch for catching and carrying the ball

lact- *or* **lacti-** *or* **lacto-** *comb form* [F & L; F, fr. L, fr. *lact-, lac* — more at GALAXY] **1** : milk ⟨*lacto*flavin⟩ **2** **a** : lactic acid ⟨*lac*tate⟩ **b** : lactose ⟨*lac*tase⟩

lact·al·bu·min \ˌlak-ˌtal-ˈbyü-mən\ *n* [ISV] : an albumin that is obtained from whey and is similar to serum albumin

lac·tase \ˈlak-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* [ISV] : an enzyme that hydrolyzes lactose and other beta-galactosides and occurs esp. in the intestines of young mammals and in yeasts

¹lac·tate \ˈlak-ˌtāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of lactic acid

²lactate *vi* **lac·tat·ed; lac·tat·ing** [L *lactatus*, pp. of *lactare*, fr. *lact-, lac*] : to secrete milk — **lac·ta·tion** \lak-ˈtā-shən\ *n* — **lac·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **lac·ta·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

¹lac·te·al \ˈlak-tē-əl\ *adj* [L *lacteus* of milk, fr. *lact-, lac*] **1** : consisting of, producing, or resembling milk **2** **a** : conveying or containing a milky fluid **b** : of or relating to the lacteals

²lacteal *n* : one of the lymphatic vessels arising from the villi of the small intestine and conveying chyle to the thoracic duct

lac·tic \ˈlak-tik\ *adj* **1** **a** : of or relating to milk **b** : obtained from sour milk or whey **2** : involving the production of lactic acid

lactic acid *n* : a hygroscopic organic acid $C_3H_6O_3$ present normally in tissue, produced in carbohydrate matter usu. by bacterial fermentation, and used esp. in food and medicine and in industry

lac·tif·er·ous \lak-ˈtif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [F or LL; F *lactifère*, fr. LL *lactifer*, fr. L *lact-, lac* + *-fer*] **1** : secreting or conveying milk **2** : yielding a milky juice ⟨~ plants⟩ — **lac·tif·er·ous·ness** *n*

lac·to·ba·cil·lus \ˌlak-tō-bə-ˈsil-əs\ *n* [NL] : any of a genus (*Lactobacillus*) of lactic-acid-forming bacteria

lac·to·gen·ic \ˌlak-tə-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* : inducing lactation

lac·to·glob·u·lin \-ˈgläb-yə-lən\ *n* : a crystalline protein fraction that is obtained from the whey of milk

lac·tone \ˈlak-ˌtōn\ *n* [ISV] : any of various cyclic anhydrides formed from hydroxy acids — **lac·ton·ic** \lak-ˈtän-ik\ *adj*

lac·tose \ˈlak-ˌtōs, -ˌtōz\ *n* [ISV] : a disaccharide sugar $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$ that is present in milk and yields glucose and galactose upon hydrolysis and yields esp. lactic acid upon fermentation

la·cu·na \lə-ˈk(y)ü-nə\ *n, pl* **la·cu·nae** \-ˈkyü-(ˌ)nē, -ˈkü-ˌnī\ *or* **la·cu·nas** \-ˈk(y)ü-nəz\ [L, pool, pit, gap — more at LAGOON] **1** : a blank space or a missing part : GAP **2** : a small cavity, pit, or discontinuity in an anatomical structure — **la·cu·nal** \-ˈk(y)ün-ᵊl\ *adj* — **la·cu·nar** \-ˈk(y)ü-nər\ *adj* — **la·cu·na·ry** \ˈlak-yə-ˌner-ē, lə-ˈk(y)ü-nə-rē\ *adj* — **la·cu·nate** \lə-ˈk(y)ü-nət, -ˌnāt; ˈlak-yə-ˌnāt\ *adj*

la·cu·nar \lə-ˈk(y)ü-nər\ *n* [L, fr. *lacuna* pit] **1** : a ceiling with recessed panels **2** *pl* **lac·u·nar·ia** \ˌlak-yə-ˈner-ē-ə\ : a recessed panel in a patterned ceiling or soffit

la·cus·trine \lə-ˈkəs-trən\ *adj* [prob. fr. F or It *lacustre*, fr. L *lacus* lake] : of, relating to, or growing in lakes

lacy \ˈlā-sē\ *adj* **lac·i·er; -est** : resembling or consisting of lace

lad \ˈlad\ *n* [ME *ladde*] **1** : a male person of any age between early boyhood and maturity : BOY, YOUTH **2** : FELLOW, CHAP

lad·a·num \ˈlad-ᵊn-əm, ˈlad-nəm\ *var of* LABDANUM

lad·der \ˈlad-ər\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *hlæder*; akin to OHG *leitara* ladder, OE *hlinian* to lean — more at LEAN] **1** : a structure for climbing up or down that consists essentially of two long sidepieces joined at intervals by crosspieces on which one may step **2** : something that resembles or suggests a ladder in form or use; *esp* : RUN 11a **3** : a series of usu. ascending steps or stages : SCALE

lad·der–back \-ˌbak\ *adj, of furniture* : having a back consisting of two upright posts connected by horizontal slats

ladder truck *n* : HOOK AND LADDER TRUCK

lad·die \ˈlad-ē\ *n* : a young lad

lade \ˈlād\ *vb* **lad·ed; laded** *or* **lad·en** \ˈlād-ᵊn\; **lad·ing** [ME *laden*, fr. OE *hladan*; akin to OHG *hladan* to load, OSlav *klasti*] *vt* **1** **a** : to put a load or burden on or in : LOAD **b** : to put or place as a load esp. for shipment : SHIP **c** : to load heavily or oppressively **2** : DIP, LADLE ~ *vi* **1** : to take on cargo : LOAD **2** : to take up or convey a liquid by dipping

¹lad·en \ˈlād-ᵊn\ *vt* **lad·ened; lad·en·ing** \ˈlād-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ : LADE

²laden *adj* : carrying a load or burden

la–di–da \ˌläd-ē-ˈdä\ *adj* [perh. alter. of *lardy-dardy* (foppish)] : affectedly refined or polished : PRETENTIOUS, ELEGANT

ladies' man *also* **lady's man** *n* : a man who shows a marked fondness for the company of women or is esp. attentive to women

ladies' room *n* : a room equipped with lavatories and toilets for the use of women

ladies' tresses *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : any of a widely distributed genus (*Spiranthes*) of terrestrial orchids with slender often twisted spikes of white irregular flowers

La·din \lə-ˈdēn\ *n* [Rhaeto-Romanic, fr. L *Latinum* Latin] **1** : ROMANSH **2** : one speaking Romansh as a mother tongue

lad·ing \ˈlād-iŋ\ *n* **1** **a** : LOADING 1 **b** : an act of bailing, dipping, or ladling **2** : CARGO, FREIGHT

¹la·di·no \lə-ˈdē-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [Sp, fr. *ladino* cunning, learned, lit., Latin, fr. L *latinus*] **1** : JUDEO-SPANISH **2** *often cap* [AmerSp] : a westernized Spanish-speaking Latin American; *esp* : MESTIZO **3** [AmerSp] *Southwest* : a cunningly vicious horse or steer

²la·di·no \lə-ˈdī-(ˌ)nō, -nə\ *n, pl* **-nos** [perh. irreg. fr. *Lodi*, Italy + It *-ino*, adj. suffix] : a large nutritious rapidly growing clover that is a variety of white clover and is widely planted for hay or silage

¹la·dle \ˈlād-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *ladel*, fr. OE *hlædel*, fr. *hladan*] **1** : a deep-bowled long-handled spoon used esp. for dipping up and conveying liquids **2** : an instrument or device resembling a ladle in form or function

²ladle *vt* **la·dled; la·dling** \ˈlād-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ : to take up and convey in or as if in a ladle

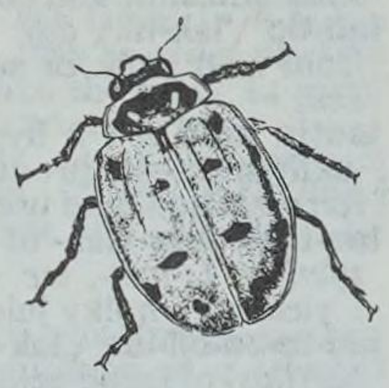
la·dy \ˈlād-ē\ *n, pl* **ladies** *often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *hlæfdīge*, fr. *hlāf* bread + *-dīge* (akin to *dǣge* kneader of bread) — more at LOAF, DAIRY] **1** **a** : a woman having proprietary rights or authority esp. as a feudal superior **b** : a woman receiving the homage or devotion of a knight or lover **2** *cap* : VIRGIN MARY — usu. used with *Our* **3** **a** : a woman of superior social position **b** : a woman of refinement and gentle manners **c** : WOMAN, FEMALE — often used in a courteous reference ⟨show the ~ to a seat⟩ or usu. in the pl. in address ⟨*ladies* and gentlemen⟩ **4** : WIFE **5** **a** : any of various titled women in Great Britain — used as the customary title of (1) a marchioness, countess, viscountess, or baroness or (2) the wife of a knight, baronet, member of the peerage, or one

having the courtesy title of *lord* and used as a courtesy title for the daughter of a duke, marquess, or earl **b** : a female member of an order of knighthood — compare DAME

lady beetle *n* : LADYBUG

la·dy·bird \'lād-ē-ˌbərd\ *n* : LADYBUG

la·dy·bug \-ˌbəg\ *n* [Our *Lady*, the Virgin Mary] : any of numerous small nearly hemispherical often brightly colored beetles (family Coccinellidae) of temperate and tropical regions that usu. feed both as larvae and adults on other insects



ladybug

lady chapel *n, often cap L&C* : a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary

Lady Day *n* : the feast of the Annunciation

la·dy·fin·ger \'lād-ē-ˌfiŋ-gər\ *n* : a small finger-shaped sponge cake

la·dy·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* **1** : BONEFISH 1a **2** : a large silvery food and sport fish (*Elops saurus*) that resembles a herring but is related to the tarpon

la·dy–in–wait·ing \ˌlād-ē-in-'wāt-iŋ\ *n, pl* **ladies–in–waiting** : a lady of a queen's or a princess's household appointed to wait on her

la·dy·kin \'lād-ē-kən\ *n* : a little lady

la·dy·like \-ˌlīk\ *adj* **1** : resembling a lady in appearance or manners : WELL-BRED **2** : becoming or suitable to a lady **3 a** : feeling or showing too much concern about elegance or propriety ⟨~ embarrassment at not being the wife of a real doctor —Lewis Vogler⟩ **b** : lacking in strength, force, or virility

la·dy·love \'lād-ē-ˌləv, ˌlād-ē-'\ *n* : SWEETHEART, MISTRESS

lady of the house : the chief female in a household

Lady of the Lake : VIVIAN

la·dy's–ear·drop \ˌlād-ē-'zi(ə)r-ˌdräp\ *n* : any of several plants (as a fuchsia or bleeding heart) with flowers resembling eardrops — called also *ladies'-eardrops*

la·dy·ship \'lād-ē-ˌship\ *n* : the condition of being a lady : rank of lady — used as a title for a woman having the rank of lady ⟨her *Ladyship* is not at home⟩ ⟨if your *Ladyship* please⟩

lady's slipper \'lād-ē(z)-ˌslip-ər\ *n* : any of several No. American temperate-zone orchids (as of the genus *Cypripedium*) having flowers whose shape suggests a slipper — called also *lady slipper*



lady's slipper

la·dy's–smock \'lād-ē(z)-ˌsmäk\ *n* : CUCKOOFLOWER 1

lady's thumb *n* : a widely distributed weedy annual herb (*Polygonum persicaria*) that has large lanceolate leaves often with a blackish blotch suggesting a thumbprint

La·er·tes \lā-'ərt-ēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Laertēs*] **1** : the father of Odysseus in Greek legend **2** : the son of Polonius and brother of Ophelia in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*

Lae·ta·re Sunday \lā-ˌtär-ē-, -ˌtar-ē-\ *n* [L *laetare*, sing. imper. of *laetari* to rejoice] : the fourth Sunday in Lent

LaF *abbr* Louisiana French

¹lag \'lag\ *vb* **lagged; lag·ging** [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *lagga* to go slowly] *vi* **1 a** : to stay or fall behind : LINGER, LOITER **b** : to move, function, or develop with comparative slowness **c** : to become retarded in attaining maximum value **2** : to slacken or weaken gradually : FLAG **3** : to toss or roll a marble toward a line or a cue ball toward the head cushion to determine order of play ~ *vt* **1** : to lag behind ⟨current that ~*s* the voltage⟩ **2** : to pitch or shoot (as a coin or marble) at a mark — **lag·ger** *n*

²lag *n* **1** : one that lags or is last **2 a** : the act or the condition of lagging **b** : comparative slowness or retardation **c** (1) : an amount of lagging or the time during which lagging continues (2) : a space of time esp. between related events or phenomena : INTERVAL **3** : the action of lagging for opening shot (as in marbles or billiards)

³lag *adj* : LAST, HINDMOST

⁴lag *vt* **lagged; lag·ging** [origin unknown] **1** *slang* : to transport for crime or send to jail **2** *slang* : ARREST

⁵lag *n* **1** *slang* **a** : a person transported for crime **b** : CONVICT **c** : an ex-convict **2** *slang* : a jail sentence : STRETCH

⁶lag *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *lögg* rim of a barrel] **1** : a barrel stave **2** : a stave, slat, or strip (as of wood or asbestos) forming part of a covering for a cylindrical object

⁷lag *vt* **lagged; lag·ging** : to cover or provide with lags

lag·an \'lag-ən\ *also* **lag·end** \-ənd\ *n* [MF *lagan* or ML *laganum* debris washed up from the sea] : goods thrown into the sea with a buoy attached so that they may be found again

Lag b'Omer \'läg-'bō-mər, ˌläg-bə-'ō-\ *n* [Heb, 33d in omer] : a Jewish holiday falling on the 33d day of the omer and commemorating the heroism of Bar Cocheba and Akiba

la·ger \'läg-ər\ *n* [G *lagerbier* beer made for storage, fr. *lager* storehouse + *bier* beer] : a beer brewed by slow fermentation and stored in refrigerated cellars for maturing

¹lag·gard \'lag-ərd\ *adj* : lagging or tending to lag : DILATORY — **lag·gard·ly** *adv or adj* — **lag·gard·ness** *n*

²laggard *n* : one that lags or lingers; *esp* : a security whose price has lagged for no obvious reason behind the average of its group or of the market

lag·ging \'lag-iŋ\ *n* : a lag or material used for making lags: as **a** : material for thermal insulation esp. around a cylindrical object **b** : planking used esp. for preventing cave-ins in earthwork or for supporting an arch during construction

la·gniappe \'lan-ˌyap, lan-'\ *n* [AmerF, fr. AmerSp *la ñapa* the lagniappe] : a small gift given a customer by a merchant at the time of a purchase; *broadly* : something given or obtained gratuitously or by way of good measure

lago·morph \'lag-ə-ˌmȯrf\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *lagōs* hare + *morphē* form] : any of an order (Lagomorpha) of gnawing mammals having two pairs of incisors in the upper jaw one behind the other and comprising the rabbits, hares, and pikas — **lago·mor·phic** \ˌlag-ə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* — **lago·mor·phous** \-fəs\ *adj*

la·goon \lə-'gün\ *n* [F & It; F *lagune*, fr. It *laguna*, fr. L *lacuna* pit, pool, fr. *lacus* lake] **1** : a shallow sound, channel, or pond near or communicating with a larger body of water **2** : a shallow artificial pool or pond (as for the processing of sewage or storage of a liquid) — **la·goon·al** \-'l\ *adj*

La·grang·ian \lə-'grän-jē-ən, -'grän-zhē-\ *n* [Joseph Louis *Lagrange*] : a function that describes the state of a dynamic system in terms of position coordinates and their time derivatives and that is equal to the difference between the potential energy and kinetic energy — called also *kinetic potential;* compare HAMILTONIAN

la·gu·na \lə-'gü-nə\ *n* [Sp, fr. L *lacuna*] : a small lake or pond

Lahn·da \'län-də\ *n* : an Indic language of West Punjab

la·ical \'lā-ə-kəl\ *or* **la·ic** \'lā-ik\ *adj* [LL *laicus*, fr. LGk *laïkos*, fr. Gk, of the people, fr. *laos* people] : of or relating to the laity : SECULAR — **laic** *n* — **la·ical·ly** \'lā-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

la·icism \'lā-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : a political system characterized by the exclusion of ecclesiastical control and influence

la·icize \'lā-ə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **la·icized; la·iciz·ing** **1** : to reduce to lay status **2** : to put under the direction of or open to laymen — **la·ici·za·tion** \ˌlā-ə-sə-'zā-shən\ *n*

laid *past of* LAY

laid paper \'lād-\ *n* : paper watermarked with fine lines running across the grain — compare WOVE PAPER

laigh \'lāk\ *Scot var of* LOW

lain *past part of* LIE

¹lair \'la(ə)r, 'le(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *leger;* akin to OHG *legar* bed, OE *licgan* to lie — more at LIE] **1** *dial Brit* : a resting or sleeping place : BED **2 a** : the resting or living place of a wild animal : DEN **b** : a refuge or place for hiding

²lair *vb* [Sc *lair* (mire)] *vt, chiefly Scot* : to cause to sink in mire ~ *vi, chiefly Scot* : WALLOW

laird \'la(ə)rd, 'le(ə)rd\ *n* [ME (northern dial.) *lord, lard* lord] *Scot* : a landed proprietor — **laird·ly** \-lē\ *adj*

lais·ser–faire *chiefly Brit var of* LAISSEZ-FAIRE

lais·sez–faire \ˌle-ˌsā-'fa(ə)r, ˌlā-, -ˌzā-, -'fe(ə)r\ *n* [F *laissez faire*, imper. of *laisser faire* to let (people) do (as they choose)] **1** : a doctrine opposing governmental interference in economic affairs beyond the minimum necessary for the maintenance of peace and property rights **2** : a philosophy or practice characterized by a usu. deliberate abstention from direction or interference esp. with individual freedom of choice and action — **laissez–faire** *adj*

lais·sez–pas·ser \-ˌpa-'sā\ *n* [F, fr. *laissez passer* let (someone) pass] : PERMIT, PASS

lai·tance \'lāt-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [F, fr. *lait* milk, fr. L *lact-, lac* — more at GALAXY] : an accumulation of fine particles on the surface of fresh concrete due to an upward movement of water (as when excessive mixing water is used)

la·ity \'lā-ət-ē\ *n* [⁵*lay*] **1** : the people of a religious faith as distinguished from its clergy **2** : the mass of the people as distinguished from those of a particular profession or those specially skilled

La·ius \'lā-(y)əs, 'lī-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Laïos*] : a king of Thebes slain by his son Oedipus in fulfillment of an oracle

¹lake \'lāk\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF *lac* lake, fr. L *lacus;* akin to OE *lagu* sea, Gk *lakkos* pond] : a considerable inland body of standing water; *also* : a pool of other liquid (as lava, oil, or pitch)

²lake *n* [F *laque* lac, fr. OProv *laca*, fr. Ar *lakk* — more at LACQUER] **1 a** : a purplish red pigment prepared from lac or cochineal **b** : any of numerous usu. bright translucent organic pigments composed essentially of a soluble dye absorbed on or combined with an inorganic carrier **2** : CARMINE 2 — **laky** \'lā-kē\ *adj*

³lake *vb* **laked; lak·ing** *vi, of blood* : to alter so that the hemoglobin is dissolved in the plasma ~ *vt* : to cause (blood) to lake

lake dweller *n* : one that lives in a lake dwelling

lake dwelling *n* : a dwelling built on piles in a lake; *specif* : one built in prehistoric times

lake·front \'lāk-ˌfrənt\ *n* : land, land with buildings, or a section of a town fronting or abutting on a lake

lake herring *n* : a cisco (*Coregonus artedii*) found from Lake Memphremagog to Lake Superior and northward and important as a commercial food fish; *broadly* : CISCO

Lake·land terrier \ˌlā-ˌklan(d)-, -klən(d)-\ *n* [*Lakeland*, England] : any of an English breed of rather small harsh-coated straight-legged terriers

lak·er \'lā-kər\ *n* : one associated with a lake; *esp* : a fish living in or taken from a lake

lake·shore \-ˌshō(ə)r, -ˌshȯ(ə)r\ *n* : the shore of a lake; *also* : LAKEFRONT

lake·side \-ˌsīd\ *n* : LAKEFRONT

lake trout *n* : any of various salmon and trout found in lakes; *esp* : a large dark No. American char (*Salvelinus namaycush*) that is an important commercial food fish in northern lakes

lakh \'läk, 'lak\ *n* [Hindi *lākh*] **1** : one hundred thousand ⟨50 ~*s* of rupees⟩ **2** : a great number — **lakh** *adj*

-la·lia \'lā-lē-ə\ *n comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *lalia* chatter, fr. *lalein* to chat] : speech disorder (of a specified type) ⟨echo*lalia*⟩

lal·lan \'lal-ən\ *or* **lal·land** \-ən(d)\ *Scot var of* LOWLAND

Lal·lans \'lal-ənz\ *n* : Scots as spoken in the southern and eastern part of Scotland

Lal·ly \'läl-ē\ *trademark* — used for a concrete-filled cylindrical steel structural column

lal·ly·gag \'läl-\ *var of* LOLLYGAG

¹lam \'lam\ *vb* **lammed; lam·ming** [of Scand origin; akin to ON *lemja* to thrash; akin to OE *lama* lame] *vt* : to beat soundly : THRASH ~ *vi* **1** : STRIKE, THRASH **2** : to flee hastily : SCRAM

²lam *n* : sudden or hurried flight esp. from the law ⟨on the ~⟩

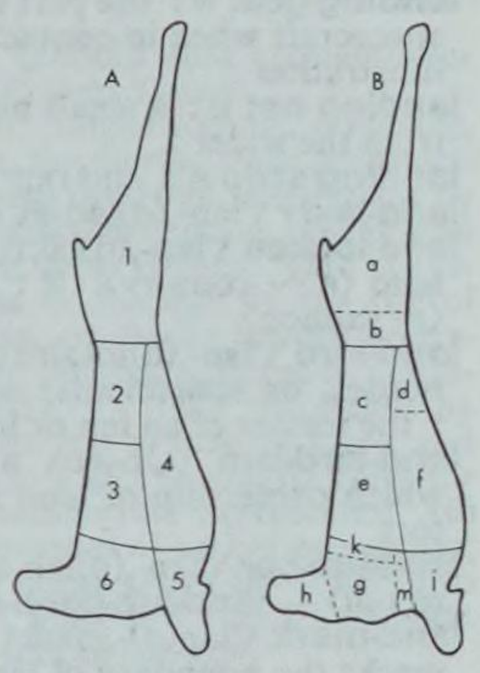
³lam *abbr* laminated

Lam *abbr* Lamentations

la·ma \'läm-ə\ *n* [Tibetan *blama*] : a Lamaist monk

La·ma·ism \'läm-ə-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the Mahayana Buddhism of Tibet and Mongolia marked by tantric and shamanistic ritual and a

dominant monastic hierarchy headed by the Dalai Lama — **La·ma·ist** \-ə-əst\ *n or adj* — **La·ma·is·tic** \ˌläm-ə-ˈis-tik\ *adj*
La·marck·ian \lə-ˈmär-kē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to Lamarckism
La·marck·ism \lə-ˈmär-ˌkiz-əm\ *n* [J. B. de Monet *Lamarck*] : a theory of organic evolution asserting that environmental changes cause structural changes in animals and plants that are transmitted to offspring
la·ma·sery \ˈläm-ə-ˌser-ē\ *n, pl* **-ser·ies** [F *lamaserie*, fr. *lama* + Per *sarāī* palace] : a monastery of lamas
¹lamb \ˈlam\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *lamb* lamb, *elaho* elk — more at ELK] **1 a** : a young sheep; *esp* : one that is less than one year old or without permanent teeth **b** : the young of various animals (as the smaller antelopes) other than sheep **2 a** : a person as gentle or weak as a lamb **b** : DEAR, PET **c** : a person easily cheated or deceived esp. in trading securities **3 a** : the flesh of a lamb used as food **b** : LAMBSKIN



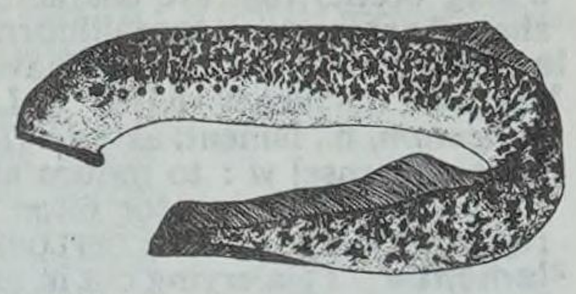
lamb 3a: *A* wholesale cuts: *1* leg, *2* loin, *3* rack, *4* breast, *5* shank, *6* shoulder; *B* retail cuts: *a* leg, *b* sirloin chops and roast, *c* loin chops and rolled loin roast, *d* patties and chopped roast, *e* rib chops and crown roast, *f* riblets, stew, and stuffed or rolled breast, *g* shoulder roast, shoulder chops, *h* neck slices, *i* shanks, *k* blade chops, *m* arm chops

²lamb *vi* : to bring forth a lamb ~ *vt* **1** : to bring forth (a lamb) **2** : to tend (ewes) at lambing time — **lamb·er** \ˈlam-ər\ *n*
lam·baste *or* **lam·bast** \(ˈ)lam-ˈbāst, -ˈbast\ *vt* [prob. fr. ¹*lam* + *baste*] **1** : to assault violently : BEAT, WHIP **2** : to attack verbally : CENSURE
lamb·da \ˈlam-də\ *n* [Gk, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *lāmedh* lamed] **1** : the 11th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** : one thousandth of a cubic centimeter **3** : an uncharged unstable elementary particle that has a mass 2183 times that of an electron and that decays typically into a nucleon and a pion
lam·ben·cy \ˈlam-bən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** : the quality, state, or an instance of being lambent
lam·bent \ˈlam-bənt\ *adj* [L *lambent-, lambens*, prp. of *lambere* to lick — more at LAP] **1** : playing lightly on or over a surface : FLICKERING **2** : softly bright or radiant **3** : marked by lightness or brilliance esp. of expression — **lam·bent·ly** *adv*
lam·bert \ˈlam-bərt\ *n* [Johann H. *Lambert* †1777 G physicist & philosopher] : the cgs unit of brightness equal to the brightness of a perfectly diffusing surface that radiates or reflects one lumen per square centimeter
lamb·kill \ˈlam-ˌkil\ *n* : SHEEP LAUREL
lam·bre·quin \ˈlam-bər-kən, -bri-kən\ *n* [F] **1** : a scarf used to cover a knight's helmet **2** : a short decorative drapery for a shelf edge or for the top of a window casing : VALANCE
lamb·skin \ˈlam-ˌskin\ *n* : a lamb's skin or a small fine-grade sheepskin or the leather made from either; *specif* : such a skin dressed with the wool on and used esp. for winter clothing
lamb's–quar·ters \ˈlamz-ˌkwȯ(r)t-ərz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a goosefoot (*Chenopodium album*) with glaucous foliage that is sometimes used as a potherb **2** : any of several oraches
¹lame \ˈlām\ *adj* **lam·er; lam·est** [ME, fr. OE *lama;* akin to OHG *lam* lame, Lith *limti* to break down] **1 a** : having a body part and esp. a limb so disabled as to impair freedom of movement ⟨a ~ old man⟩ **b** : marked by stiffness and soreness ⟨a ~ shoulder⟩ **2** : lacking needful or desirable substance : WEAK ⟨a ~ excuse⟩ **3** *slang* : not in the know : SQUARE — **lame·ly** *adv* — **lame·ness** *n*
²lame *vt* **lamed; lam·ing** **1** : to make lame : CRIPPLE **2** : to make weak or ineffective : DISABLE
³lame *n, slang* : a person who is not in the know : SQUARE
⁴lame \ˈlām, ˈlam\ *n* [MF, fr. L *lamina*] **1** : a thin plate esp. of metal : LAMINA **2** *pl* : small overlapping steel plates joined to slide on one another (as in medieval armor)
la·mé \lä-ˈmā, la-\ *n* [F] : a brocaded clothing fabric made from any of various fibers combined with tinsel filling threads often of gold or silver
lame·brain \ˈlām-ˌbrān\ *n* : a dull-witted or erratic person : CRACKPOT, DOLT — **lamebrain** *or* **lame·brained** \-ˈbrānd\ *adj*
la·med \ˈläm-ˌed\ *n* [Heb *lāmedh*, lit., ox goad] : the 12th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
lame duck *n* **1** : an elected official or group continuing to hold political office during a usu. brief interim between defeat for reelection and the inauguration of a successor **2** : one that falls behind in achievement : WEAKLING
lamell- *or* **lamelli-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *lamella*] : lamella ⟨*lamelli*form⟩ ⟨*lamell*ose⟩
la·mel·la \lə-ˈmel-ə\ *n, pl* **la·mel·lae** \-ˈmel-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ *also* **lamellas** [NL, fr. L, dim. of *lamina* thin plate] : a thin flat scale, membrane, or part: as **a** : one of the thin plates composing the gills of a bivalve mollusk **b** : a gill of a mushroom — **la·mel·lar** \-ˈmel-ər\ *adj* — **la·mel·lar·ly** *adv*
la·mel·late \lə-ˈmel-ət, ˈlam-ə-ˌlāt\ *adj* **1** : composed of or furnished with lamellae **2** : LAMELLIFORM — **la·mel·late·ly** *adv*
lam·el·la·tion \ˌlam-ə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* **1** : formation or division into lamellae **2** : LAMELLA
la·mel·li·branch \lə-ˈmel-ə-ˌbraŋk\ *n, pl* **-branchs** [NL *Lamellibranchia*, classname, fr. *lamell-* + L *branchia* gill — more at BRANCHIA] : any of a class (Lamellibranchia) of bivalve mollusks (as clams, oysters, and mussels) that have the body bilaterally symmetrical, compressed, and enclosed within the mantle and that build up a shell whose right and left parts are connected by a hinge over the animal's back — **lamellibranch** *adj* — **la·mel·li·bran·chi·ate** \lə-ˌmel-ə-ˈbraŋ-kē-ət\ *adj or n*
la·mel·li·corn \lə-ˈmel-ə-ˌkȯrn\ *adj* : of, relating to, or belonging to a taxonomic group (Lamellicornia) of beetles (as a dung beetle and a stag beetle) that are characterized by 5-jointed tarsi and club-shaped antennae — **lamellicorn** *n*
la·mel·li·form \-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* : having the form of a thin plate
¹la·ment \lə-ˈment\ *vb* [MF & L; MF *lamenter*, fr. L *lamentari*, fr. *lamentum*, n., lament; akin to ON *lōmr* loon, L *latrare* to bark, Gk *lēros* nonsense] *vi* : to mourn aloud : WAIL ~ *vt* **1** : to express sorrow or mourning for often demonstratively : MOURN **2** : to regret strongly ***syn*** see DEPLORE
²lament *n* **1** : a crying out in grief : WAILING **2** : DIRGE, ELEGY **3** : COMPLAINT
la·men·ta·ble \ˈlam-ən-tə-bəl, lə-ˈment-ə-\ *adj* **1** : that is to be regretted or lamented : DEPLORABLE **2** : expressing grief : MOURNFUL — **la·men·ta·ble·ness** *n* — **la·men·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
lam·en·ta·tion \ˌlam-ən-ˈtā-shən\ *n* : an act or instance of lamenting
Lam·en·ta·tions \-shənz\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a poetic book on the fall of Jerusalem in canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table
la·ment·ed \lə-ˈment-əd\ *adj* : mourned for — **la·ment·ed·ly** *adv*
la·mia \ˈlā-mē-ə\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk, devouring monster — more at LEMUR] : a female demon : VAMPIRE
lamin- *or* **lamini-** *or* **lamino-** *comb form* : lamina ⟨*lamin*ar⟩
lam·i·na \ˈlam-ə-nə\ *n, pl* **-nae** \-ˌnē, -ˌnī\ *or* **-nas** [L] **1** : a thin plate or scale **2** : the expanded part of a foliage leaf **3** : one of the narrow thin parallel plates of soft vascular sensitive tissue that cover the flesh within the wall of a hoof
lam·i·nal \ˈlam-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* : LAMINAR
lamina pro·pria \-ˈprō-prē-ə\ *n, pl* **laminae pro·pri·ae** \-prē-ˌē, -ˌī\ [NL, lit., lamina proper] : BASEMENT MEMBRANE
lam·i·nar \ˈlam-ə-nər\ *adj* : arranged in, consisting of, or resembling laminae
laminar flow *n* : streamline flow in a viscous fluid near a solid boundary — compare TURBULENT FLOW
lam·i·nar·ia \ˌlam-ə-ˈner-ē-ə, -ˈnar-\ *n* [NL, genus name] : any of a genus (*Laminaria*) of large chiefly perennial kelps with an unbranched cylindrical or flattened stipe and a smooth or convoluted blade; *broadly* : any of various related kelps (order Laminariales) — **lam·i·nar·i·an** \-ē-ən\ *adj*


laminaria

lam·i·nar·i·an \-ē-ən\ *n* : LAMINARIA
lam·i·nar·in \ˌlam-ə-ˈner-ən, -ˈnar-\ *n* [ISV *laminar-* (fr. NL *Laminaria*) + *-in*] : a polysaccharide that is found in various brown algae and yields only glucose on hydrolysis
¹lam·i·nate \ˈlam-ə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** *vt* **1** : to roll or compress into a thin plate **2** : to separate into laminae **3** : to make by uniting superposed layers of one or more materials ~ *vi* : to divide into laminae — **lam·i·na·tor** \-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*
²lam·i·nate \-nət, -ˌnāt\ *adj* **1** : consisting of laminae **2** : bearing or covered with laminae
³lam·i·nate \-nət, -ˌnāt\ *n* : a product made by laminating
lam·i·nat·ed \-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : LAMINATE 1 **2 a** : composed of layers of firmly united material **b** : made by bonding or impregnating superposed layers (as of paper, wood, or fabric) with resin and compressing under heat
lam·i·na·tion \ˌlam-ə-ˈnā-shən\ *n* **1** : the process of laminating **2** : the state of being laminated **3** : a laminate structure **4** : LAMINA
Lam·mas \ˈlam-əs\ *n* [ME *Lammasse*, fr. OE *hlāfmæsse*, fr. *hlāf* loaf, bread + *mæsse* mass; fr. the fact that formerly loaves from the first ripe grain were consecrated on this day] **1** : August 1 orig. celebrated in England as a harvest festival — called also *Lammas Day* **2** : the time of the year around Lammas Day
Lammastide *n* : LAMMAS 2
lam·mer·gei·er *or* **lam·mer·gey·er** \ˈlam-ər-ˌgī(-ə)r\ *n* [G *lämmergeier*] : a large Eurasian vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus aureus*) that occurs in mountain regions from the Pyrenees to northern China and in flight resembles a huge falcon
lamp \ˈlamp\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *lampe*, fr. L *lampas*, fr. Gk, fr. *lampein* to shine; akin to ON *leiptr* lightning] **1 a** : a vessel with a wick for burning an inflammable liquid (as oil) to produce artificial light **b** : any of various devices for producing light or heat **2** : a celestial body **3** : a source of intellectual or spiritual illumination
lamp·black \-ˌblak\ *n* : a finely powdered black soot deposited in incomplete combustion of carbonaceous materials and used chiefly as a pigment (as in paints, enamels, and printing inks)
lamp·brush chromosome \ˌlamp-ˌbrəsh-\ *n* [*lampbrush* prob. trans. of (assumed) G *lampebürste* brush for cleaning oil lamps] : a greatly enlarged pachytene chromosome that has apparently filamentous granular loops extending from the chromomeres and is characteristic of some animal oocytes
lam·per eel \ˌlam-pər-\ *n* [alter. of *lamprey*] **1** : LAMPREY **2** : CONGO SNAKE
lamp·light \ˈlam-ˌplīt\ *n* : the light of a lamp
lamp·light·er \-ər\ *n* : one that lights a lamp
¹lam·poon \lam-ˈpün\ *n* [F *lampon*] **1** : a harsh satire usu. directed against an individual **2** : a light mocking satire
²lampoon *vt* : to make the subject of a lampoon : RIDICULE — **lam·poon·er** *n* — **lam·poon·ery** \-ˈpün-(ə-)rē\ *n*
lam·prey \ˈlam-prē, -ˌprā\ *n, pl* **lampreys** [ME, fr. OF *lampreie*, fr. ML *lampreda*] : any of an order (Hyperoartia) of aquatic vertebrates that are widely distributed in temperate and subarctic re-

gions in both fresh and salt water and resemble eels but have a large suctorial mouth — called also *lamprey eel*



lamprey

lamp·shell \'lamp-ˌshel\ *n* [fr. the resemblance of the shell and its protruding peduncle to an ancient oil lamp with the wick protruding] : BRACHIOPOD

lam·ster \'lam(p)-stər\ *also* **lam·is·ter** \'lam-ə-stər\ *n* [²*lam* + *-ster*] : a fugitive esp. from the law

la·nai \lə-'nī, lä-\ *n* [Hawaiian] : PORCH, VERANDA

Lan·cas·tri·an \lan-'kas-trē-ən, laŋ-\ *adj* [John of Gaunt, duke of *Lancaster* †1399] : of or relating to the English royal house that ruled from 1399 to 1461

¹lance \'lan(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *lancea*] **1** : a weapon of war consisting of a long shaft with a sharp steel head carried by mounted knights or light cavalry **2** : any of various sharp objects suggestive of a lance: as **a** : LANCET **b** : a spear used for killing whales **3** : LANCER 1b

²lance *vb* **lanced; lanc·ing** [ME *launcen*, fr. MF *lancer*, fr. LL *lanceare*, fr. L *lancea*] *vt* **1 a** : to pierce with or as if with a lance **b** : to open with or as if with a lancet ⟨~ a boil⟩ **2** : to throw forward : HURL ~ *vi* : to move forward quickly

lance corporal *n* [*lance* (as in obs. *lancepesade* lance corporal, fr. MF *lancepessade*)] : an enlisted man in the marine corps ranking above a private first class and below a corporal

lance·let \'lan(t)-slət\ *n* : any of various small translucent marine animals (subphylum Cephalochordata) related to the vertebrates — called also *amphioxus*

Lan·ce·lot \'lan(t)-sə-ˌlät, 'län(t)-, -s(ə-)lət\ *n* [F] : a knight of the Round Table and lover of Queen Guinevere

lan·ceo·late \'lan(t)-sē-ə-ˌlāt\ *adj* [LL *lanceolatus*, fr. L *lanceola*, dim. of *lancea*] : shaped like a lance head; *specif* : tapering to a point at the apex and sometimes at the base ⟨~ leaves⟩ ⟨~ prisms⟩ — **lan·ceo·late·ly** *adv*

lanc·er \'lan(t)-sər\ *n* **1 a** : one who carries a lance **b** : a member of a military unit formerly composed of light cavalry armed with lances **2** *pl but sing in constr* **a** : a set of five quadrilles each in a different meter **b** : the music for such dances

lan·cet \'lan(t)-sət\ *n* **1** : a sharp-pointed and commonly two-edged surgical instrument used to make small incisions **2 a** : LANCET WINDOW **b** : LANCET ARCH

lancet arch *n* : an acutely pointed arch — see ARCH illustration

lan·cet·ed \'lan(t)-sət-əd\ *adj* : having a lancet arch or lancet windows

lancet window *n* : a high narrow window with an acutely pointed head and without tracery

lance·wood \'lan(t)-ˌswu̇d\ *n* : a tough elastic wood used esp. for shafts, fishing rods, and bows; *also* : a tree (esp. *Oxandra lanceolata*) yielding this wood

lan·ci·nate \'lan(t)-sə-ˌnāt\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *lancinatus*, pp. of *lancinare*; akin to L *lacer* mangled — more at LACERATE] : PIERCE, STAB — **lan·ci·na·tion** \ˌlan(t)-sə-'nā-shən\ *n*

Lancs *abbr* Lancashire

¹land \'land\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *lant* land, OIr *land* open space] **1 a** : the solid part of the surface of the earth; *also* : a corresponding part of another celestial body (as the moon) **b** : ground or soil of a specified situation, nature, or quality ⟨wet ~⟩ **c** : the surface of the earth and all its natural resources **2** : a portion of the earth's solid surface distinguishable by boundaries or ownership: as **a** : COUNTRY ⟨campaigned in every corner of the ~⟩ **b** : privately or publicly owned land ⟨had some ~ in the country⟩ **3** : REALM, DOMAIN ⟨in the ~ of dreams⟩ **4** : the people of a country ⟨the ~ rose in rebellion⟩ **5** : an area of a partly machined surface that is left without machining — **land·less** \'lan-dləs\ *adj*

²land *vt* **1** : to set or put on shore from a ship : DISEMBARK **2 a** : to set down after conveying **b** : to cause to reach or come to rest in a particular place ⟨never ~*ed* a punch⟩ **c** : to bring to a specified condition ⟨his carelessness ~*ed* him in trouble⟩ **d** : to bring (as an airplane) to a landing **3 a** : to catch and bring in (as a fish) **b** : GAIN, SECURE ⟨~ a job⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to go ashore from a ship : DISEMBARK **b** *of a ship or boat* : to touch at a place on shore **2 a** : to come to the end of a course or to a stage in a journey : ARRIVE ⟨took the wrong subway and ~*ed* on the other side of town⟩ **b** : to strike or meet a surface (as after a fall) ⟨~*ed* on his head⟩ **c** *of an airplane or spacecraft* : to alight on a surface

lan·dau \'lan-ˌdau, -ˌdȯ\ *n* [*Landau*, Bavaria, Germany] **1** : a four-wheeled carriage with a top divided into two sections that can be let down, thrown back, or removed and with a raised seat outside for the driver **2** : a closed automobile body with a folding top over the rear passenger compartment

lan·dau·let \ˌlan-dᵊl-'et\ *n* **1** : a small landau **2** : an automobile body with an open driver's seat and an enclosed rear section having one cross seat and a collapsible roof

land·ed \'lan-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having an estate in land ⟨~ proprietors⟩ **2** : consisting in or derived from land or real estate ⟨~ property⟩

land·er \'lan-dər\ *n* : one that lands; *esp* : a space vehicle that is designed to land on a celestial body (as the moon or a planet)

land·fall \'lan(d)-ˌfȯl\ *n* **1** : a sighting or making of land after a voyage or flight **2** : the land first sighted on a voyage or flight

land·fill \-ˌfil\ *n* **1** : a system of trash and garbage disposal in which the waste is buried between layers of earth to build up low-lying land — called also *sanitary landfill* **2** : an area built up by landfill

land·form \-ˌfȯrm\ *n* : a feature of the earth's surface attributable to natural causes

land grant *n* : a grant of land made by the government esp. for roads, railroads, or agricultural colleges

land·hold·er \'land-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* : a holder or owner of land — **land·hold·ing** \-diŋ\ *adj or n*

land·ing *n* **1** : an act or process of one that lands; *esp* : a going or bringing to a surface (as land or shore) after a voyage or flight **2** : a place for discharging and taking on passengers and cargo **3** : a level part of a staircase (as at the end of a flight of stairs)

landing craft *n* : any of numerous naval craft designed for putting troops and equipment ashore

landing field *n* : a field where aircraft may land and take off

landing gear *n* : the part that supports the weight of an airplane or spacecraft when in contact with the land or water — see AIRPLANE illustration

landing net *n* : a small net with a handle used to take hooked fish from the water

landing strip *n* : AIRSTRIP

land·la·dy \'lan-ˌ(d)lād-ē\ *n* : a female landlord

land·locked \'lan-ˌ(d)läkt\ *adj* **1** : enclosed or nearly enclosed by land ⟨a ~ country⟩ **2** : confined to fresh water by some barrier ⟨~ salmon⟩

land·lord \'lan-ˌ(d)lȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1** : the owner of property (as land, houses, or apartments) which is leased or rented to another **2** : the master of an inn or lodging house : INNKEEPER

land·lord·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : an economic system or practice by which ownership of land is vested in one who leases it to cultivators

land·lub·ber \'lan-ˌ(d)ləb-ər\ *n* : LANDSMAN 2 ⟨clumsy ~*s* learning to sail⟩ — **land·lub·ber·li·ness** *n* — **land·lub·ber·ly** \-ər-lē\ *adj*

land·mark \'lan(d)-ˌmärk\ *n* **1** : an object (as a stone or tree) that marks the boundary of land **2 a** : a conspicuous object on land that marks a locality **b** : an anatomical structure used as a point of orientation in locating other structures **3** : an event or development that marks a turning point or a stage ⟨this novel is a ~ in modern literature⟩ **4** : a structure (as a building) of unusual historical and usu. aesthetic interest; *esp* : one that is officially designated and set aside for preservation

land·mass \-ˌmas\ *n* : a large area of land ⟨continental ~*es*⟩

land office *n* : a government office in which entries upon and sales of public land are registered

land–office business *n* : extensive and rapid business ⟨money changers . . . did a *land-office business* on payday —F. J. Haskin⟩

land·own·er \'lan-ˌdō-nər\ *n* : an owner of land — **land·own·er·ship** \-ˌship\ *n* — **land·own·ing** \-ˌdō-niŋ\ *adj or n*

land plaster *n* : gypsum or gypsiferous rock ground fine for use as a fertilizer and soil amendment

land–poor \'lan(d)-ˌpu̇(ə)r\ *adj* : owning so much unprofitable or encumbered land as to lack funds to develop the land or pay the charges due thereon

Land·ra·ce \'län-ˌ(d)räs-ə\ *n* [Dan, fr. *land* + *race*] : a swine of any of several breeds locally developed in northern Europe

land rail *n* : CORNCRAKE

land reform *n* : measures designed to effect a more equitable distribution of agricultural land esp. by governmental action; *also* : the resulting redistribution

¹land·scape \'lan(d)-ˌskāp\ *n, often attrib* [D *landschap*, fr. *land* + *-schap* -ship] **1 a** : a picture representing a view of natural inland scenery **b** : the art of depicting such scenery **2 a** : the landforms of a region in the aggregate **b** : a portion of territory that the eye can comprehend in a single view **3** *obs* : VISTA, PROSPECT

²landscape *vb* **land·scaped; land·scap·ing** *vt* : to modify or ornament (a natural landscape) by altering the plant cover ~ *vi* : to engage in the occupation of landscape gardening — **land·scap·er** *n*

landscape architect *n* : one whose profession is the arrangement of land for human use and enjoyment involving the placement of structures, vehicular and pedestrian ways, and plantings — **landscape architecture** *n*

landscape gardener *n* : one skilled in the development and decorative planting of gardens and grounds — **landscape gardening** *n*

land·side \'lan(d)-ˌsīd\ *n* : a sidepiece opposite the moldboard in a plow that guides the plow and takes the side pressure when the furrow is turned

¹land·slide \'lan(d)-ˌslīd\ *n* **1** : the usu. rapid downward movement of a mass of rock, earth, or artificial fill on a slope; *also* : the mass that moves down **2 a** : a great majority of votes for one side **b** : an overwhelming victory

²landslide *vi* **-slid** \-ˌslid\; **-slid·ing** \-ˌslīd-iŋ\ **1** : to produce a landslide **2** : to win an election by a heavy majority

land·slip \-ˌslip\ *n* : LANDSLIDE 1

Lands·mål *or* **Lands·maal** \'län(t)s-ˌmȯl\ *n* [Norw, lit., language of the country] : NYNORSK

lands·man \'lan(d)z-mən\ *n* **1** : a fellow countryman **2** : one who lives on the land; *esp* : one who knows little or nothing of the sea or seamanship

¹land·ward \'lan-dwərd\ *also* **land·wards** \-dwərdz\ *adv* : to or toward the land

²landward *adj* : lying or being toward the land or on the side toward the land

¹lane \'lān\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lanu*; akin to MD *lane* lane] **1** : a narrow passageway between fences or hedges **2** : a relatively narrow way or track: as **a** : an ocean route used by or prescribed for ships **b** : a strip of roadway for a single line of vehicles **c** : AIR LANE **d** : any of several parallel courses in which a competitor must stay during a race **e** : a narrow hardwood surface having pins at one end and a shallow channel along each side that is used in bowling **f** : FREE THROW LANE

²lane *Scot var of* LONE

lang *abbr* language

lang·bein·ite \'laŋ-ˌbī-ˌnīt\ *n* [G *langbeinit*, fr. A. *Langbein*, 19th cent. G chemist] : a mineral $K_2Mg_2(SO_4)_3$ that is a double sulfate of potassium and magnesium much used in the fertilizer industry

lang·lauf \'läŋ-ˌlau̇f\ *n* [G, fr. *lang* long + *lauf* race] : cross-country running or racing on skis — **lang·lauf·er** \-ˌlau̇-fər\ *n*

lang·ley \'laŋ-lē\ *n, pl* **langleys** [Samuel P. *Langley*] : a unit of solar radiation equivalent to one gram calorie per square centimeter of irradiated surface

Lan·go·bard \'laŋ-gə-ˌbärd\ *n* [L *Langobardus*] : LOMBARD 1a — **Lan·go·bar·dic** \ˌlaŋ-gə-'bär-dik\ *adj*

lan·gouste \lä^{n}-'güst\ *n* [F] : SPINY LOBSTER

Lang·shan \'laŋ-ˌshan\ *n* [*Langshan*, locality near Shanghai, China] : any of an Asiatic breed of large single-combed usu. black or white domestic fowls resembling the Cochin Chinas

[1]lang syne \(')laŋ-'zīn\ *adv* [ME(Sc), fr. *lang* long + *syne* since] *chiefly Scot* : at a distant time in the past

[2]lang syne *n, chiefly Scot* : times past ⟨should auld acquaintance be forgot, and days o' auld *lang syne* —Robert Burns⟩

lan·guage \'laŋ-gwij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. *langue* tongue, language, fr. L *lingua* — more at TONGUE] **1 a** : the words, their pronunciation, and the methods of combining them used and understood by a considerable community **b** (1) : audible, articulate, meaningful sound as produced by the action of the vocal organs (2) : a systematic means of communicating ideas or feelings by the use of conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meanings (3) : the suggestion by objects, actions, or conditions of associated ideas or feelings ⟨body ~⟩ (4) : the means by which animals communicate (5) : a formal system of signs and symbols (as FORTRAN or a calculus in logic) including rules for the formation and transformation of admissible expressions (6) : MACHINE LANGUAGE **2 a** : form or manner of verbal expression; *specif* : STYLE **b** : the vocabulary and phraseology be- longing to an art or department of knowledge **c** : abusive epithets : PROFANITY **3** : the study of language esp. as a school subject

LANGUAGES WITH OVER THIRTY MILLION NATIVE SPEAKERS[1]

LANGUAGE	MILLIONS	LANGUAGE	MILLIONS
Mandarin Chinese	610[2]	Cantonese	55
English	275	Korean	53
Spanish	210	Panjabi	53
Russian	140	Marathi	53
Hindi with Urdu	130	Tamil	52
Arabic	130	Ukrainian	46
Bengali	125	Eastern Hindi	43
Portuguese	125	Bhojpuri	41
Japanese	110	Vietnamese	40
German	105	Polish	39
Wu [Shanghai] Chinese	68	Amoy-Swatow Chinese	39
Italian	65	Thai with Lao	37
Javanese	60	Turkish	37
French	58	Gujarati	32
Telugu	55		

[1] By permission of the Center for Applied Linguistics, Arlington, Va.
[2] Figures 100 million or above are given to the nearest 5 million.

language arts *n pl* : the subjects (as reading, spelling, literature, and composition) that aim at developing the student's comprehension and capacity for use of written and oral language

langue \läⁿg\ *n* [F, lit., language] : language that is a system of elements or a set of habits common to a community of speakers — compare PAROLE

langue d'oc \läŋ-'dȯk, läⁿg-dȯk\ *n* [F, fr. OF, lit., language of *oc;* fr. the Provençal use of the word *oc* for "yes"] : PROVENÇAL 2

langue d'oïl \läŋ-'dȯi(ə)l, -'dȯi; läⁿg-dȯ-ēl, -dȯi\ *n* [F, fr. OF, lit., language of *oïl;* fr. the French use of the word *oïl* for "yes"] : FRENCH 1

lan·guet \'laŋ-gwət, laŋ-'gwet\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *languete*, dim. of *langue*] : something resembling the tongue in form or function

lan·guid \'laŋ-gwəd\ *adj* [MF *languide*, fr. L *languidus*, fr. *languēre* to languish — more at SLACK] **1** : drooping or flagging from or as if from exhaustion : WEAK **2** : sluggish in character or disposition : LISTLESS **3** : lacking force or quickness of movement : SLOW — **lan·guid·ly** *adv* — **lan·guid·ness** *n*

lan·guish \'laŋ-gwish\ *vi* [ME *languishen*, fr. MF *languiss-*, stem of *languir*, fr. (assumed) VL *languire*, fr. L *languēre*] **1 a** : to be or become feeble, weak, or enervated **b** : to be or live in a state of depression or decreasing vitality **2 a** : to become dispirited : PINE ⟨~*ing* in prison⟩ **b** : to suffer neglect ⟨the bill ~*ed* in the Senate for eight months⟩ **3** : to assume an expression of grief or emotion appealing for sympathy — **lan·guish·er** *n* — **lan·guish·ing·ly** \-gwish-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **lan·guish·ment** \-gwish-mənt\ *n*

lan·guor \'laŋ-(g)ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L, fr. *languēre*] **1** : weakness or weariness of body or mind **2** : listless indolence : DREAMINESS

lan·guor·ous \'laŋ-(g)ə-rəs, -grəs\ *adj* **1** : full of or characterized by languor **2** : producing or tending to produce languor ⟨a ~ climate⟩ — **lan·guor·ous·ly** *adv*

lan·gur \läŋ-'gu̇(ə)r\ *n* [Hindi *lāgūr*] : any of various Asiatic slender long-tailed monkeys (family Colobidae) with bushy eyebrows and a chin tuft

lank \'laŋk\ *adj* [(assumed) ME, fr. OE *hlanc;* akin to OHG *hlanca* loin, L *clingere* to girdle] **1** : not well filled out : SLENDER, THIN ⟨~ cattle⟩ **2** : insufficient in quantity, degree, or extent ⟨~ grass⟩ **3** : hanging straight and limp without spring or curl ⟨~ hair⟩ ***syn*** see LEAN ***ant*** burly — **lank·ly** *adv* — **lank·ness** *n*

lanky \'laŋ-kē\ *adj* **lank·i·er; -est** : ungracefully tall and thin ***syn*** see LEAN — **lank·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **lank·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*

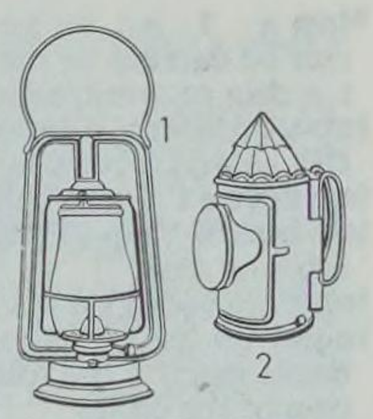
lan·ner \'lan-ər\ *n* [ME *laner*, fr. MF *lanier*] : a falcon (*Falco biarmicus*) of southern Europe, southwestern Asia, or Africa; *specif* : a female lanner

lan·ner·et \ˌlan-ə-'ret\ *n* : a male lanner

lan·o·lin \'lan-ᵊl-ən\ *n* [L *lana* wool + ISV *-ol* + *-in*] : wool grease esp. when refined for use in ointments and cosmetics

lan·ta·na \lan-'tän-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, deriv. of It dial., viburnum] : any of a genus (*Lantana*) of tropical shrubs of the vervain family with showy heads of small bright flowers

lan·tern \'lant-ərn\ *n, often attrib* [ME *lanterne*, fr. MF, fr. L *lanterna*, fr. Gk *lamptēr*, fr. *lampein* to shine — more at LAMP] **1** : a usu. portable protective case for a light with transparent openings **2 a** *obs* : LIGHTHOUSE **b** : the chamber in a lighthouse containing the light **c** : a structure with glazed or open sides above an opening in a roof for light or ventilation **d** : a small tower or cupola or one stage of a cupola **3** : PROJECTOR 2b



lanterns 1: *1* barn, *2* bull's-eye

lantern fly *n* : any of several large brightly marked homopterous insects (family Fulgoridae) having the front of the head prolonged into a hollow structure

lantern jaw *n* : an undershot jaw — **lan·tern–jawed** \ˌlant-ərn-'jȯd\ *adj*

lantern pinion *n* : a gear pinion having cylindrical bars instead of teeth

lan·tha·nide \'lan(t)-thə-ˌnīd\ *n* [ISV] : any element in a series of elements of increasing atomic numbers beginning with lanthanum (57) or cerium (58) and ending with lutetium (71) — see PERIODIC TABLE table

lan·tha·non \-ˌnän\ *n* : LANTHANIDE

lan·tha·num \-nəm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *lanthanein* to escape notice] : a white soft malleable metallic element that occurs in rare-earth minerals — see ELEMENT table

lant·horn \'lant-ərn\ *n, chiefly Brit* : LANTERN

la·nu·gi·nous \lə-'n(y)ü-jə-nəs\ *adj* [L *lanuginosus*, fr. *lanugin-*, *lanugo*] : covered with down or fine soft hair : DOWNY — **la·nu·gi·nous·ness** *n*

la·nu·go \lə-'n(y)ü-(ˌ)gō\ *n* [L, down — more at WOOL] : a dense cottony or downy growth; *specif* : the soft woolly hair that covers the fetus of some mammals

lan·yard \'lan-yərd\ *n* [ME *lanyer*, fr. MF *laniere*] **1** : a piece of rope or line for fastening something in a ship; *esp* : one of the pieces passing through deadeyes to extend shrouds or stays **2 a** : a cord worn around the neck to hold something (as a knife or a whistle) **b** : a cord worn as a symbol of a military citation **3** : a strong line used to activate a system (as in firing a cannon or sounding a whistle)

Lao \'laù\ *n, pl* **Lao** *or* **Laos** \'laùz\ **1** : a member of a Buddhist people living in Laos and adjacent parts of northeastern Thailand and constituting an important branch of the Tai race **2** : the Thai language of the Lao people — **Lao** *adj*

La·oc·o·ön \lā-'äk-ə-ˌwän\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Laokoōn*] : a Trojan priest killed with his sons by two sea serpents after warning the Trojans against the wooden horse

La·od·i·ce·an \(ˌ)lā-ˌäd-ə-'sē-ən\ *adj* [fr. the reproach to the church of the Laodiceans in Rev 3:15-16] : lukewarm or indifferent in religion or politics — **Laodicean** *n*

Lao·tian \lā-'ō-shən, 'laù-shən\ *n* [prob. fr. F *laotien*, adj. & n., irreg. fr. *Lao*] : LAO — **Laotian** *adj*

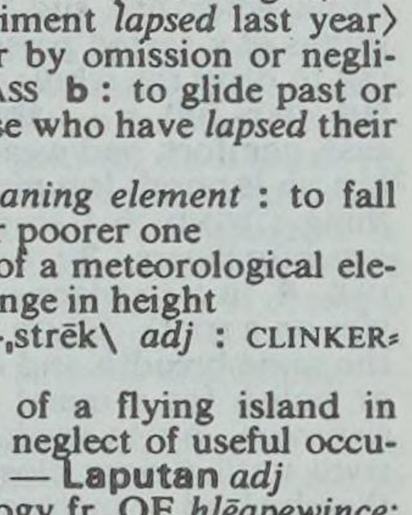
[1]lap \'lap\ *n* [ME *lappe*, fr. OE *læppa;* akin to OHG *lappa* flap, L *labi* to slide — more at SLEEP] **1 a** : a loose panel or hanging flap esp. of a garment **b** *archaic* : the skirt of a coat or dress **2 a** : the clothing that lies on the knees, thighs, and lower part of the trunk when one sits **b** : the front part of the lower trunk and thighs of a seated person **3** : responsible custody : CONTROL ⟨going to drop the whole thing in your ~ —Hamilton Basso⟩ — **lap·ful** \'lap-ˌfu̇l\ *n* — **the lap of luxury** : an environment of great ease, comfort, and wealth ⟨was reared in *the lap of luxury*⟩

[2]lap *vb* **lapped; lap·ping** *vt* **1 a** : to fold over or around something : WIND **b** : to envelop entirely : SWATHE **2** : to fold over esp. into layers **3** : to hold protectively in or as if in the lap : CUDDLE **4 a** : to place over and cover a part of : OVERLAP ⟨~ shingles on a roof⟩ **b** : to unite (as beams or timbers) so as to preserve the same breadth and depth throughout **5 a** : to dress, smooth, or polish (as a metal surface) to a high degree of refinement or accuracy **b** : to work two surfaces together with or without abrasives until a very close fit is produced **6 a** : to overtake and thereby lead or increase the lead over (another contestant) by a full circuit of a racecourse **b** : to complete the circuit of (a racecourse) ~ *vi* **1** : FOLD, WIND **2 a** : to project beyond or spread over something **b** : to lie partly over or alongside of something or of one another **3** : to traverse a course — **lap·per** *n*

[3]lap *n* **1 a** : the amount by which one object overlaps or projects beyond another **b** : the part of an object that overlaps another **2** : a smoothing and polishing tool usu. comprising a piece of wood, leather, felt, or soft metal used with or without an embedded abrasive **3** : a doubling or layering of a flexible substance (as fibers or paper) **4 a** : the act or an instance of moving once around a closed course (as a racing track); *also* : the distance covered **b** : the act or an instance of traversing the length of a straight course (as a swimming pool); *also* : the distance covered **c** : one segment of a larger unit (as a journey) **d** : one complete turn (as of a rope around a drum)

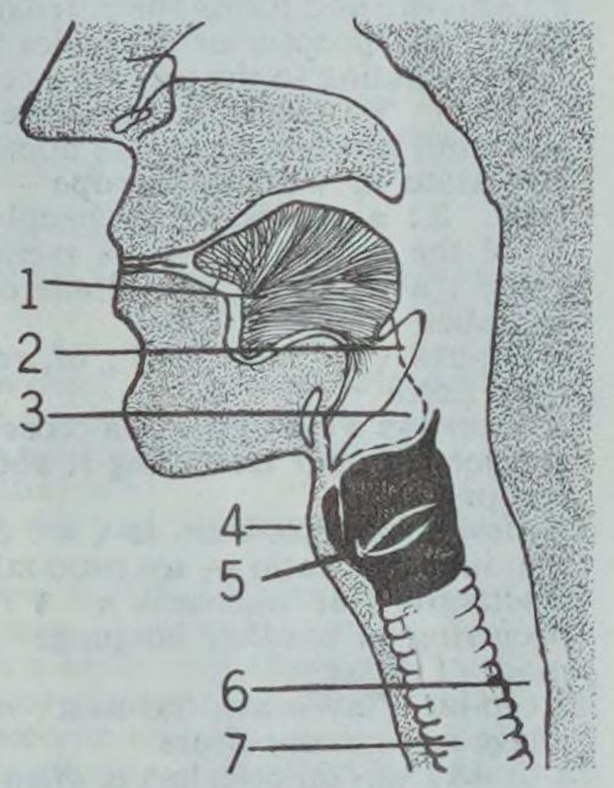
[4]lap *vb* **lapped; lap·ping** [ME *lapen*, fr. OE *lapian;* akin to OHG *laffan* to lick, L *lambere*, Gk *laphyssein* to devour] *vi* **1** : to take in food or drink with the tongue **2 a** : to make a gentle intermittent splashing sound **b** : to move in little waves : WASH ~ *vt* **1 a** : to take in (food or drink) with the tongue **b** : to take in or absorb eagerly or quickly — used with *up* ⟨the crowd *lapped* up every word he said⟩ **2** : to flow or splash against in little waves — **lap·per** *n*

[5]lap *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of lapping **b** : the amount that can be carried to the mouth by one lick or scoop of the tongue **2** : a thin or weak beverage or food **3** : a gentle splashing sound
lap-a-rot-o-my \ˌlap-ə-ˈrät-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [Gk *lapara* flank + ISV *-tomy*] : surgical section of the abdominal wall
lap belt *n* : a seat belt that fastens across the lap
lap-board \ˈlap-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a board used on the lap as a table or desk
lap-dog \-ˌdȯg\ *n* : a small dog that may be held in the lap
la-pel \lə-ˈpel\ *n* [dim. of [1]*lap*] : the part of a garment that is turned back; *specif* : the fold of the front of a coat that is usu. a continuation of the collar
lap-i-dar-i-an \ˌlap-ə-ˈder-ē-ən\ *adj* : LAPIDARY 2
[1]lap-i-dary \ˈlap-ə-ˌder-ē\ *n, pl* **-dar-ies** **1** : a cutter, polisher, or engraver of precious stones usu. other than diamonds **2** : the art of cutting gems
[2]lapidary *adj* [L *lapidarius* of stone, fr. *lapid-, lapis* stone; akin to Gk *lepas* crag] **1 a** : sculptured in or engraved on stone **b** : of or relating to precious stones or the art of cutting them **2** : having the elegance and precision associated with inscriptions on monumental stone ⟨the ~ phrasing . . . and subtle condensations of emotions . . . reward attentive reading —G. A. Cardwell⟩
la-pil-lus \lə-ˈpil-əs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌī, -(ˌ)ē\ [L, dim. of *lapis*] : a small stony or glassy fragment of lava thrown out in a volcanic eruption
lap-in \ˈlap-ən\ *n* [F] **1** : RABBIT; *specif* : a castrated male rabbit **2** : rabbit fur usu. sheared and dyed
la-pis la-zu-li \ˌlap-ə-ˈslaz(h)-ə-lē\ *n* [ME, fr. ML, fr. L *lapis* + ML *lazuli*, gen. of *lazulum* lapis lazuli, fr. Ar *lāzaward* — more at AZURE] : a semiprecious stone that is usu. rich azure blue and is essentially a complex silicate often with spangles of iron pyrites
lap joint *n* : a joint made by overlapping two ends or edges and fastening them together — **lap–joint-ed** \ˈlap-ˈjȯint-əd\ *adj*
Lapp \ˈlap\ *n* [Sw] **1** : a member of a people of northern Scandinavia, Finland, and the Kola peninsula of northern Russia who are typically nomadic herders of reindeer, fishermen, and hunters of sea mammals **2** : any or all of the closely related Finno-Ugric languages of the Lapps
lap-pet \ˈlap-ət\ *n* **1** : a fold or flap on a garment or headdress **2** : a flat overlapping or hanging piece (as a roofing tile or the wattle of a bird)
lap robe *n* : a covering (as a blanket) for the legs, lap, and feet esp. of a passenger in a car or carriage
[1]lapse \ˈlaps\ *n* [L *lapsus*, fr. *lapsus*, pp. of *labi* to slip — more at SLEEP] **1 a** : a slight error typically due to forgetfulness or inattention ⟨a ~ in table manners⟩ **b** : a temporary deviation or fall esp. from a higher to a lower state ⟨a ~ from grace⟩ **2 a** : DROP; *specif* : a decrease of temperature or pressure as the height increases — compare LAPSE RATE **b** : a becoming less : DECLINE **3 a** (1) : the termination of a right or privilege through neglect to exercise it within some limit of time (2) : termination of coverage for nonpayment of premiums **b** : INTERRUPTION, DISCONTINUANCE ⟨returned to college after a ~ of several years⟩ **4** : an abandonment of religious faith : APOSTASY **5** : a passage of time; *also* : INTERVAL ***syn*** see ERROR
[2]lapse *vb* **lapsed; laps-ing** *vi* **1 a** : to fall from an attained and usu. high level (as of morals or manners) to one much lower : depart from an accepted standard **b** : to sink or slip gradually : SUBSIDE ⟨the guests *lapsed* into silence when the speech began⟩ **2** : to go out of existence : CEASE ⟨the experiment *lapsed* last year⟩ **3** : to pass from one proprietor to another by omission or negligence **4 a** *of time* : to run its course : PASS **b** : to glide past or along ~ *vt* : to let slip : FORFEIT ⟨all of those who have *lapsed* their membership —*AAUP Bull.*⟩ — **laps-er** *n*
syn LAPSE, RELAPSE, BACKSLIDE *shared meaning element* : to fall from a better or higher state into a lower or poorer one
lapse rate *n* : the adiabatic rate of change of a meteorological element (as temperature) associated with a change in height
lap-strake \ˈlap-ˌstrāk\ *also* **lap-streak** \-ˌstrēk\ *adj* : CLINKER-BUILT
La-pu-tan \lə-ˈpyüt-ᵊn\ *n* : an inhabitant of a flying island in Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* characterized by a neglect of useful occupations and a devotion to visionary projects — **Laputan** *adj*
lap-wing \ˈlap-ˌwiŋ\ *n* [ME, by folk etymology fr. OE *hlēapewince;* akin to OE *hlēapan* to leap and to OE *wincian* to wink] : a crested Old World plover (*Vanellus vanellus*) noted for its slow irregular flapping flight and its shrill wailing cry; *also* : any of several related plovers
Lar \ˈlär\ *n, pl* **Lar-es** \ˈla(ə)r-(ˌ)ēz, ˈle(ə)r-\ [L — more at LARVA] : a tutelary god or spirit associated with Vesta and the Penates as a guardian of the household by the ancient Romans
lar-board \ˈlär-bərd\ *n* [ME *ladeborde*] : PORT — **larboard** *adj*
lar-ce-ner \ˈlärs-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n* : LARCENIST
lar-ce-nist \ˈlärs-nəst, -ᵊn-əst\ *n* : one who commits larceny
lar-ce-nous \ˈlärs-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* **1** : having the character of or constituting larceny **2** : committing larceny : THIEVISH — **lar-ce-nous-ly** *adv*
lar-ce-ny \ˈlärs-nē, -ᵊn-ē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME, fr. MF *larcin* theft, fr. L *latrocinium* robbery, fr. *latron-, latro* mercenary soldier; akin to OE un*lǣd* poor, Gk *latron* pay] **1** : the unlawful taking and carrying away of personal property with intent to deprive the rightful owner of his property permanently : THEFT **2** : any of various statutory offenses whereby property is illegally obtained
larch \ˈlärch\ *n* [prob. fr. G *lärche*, fr. L *laric-, larix*] **1** : any of a genus (*Larix*) of trees of the pine family with short fascicled deciduous leaves; *also* : any of several related trees (as of the genus *Abies*) **2** : the wood of a larch


larch 1

[1]lard \ˈlärd\ *vt* **1 a** : to dress (meat) for cooking by inserting or covering with something (as strips of fat) **b** : to cover or soil with grease **2** : to decorate or intersperse with something : GARNISH ⟨the book is well ~*ed* with anecdotes⟩ **3** *obs* : to make rich with or as if with fat : ENRICH
[2]lard *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *lardum;* akin to L *laetus* glad, *largus* abundant, Gk *larinos* fat] : a soft white solid or semisolid fat obtained by rendering fatty tissue of the hog — **lardy** \ˈlärd-ē\ *adj*
lar-der \ˈlärd-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *lardier*, fr. OF, fr. *lard*] **1** : a place where food is stored : PANTRY **2** : a supply of food
lar-doon \lär-ˈdün\ *or* **lar-don** \ˈlär-ˌdän\ *n* [F *lardon* piece of fat pork, fr. OF, fr. *lard*] : a strip (as of salt pork) with which meat is larded
lard type *n* : a type of hog adapted to converting feed (as corn) into fat — compare MEAT TYPE
lares and penates *see* LAR, PENATES\ *n pl* **1** : household gods **2** : personal or household effects
[1]large \ˈlärj\ *adj* **larg-er; larg-est** [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *largus*] **1** *obs* : liberal in giving : LAVISH **2** *obs* **a** : AMPLE, ABUNDANT **b** : EXTENSIVE, BROAD **3** : having more than usual power, capacity, or scope : COMPREHENSIVE ⟨establishing a *larger* social justice⟩ **4 a** : exceeding most other things of like kind esp. in quantity or size : BIG **b** : dealing in great numbers or quantities ⟨a ~ and highly profitable business⟩ **5** *obs* **a** *of language or expression* : COARSE, VULGAR **b** : lax in conduct : LOOSE **6** *of a wind* : FAVORABLE **7** : EXTRAVAGANT, BOASTFUL ⟨~ talk⟩ — **large-ness** *n* — **larg-ish** \ˈlär-jish\ *adj*
syn LARGE, BIG, GREAT *shared meaning element* : above average in magnitude ***ant*** small
[2]large *adv* **1** *obs* : in abundance : AMPLY, LIBERALLY **2** : with the wind abaft the beam
[3]large *n, obs* : LIBERALITY, GENEROSITY — **at large** **1** : without restraint or confinement ⟨the escaped prisoner is still *at large*⟩ **2** : at length **3** : in a general way : at random **4** : as a whole ⟨society *at large*⟩ **5** : as the political representative of or to a whole area rather than of one of its subdivisions — used in combination with a preceding noun ⟨a congressman-*at-large*⟩
large calorie *n* : CALORIE 1b
large-heart-ed \ˈlärj-ˈhärt-əd\ *adj* : having a generous disposition : SYMPATHETIC — **large-heart-ed-ness** *n*
large intestine *n* : the posterior division of the vertebrate intestine that is wider and shorter than the small intestine, typically divided into cecum, colon, and rectum, and concerned esp. with the dehydration of digestive residues into feces
large-ly \ˈlärj-lē\ *adv* **1** : to a large extent : EXTENSIVELY **2** : in a general or wide sense : COMPREHENSIVELY
large–mind-ed \ˈlärj-ˈmīn-dəd\ *adj* : generous or comprehensive in outlook, range, or capacity — **large–mind-ed-ly** *adv* — **large–mind-ed-ness** *n*
large-mouth bass \ˌlärj-ˌmau̇th-\ *n* : a large black bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) that is blackish green above and lighter below and has the angle of the jaw falling behind the eye — called also *largemouth, largemouth black bass*
large–print \-ˈprint\ *adj* : being set in a large size of type (as 14 point or larger) esp. for use by the partially sighted ⟨~ books⟩
large–scale \ˈlärj-ˈskā(ə)l\ *adj* : larger than others of its kind: as **a** : involving great numbers or quantities : EXTENSIVE **b** *of a map* : having a scale that permits the plotting of much detail
lar-gess *or* **lar-gesse** \lär-ˈzhes, lär-ˈjes *also* ˈlär-ˌjes\ *n* [ME *largesse*, fr. OF, fr. *large*] **1** : liberal giving to or as if to an inferior **2** : excessive or ostentatious gratuities **3** : an innate generosity of mind or spirit
large–type \-ˈtīp\ *adj* : LARGE-PRINT
large white *n* : any of a British breed of large long-bodied white swine
[1]lar-ghet-to \lär-ˈget-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [It, somewhat slow, fr. *largo*] : slower than andante but not so slow as largo — used as a direction in music
[2]larghetto *n, pl* **-tos** : a larghetto movement
[1]lar-go \ˈlär-(ˌ)gō\ *adv or adj* [It, slow, broad, fr. L *largus* abundant — more at LARD] : in a very slow and broad manner — used as a direction in music
[2]largo *n, pl* **largos** : a largo movement
lar-i-at \ˈlar-ē-ət, ˈler-\ *n* [AmerSp *la reata* the lasso, fr. Sp *la* the (fem. of *el*, fr. L *ille* that; akin to L *uls* beyond) + AmerSp *reata* lasso, fr. Sp *reatar* to tie again, fr. *re-* + *atar* to tie, fr. L *aptare* to fit — more at ALL, ADAPT] : a long light rope (as of hemp or leather) used with a running noose to catch livestock or with or without the noose to picket grazing animals : LASSO
[1]lark \ˈlärk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lāwerce;* akin to OHG *lērihha* lark] **1** : any of numerous singing birds (family Alaudidae) mostly of Europe, Asia, and northern Africa; *esp* : SKYLARK **2** : any of various usu. ground-living birds ⟨meadow*lark*⟩ ⟨tit*lark*⟩
[2]lark *vi* [prob. alter. of *lake* (to frolic)] : FROLIC, SPORT — **lark-er** *n*
[3]lark *n* : a merry adventure : FROLIC; *also* : PRANK
lark-spur \ˈlärk-ˌspər\ *n* : any of a genus (*Delphinium*) of plants of the buttercup family; *esp* : a cultivated annual delphinium grown for its showy irregular flowers with spurred calyxes
larky \ˈlär-kē\ *adj* **lark-i-er; -est** : FROLICSOME
lar-ri-gan \ˈlar-i-gən\ *n* [origin unknown] : an oil-tanned moccasin with a leg often reaching the knee
lar-ri-kin \ˈlar-i-kən\ *n* [origin unknown] *chiefly Austral* : HOODLUM, ROWDY — **larrikin** *adj*
[1]lar-rup \ˈlar-əp\ *vb* [perh. imit.] *vt* **1** *dial* : to flog soundly : WHIP **2** *dial* : to defeat decisively : TROUNCE ~ *vi, dial* : to move indolently or clumsily : SLOUCH
[2]larrup *n, dial* : BLOW
la-rum \ˈlär-əm, ˈlar-\ *n* [short for *alarum*] : ALARM
lar-va \ˈlär-və\ *n, pl* **lar-vae** \-(ˌ)vē, -ˌvī\ *also* **larvas** [NL, fr. L, specter, mask; akin to L *lar*] **1** : the immature, wingless, and often vermiform feeding form that hatches from the egg of many insects, alters chiefly in size while passing through several molts, and is finally transformed into a pupa or chrysalis from which the adult emerges **2** : the early form of an animal (as a frog) that at birth or hatching is fundamentally unlike its parent and must

metamorphose before assuming the adult characters — **lar·val** \-vəl\ *adj*
larvi- *comb form* [NL, fr. *larva*] : larva ⟨*larvi*cide⟩
[1]lar·vi·cide \'lär-və-ˌsīd\ *n* : an agent for killing larval pests — **lar·vi·cid·al** \ˌlär-və-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*
[2]larvicide *vt* **-cid·ed; -cid·ing** : to treat with a larvicide
laryng- *or* **laryngo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *laryng-, larynx*] **1** : larynx ⟨*laryng*itis⟩ **2** \lə-ˌriŋ-gō, -ˌrin-jō\ : laryngeal and ⟨*laryngo*pharyngeal⟩
[1]la·ryn·geal \ˌlar-ən-'jē-əl, lə-'rin-j(ē-)əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or used on the larynx **2** : produced by or with constriction of the larynx ⟨~ articulation of sounds⟩ — **la·ryn·geal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
[2]laryngeal *n* **1** : an anatomical part (as a nerve or artery) that supplies or is associated with the larynx **2 a** : a laryngeal sound **b** : any of a set of several phonemes reconstructed for Proto-Indo-European chiefly on indirect evidence
lar·yn·gec·to·mee \ˌlar-ən-ˌjek-tə-'mē\ *n* : a person who has undergone laryngectomy
lar·yn·gec·to·my \-'jek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : surgical removal of all or part of the larynx
lar·yn·git·ic \ˌlar-ən-'jit-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of laryngitis **2** : affected with laryngitis
lar·yn·gi·tis \ˌlar-ən-'jīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the larynx
lar·yn·gol·o·gy \ˌlar-ən-'gäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of medicine dealing with diseases of the larynx and nasopharynx
la·ryn·go·scope \lə-'riŋ-gə-ˌskōp, -'rin-jə-\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for examining the interior of the larynx — **la·ryn·go·scop·ic** \-ˌriŋ-gə-'skäp-ik, -ˌrin-jə-\ *or* **la·ryn·go·scop·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **la·ryn·go·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **lar·yn·gos·co·py** \ˌlar-ən-'gäs-kə-pē\ *n*
lar·ynx \'lar-iŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **la·ryn·ges** \lə-'rin-(ˌ)jēz\ *or* **lar·ynx·es** [NL *laryng-, larynx*, fr. Gk] : the modified upper part of the trachea of air-breathing vertebrates that in man, most other mammals, and a few lower forms contains the vocal cords



larynx: *1* tongue, *2* epiglottis, *3* epiglottis closing larynx, *4* Adam's apple, *5* vocal cords, *6* esophagus, *7* trachea

la·sa·gna \lə-'zän-yə\ *n* [It *lasagna* (pl. *lasagne*), fr. (assumed) VL *lasania*, fr. L *lasanum* cooking pot, fr. Gk *lasanon* chamber pot] **1** *also* **la·sa·gne** \-yə, -(ˌ)yā\ : broad flat noodles **2** : boiled lasagna noodles baked with a sauce usu. of tomatoes, cheese, and meat (as ground beef)
las·car \'las-kər\ *n* [Hindi *lashkar* army] : an East Indian sailor, army servant, or native artilleryman
las·civ·i·ous \lə-'siv-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *lascivia* wantonness, fr. *lascivus* wanton — more at LUST] : LEWD, LUSTFUL — **las·civ·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **las·civ·i·ous·ness** *n*
lase \'lāz\ *vi* **lased; las·ing** [back-formation fr. *laser*] : to emit coherent light
la·ser \'lā-zər\ *n* [*light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation*] : a device that utilizes the natural oscillations of atoms or molecules between energy levels for generating coherent electromagnetic radiation in the ultraviolet, visible, or infrared regions of the spectrum
[1]lash \'lash\ *vb* [ME *lashen*] *vi* **1** : to move violently or suddenly : DASH **2** : to strike with or as if with a whip **3** : to make a verbal attack or retort — usu. used with *out* **4** *Brit* : to spend money recklessly — usu. used with *out* ~ *vt* **1 a** : to strike with a lash : WHIP **b** : to strike quickly and forcibly ⟨rain ~*es* the window⟩ **2 a** : to assail with stinging words **b** : DRIVE, GOAD ⟨~*ed* them into a fury with his fiery speech⟩ **c** : to cause to lash — **lash·er** *n*
[2]lash *n* **1 a** (1) : a stroke with or as if with a whip (2) : the flexible part of a whip; *also* : WHIP **b** : a sudden swinging blow **2** : a verbal blow **3** : EYELASH **4** : the clearance or play between adjacent movable mechanical parts
[3]lash *vt* [ME *lasschen* to lace, fr. MF *lacier* — more at LACE] : to bind with a line (as of rope, cord, or chain) — **lash·er** *n*
lash·ing *n* : something used for binding, wrapping, or fastening
lash·ings \'lash-iŋz, -ənz\ *also* **lash·ins** \-ənz\ *n pl* [fr. gerund of *[1]lash*] : a great plenty : ABUNDANCE ⟨piles of bread and butter and ~ of tea —Molly Weir⟩
lash–up \'lash-ˌəp\ *n* [*[3]lash*] **1** : something improvised : CONTRIVANCE **2** : SETUP, LAYOUT
L–as·pa·rag·i·nase \'el-ˌas-pə-'raj-ə-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* : an enzyme that breaks down the physiologically commoner form of asparagine, is obtained esp. from bacteria, and is used esp. to treat leukemia
lass \'las\ *n* [ME *las*] **1** : young woman : GIRL **2** : SWEETHEART
lass·ie \'las-ē\ *n* : LASS, GIRL
las·si·tude \'las-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [MF, fr. L *lassitudo*, fr. *lassus* weary — more at LET] **1** : a condition of weariness or debility : FATIGUE **2** : a condition of listlessness : LANGUOR
[1]las·so \'las-(ˌ)ō, la-'sü\ *n, pl* **lassos** *or* **lassoes** [Sp *lazo*, fr. L *laqueus* snare — more at DELIGHT] : a rope or long thong of leather with a running noose that is used esp. for catching horses and cattle : LARIAT
[2]lasso *vt* : to catch with or as if with a lasso : ROPE — **las·so·er** *n*
[1]last \'last\ *vb* [ME *lasten*, fr. OE *lǣstan* to last, follow; akin to OE *lāst* footprint] *vi* **1** : to continue in time : go on **2 a** : to remain fresh or unimpaired : ENDURE **b** : to manage to continue (as in a course of action) **c** : to continue to live ⟨he won't ~ much longer⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to continue in existence or action as long as or longer than — often used with *out* ⟨couldn't ~ out the training program⟩ **2** : to be enough for the needs of ⟨the supplies will ~ them a week⟩ ***syn*** see CONTINUE — **last·er** *n*
[2]last *adj* [ME, fr. OE *latost*, superl. of *læt* late] **1 a** : following all the rest ⟨he was the ~ one out⟩ **b** : being the only remaining ⟨his ~ dollar⟩ **2 a** : belonging to the final stage (as of life) ⟨his ~ hours on earth⟩ **b** : administered to the seriously sick or dying ⟨the ~ rites of the church⟩ **3 a** : next before the present : most recent ⟨~ week⟩ ⟨his ~ book was a failure⟩ **b** : most up-to-date : LATEST ⟨it's the ~ thing in fashion⟩ **4 a** : lowest in rank or standing; *also* : WORST **b** : farthest from a specified quality, attitude, or likelihood ⟨he'd be the ~ person to fall for flattery⟩ **5 a** : CONCLUSIVE ⟨there is no ~ answer to a problem of human relations⟩ **b** : highest in degree : SUPREME **c** : DISTINCT, SEPARATE — used as an intensive ⟨ate every ~ piece of food on his plate⟩ — **last·ly** *adv*
syn LAST, FINAL, TERMINAL, EVENTUAL, ULTIMATE *shared meaning element* : following all relevant others (as in time, order, or importance) ***ant*** first
[3]last *adv* **1** : after all others : at the end ⟨came ~ and left first⟩ **2** : most lately ⟨saw him ~ in New York⟩ **3** : in conclusion ⟨and ~, I'd like to consider the economic aspect⟩
[4]last *n* : something that is last — **at last** *or* **at long last** : at the end of a period of time : FINALLY ⟨*at last* you've come home⟩
[5]last *n* [ME, fr. OE *lǣste*, fr. *lāst* footprint; akin to OHG *leist* shoemaker's last, L *lira* furrow — more at LEARN] : a form (as of metal or plastic) which is shaped like the human foot and over which a shoe is shaped or repaired
[6]last *vt* : to shape with a last — **last·er** *n*
last–ditch *adj* : made as a final effort esp. to avert disaster ⟨a ~ attempt to raise the money⟩
last ditch *n* : a place of final defense ⟨the anti-liquor groups fought the changes to the *last ditch* —*N.Y. Times*⟩
Las·tex \'las-ˌteks\ *trademark* — used for an elastic yarn consisting of a core of latex thread wound with threads of cotton, rayon, nylon, or silk
Last Gospel *n* : the liturgical Gospel usu. comprising John 1:1-14 that is read by the celebrant following the close of the Mass in Roman Catholic churches and the Holy Communion in many Episcopal churches
last hurrah *n* : a last effort or attempt ⟨his unsuccessful Senate run was his *last hurrah* —R. W. Daly⟩
[1]last·ing *adj* : existing or continuing a long while : ENDURING — **last·ing·ly** \'las-tiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **last·ing·ness** *n*
[2]lasting *n* **1** *archaic* : long life **2** [*[1]lasting*] : a sturdy cotton or worsted cloth used esp. in shoes and luggage
last minute *n* : the moment just before some climactic, decisive, or disastrous event
last name *n* : SURNAME 2
last straw *n* [fr. the fable of the last straw that broke the camel's back when added to his burden] : the last of a series (as of events or indignities) that brings one beyond the point of endurance
Last Supper *n* : the supper eaten by Jesus and his disciples on the night of his betrayal
Last Things *n pl* [trans. of ML *Novissima*] : events (as the resurrection and divine judgment of all humankind) marking the end of the world : eschatological happenings
last word *n* **1** : the final remark in a verbal exchange **2 a** : the power of final decision **b** : a definitive statement or treatment ⟨his study will surely be the *last word* on the subject for many years⟩ **3** : the most advanced, up-to-date, or fashionable exemplar of its kind ⟨the *last word* in sports cars⟩
lat *abbr* latitude
Lat *abbr* **1** Latin **2** Latvia
LAT *abbr* local apparent time
lat·a·kia \ˌlat-ə-'kē-ə\ *n* [*Latakia*, seaport in Syria] : a highly aromatic Turkish smoking tobacco
[1]latch \'lach\ *vi* [ME *lachen*, fr. OE *læccan*; akin to Gk *lambanein* to take, seize] **1** : to catch or get hold — used with *on* or *onto* **2** : to attach oneself ⟨~*ed* onto a rich widow⟩
[2]latch *n* : any of various devices in which mating mechanical parts engage to fasten but usu. not to lock something: **a** : a fastener (as for a door) consisting essentially of a pivoted bar that falls into a notch **b** : a fastener (as for a door) in which a spring slides a bolt into a hole; *also* : NIGHT LATCH
[3]latch *vt* : to make fast with or as if with a latch
latch·et \'lach-ət\ *n* [ME *lachet*, fr. MF, shoestring, fr. *laz* snare, fr. L *laqueus* — more at DELIGHT] : a narrow leather strap, thong, or lace that fastens a shoe or sandal on the foot
latch·key \'lach-ˌkē\ *n* **1** : a key to an outside and esp. a front door
latch·string \-ˌ(s)triŋ\ *n* : a string on a latch that may be left hanging outside the door to permit the raising of the latch from the outside or drawn inside to prevent intrusion
[1]late \'lāt\ *adj* **lat·er; lat·est** [ME, late, slow, fr. OE *læt*; akin to OHG *laz* slow, OE *lǣtan* to let] **1 a** (1) : coming or remaining after the due, usual, or proper time ⟨a ~ spring⟩ (2) : of, relating to, or imposed because of tardiness **b** : of or relating to an advanced stage in point of time or development ⟨the ~ Middle Ages⟩; *esp* : far advanced toward the close of the day or night ⟨~ hours⟩ **2 a** : living comparatively recently — used of persons with reference to a specific relationship or status ⟨his ~ wife⟩ ⟨the ~ chairman of the board⟩ **b** : being something or holding some position or relationship recently but not now ⟨the ~ belligerents⟩ **c** : made, appearing, or happening just previous to the present time esp. as the most recent of a succession ⟨our ~ quarrel⟩ ***syn***

1 see TARDY ***ant*** early, punctual, prompt **2** see DEAD **3** see MODERN — **late·ness** *n*

²late *adv* **lat·er; lat·est** **1 a** : after the usual or proper time ⟨got to work ~⟩ **b** : at or to an advanced point of time ⟨saw her ~ in the day⟩ — often used with *on* **2** : not long ago : RECENTLY ⟨a man ~ of Chicago⟩ — **of late** : in the period shortly or immediately preceding : RECENTLY ⟨have not seen him *of late*⟩

late blight *n* : a disease of solanaceous plants (as the potato and tomato) that is caused by a fungus (*Phytophthora infestans*) and is characterized by decay of stems, leaves, and in the potato also of tubers

late·com·er \ˈlāt-ˌkəm-ər\ *n* : one that arrives late; *also* : a recent arrival

lat·ed \ˈlāt-əd\ *adj* : BELATED

¹la·teen \lə-ˈtēn\ *adj* [F (*voile*) *latine* lateen sail] : being or relating to a rig used esp. on the north coast of Africa and characterized by a triangular sail extended by a long spar slung to a low mast

²lateen *n* **1** *also* **la·teen·er** \-ˈtē-nər\ : a lateen-rigged ship **2** : a lateen sail

Late Greek *n* : the Greek language as used in the 3d to 6th centuries

Late Latin *n* : the Latin language used by writers in the 3d to 6th centuries

late·ly \ˈlāt-lē\ *adv* : of late : RECENTLY ⟨has been friendlier ~⟩

lat·en \ˈlāt-ᵊn\ *vb* **lat·ened; lat·en·ing** \ˈlāt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vi* : to grow late ~ *vt* : to cause to grow late

la·ten·cy \ˈlāt-ᵊn-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being latent : DORMANCY **2** : something latent **3** : a stage of personality development that extends from about the age of five to the beginning of puberty and during which sexual urges often appear to lie dormant **4** : LATENT PERIOD 2

latency period *n* **1** : LATENCY 3 **2** : LATENT PERIOD 2

La Tène \lä-ˈten, -ˈtān\ *adj* [*La Tène*, shallows of the Lake of Neuchâtel, Switzerland] : of or relating to the later period of the Iron Age in Europe assumed to date from 500 B.C. to A.D. 1

la·ten·si·fi·ca·tion \lā-ˌten(t)-sə-fə-ˈkā-shən, lə-\ *n* [blend of ¹*latent* and *intensification*] : intensification of a latent photographic image by chemical treatment or exposure to light of low intensity — **la·ten·si·fy** \-ˈten(t)-sə-ˌfī\ *vt*

¹la·tent \ˈlāt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *latent-, latens*, fr. prp. of *latēre* to lie hidden; akin to OHG *luog* den, Gk *lanthanein* to escape notice] : present and capable of becoming though not now visible or active ⟨a ~ infection⟩ ⟨his desire for success remained ~⟩

syn LATENT, DORMANT, QUIESCENT, POTENTIAL, ABEYANT *shared meaning element* : not now manifest or showing signs of existence or activity ***ant*** patent

²latent *n* : a fingerprint (as at the scene of a crime) that is scarcely visible but can be developed for study

latent heat *n* : heat given off or absorbed in a process (as fusion or vaporization) other than a change of temperature

latent period *n* **1** : the incubation period of a disease **2** : the interval between stimulation and response

latent root *n* : a characteristic root of a matrix

-l·a·ter \l-ət-ər\ *n comb form* [ME *-latrer*, fr. MF *-latre*, fr. LL *-latres*, fr. Gk *-latrēs*; akin to Gk *latron* pay — more at LARCENY] : worshiper ⟨icono*later*⟩

lat·er·ad \ˈlat-ə-ˌrad\ *adv* [L *later-, latus*] : toward the side

¹lat·er·al \ˈlat-ə-rəl, ˈla-trəl\ *adj* [L *lateralis*, fr. *later-, latus* side] : of or relating to the side : situated on, directed toward, or coming from the side — **lat·er·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²lateral *n* **1** : a side ditch or conduit (as in a water system) **2** : a mining drift to one side of and parallel to a main drift **3** : a pass in football thrown parallel to the line of scrimmage or in a direction away from the opponent's goal

³lateral *vi* : to throw a lateral

lateral bud *n* : a bud that develops in the axil between a petiole and a stem — called also *axillary bud*

lateral line *n* : a canal along the side of a fish containing pores that open into tubes supplied with sense organs sensitive to low vibrations; *also* : one of these tubes or sense organs

lat·er·ite \ˈlat-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [L *later* brick] : a residual product of rock decay that is red in color and has a high content in the oxides of iron and hydroxide of aluminum — **lat·er·it·ic** \ˌlat-ə-ˈrit-ik\ *adj*

lat·er·i·za·tion \ˌlat-ə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : the process of conversion of rock to laterite

lat·est \ˈlāt-əst\ *n* **1** : the most recent or currently fashionable style or development ⟨the ~ in diving techniques⟩ **2** : the latest acceptable time — usu. used in the phrase *at the latest* ⟨be home by one *at the latest*⟩

late·wood \ˈlāt-ˌwu̇d\ *n* : SUMMERWOOD

la·tex \ˈlā-ˌteks\ *n, pl* **la·ti·ces** \ˈlāt-ə-ˌsēz, ˈlat-\ *or* **la·tex·es** [NL *latic-, latex*, fr. L, fluid] **1** : a milky usu. white fluid that is produced by cells of various seed plants (as of the milkweed, spurge, and poppy families) and is the source of rubber, gutta-percha, chicle, and balata **2** : a water emulsion of a synthetic rubber or plastic obtained by polymerization and used esp. in coatings (as paint) and adhesives — **la·ti·cif·er·ous** \ˌlāt-ə-ˈsif-(ə-)rəs, ˌlat-\ *adj*

¹lath \ˈlath *also* ˈlaṯh\ *n, pl* **laths** *or* **lath** [ME, fr. OE *lætt*; akin to OHG *latta* lath, W *llath* yard] **1** : a thin narrow strip of wood nailed to rafters, joists, or studding as a groundwork for slates, tiles, or plaster **2** : a building material in sheets used as a base for plaster **3** : a quantity of laths

²lath *vt* : to cover or line with laths

¹lathe \ˈlāṯh\ *n* [prob. fr. ME *lath* supporting stand] : a machine in which work is rotated about a horizontal axis and shaped by a fixed tool

²lathe *vt* **lathed; lath·ing** : to cut or shape with a lathe

¹lath·er \ˈlaṯh-ər\ *n* [(assumed) ME, fr. OE *lēathor*; akin to OE *lēag* lye — more at LYE] **1 a** : a foam or froth formed when a detergent (as soap) is agitated in water **b** : foam or froth from profuse sweating (as on a horse) **2** : an agitated or overwrought state : DITHER — **lath·ery** \-(ə-)rē\ *adj*

²lather *vb* **lath·ered; lath·er·ing** \-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to spread lather over **2** : to beat severely : FLOG ~ *vi* : to form a lather or a froth like lather — **lath·er·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

lath·ing \ˈlath-iŋ, ˈlaṯh-\ *n* **1** : the action or process of placing laths **2** : a quantity or an installation of laths

lath·y·rism \ˈlath-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* [NL *Lathyrus*, genus name, fr. Gk *lathyros*, a type of pea] : a diseased condition of man, domestic animals, and esp. horses that results from poisoning by a substance found in some legumes (genus *Lathyrus* and esp. *L. sativus*) and is characterized esp. by spastic paralysis of the hind or lower limbs

lath·y·rit·ic \ˌlath-ə-ˈrit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, affected with, or characteristic of lathyrism ⟨~ rats⟩ ⟨~ cartilage⟩

latices *pl of* LATEX

la·tic·i·fer \lā-ˈtis-ə-fər\ *n* [ISV *latici-* (fr. NL *latic-, latex*) + *-fer*] : a plant cell or vessel that contains latex

la·ti·fun·dio \ˌlät-ə-ˈfün-dē-ˌō\ *n, pl* **-di·os** [Sp, fr. L *latifundium*] : a latifundium in Spain or Latin America

lat·i·fun·di·um \ˌlat-ə-ˈfən-dē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-dē-ə\ [L, fr. *latus* wide + *fundus* piece of landed property — more at BOTTOM] : a great landed estate with primitive agriculture and labor often in a state of partial servitude

lat·i·go \ˈlat-i-ˌgō\ *n, pl* **-gos** *also* **-goes** [Sp *látigo*] *chiefly West* : a long strap on a saddletree to tighten and fasten the cinch

lat·i·me·ria \ˌlat-ə-ˈmir-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Marjorie E. D. Courtenay-*Latimer b*1907 So. African museum director] : any of a genus (*Latimeria*) of living coelacanth fishes of deep seas off southern Africa

¹Lat·in \ˈlat-ᵊn\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *Latinus*, fr. *Latium*, ancient country of Italy] **1** : of or relating to Latium or the Latins **2 a** : of, relating to, or composed in Latin **b** : ROMANCE **3** : of or relating to the part of the Catholic Church that until recently used a Latin rite and forms the patriarchate of the pope **4** : of or relating to the peoples or countries using Romance languages; *specif* : of or relating to the peoples or countries of Latin America

²Latin *n* **1** : the Italic language of ancient Latium and of Rome and until modern times the dominant language of school, church, and state in western Europe — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table **2** : a member of the people of ancient Latium **3** : a Catholic of the Latin rite **4** : a member of one of the Latin peoples; *specif* : a native or inhabitant of Latin America **5** : the Latin alphabet

Lat·in·ate \ˈlat-ᵊn-ˌāt\ *adj* : of, relating to, resembling, or derived from Latin

Latin cross *n* : a figure of a cross having a long upright shaft and a shorter crossbar traversing it above the middle — see CROSS illustration

La·tin·i·an \la-ˈtin-ē-ən, lə-\ *n* : a division of the Italic languages that includes Latin — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

Lat·in·ism \ˈlat-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : a characteristic feature of Latin occurring in another language **2** : Latin quality, character, or mode of thought

Lat·in·ist \ˈlat-ᵊn-əst, ˈlat-nəst\ *n* : a specialist in the Latin language or Roman culture

la·tin·i·ty \la-ˈtin-ət-ē, lə-\ *n, often cap* **1** : a manner of speaking or writing Latin **2** : LATINISM 2

lat·in·ize \ˈlat-ᵊn-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *often cap, vt* **1 a** *obs* : to translate into Latin **b** : to give a Latin form to **c** : to introduce Latinisms into **d** : ROMANIZE 2 **2** : to make Latin or Italian in doctrine, ideas, or traits; *specif* : to cause to resemble the Roman Catholic Church ~ *vi* **1** : to use Latinisms **2** : to exhibit the influence of the Romans or of the Roman Catholic Church — **lat·in·iza·tion** \ˌlat-ᵊn-ə-ˈzā-shən, ˌlat-nə-\ *n*

Latin Quarter *n* [trans. of F *Quartier Latin*] : a section of Paris south of the Seine frequented by students and artists

Latin square *n* : a square array in which the number of elements is the same as the number of columns and no element occurs twice in the same column or row and which is used esp. in the statistical design of experiments (as in agriculture)

lat·ish \ˈlāt-ish\ *adj* : being somewhat late

lat·i·tude \ˈlat-ə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *latitudin-, latitudo*, fr. *latus* wide; akin to Arm *lain* wide] **1** *archaic* : extent or distance from side to side : WIDTH **2** : angular distance from some specified circle or plane of reference: as **a** : angular distance north or south from the earth's equator measured through 90 degrees **b** : angular distance of a celestial body from the ecliptic **c** : a region or locality as marked by its latitude **3 a** *archaic* : SCOPE, RANGE **b** : the range of exposures within which a film or plate will produce a negative or positive of satisfactory quality **4** : freedom of action or choice — **lat·i·tu·di·nal** \ˌlat-ə-ˈt(y)üd-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* — **lat·i·tu·di·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*



latitude 2a: hemisphere marked with parallels of latitude

lat·i·tu·di·nar·i·an \ˌlat-ə-ˌt(y)üd-ᵊn-ˈer-ē-ən\ *n* : a person who is broad and liberal in his standards of religious belief and conduct — **latitudinarian** *adj* — **lat·i·tu·di·nar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

lat·o·sol \ˈlat-ə-ˌsȯl\ *n* [irreg. fr. L *later* brick + E *-sol* (as in *podsol*, var. of *podzol*)] : a leached red and yellow tropical soil — **lat·o·sol·ic** \ˌlat-ə-ˈsȯ-lik\ *adj*

la·trine \lə-ˈtrēn\ *n* [F, fr. L *latrina*, contr. of *lavatrina*, fr. *lavere* to wash — more at LYE] **1** : a receptacle (as a pit in the earth) for use as a toilet **2** : TOILET

-l·a·try \l-ə-trē\ *n comb form* [ME *-latrie*, fr. OF, fr. LL *-latria*, fr. Gk, fr. *latreia*] : worship ⟨helio*latry*⟩

lat·ten *or* **lat·tin** \ˈlat-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *laton*, fr. MF] **1** : a yellow alloy identical to or resembling brass typically hammered into thin sheets and formerly much used for church utensils **2 a** : iron plate covered with tin **b** : metal in thin sheets ⟨gold ~⟩

lat·ter \ˈlat-ər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *lætra*, compar. of *læt* late] **1 a** : more recent : LATER ⟨the ~ stages of a process⟩ **b** : of or relating to the end : FINAL **c** : RECENT, PRESENT **2** : of, relating to, or

being the second of two groups or things or the last of several groups or things referred to ⟨of ham and beef the ~ meat is cheaper today⟩
lat·ter–day \ˌlat-ər-ˌdā\ *adj* **1** : of a later or subsequent time **2** : of present or recent times
Latter–Day Saint *n* : a member of a religious body tracing its origin to Joseph Smith in 1830 and accepting the Book of Mormon as divine revelation : MORMON
lat·ter·ly *adv* **1** : at a subsequent time : LATER **2** : of late : RECENTLY
lat·tice \ˈlat-əs\ *n* [ME *latis*, fr. MF *lattis*] **1 a** : a framework or structure of crossed wood or metal strips **b** : a window, door, or gate having a lattice **c** : a network or design resembling a lattice **2** : a regular geometrical arrangement of points or objects over an area or in space: as **a** : SPACE LATTICE **b** : a geometrical arrangement of fissionable material in a nuclear reactor **c** : a mathematical set that has some elements ordered and that is such that for any two elements there exists a least element greater than or equal to both and a greatest element less than or equal to both — **lattice** *vt* — **lat·ticed** \-əst\ *adj*
lattice girder *n* : a girder with top and bottom flanges connected by a latticework web
lat·tice·work \ˈlat-ə-ˌswərk\ *n* : a lattice or work made of lattices
la·tus rec·tum \ˌlat-əs-ˈrek-təm\ *n* [NL, lit., straight side] : a chord of a conic section (as an ellipse) that passes through a focus and is parallel to the directrix
Lat·vi·an \ˈlat-vē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Latvia **2** : the Baltic language of the Latvian people — **Latvian** *adj*
lau·an \ˈlü-ˌän, lü-ˈ ; laù-ˈän\ *n* [Tag *lawaan*] : any of various Philippine timbers (as of the genera *Shorea* and *Parashorea*) that are light yellow to reddish brown or brown, are of moderate strength and durability, and include some which enter commerce as Philippine mahogany
[1]laud \ˈlȯd\ *n* [ME *laudes* (pl.), fr. ML, fr. L, pl. of *laud-, laus* praise; akin to OHG *liod* song] **1** *pl but sing or pl in constr, often cap* : an office of solemn praise to God forming with matins the first of the canonical hours **2** : ACCLAIM, PRAISE
[2]laud *vt* [L *laudare*, fr. *laud-, laus*] : PRAISE, EXTOL
laud·able \ˈlȯd-ə-bəl\ *adj* : worthy of praise : COMMENDABLE — **laud·abil·i·ty** \ˌlȯd-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **laud·able·ness** \ˈlȯd-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **laud·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
lau·da·num \ˈlȯd-nəm, -ᵊn-əm\ *n* [NL] **1** : any of various formerly used preparations of opium **2** : a tincture of opium
lau·da·tion \lȯ-ˈdā-shən\ *n* : the act of praising : EULOGY
lau·da·tive \ˈlȯd-ət-iv\ *adj* : LAUDATORY
lau·da·to·ry \ˈlȯd-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or expressing praise
[1]laugh \ˈlaf, ˈläf\ *vb* [ME *laughen*, fr. OE *hliehhan*; akin to OHG *lachēn* to laugh, OE *hlōwan* to moo — more at LOW] *vi* **1 a** : to show mirth, joy, or scorn with a smile and chuckle or explosive sound **b** : to find amusement or pleasure in something ⟨~*ed* at his own clumsiness⟩ **c** : to become amused or derisive ⟨a very skeptical public ~*ed* at our early efforts —Graenum Berger⟩ **2 a** : to produce the sound or appearance of laughter ⟨a ~*ing* brook⟩ **b** : to be of a kind that inspires joy ~ *vt* **1** : to influence or move by laughter ⟨~*ed* the bad singer off the stage⟩ **2** : to utter with a laugh — **laugh·er** *n* — **laugh·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
[2]laugh *n* **1** : the act of laughing **2 a** : a cause for derision or merriment : JOKE ⟨swim in that current? That's a ~ ⟩ **b** : an expression of scorn or mockery : JEER **3** *pl* : DIVERSION, SPORT ⟨play baseball just for ~*s*⟩
laugh·able \ˈlaf-ə-bəl, ˈläf-\ *adj* : of a kind to provoke laughter or sometimes derision : amusingly ridiculous — **laugh·able·ness** *n* — **laugh·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
syn LAUGHABLE, LUDICROUS, RIDICULOUS, COMIC, COMICAL, DROLL, FUNNY *shared meaning element* : provoking laughter or mirth
laughing gas *n* : NITROUS OXIDE
laughing jackass *n* : KOOKABURRA
laugh·ing·stock \ˈlaf-iŋ-ˌstäk, ˈläf-\ *n* : an object of ridicule : BUTT
laugh off *vt* : to minimize by treating as amusingly or absurdly trivial
laugh·ter \ˈlaf-tər, ˈläf-\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hleahtor*; akin to OE *hliehhan*] **1** : a sound of or as if of laughing **2** *archaic* : a cause of merriment
launce \ˈlȯn(t)s, ˈlän(t)s\ *n* [prob. fr. [1]*lance*] : SAND LANCE
[1]launch \ˈlȯnch, ˈlänch\ *vb* [ME *launchen*, fr. ONF *lancher*, fr. LL *lanceare* to wield a lance — more at LANCE] *vt* **1 a** : to throw forward : HURL **b** : to release, catapult, or send off (a self-propelled object) ⟨~ a rocket⟩ **2 a** : to set (a boat or ship) afloat **b** : to give (a person) a start **c** (1) : to originate or set in motion : INITIATE (2) : to get off to a good start ~ *vi* **1 a** : to spring forward or take off **b** : to throw oneself energetically : PLUNGE **2 a** *archaic* : to slide down the ways **b** : to make a start
[2]launch *n* : an act or instance of launching
[3]launch *n* [Sp or Pg; Sp *lancha*, fr. Pg] **1** : a large boat that operates from a ship **2** : a small motorboat that is open or that has the forepart of the hull covered
launch·er \ˈlȯn-chər, ˈlän-\ *n* : one that launches: as **a** : a device for firing a grenade from a rifle **b** : a device for launching a rocket or rocket shell **c** : CATAPULT
launch·pad \ˈlȯnch-ˌpad, ˈlänch-\ *n* : a nonflammable platform from which a rocket, launch vehicle, or guided missile can be launched — called also *launching pad*
launch vehicle *n* : the rocket power source by which a spacecraft is hurled toward its objective
launch window *n* : WINDOW 8
[1]laun·der \ˈlȯn-dər, ˈlän-\ *n* [ME, launderer, fr. MF *lavandier*, fr. ML *lavandarius*, fr. L *lavandus*, gerundive of *lavare* to wash — more at LYE] : TROUGH; *esp* : a box conduit conveying particulate material suspended in water in ore dressing
[2]launder *vb* **laun·dered; laun·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *launder*, n.] *vt* **1** : to wash (as clothes) in water **2** : to make ready for use by washing and ironing ⟨a freshly ~*ed* shirt⟩ ~ *vi* : to wash or wash and iron clothing or household linens — **laun·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n* — **laun·dress** \-drəs\ *n*
laun·der·ette \ˌlȯn-də-ˈret, ˌlän-\ *n* [fr. *Launderette*, a service mark] : a self-service laundry
Laun·dro·mat \ˈlȯn-drə-ˌmat, ˈlän-\ *service mark* — used for a self-service laundry
laun·dry \ˈlȯn-drē, ˈlän-\ *n, pl* **laundries** **1** : clothes or linens that have been or are to be laundered **2 a** : a room for doing the family wash **b** : a commercial laundering establishment
laun·dry·man \-mən\ *n* : a male laundry worker
laun·dry·wom·an \-ˌwu̇m-ən\ *n* : a female who does laundry
Laun·fal \ˈlȯn-fəl, ˈlän-\ *n* : a knight of the Round Table in late Arthurian legend
lau·ra \ˈläv-rə\ *n* [LGk, fr. Gk, lane] : a monastery of an Eastern church
[1]lau·re·ate \ˈlȯr-ē-ət, ˈlär-\ *n* [L *laureatus* crowned with laurel, fr. *laurea* laurel wreath, fr. fem. of *laureus* of laurel, fr. *laurus*] : the recipient of honor for achievement in an art or science; *specif* : POET LAUREATE — **laureate** *adj* — **lau·re·ate·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
[2]lau·re·ate \-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** **1** : to crown with or as if with a laurel wreath for excellence or achievement **2** : to appoint to the office of poet laureate — **lau·re·ation** \ˌlȯr-ē-ˈā-shən, ˌlär-\ *n*
[1]lau·rel \ˈlȯr-əl, ˈlär-\ *n* [ME *lorel*, fr. OF *lorier*, fr. *lor* laurel, fr. L *laurus*] **1** : any of a genus (*Laurus* of the family Lauraceae, the laurel family) of trees or shrubs that have alternate entire leaves, small tetramerous flowers surrounded by bracts, and fruits that are ovoid berries; *specif* : a tree (*L. nobilis*) of southern Europe with foliage used by the ancient Greeks to crown victors in the Pythian games **2** : a tree or shrub that resembles the true laurel; *esp* **2** : MOUNTAIN LAUREL **3** : a crown of laurel : HONOR — usu. used in pl.
[2]laurel *vt* **-reled** *or* **-relled; -rel·ing** *or* **-rel·ling** : to deck or crown with laurel
lau·ric acid \ˌlȯr-ik-, ˌlär-\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *laurus*] : a crystalline fatty acid $C_{12}H_{24}O_2$ found esp. in coconut oil and used in making soaps, esters, and lauryl alcohol
lau·ryl alcohol \ˌlȯr-əl-, ˌlär-\ *n* : a compound $C_{12}H_{26}O$; *also* : a liquid mixture of this and other alcohols used esp. in making detergents
lav *abbr* lavatory
la·va \ˈläv-ə, ˈlav-\ *n* [It, fr. L *labes* fall; akin to L *labi* to slide — more at SLEEP] : fluid rock that issues from a volcano or from a fissure in the earth's surface; *also* : such rock solidified — **la·va·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
la·va·bo \lə-ˈväb-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-bos** [L, I shall wash, fr. *lavare*] **1** *often cap* : a ceremony at Mass in which the celebrant washes his hands after offering the oblations and says Psalm 25:6–12 **2 a** : a washbasin and a tank with a spigot that are fastened to a wall **b** : this combination used as a planter
la·vage \lə-ˈväzh\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *laver* to wash, fr. L *lavare*] : WASHING; *esp* : the therapeutic washing out of an organ
la·va·la·va \ˌlȧv-ə-ˈläv-ə\ *n* [Samoan, clothing] : a rectangular cloth of cotton print worn like a kilt or skirt in Polynesia and esp. in Samoa
la·va·liere *or* **la·val·liere** \ˌläv-ə-ˈli(ə)r, ˌlav-\ *n* [F *lavallière* necktie with a large bow] : a pendant on a fine chain that is worn as a necklace
la·va·tion \lā-ˈvā-shən\ *n* [L *lavation-, lavatio*, fr. *lavatus*] : the act or an instance of washing or cleansing — **la·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
lav·a·to·ry \ˈlav-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *lavatorie*, fr. ML *lavatorium*, fr. L *lavatus*, pp. of *lavare* to wash — more at LYE] **1** : a vessel (as a basin) for washing; *esp* : a fixed bowl or basin with running water and drainpipe for washing **2** : a room with conveniences for washing and usu. with one or more toilets **3** : TOILET — **lavatory** *adj*
[1]lave \ˈlāv\ *n* [ME (northern dial.), fr. OE *lāf*; akin to OE *belīfan* to remain — more at LEAVE] *chiefly dial* : something that is left : RESIDUE
[2]lave *vb* **laved; lav·ing** [ME *laven*, fr. OE *lafian*; akin to OHG *labōn* to wash; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *lavare*] *vt* **1 a** : WASH, BATHE **b** : to flow along or against **2** : POUR ~ *vi, archaic* : to wash oneself : BATHE
la·veer \lə-ˈvi(ə)r\ *vi* [D *laveren*] : to sail against the wind : TACK
[1]lav·en·der \ˈlav-ən-dər\ *n* [ME *lavendre*, fr. AF, fr. ML *lavandula*] **1 a** : a Mediterranean mint (*Lavandula officinalis*) widely cultivated for its narrow aromatic leaves and spikes of lilac-purple flowers which are dried and used in sachets **b** : any of several plants congeneric with true lavender and used similarly but often considered inferior **2** : a variable color averaging a pale purple
[2]lavender *vt* **lav·en·dered; lav·en·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ : to sprinkle or perfume with lavender
[1]la·ver \ˈlā-vər\ *n* [ME *lavour*, fr. MF *lavoir*] : a large basin used for ceremonial ablutions in the ancient Jewish Tabernacle and Temple worship
[2]laver *n* [NL, fr. L, a water plant] : any of several mostly edible seaweeds: as **a** : SEA LETTUCE **b** : any of several common red algae (genus *Porphyra* and esp. *P. laciniata* and *P. vulgaris*) with fronds that are stewed or pickled
la·ver·ock *or* **lav·rock** \ˈlāv-rək, ˈlav-(ə-)rək\ *n* [ME *laverok*, fr. OE *lāwerce*] *chiefly Scot* : LARK
La·vin·ia \lə-ˈvin-ē-ə\ *n* [L] : a daughter of King Latinus in Vergil's *Aeneid* who is betrothed to Turnus but marries Aeneas
[1]lav·ish \ˈlav-ish\ *adj* [ME *lavas* abundance, fr. MF *lavasse* downpour of rain, fr. *laver* to wash — more at LAVAGE] **1** : expending or bestowing profusely : PRODIGAL **2** : expended or produced in

abundance ***syn*** see PROFUSE ***ant*** sparing — **lav·ish·ly** *adj* — **lav·ish·ness** *n*

²lavish *vt* : to expend or bestow with profusion : SQUANDER

¹law \'lȯ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lagu*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *lög* law; akin to OE *licgan* to lie — more at LIE] **1 a** (1) : a binding custom or practice of a community : a rule of conduct or action prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority (2) : the whole body of such customs, practices, or rules (3) : COMMON LAW **b** (1) : the control brought about by the existence or enforcement of such law (2) : the action of laws considered as a means of redressing wrongs; *also* : LITIGATION (3) : the agency of or an agent of established law **c** : a rule or order that it is advisable or obligatory to observe **d** : something compatible with or enforceable by established law **e** : CONTROL, AUTHORITY **2 a** *often cap* : the revelation of the will of God set forth in the Old Testament **b** *cap* : the first part of the Jewish scriptures : PENTATEUCH — see BIBLE table **3** : a rule of construction or procedure ⟨the ~s of poetry⟩ **4** : the whole body of laws relating to one subject **5 a** : the legal profession **b** : law as a department of knowledge : JURISPRUDENCE **c** : legal knowledge **6 a** : a statement of an order or relation of phenomena that so far as is known is invariable under the given conditions **b** : a relation proved or assumed to hold between mathematical or logical expressions **c** : the observed regularity of nature ***syn*** see HYPOTHESIS — **at law** : under or within the provisions of the law ⟨enforceable *at law*⟩

²law *vi* : LITIGATE ~ *vt, chiefly dial* : to sue or prosecute at law

law–abid·ing \'lȯ-ə-ˌbīd-iŋ\ *adj* : abiding by or obedient to the law — **law–abid·ing·ness** *n*

law·break·er \'lȯ-ˌbrā-kər\ *n* : one who violates the law — **law·break·ing** \-kiŋ\ *adj*

law·ful \'lȯ-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : being in harmony with the law ⟨a ~ judgment⟩ **b** : constituted, authorized, or established by law : RIGHTFUL ⟨~ institutions⟩ **2** : LAW-ABIDING ⟨~ citizens⟩ — **law·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **law·ful·ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*

syn LAWFUL, LEGAL, LEGITIMATE, LICIT *shared meaning element* : being in accordance with law. LAWFUL can imply conformity with law of any sort (as natural, divine, common, or canon) and may come close in meaning to *allowable* or *permissible* ⟨all things are *lawful* unto me, but all things are not expedient —1 Cor 6:12 (AV)⟩ or to *rightful* or *proper* ⟨the *lawful* heir⟩ LEGAL implies a reference to law as it appears in statute books or is administered by the courts; thus, the *lawful* owner of a piece of property is one whose *legal* right to it is certain. Often *legal* stresses conformity with or sanction by law; thus, a *legal* marriage is one carried out with all the observances called for by law; a *lawful* marriage is one to which no compelling *legal* impediment (as close consanguinity) exists. LEGITIMATE can imply a legal right or status ⟨his *legitimate* children⟩ or in more general use a right or status supported by tradition, custom, or accepted standards ⟨language is a *legitimate* part of the subject matter or content of English —A. H. Marckwardt⟩ LICIT usually implies strict conformity to the provisions of the law and applies especially to what is regulated by law ⟨*licit* use of property does not include creating a neighborhood nuisance⟩ ***ant*** unlawful

law·giv·er \'lȯ-ˌgiv-ər\ *n* **1** : one who gives a code of laws to a people **2** : LEGISLATOR

law–hand \-ˌhand\ *n* : a special style of handwriting used in engrossing old legal documents in England

law·less \'lȯ-ləs\ *adj* **1** : not regulated by or based on law **2 a** : not restrained or controlled by law : UNRULY **b** : ILLEGAL — **law·less·ly** *adv* — **law·less·ness** *n*

law·mak·er \'lȯ-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one that makes laws : LEGISLATOR — **law·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*

law·man \'lȯ-mən\ *n* : a law-enforcement officer (as a sheriff or marshall)

law merchant *n, pl* **laws merchant** : the legal rules formerly applied to cases arising in commercial transactions

¹lawn \'lȯn, 'län\ *n* [ME, fr. *Laon*, France] : a fine sheer linen or cotton fabric of plain weave that is thinner than cambric — **lawny** \-ē\ *adj*

²lawn *n* [ME *launde*, fr. MF *lande* heath, of Celt origin; akin to OIr *land* open space — more at LAND] **1** *archaic* : an open space between woods : GLADE **2** : ground (as around a house or in a garden or park) that is covered with grass and is kept mowed — **lawn** *or* **lawny** \-ē\ *adj*

lawn bowling *n* : a bowling game played on a green with wooden balls which are rolled at a jack

lawn mower *n* : a machine for cutting grass on lawns

lawn tennis *n* : TENNIS 2; *specif* : tennis played on a grass court

law of dominance : MENDEL'S LAW 3

law of independent assortment : MENDEL'S LAW 2

law of large numbers : a theorem in mathematical statistics: the probability that the mean of a random sample differs from the mean of the population from which the sample is drawn by more than a given amount approaches zero as the size of the sample approaches infinity

Law of Moses : PENTATEUCH

law of nations : INTERNATIONAL LAW

law of parsimony : OCCAM'S RAZOR

law of segregation : MENDEL'S LAW 1

law of war : the code that governs or one of the rules that govern the rights and duties of belligerents in international war

law·ren·ci·um \lȯ-'ren(t)-sē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Ernest O. *Lawrence*] : a short-lived radioactive element that is produced artificially from californium — see ELEMENT table

law·suit \'lȯ-ˌsüt\ *n* : a suit in law : a case before a court

law·yer \'lȯ-yər, 'lȯi-ər\ *n* : one whose profession is to conduct lawsuits for clients or to advise as to legal rights and obligations in other matters — **law·yer·ly** \-lē\ *adv*

lax \'laks\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *laxus* loose — more at SLACK] **1 a** *of the bowels* : LOOSE, OPEN **b** : having loose bowels **2** : deficient in firmness : not stringent ⟨~ control⟩ ⟨a ~ foreman⟩ **3 a** : not tense, firm, or rigid : SLACK ⟨a ~ rope⟩ **b** : having an open or loose texture **c** : having the constituents spread apart ⟨a ~ flower cluster⟩ **4** : articulated with the muscles involved in a relatively relaxed state (as the vowel \i\ in contrast with the vowel \ē\) ***syn*** **1** see LOOSE ***ant*** rigid **2** see NEGLIGENT ***ant*** strict, stringent — **lax·a·tion** \lak-'sā-shən\ *n* — **lax·ly** \'lak-slē\ *adv* — **lax·ness** *n*

¹lax·a·tive \'lak-sət-iv\ *adj* [ME *laxatif*, fr. ML *laxativus*, fr. L *laxatus*, pp. of *laxare* to loosen, fr. *laxus*] **1** : having a tendency to loosen or relax; *specif* : relieving constipation **2** : having loose bowels — **lax·a·tive·ly** *adv* — **lax·a·tive·ness** *n*

²laxative *n* : a usu. mild laxative drug

lax·ity \'lak-sət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being lax

¹lay \'lā\ *vb* **laid** \'lād\; **lay·ing** [ME *leyen*, fr. OE *lecgan*; akin to OE *licgan* to lie — more at LIE] *vt* **1** : to beat or strike down with force **2 a** : to put or set down **b** : to place for rest or sleep; *esp* : BURY **3** : to bring forth and deposit (an egg) **4** : CALM, ALLAY ⟨~ the dust⟩ **5** : BET, WAGER **6** : to press down giving a smooth and even surface **7 a** : to dispose or spread over or on a surface ⟨~ track⟩ ⟨~ plaster⟩ **b** : to set in order or position ⟨~ a table for dinner⟩ ⟨~ brick⟩ **c** : to put (strands) in place and twist to form a rope, hawser, or cable; *also* : to make by so doing ⟨~ up rope⟩ **8 a** : to impose as a duty, burden, or punishment ⟨~ a tax⟩ **b** : to put as a burden of reproach ⟨*laid* the blame on him⟩ **c** : to advance as an accusation : IMPUTE ⟨the disaster was *laid* to faulty inspection⟩ **9** : to place (something immaterial) on something ⟨~ stress on grammar⟩ **10** : PREPARE, CONTRIVE ⟨a well-*laid* plan⟩ **11 a** : to bring against or into contact with something : APPLY ⟨*laid* the watch to his ear⟩ **b** : to prepare or position for action or operation ⟨~ a fire in the fireplace⟩; *also* : to adjust (a gun) to the proper direction and elevation **12** : to bring to a specified condition ⟨~ waste the land⟩ **13 a** : ASSERT, ALLEGE ⟨~ claim to an estate⟩ **b** : to submit for examination and judgment ⟨*laid* his case before the commission⟩ **14** : to copulate with — sometimes considered vulgar ~ *vi* **1** : to produce and deposit eggs **2** *nonstand* : ¹LIE **3** : WAGER, BET **4** *dial* : PLAN, PREPARE ⟨~ for a chance⟩ **5 a** : to apply oneself vigorously ⟨*laid* to his oars⟩ **b** : to proceed to a specified place or position on a ship ⟨~ aloft⟩ — **lay on the table** **1** : to remove (a parliamentary motion) from consideration indefinitely **2** *Brit* : to put (as legislation) on the agenda

²lay *n* **1** : something (as a layer) that lies or is laid **2** : COVERT, LAIR **3 a** : line of action : PLAN **b** : line of work : OCCUPATION **4 a** : terms of sale or employment : PRICE **b** : share of profit (as on a whaling voyage) paid in lieu of wages **5 a** : the amount of advance of any point in a rope strand for one turn **b** : the nature of a fiber rope as determined by the amount of twist, the angle of the strands, and the angle of the threads in the strands **6** : the way in which a thing lies or is laid in relation to something else ⟨the ~ of the land⟩ **7** : the state of one that lays eggs ⟨hens coming into ~⟩ **8 a** : a partner in sexual intercourse — usu. considered vulgar **b** : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE — usu. considered vulgar

³lay *past of* LIE

⁴lay *n* [ME, fr. OF *lai*] **1** : a simple narrative poem : BALLAD **2** : MELODY, SONG

⁵lay *adj* [ME, fr. OF *lai*, fr. LL *laicus*, fr. Gk *laikos* of the people, fr. *laos* people] **1** : of or relating to the laity : not ecclesiastical **2** : of or relating to members of a religious house occupied with domestic or manual work ⟨a ~ brother⟩ **3** : not of or from a particular profession : UNPROFESSIONAL ⟨the ~ public⟩

lay·about \'lā-ə-ˌbau̇t\ *n, chiefly Brit* : a lazy shiftless person : IDLER

lay·away \'lā-ə-ˌwā\ *n* : an article of merchandise reserved for future delivery to a customer who pays a deposit and agrees to complete payment when the article is called for

lay away *vt* : to put aside for future use or delivery

lay–by \'lā-ˌbī\ *n* **1** : the final operation (as a last cultivating) in the growing of a field crop **2** *Brit* : a branch from or a widening of a road to permit vehicles to stop without obstructing traffic

lay by *vt* **1** : to lay aside : DISCARD **2** : to store for future use : SAVE **3** : to cultivate (as corn) for the last time

lay day *n* **1** : one of the days allowed by the charter for loading or unloading a vessel **2** : a day of delay in port

lay down *vt* **1** : to give up : SURRENDER ⟨*lay down* your arms⟩ **2 a** : ESTABLISH, PRESCRIBE ⟨*lay down* a scale for a map⟩ **b** : to assert or command dogmatically ⟨*lay down* the law⟩ **3** : STORE, PRESERVE **4 a** : to direct toward a target ⟨*lay down* a barrage⟩ **b** : to hit along the ground ⟨*laid down* a sacrifice bunt⟩ ~ *vi, nonstand* : to lie down

¹lay·er \'lā-ər, 'le(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that lays (as a workman who lays brick or a hen that lay eggs) **2 a** : one thickness, course, or fold laid or lying over or under another **b** : STRATUM **c** : HORIZON 2 **3 a** : a branch or shoot of a plant treated to induce rooting while still attached to the parent plant **b** : a plant developed by layering — **lay·ered** \'lā-ərd, 'le-ərd\ *adj*

²layer *vt* : to propagate (a plant) by means of layers ~ *vi* **1 a** : to separate into layers **b** : to form out of superimposed layers **2** *of a plant* : to form roots where a stem comes in contact with the ground

lay·er·age \'lā-ə-rij, 'le-ə-\ *n* : the practice or art of layering plants

lay·ette \lā-'et\ *n* [F, fr. MF, dim. of *laye* box, fr. MD *lade*; akin to OE *hladan* to load — more at LADE] : a complete outfit of clothing and equipment for a newborn infant

lay figure \'lā-\ *n* [obs. E *layman* (lay figure), fr. D *leeman*] **1** : a jointed model of the human body used by artists to show the disposition of drapery **2** : a person likened to a dummy or puppet

lay in *vt* : to lay by : SAVE

laying on of hands : the act of laying hands on a person's head to confer a spiritual blessing (as in Christian ordination, confirmation, or faith healing)

lay·man \'lā-mən\ *n* **1** : a person who is not a clergyman **2** : a person who does not belong to a particular profession or who is not expert in some field

lay·off \'lā-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : the act of laying off an employee or a work force; *also* : SHUTDOWN **2** : a period of inactivity or idleness

lay off \(')lā-'ȯf\ *vt* **1** : to mark or measure off **2** : to cease to employ (a worker) usu. temporarily **3 a** : to let alone **b** : AVOID, QUIT ~ *vi* : to stop or rest from work
lay on *vt* **1** *chiefly Brit* : to supply (as water or gas) to a building **2** *chiefly Brit* : to provide facilities for ⟨*lay on* a banquet⟩ **3** *chiefly Brit* : HIRE ~ *vi* : ATTACK, BEAT
lay·out \'lā-ˌau̇t\ *n* **1** : the act or process of planning or laying out in detail **2** : the plan or design or arrangement of something that is laid out: as **a** : DUMMY 6 **b** : final arrangement of matter to be reproduced esp. by printing **c** : the placing of men, machines, and materials in a manufacturing plant **3 a** : something that is laid out ⟨a model train ~⟩ **b** : land and structures or rooms used for a particular purpose ⟨a cattle-ranching ~⟩; *also* : PLACE **c** : a set or outfit esp. of tools
lay out \(')lā-'au̇t\ *vt* **1 a** : to prepare (a corpse) for viewing **b** : to knock flat or unconscious **2** : to plan in detail ⟨*lay out* a campaign⟩ **3** : to mark (work) for drilling, machining, or filing **4** : ARRANGE, DESIGN **5** : SPEND
lay·over \'lā-ˌō-vər\ *n* : STOPOVER
lay over \(')lā-'ō-vər\ *vt* : POSTPONE ~ *vi* : to make a stopover
lay reader *n* : an Anglican or Roman Catholic layman authorized to conduct parts of the church services not requiring a clergyman
lay to \(')lā-'tü\ *vt* : to bring (a ship) into the wind and hold stationary ~ *vi* : to lie to
lay–up \'lā-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : the action of laying up or the condition of being laid up **2** : a shot in basketball made from near the basket usu. by playing the ball off the backboard
lay up \(')lā-'əp\ *vt* **1** : to store up : lay by **2** : to disable or confine with illness or injury **3** : to take out of active service
lay·wom·an \'lā-ˌwu̇m-ən\ *n* : a woman who is a member of the laity
La·zar \'laz-ər, 'lā-zər\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *lazarus*, fr. LL *Lazarus*] : a person afflicted with a repulsive disease; *specif* : LEPER
laz·a·ret·to \ˌlaz-ə-'ret-(ˌ)ō\ *or* **laz·a·ret** \-'ret, -'rēt\ *n, pl* **-rettos** *or* **-rets** [It dial. *lazareto*, alter. of *nazareto*, fr. *Santa Maria di Nazaret*, church in Venice that maintained a hospital] **1** *usu lazaretto* : a hospital for contagious diseases **2** : a building or a ship used for detention in quarantine **3** *usu lazaret* : a space in a ship between decks used as a storeroom
La·za·rist \'laz-ə-rəst, lə-'zär-əst\ *n* [College of St. *Lazare*, Paris, former home of the congregation] : VINCENTIAN
Laz·a·rus \'laz-(ə-)rəs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Lazaros*, fr. Heb *El'āzār*] **1** : a brother of Mary and Martha raised by Jesus from the dead according to the account in John 11 **2** : the diseased beggar in the parable of the rich man and the beggar found in Luke 16
laze \'lāz\ *vb* **lazed; laz·ing** [back-formation fr. *lazy*] *vi* : to act or lie lazily : IDLE ~ *vt* : to pass (time) in idleness or relaxation — **laze** *n*
la·zu·lite \'laz(h)-ə-ˌlīt\ *n* [G *lazulith*, fr. ML *lazulum* lapis lazuli] : an often crystalline azure-blue mineral $(Mg,Fe)Al_2(PO_4)_2(OH)_2$ that is a hydrous phosphate of aluminum, iron, and magnesium — **la·zu·lit·ic** \ˌlaz(h)-ə-'lit-ik\ *adj*
[1]la·zy \'lā-zē\ *adj* **la·zi·er; -est** [perh. fr. MLG *lasich* feeble; akin to MHG er*leswen* to become weak] **1 a** : disinclined to activity or exertion : not energetic or vigorous **b** : encouraging inactivity or indolence **2** : moving slowly : SLUGGISH **3** : DROOPY, LAX **4** : placed on its side ⟨~ E livestock brand⟩ — **la·zi·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **la·zi·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*
syn LAZY, INDOLENT, SLOTHFUL *shared meaning element* : not easily aroused to action or activity
[2]lazy *vi* **la·zied; la·zy·ing** : to move or lie lazily : LAZE
la·zy·bones \'lā-zē-ˌbōnz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a lazy person
lazy eye *n* : AMBLYOPIA
la·zy·ish \'lā-zē-ish\ *adj* : somewhat lazy
lazy Su·san \'süz-ᵊn\ *n* : a revolving tray placed on a dining table for serving food, condiments, or relishes
lazy tongs *n pl* : a series of jointed and pivoted bars capable of great extension used for picking up or handling something at a distance
laz·za·ro·ne \ˌlaz-ə-'rō-nē, ˌläd-zə-\ *n, pl* **-ro·ni** \-(ˌ)nē\ [It, aug. of *lazzaro* lazar, beggar, fr. ML *lazarus*] : one of the homeless idlers of Naples
lb *abbr* [L *libra*] pound
lc *abbr* lowercase
LC *abbr* **1** landing craft **2** left center **3** letter of credit **4** Library of Congress
LCD *abbr* least common denominator; lowest common denominator
LCDR *abbr* lieutenant commander
LCL *abbr* less-than-carload lot
LCM *abbr* **1** least common multiple; lowest common multiple **2** [NL *legis comparativae magister*] master of comparative law
LCpl *abbr* lance corporal
LCS *abbr* landing craft, support
LCT *abbr* **1** landing craft, tank **2** local civil time
ld *abbr* **1** load **2** lord
LD *abbr* **1** lethal dose — often used with a numerical subscript to indicate the percent of a test group of organisms the dose is expected to kill ⟨LD_{50}⟩ **2** line of departure
ldg *abbr* **1** landing **2** loading
LDH *abbr* **1** lactate dehydrogenase **2** lactic dehydrogenase
L–do·pa \'el-'dō-pə\ *n* [*l-* + *dopa*] : the levorotatory form of dopa found esp. in broad beans or prepared synthetically and used in treating Parkinson's disease
ldr *abbr* leader
LDS *abbr* Latter-Day Saints
LE *abbr* leading edge
[1]lea *or* **ley** \'lē, 'lā\ *n* [ME *leye*, fr. OE *lēah;* akin to OHG *lōh* thicket, L *lucus* grove, *lux* light — more at LIGHT] **1** : GRASSLAND, PASTURE **2** *usu ley* : arable land used temporarily for hay or grazing
[2]lea *abbr* leather
LEA *abbr* local education authority
[1]leach \'lēch\ *var of* LEECH
[2]leach *n* [prob. alter. of *letch* (muddy ditch)] **1** : a perforated vessel to hold wood ashes through which water is passed to extract the lye **2** : LEACHATE **3** [[3]*leach*] : the process of leaching
[3]leach *vt* **1** : to subject to the action of percolating liquid (as water) in order to separate the soluble components **2** : to dissolve out by the action of a percolating liquid ⟨~ out alkali from ashes⟩ ~ *vi* : to pass out or through by percolation — **leach·abil·i·ty** \ˌlē-chə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **leach·able** \'lē-chə-bəl\ *adj* — **leach·er** *n*
leach·ate \'lē-ˌchāt\ *n* : a solution or product obtained by leaching
[1]lead \'lēd\ *vb* **led** \'led\; **lead·ing** [ME *leden*, fr. OE *lǣdan;* akin to OHG *leiten* to lead, OE *līthan* to go] *vt* **1 a** : to guide on a way esp. by going in advance **b** : to direct on a course or in a direction **c** : to serve as a channel for ⟨a pipe ~*s* water to the house⟩ **2** : to go through : LIVE ⟨~ a quiet life⟩ **3 a** (1) : to direct the operations, activity, or performance of ⟨~ an orchestra⟩ (2) : to have charge of ⟨~ a campaign⟩ **b** (1) : to go at the head of ⟨~ a parade⟩ (2) : to be first in or among ⟨~ the league⟩ (3) : to have a margin over ⟨*led* his opponent⟩ **4** : to begin play with ⟨~ trumps⟩ **5 a** : to aim in front of (a moving object) ⟨~ a duck⟩ **b** : to pass a ball or puck just in front of (a moving teammate) **6** : to begin a series of blows with ⟨*led* a short jab to the head⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to guide someone or something along a way **b** : to lie, run, or open in a specified place or direction ⟨path ~*s* uphill⟩ **2 a** : to be first **b** (1) : BEGIN, OPEN ⟨~ off for the home team⟩ (2) : to play the first card of a trick, round, or game **3** : to tend toward a definite result ⟨study ~*ing* to a degree⟩ **4** : to direct the first of a series of blows at an opponent in boxing; *also* : to punch with the leading hand ***syn*** see GUIDE ***ant*** follow
[2]lead *n* **1 a** (1) : position at the front : VANGUARD (2) : INITIATIVE (3) : the act or privilege of leading in cards; *also* : the card or suit led **b** (1) : LEADERSHIP (2) : EXAMPLE, PRECEDENT **c** : a margin or measure of advantage or superiority or position in advance **2** : one that leads: as **a** (1) : LODE 2 (2) : an auriferous gravel deposit in an old river bed; *esp* : one buried under lava **b** : a channel of water esp. through a field of ice **c** : INDICATION, CLUE **d** : a principal role in a dramatic production; *also* : one who plays such a role **e** : LEASH 1 **f** (1) : an introductory section of a news story (2) : a news story of chief importance **3** : an insulated electrical conductor **4** : the length of a rope from end to end **5** : the amount of axial advance of a point accompanying a complete turn of a thread (as of a screw or worm) **6** : a position taken by a base runner off a base toward the next
[3]lead *adj* : acting or serving as a lead or leader ⟨a ~ article⟩
[4]lead \'led\ *n, often attrib* [ME *leed*, fr. OE *lēad;* akin to MHG *lōt* lead] **1** : a heavy soft malleable ductile plastic but inelastic bluish white metallic element found mostly in combination and used esp. in pipes, cable sheaths, batteries, solder, type metal, and shields against radioactivity — see ELEMENT table **2 a** : a plummet for sounding at sea **b** *pl, Brit* : a usu. flat lead roof **c** *pl* : lead framing for panes in windows **d** : a thin strip of metal used to separate lines of type in printing **3 a** : a thin stick of marking substance in or for a pencil **b** : WHITE LEAD **4** : BULLETS, PROJECTILES **5** : TETRAETHYLLEAD
[5]lead \'led\ *vt* **1** : to cover, line, or weight with lead **2** : to fix (window glass) in position with leads **3** : to place leads or other spacing material between the lines of (type matter) **4** : to treat or mix with lead or a lead compound ⟨~*ed* gasoline⟩
lead acetate *n* : an acetate of lead; *esp* : a poisonous soluble salt $PbC_4H_6O_4{\cdot}3H_2O$
lead arsenate *n* : an arsenate of lead; *esp* : an acid salt $PbHAsO_4$ used as an insecticide
lead azide *n* : a crystalline explosive compound $Pb(N_3)_2$ used as a detonating agent
lead back *vt* : to lead (a card) from a suit that one's partner has orig. led
lead carbonate *n* : a carbonate of lead; *esp* : a poisonous basic salt $Pb_3(OH)_2(CO_3)_2$ used esp. as a white pigment
lead chromate *n* : a chromate of lead; *esp* : CHROME YELLOW
lead colic *n* : intestinal colic associated with obstinate constipation due to chronic lead poisoning — called also *painter's colic*
lead dioxide *n* : a poisonous compound PbO_2 used esp. as an oxidizing agent and as an electrode in batteries
lead·en \'led-ᵊn\ *adj* **1 a** : made of lead **b** : of the color of lead : dull gray **2** : low in quality : POOR **3 a** : oppressively heavy **b** : SLUGGISH **c** : lacking spirit or animation : DULL — **lead·en·ly** *adv* — **lead·en·ness** \-ᵊn-(n)əs\ *n*
lead·er \'lēd-ər\ *n* **1** : something that leads: as **a** : a primary or terminal shoot of a plant **b** : TENDON, SINEW **c** *pl* : dots or hyphens (as in an index) used to lead the eye horizontally : ELLIPSIS 2 **d** *chiefly Brit* : a newspaper editorial **e** (1) : something for guiding fish into a trap (2) : a short length of material for attaching the end of a fishing line to a lure or hook **f** : a pipe for conducting fluid **g** : an article offered at an attractive special low price to stimulate business **h** : something that ranks first **i** : a blank section at the beginning of a reel of film or recorded tape **2** : a person that leads: as **a** : GUIDE, CONDUCTOR **b** (1) : a person who directs a military force or unit (2) : a person who has commanding authority or influence **c** (1) : the principal officer of a British political party (2) : a member chosen by his party to manage party activities in a legislative body (3) : such a member presiding over the whole legislative body when his party constitutes a majority (4) : one that exercises paramount but responsible authority over a state or local party organization (5) : the principal member of the party elite in a totalitarian system endowed by official ideology with a heroic or mystical character and who governs with a minimum of formal constitutional restraints, extreme na-

tionalist demagogy, and claims to be above narrow class or group interests **d** (1) : CONDUCTOR c (2) : a first or principal performer of a group **e** : STRAW BOSS, FOREMAN **3** : a horse placed in advance of the other horses of a team — **lead·er·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

leader of the opposition : the principal member of the opposition party in a British legislative body who is given the status of a salaried government official and an important role in organizing the business of the house

lead·er·ship \'lēd-ər-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the office or position of a leader **2** : the quality of a leader : capacity to lead

lead glass *n* : glass of high refractive index containing lead oxide

lead–in \'lēd-ˌin\ *n* : something that leads in; *esp* : the part of a radio or television antenna that runs to the transmitting or receiving set — **lead–in** *adj*

lead·ing \'lēd-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : coming or ranking first : FOREMOST **2** : exercising leadership **3** : providing direction or guidance ⟨a ~ question⟩ **4** : given most prominent display ⟨the ~ story⟩

leading article \ˌlēd-\ *n* **1** *chiefly Brit* : EDITORIAL **2** : the article given the most significant position or most prominent display in a periodical

leading edge \'lēd-iŋ-\ *n* **1** : the foremost edge of an airfoil or propeller blade **2** : the forward part of a vehicle or of something that itself moves

leading lady *n* : an actress who plays the leading feminine role in a play or movie

leading man *n* : an actor who plays the leading male role in a play or movie

leading strings *n pl* **1** : strings by which children are supported when beginning to walk **2** : a state of dependence or tutelage : GUIDANCE — usu. used in the phrase *in leading strings*

leading tone *n* : the seventh tone of a diatonic scale — called also *leading note*

lead·less \'led-ləs\ *adj* : being without lead ⟨~ gasoline⟩

lead line \'led-\ *n* : SOUNDING LINE

lead monoxide *n* : a yellow to brownish red poisonous compound PbO used in rubber manufacture and glassmaking

[1]lead·off \'lēd-ˌȯf\ *n* **1** : a beginning or leading action **2** : one that leads off

[2]leadoff *adj* **1** : leading off : OPENING **2** : of, being, or made by the first batter in an inning ⟨~ hitter⟩ ⟨~ single⟩

lead off \(')lēd-'ȯf\ *vt* **1** : to make a start on : OPEN **2** : to bat first for a baseball team in (an inning)

lead on *vt* : to entice or induce to proceed in a course esp. when unwise or mistaken

lead pencil \'led-\ *n* : a pencil using graphite as the marking material

lead·plant \'led-ˌplant\ *n* : a leguminous shrub (*Amorpha canescens*) of the western U.S. that has hoary pinnate leaves and bears dull-colored racemose flowers

lead poisoning *n* : chronic intoxication that is produced by the absorption of lead into the system and is characterized by severe colicky pains, a dark line along the gums, and local muscular paralysis

leads·man \'ledz-mən\ *n* : a man who uses a sounding lead to determine depth of water

lead time \'lēd-\ *n* : the period between the decision to begin a process (as the development of a new product) and the completion of the process ⟨a long *lead time* on a new aircraft⟩

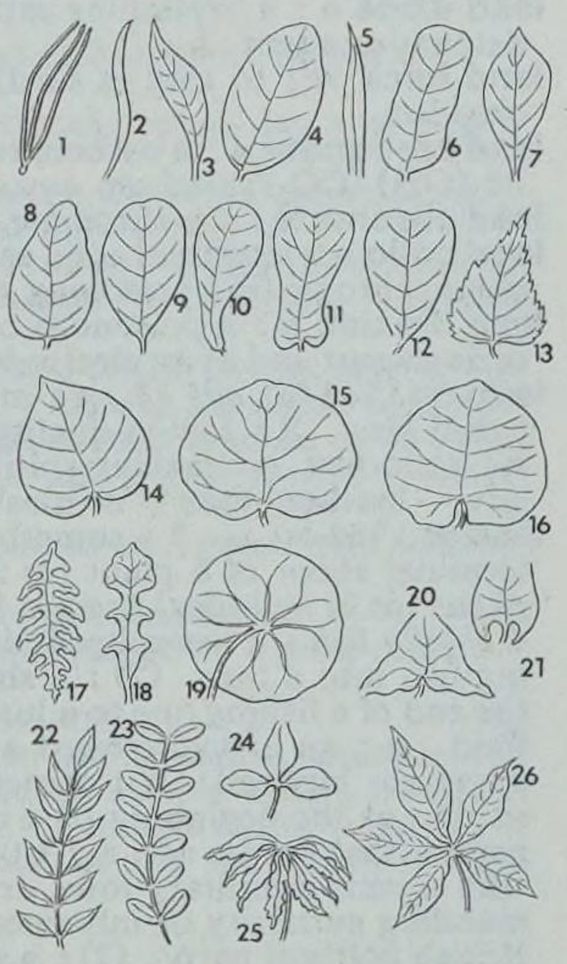
lead–up \'lēd-ˌəp\ *n* : something that leads up to or prepares the way for something else

lead up \(')lēd-'əp\ *vi* **1** : to prepare the way **2** : to make a gradual or indirect approach to a topic

lead·work \'led-ˌwərk\ *n* **1** : something made of lead **2** : work that is done with lead

leady \'led-ē\ *adj* **lead·i·er; -est** : containing or resembling lead

[1]leaf \'lēf\ *n, pl* **leaves** \'lēvz\ *also* **leafs** \'lēfs\ *often attrib* [ME *leef*, fr. OE *lēaf;* akin to OHG *loub* leaf, L *liber* bast, book] **1 a** (1) : a lateral outgrowth from a stem that constitutes a unit of the foliage of a plant and functions primarily in food manufacture by photosynthesis (2) : a modified leaf primarily engaged in functions other than food manufacture **b** (1) : FOLIAGE (2) : the leaves of a plant as an article of commerce **2** : something suggestive of a leaf: as **a** : a part of a book or folded sheet containing a page on each side **b** (1) : a part (as of window shutters, folding doors, or gates) that slides or is hinged (2) : the movable parts of a table top **c** (1) : a thin sheet or plate of any substance : LAMINA (2) : metal (as gold or silver) in sheets usu. thinner than foil (3) : one of the plates of a leaf spring — **leaf·less** \'lē-fləs\ *adj* — **leaf·like** \'lē-ˌflīk\ *adj*



forms of leaves 1a(1): *1* acerate; *2* linear; *3* lanceolate; *4* elliptic; *5* ensiform; *6* oblong; *7* oblanceolate, with acuminate tip; *8* ovate, with acute tip; *9* obovate; *10* spatulate; *11* pandurate; *12* cuneate; *13* deltoid; *14* cordate; *15* reniform; *16* orbiculate; *17* runcinate; *18* lyrate; *19* peltate; *20* hastate; *21* sagittate; *22* odd-pinnate; *23* abruptly pinnate; *24* palmate (trifoliolate); *25* palmate (pedate in form, with margin incised); *26* palmate (quinquefoliolate)

[2]leaf *vi* **1** : to shoot out or produce leaves **2** : to turn over pages ⟨~ through a book⟩ ~ *vt* : to turn over the pages of

leaf·age \'lē-fij\ *n* **1** : FOLIAGE 1 **2** : the representation of leafage (as in architecture)

leaf bud *n* : a bud that develops into a leafy shoot and does not produce flowers

leaf butterfly *n* : any of a genus (*Kallima*) of nymphalid butterflies of southern Asia and the East Indies that mimic leaves

leaf curl *n* : a plant disease characterized by curling of leaves; *esp* : PEACH LEAF CURL

leafed \'lēft\ *adj* : LEAVED

leaf fat *n* : the fat that lines the abdominal cavity and encloses the kidneys; *esp* : that of a hog used in the manufacture of lard

leaf·hop·per \'lēf-ˌhäp-ər\ *n* : any of numerous small leaping homopterous insects (family Cicadellidae) that suck the juices of plants

leaf lard *n* : high-quality lard made from leaf fat

leaf·let \'lē-flət\ *n* **1 a** : one of the divisions of a compound leaf **b** : a small or young foliage leaf **2** : a leaflike organ or part **3 a** : a single printed sheet of paper unfolded or folded but not trimmed at the fold **b** : a sheet of small pages folded but not stitched

leaf miner *n* : any of various small insects (as moths or two-winged flies) that in the larval stages burrow in and eat the parenchyma of leaves

leaf mold *n* **1** : a compost or layer composed chiefly of decayed vegetable matter **2** : a mold or mildew of foliage

leaf roll *n* : a virus disease of the potato that is transmitted by aphids and is characterized by an upward rolling of the leaf margins, smaller tubers, and netlike necrotic areas in the phloem

leaf roller *n* : any of various lepidopterans whose larvae make a nest by rolling up plant leaves

leaf rust *n* : a rust disease of plants and esp. of wheat that affects primarily the leaves

leaf spot *n* : any of various plant diseases characterized by discolored often circular spots on the leaves

leaf spring *n* : a spring made of superposed strips, plates, or leaves

leaf·stalk \'lēf-ˌstȯk\ *n* : PETIOLE

leaf trace *n* [*[3]trace*] : a trace associated with a leaf

leafy \'lē-fē\ *adj* **leaf·i·er; -est** **1 a** : furnished with or abounding in leaves ⟨~ woodlands⟩ **b** : having broad-bladed leaves ⟨mosses, grasses, and ~ plants⟩ **c** : consisting chiefly of leaves ⟨~ vegetables⟩ **2** : resembling a leaf; *specif* : LAMINATE

leafy liverwort *n* : any of an order (Jungermanniales) of usu. epiphytic liverworts with a leafy gametophyte that has one ventral and two dorsal rows of leaves on the stem

leafy spurge *n* : a tall perennial European herb (*Euphorbia esula*) that is naturalized and troublesome as a weed in the northern U.S. and Canada

[1]league \'lēg\ *n* [ME *leuge, lege*, fr. LL *leuga*] **1** : any of various units of distance from about 2.4 to 4.6 statute miles **2** : a square league

[2]league *n* [ME (Sc) *ligg*, fr. MF *ligue*, fr. OIt *liga*, fr. *ligare* to bind, fr. L — more at LIGATURE] **1 a** : an association of nations or other political entities for a common purpose **b** (1) : an association of persons or groups united by common interests or goals (2) : a group of sports teams that regularly play one another **c** : an informal alliance **2** : CLASS, CATEGORY

[3]league *vb* **leagued; leagu·ing** *vt* : to unite in a league ~ *vi* : to form a league

[1]lea·guer \'lē-gər\ *n* [D *leger;* akin to OHG *legar* act of lying down — more at LAIR] **1** : a military camp **2** : SIEGE

[2]leaguer *vt, archaic* : BESIEGE, BELEAGUER

[3]leagu·er \'lē-gər\ *n* : a member of a league

[1]leak \'lēk\ *vb* [ME *leken*, fr. ON *leka;* akin to OE *leccan* to moisten, OIr *legaim* I melt] *vi* **1 a** : to enter or escape through an opening usu. by a fault or mistake ⟨fumes ~ in⟩ **b** : to let a substance or light in or out through an opening **2** : to become known despite efforts at concealment ~ *vt* **1** : to permit to enter or escape through or as if through a leak **2** : to give out (information) surreptitiously ⟨~*ed* the story to the press⟩

[2]leak *n* **1 a** : a crack or hole that usu. by mistake admits or lets escape **b** : something that permits the admission or escape of something else usu. with prejudicial effect **c** : a loss of electricity due to faulty insulation; *also* : the point or the path at which such loss occurs **2** : the act, process, or an instance of leaking **3** : an act of urinating — usu. used with *take;* sometimes considered vulgar

leak·age \'lē-kij\ *n* **1** : the act, process, or an instance of leaking **2** : something or the amount that leaks

leaky \'lē-kē\ *adj* **leak·i·er; -est** : permitting fluid to leak in or out — **leak·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **leak·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*

leal \'lē(ə)l\ *adj* [ME *leel*, fr. OF *leial, leel* — more at LOYAL] *chiefly Scot* : LOYAL, TRUE — **leal·ly** \'lē-əl-(l)ē, 'lēl-lē\ *adv*

[1]lean \'lēn\ *vb* **leaned** \'lēnd, *chiefly Brit* 'lent\; **lean·ing** \'lē-niŋ\ [ME *lenen*, fr. OE *hleonian;* akin to OHG *hlinēn* to lean, Gk *klinein*, L *clinare*] *vi* **1 a** : to incline, deviate, or bend from a vertical position **b** : to cast one's weight to one side for support **2** : to rely for support or inspiration **3** : to incline in opinion, taste, or desire ~ *vt* : to cause to lean : INCLINE ***syn*** see SLANT

[2]lean *n* : the act or an instance of leaning : INCLINATION

[3]lean *adj* [ME *lene*, fr. OE *hlǣne*] **1 a** : lacking or deficient in flesh **b** : containing little or no fat **2** : lacking richness, sufficiency, or productiveness **3** : deficient in an essential or important quality or ingredient: as **a** *of ore* : containing little valuable mineral **b** : low in combustible component — used esp. of fuel mixtures **4** : characterized by economy of style or expression — **lean·ly** *adv* — **lean·ness** \'lēn-nəs\ *n*

syn LEAN, SPARE, LANK, LANKY, GAUNT, RAWBONED, SCRAWNY, SKINNY *shared meaning element* : thin because of absence of superfluous flesh ***ant*** fleshy

[4]lean *vt* : to make lean

[5]lean *n* : the part of meat that consists principally of fat-free muscle

Le·an·der \lē-'an-dər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Leandros*] : a legendary Greek youth who swam the Hellespont nightly to visit Hero but ultimately was drowned in one of the crossings

lean·ing \'lē-niŋ\ *n* : a definite but not decisive attraction or tendency ***syn*** LEANING, PROCLIVITY, PROPENSITY, PENCHANT, FLAIR

shared meaning element : a strong attraction to or liking for someone or something

leant \'lent\ *chiefly Brit past of* LEAN

1lean-to \'lēn-ˌtü\ *n, pl* **lean-tos** \-ˌtüz\ **1** : a wing or extension of a building having a lean-to roof **2** : a rough shed or shelter with a lean-to roof

2lean-to *adj* : having only one slope or pitch ⟨~ roof⟩

1leap \'lēp\ *vb* **leaped** *or* **leapt** \'lēpt *also* 'lept\; **leap·ing** \'lē-piŋ\ [ME *lepen*, fr. OE *hlēapan;* akin to OHG *hlouffan* to run] *vi* **1** : to spring free from or as if from the ground : JUMP ⟨~ over a fence⟩ ⟨a fish ~*s* out of the water⟩ **2 a** : to pass abruptly from one state or topic to another **b** : to act precipitately ⟨~*ed* at the chance⟩ ~ *vt* : to pass over by leaping — **leap·er** \'lē-pər\ *n*

2leap *n* **1 a** : an act of leaping : SPRING, BOUND **b** (1) : a place leaped over or from (2) : the distance covered by a leap **2** : a sudden transition

1leap·frog \'lēp-ˌfrȯg, -ˌfräg\ *n* : a game in which one player bends down and another leaps over him

2leapfrog *vb* **leap·frogged; leap·frog·ging** *vi* : to leap or progress in or as if in leapfrog ~ *vt* **1** : to go ahead of (each other) in turn; *specif* : to advance (two military units) by keeping one unit in action while moving the other unit past it to a position farther in front **2** : to evade by or as if by a bypass

leap year *n* **1** : a year in the Gregorian calendar containing 366 days with February 29 as the extra day **2** : an intercalary year in any calendar

Lear \'li(ə)r\ *n* : a legendary king of Britain and hero of Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear*

learn \'lərn\ *vb* **learned** \'lərnd, 'lərnt\ *also* **learnt** \'lərnt\; **learn·ing** [ME *lernen*, fr. OE *leornian;* akin to OHG *lernēn* to learn, L *lira* furrow, track] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to gain knowledge or understanding of or skill in by study, instruction, or experience ⟨~ a trade⟩ (2) : MEMORIZE ⟨~ the lines of a play⟩ **b** : to come to be able ⟨~ to dance⟩ **c** : to come to realize ⟨~*ed* that honesty paid⟩ **2 a** *substand* : TEACH **b** *obs* : to inform of something **3** : to come to know : HEAR ⟨we just ~*ed* that he was ill⟩ ~ *vi* : to acquire knowledge or skill or a behavioral tendency ***syn*** see DISCOVER — **learn·able** \'lər-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **learn·er** *n*

learned *adj* **1** \'lər-nəd\ : characterized by or associated with learning : ERUDITE **2** \'lərnd, 'lərnt\ : acquired by learning ⟨~ versus innate behavior patterns⟩ — **learn·ed·ly** \'lər-nəd-lē\ *adv* — **learn·ed·ness** \-nəd-nəs\ *n*

learn·ing *n* **1** : the act or experience of one that learns **2** : knowledge or skill acquired by instruction or study **3** : modification of a behavioral tendency by experience (as exposure to conditioning) ***syn*** see KNOWLEDGE

1lease \'lēs\ *n* **1** : a contract by which one conveys real estate, equipment, or facilities for a specified term and for a specified rent; *also* : the act of such conveyance or the term for which it is made **2** : a piece of land or property that is leased **3** : a continuance or opportunity for continuance — used esp. in the phrase *lease on life* ⟨his recovery gave him a new ~ on life⟩

2lease *vt* **leased; leas·ing** [AF *lesser*, fr. OF *laissier* to let go, fr. L *laxare* to loosen, fr. *laxus* slack — more at SLACK] **1** : to grant by lease **2** : to hold under a lease ***syn*** see HIRE

lease·hold \'lēs-ˌhōld\ *n* **1** : a tenure by lease **2** : property held by lease — **lease·hold·er** *n*

leash \'lēsh\ *n* [ME *lees, leshe*, fr. OF *laisse*, fr. *laissier*] **1** : a line for leading or restraining an animal **2 a** : a set of three animals (as greyhounds, foxes, bucks, or hares) **b** : a set of three — **leash** *vt*

leas·ing \'lē-siŋ, -ziŋ\ *n* [ME *lesing*, fr. OE *lēasung*, fr. *lēasian* to lie, fr. *lēas* false] *archaic* : the act of lying; *also* : LIE, FALSEHOOD

1least \'lēst\ *adj* [ME *leest*, fr. OE *lǣst* superl. of *lǣssa* less] **1** : lowest in importance or position **2 a** : smallest in size or degree **b** : being a member of a kind distinguished by diminutive size ⟨~ bittern⟩ **c** : smallest possible : SLIGHTEST

2least *n* : one that is least — **at least** **1** : at the minimum **2** : in any case

3least *adv* : in the smallest or lowest degree — **least of all** : especially not ⟨no one, *least of all* the children, paid attention⟩

least common denominator *n* : the least common multiple of two or more denominators

least common multiple *n* **1** : the smallest common multiple of two or more numbers **2** : the common multiple of lowest degree of two or more polynomials

least squares *n pl* : a method of fitting a curve to a set of points representing statistical data in such a way that the sum of the squares of the distances of the points from the curve is a minimum

least·ways \'lēs-ˌtwāz\ *adv, dial* : at least

least·wise \-ˌtwīz\ *adv* : at least

1leath·er \'leth-ər\ *n* [ME *lether*, fr. OE *lether-;* akin to OHG *leder* leather] **1** : animal skin dressed for use **2** : the pendulous part of the ear of a dog — see DOG illustration **3** : something wholly or partly made of leather — **leath·er·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

2leather *vt* **leath·ered; leath·er·ing** \'leth-(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to cover with leather **2** : to beat with a strap : THRASH

leath·er·back \'leth-ər-ˌbak\ *n* : the largest existing sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) distinguished by its flexible carapace composed of a mosaic of small bones embedded in a thick leathery skin

Leath·er·ette \ˌleth-ə-'ret\ *trademark* — used for a product colored, finished, and embossed in imitation of leather grains

leath·er·leaf \'leth-ər-ˌlēf\ *n* : a north temperate ericaceous bog shrub (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*) with evergreen coriaceous leaves and small white cylindrical flowers

leath·ern \'leth-ərn\ *adj* : made of, consisting of, or resembling leather

leath·er·neck \-ər-ˌnek\ *n* [fr. the leather neckband formerly part of the uniform] : a member of the U.S. Marine Corps

Leath·er·oid \-ə-ˌrȯid\ *trademark* — used for an artificial leather consisting of chemically treated paper combined with rubber and sandarac

leath·er·wood \'leth-ər-ˌwůd\ *n* : a small tree (*Dirca palustris*) of the mezereon family with pliant stems and yellow flowers

leath·ery \'leth-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : resembling leather in appearance or consistency : TOUGH

1leave \'lēv\ *vb* **left** \'left\; **leav·ing** [ME *leven*, fr. OE *lǣfan;* akin to OHG *verleiben* to leave, OE *belīfan* to be left over, Gk *lipos* fat] *vt* **1 a** (1) : BEQUEATH, DEVISE ⟨*left* a fortune to his son⟩ (2) : to have remaining after one's death ⟨~*s* a widow and two children⟩ **b** : to cause to remain as a trace or aftereffect ⟨oil ~*s* a stain⟩ ⟨the wound *left* an ugly scar⟩ **2 a** : to cause or allow to be or remain in a specified condition ⟨~ the door open⟩ ⟨his manner *left* me cold⟩ **b** : to fail to include or take along ⟨*left* his notes at home⟩ **c** : to have as a remainder ⟨4 from 7 ~*s* 3⟩ **d** : to permit to be or remain subject to another's action or control ⟨just ~ everything to me⟩ **3 a** : to go away from : DEPART ⟨told him to ~ the room⟩ **b** : DESERT, ABANDON ⟨*left* his wife⟩ **c** : to terminate association with : withdraw from ⟨*left* school a month before graduation⟩ **4** : to put, deposit, or deliver before or in the process of departing ⟨the postman *left* a package for you⟩ **5** : to fall short of being satisfactory by (an indicated amount) ⟨his solution to the problem ~*s* something to be desired —*Wall Street Jour.*⟩ **6** : to provide someone with (information) ⟨~ your name and address with the receptionist⟩ ~ *vi* : to set out : DEPART ***syn*** see GO — **leav·er** *n*

2leave *n* [ME *leve*, fr. OE *lēaf;* akin to MHG *loube* permission, OE *alȳfan* to allow — more at BELIEVE] **1 a** : permission to do something **b** : authorized esp. extended absence from duty or employment **2** : an act of leaving : DEPARTURE ***syn*** see PERMISSION

3leave *vi* **leaved; leav·ing** [ME *leven*, fr. *leef* leaf] : LEAF

leaved *adj* **1** : having leaves ⟨a ~ branch⟩ **2** : having (such or so many) leaves — used in combination ⟨palmate-*leaved*⟩ ⟨a four-*leaved* clover⟩

1leav·en \'lev-ən\ *n* [ME *levain*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *levamen*, fr. L *levare* to raise — more at LEVER] **1 a** : a substance (as yeast) used to produce fermentation in dough or a liquid; *esp* : SOURDOUGH **b** : a material (as baking powder) used to produce a gas that lightens dough or batter **2** : something that modifies or lightens a mass or aggregate

2leaven *vt* **leav·ened; leav·en·ing** \'lev-(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to raise (as bread) with a leaven **2** : to mingle or permeate with some modifying, alleviating, or vivifying element ***syn*** see INFUSE

leav·en·ing *n* : a leavening agent : LEAVEN

leave off *vb* : STOP, CEASE

leaves *pl of* LEAF

leave–tak·ing \'lēv-ˌtā-kiŋ\ *n* : DEPARTURE, FAREWELL

leav·ings \'lē-viŋz\ *n pl* : REMNANT, RESIDUE

Leb *abbr* Lebanese; Lebanon

leb·en \'leb-ən\ *n* [Ar *laban*] : a liquid or semiliquid solid food made from curdled milk by the peoples of the Levant and No. Africa

le·bens·raum \'lā-bənz-ˌraům, -bən(t)s-\ *n, often cap* [G, fr. *leben* living, life + *raum* space] **1** : territory believed esp. by Nazis to be necessary for national existence or economic self-sufficiency **2** : space required for life, growth, or activity

lech·er \'lech-ər\ *n* [ME *lechour*, fr. OF *lecheor*, fr. *lechier* to lick, live in debauchery, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *leckōn* to lick — more at LICK] : a man who engages in lechery

lech·er·ous \'lech-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : given to or suggestive of lechery — **lech·er·ous·ly** *adv* — **lech·er·ous·ness** *n*

lech·ery \'lech-(ə-)rē\ *n* : inordinate indulgence in sexual activity : LASCIVIOUSNESS

lec·i·thin \'les-ə-thən\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *lekithos* yolk of an egg] : any of several waxy hygroscopic phosphatides that are widely distributed in animals and plants, form colloidal solutions in water, and have emulsifying, wetting, and antioxidant properties; *also* : a mixture of or substance rich in lecithins

lec·i·thin·ase \-thə-ˌnās, -ˌnāz\ *n* : any of several enzymes that hydrolyze lecithins or cephalins

lect *abbr* lecture; lecturer

lec·tern \'lek-tərn\ *n* [ME *lettorne*, fr. MF *letrun*, fr. ML *lectorinum*, fr. L *lector* reader, fr. *lectus*, pp. of *legere* to read — more at LEGEND] : READING DESK; *esp* : one from which scripture lessons are read in a church service

lec·tion \'lek-shən\ *n* [LL *lection-, lectio*, fr. L, act of reading — more at LESSON] **1** : a liturgical lesson for a particular day **2** [NL *lection-, lectio*, fr. L] : a variant reading of a text

lec·tion·ary \'lek-shə-ˌner-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : a book or list of lections for the church year

lec·tor \'lek-tər, -ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* [LL, reader of the lessons in a church service, fr. L, reader, fr. *lectus*, pp.] : one who assists at a worship service (as a Eucharist) chiefly by reading a lesson

lec·to·type \'lek-tə-ˌtīp\ *n* [Gk *lektos* chosen (fr. *legein* to gather, choose) + E *type* — more at LEGEND] : a specimen chosen as the type of a species or subspecies if the author of the name fails to designate a type

1lec·ture \'lek-chər\ *n* [ME, act of reading, fr. LL *lectura*, fr. L *lectus*, pp. of *legere* to read — more at LEGEND] **1** : a discourse given before an audience or class esp. for instruction **2** : a formal reproof : REPRIMAND — **lec·ture·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

2lecture *vb* **lec·tured; lec·tur·ing** \'lek-chə-riŋ, 'lek-shriŋ\ *vi* : to deliver a lecture or a course of lectures ~ *vt* **1** : to deliver a lecture to **2** : to reprove formally — **lec·tur·er** \-chər-ər, -shrər\ *n*

led *past of* LEAD

Le·da \'lēd-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Lēdā*] : a legendary Spartan princess visited by Zeus in the form of a swan and mother by him of Pollux and Helen and at the same time mother of Castor and Clytemnestra by her husband Tyndareus

le·der·ho·sen \'lād-ər-ˌhōz-ᵊn\ *n pl* [G, fr. MHG *lederhose*, fr. *leder* leather + *hose* trousers] : leather shorts often with suspenders worn esp. in Bavaria

ledge \'lej\ *n* [ME *legge* bar of a gate] **1** : a raised or projecting edge or molding intended to protect or check ⟨a window ~⟩ **2** : an underwater ridge or reef esp. near the shore **3 a** : a narrow flat surface or shelf; *esp* : one that projects from a wall of rock **b** : rock solid or continuous enough to form ledges ⟨the field was full of ~⟩ **4** : LODE, VEIN — **ledgy** \'lej-ē\ *adj*

led·ger \'lej-ər\ *n* [ME *legger*, prob. fr. *leyen, leggen* to lay] **1** : a book containing accounts to which debits and credits are posted from books of original entry **2** : a horizontal timber secured to the uprights of scaffolding to support the putlog

ledger board *n* **1** : a horizontal board forming the top rail of a simple fence or the handrail of a balustrade **2** : RIBBON 2a

ledger line *n* : a short line added above or below a musical staff to extend its range

¹lee \'lē\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hlēo;* akin to OHG *lāo* lukewarm, L *calēre* to be warm] **1** : protecting shelter **2** : the side (as of a ship) that is sheltered from the wind

²lee *adj* **1** : of or relating to the lee — compare WEATHER **2** : facing in the direction of motion of an overriding glacier — used esp. of a hillside

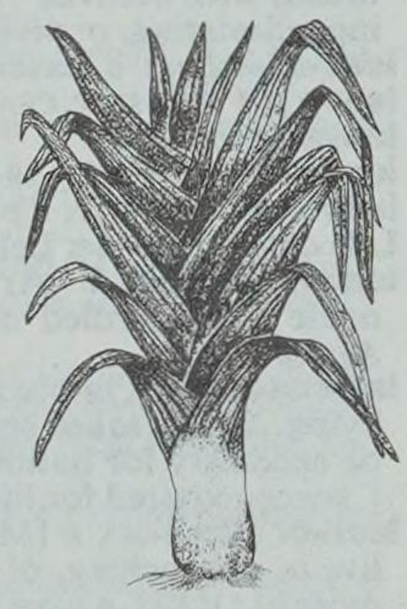
lee·board \'lē-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : either of the wood or metal planes attached outside the hull of a sailboat to prevent leeway

¹leech \'lēch\ *n* [ME *leche*, fr. OE *lǣce;* akin to OHG *lāhhi* physician] **1** *archaic* : PHYSICIAN, SURGEON **2** [fr. its former use by physicians for bleeding patients] : any of numerous carnivorous or bloodsucking usu. freshwater annelid worms (class Hirudinea) that have typically a flattened lanceolate segmented body with a sucker at each end — see ANNELID illustration **3** : a hanger-on who seeks advantage or gain

²leech *vt* **1** : to bleed by the use of leeches **2** : to drain the substance of : EXHAUST ~ *vi* : to attach oneself to a person as a leech

³leech *n* [ME *leche*, fr. MLG *līk* boltrope; akin to MHG *geleich* joint — more at LIGATURE] **1** : either vertical edge of a square sail **2** : the after edge of a fore-and-aft sail

leek \'lēk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lēac;* akin to OHG *louh* leek] : a biennial garden herb (*Allium porrum*) of the lily family grown for its mildly pungent succulent linear leaves and esp. for its thick cylindrical stalk



leek

¹leer \'li(ə)r\ *vi* [prob. fr. obs. *leer* (cheek)] : to cast a sidelong glance; *esp* : to give a leer

²leer *n* : a lascivious, knowing, or wanton look

leery \'li(ə)r-ē\ *adj* : SUSPICIOUS, WARY

lees \'lēz\ *n pl* [ME *lie*, fr. MF, fr. ML *lia*] : the settlings of liquor during fermentation and aging : DREGS

Lee's Birthday \'lēz-\ *n* [Robert E. *Lee*] : January 19 observed as a legal holiday in many southern states

lee shore *n* : a shore lying off a ship's leeward side and constituting a severe danger in storm

¹lee·ward \'lē-wərd, *esp naut* 'lü-ərd\ *adj* : being in or facing the direction toward which the wind is blowing; *also* : being the side opposite the windward

²leeward *n* : the lee side

lee·way \'lē-ˌwā\ *n* **1 a** : off-course lateral movement of a ship when under way **b** : the angle between the heading and the track of an airplane **2** : an allowable margin of freedom or variation : TOLERANCE

¹left \'left\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE, weak; akin to MLG *lucht* left; fr. the left hand's being the weaker in most individuals] **1 a** : of, relating to, situated on, or being the side of the body in which the heart is mostly located **b** : located nearer to the left hand than to the right **c** (1) : located on the left of an observer facing in the same direction as the object specified ⟨stage ~⟩ (2) : located on the left when facing downstream ⟨the ~ bank of a river⟩ **2** *often cap* : of, adhering to, or constituted by the left esp. in politics — **left** *adv*

²left *n* **1 a** : the left hand **b** : the location or direction of the left side **c** : the part on the left side **2** *often cap* **a** : the part of a legislative chamber located to the left of the presiding officer **b** : the members of a continental European legislative body occupying the left as a result of holding more radical political views than other members **3** *cap* **a** : those professing views usu. characterized by desire to reform or overthrow the established order esp. in politics and usu. advocating change in the name of the greater freedom or well-being of the common man **b** : a radical as distinguished from a conservative position

³left *past of* LEAVE

Left Bank *n* : the bohemian district of Paris situated on the left bank of the Seine river

left field *n* **1** : the part of the baseball outfield to the left looking out from the plate **2** : the position of the player defending left field — **left fielder** *n*

left–hand \ˌleft-ˌhand, ˌlef-ˌtand\ *adj* **1** : situated on the left **2** : LEFT-HANDED

left–hand·ed \'left-'han-dəd, 'lef-'tan-\ *adj* **1** : using the left hand habitually or more easily than the right; *also* : swinging from left to right ⟨a ~ batter⟩ **2** : relating to, designed for, or done with the left hand **3** : MORGANATIC **4 a** : CLUMSY, AWKWARD **b** : INSINCERE, BACKHANDED, DUBIOUS ⟨a ~ compliment⟩ **5 a** : having a direction contrary to that of the hands of a watch viewed from in front : COUNTERCLOCKWISE **b** : having a structure involving a counterclockwise direction **c** *of a rope* : formed of strands twisted counterclockwise so that if held vertically the strands spiral upward to the left — **left–handed** *adv* — **left–hand·ed·ly** *adv* — **left–hand·ed·ness** *n*

left–hand·er \-'han-dər, -'tan-\ *n* : a left-handed person

left heart *n* : the half of the heart containing oxygenated blood and consisting of the left auricle and ventricle

left·ism \'lef-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1** : the principles and views of the Left; *also* : the movement embodying these principles **2** : advocacy of or adherence to the doctrines of the Left — **left·ist** \-təst\ *n or adj*

¹left·over \ˌlef-ˌtō-vər\ *adj* : remaining as unused residue

²left·over \'lef-ˌtō-vər\ *n* : an unused or unconsumed residue; *esp* : leftover food served at a later meal

left shoulder arms *n* [fr. the command *left shoulder arms!*] : a position in the manual of arms in which the butt of the rifle is held in the left hand with the barrel resting on the left shoulder; *also* : a command to assume this position

left·ward \'lef-twərd\ *adj* : being toward or on the left

left wing *n* **1** : the leftist division of a group **2** : LEFT 3a — **left–wing** *adj* — **left–wing·er** \'lef-'twiŋ-ər\ *n*

lefty \'lef-tē\ *n, pl* **left·ies** **1** : LEFT-HANDER **2** : an advocate of leftism

¹leg \'leg, 'lāg\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *leggr;* akin to OE *līra* muscle, calf, L *lacertus* muscle, upper arm] **1** : a limb of an animal used esp. for supporting the body and for walking: as **a** : the part of the vertebrate limb between the knee and foot **b** : the back half of a hindquarter of a meat animal **c** : one of the rather generalized segmental appendages of an arthropod used in walking and crawling **2 a** : a pole or bar serving as a support or prop ⟨the ~s of a tripod⟩ **b** : a branch of a forked or jointed object ⟨the ~s of a compass⟩ **3 a** : the part of an article of clothing that covers the leg **b** : the part of the upper (as of a boot) that extends above the ankle **4** : OBEISANCE, BOW — used chiefly in the phrase *to make a leg* **5** : either side of a triangle as distinguished from the base or hypotenuse **6 a** : the course and distance sailed by a boat on a single tack **b** : a portion of a trip : STAGE **c** : one section of a relay race **d** : one of several events or games necessary to be won to decide a competition ⟨won the first two ~s of horse racing's Triple Crown⟩ **7** : a branch or part of an object or system — **leg·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **a leg to stand on** : SUPPORT; *esp* : a basis for one's position in a controversy — **on one's last legs** : at or near the end of one's resources : on the verge of failure, exhaustion, or ruin

²leg *vi* **legged; leg·ging** : to use the legs in walking; *esp* : RUN

³leg *abbr* **1** legal **2** legato **3** legislative; legislature

leg·a·cy \'leg-ə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [ME *legacie* office of a legate, bequest, fr. MF or ML; MF, office of a legate, fr. ML *legatia*, fr. L *legatus*] **1** : a gift by will esp. of money or other personal property : BEQUEST **2** : something received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past ⟨the ~ of the ancient philosophers⟩

¹le·gal \'lē-gəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *legalis*, fr. *leg-, lex* law] **1** : of or relating to law **2 a** : deriving authority from or founded on law : de jure **b** : having a formal status derived from law often without a basis in actual fact : TITULAR ⟨a corporation is a ~ but not a real person⟩ **c** : established by law; *esp* : STATUTORY **3** : conforming to or permitted by law or established rules **4** : recognized or made effective by a court of law as distinguished from a court of equity **5** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of the profession of law or of one of its members **6** : created by the constructions of the law ⟨a ~ fiction⟩ ***syn*** see LAWFUL ***ant*** illegal — **le·gal·ly** \-gə-lē\ *adv*

²legal *n* : one that conforms to rules or the law

legal age *n* : the age at which a person enters into full adult legal rights and responsibilities (as of making contracts or wills)

legal aid *n* : aid provided by an organization established esp. to serve the legal needs of the poor

legal cap *n* [*-cap* (as in *foolscap*)] : a white often ruled writing paper for legal use that is usu. 8½ inches wide and 13 or 14 inches long

le·gal·ese \ˌlē-gə-'lēz, -'lēs\ *n* : the specialized language of the legal profession ⟨befogged far beyond . . . ~; it is one of the least comprehensible documents —Bernard De Voto⟩

legal holiday *n* : a holiday established by legal authority and characterized by legal restrictions on work and transaction of official business

le·gal·ism \'lē-gə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : strict, literal, or excessive conformity to the law or to a religious or moral code ⟨that mixture of arid ~ and semantic pretentiousness that so often passes . . . for statesmanship —G. F. Kennan⟩ **2** : a legal term or rule

le·gal·ist \-ləst\ *n* **1** : an advocate or adherent of moral legalism **2** : one that views things from a legal standpoint; *esp* : one that places primary emphasis on legal principles or on the formal structure of governmental institutions — **le·gal·is·tic** \ˌlē-gə-'lis-tik\ *adj* — **le·gal·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

le·gal·i·ty \li-'gal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : attachment to or observance of law **2** : the quality or state of being legal : LAWFULNESS **3** *pl* : obligations imposed by law

le·gal·ize \'lē-gə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make legal; *esp* : to give legal validity or sanction to — **le·gal·iza·tion** \ˌlē-gə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

legal reserve *n* : the minimum amount of bank deposits or life insurance company assets required by law to be kept as reserves

legal tender *n* : money that is legally valid for the payment of debts and that must be accepted for that purpose when offered

¹leg·ate \'leg-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF *legat*, fr. L *legatus* deputy, emissary, fr. pp. of *legare* to depute, send as emissary, bequeath, fr. *leg-, lex*] : a usu. official emissary — **leg·ate·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

²le·gate \li-'gāt\ *vt* **le·gat·ed; le·gat·ing** [*legatus*, pp. of *legare* to bequeath] : BEQUEATH 1 — **le·ga·tor** \-'gāt-ər\ *n*

leg·a·tee \ˌleg-ə-'tē\ *n* : one to whom a legacy is bequeathed or a devise is given

leg·a·tine \'leg-ə-ˌtēn, -ˌtīn\ *adj* : of, headed by, or enacted under the authority of a legate

le·ga·tion \li-'gā-shən\ *n* **1** : the sending forth of a legate **2** : a body of deputies sent on a mission; *specif* : a diplomatic mission in a foreign country headed by a minister **3** : the official residence and office of a diplomatic minister in a foreign country

¹le·ga·to \li-'gät-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [It, lit., tied] : in a manner that is smooth and connected (as between successive tones) — used esp. as a direction in music

²legato *n* : a smooth and connected manner of performance (as of music); *also* : a passage of music so performed

leg·end \'lej-ənd\ *n* [ME *legende*, fr. MF & ML; MF *legende*, fr. ML *legenda*, fr. L, fem. of *legendus*, gerundive of *legere* to gather, select, read; akin to Gk *legein* to gather, say, *logos* speech, word, reason] **1 a** : a story coming down from the past; *esp* : one popularly regarded as historical although not verifiable **b** : a body of such stories ⟨a place in the ~ of the frontier⟩ **c** : a popular myth of recent origin **d** : a person or thing that inspires legends **2 a** : an inscription or title on an object (as a coin) **b** : CAPTION 2b **c** : an explanatory list of the symbols on a map or chart ***syn*** see MYTH

leg·end·ary \'lej-ən-ˌder-ē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of legend or a legend ***syn*** see FICTITIOUS — **leg·en·dari·ly** \ˌlej-ən-'der-ə-lē\ *adv*

leg·end·ry \'lej-ən-drē\ *n* : a body of legends ⟨a life which is built on ~ and myth —Irene C. Edmonds⟩

leg·er·de·main \ˌlej-ərd-ə-'mān\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *leger de main* light of hand] **1** : SLEIGHT OF HAND **2** : a display of skill or adroitness ⟨political ~⟩

le·ger·i·ty \lə-'jer-ət-ē, le-\ *n* [MF *legereté*, fr. OF, lightness, fr. *leger* light, fr. (assumed) VL *leviarius*, fr. L *levis* — more at LIGHT] : alert facile quickness of mind or body ***syn*** see CELERITY ***ant*** deliberateness, sluggishness

leges *pl of* LEX

legged \'leg-əd, 'lāg-, *Brit usu* 'legd\ *adj* : having a leg or legs esp. of a specified kind or number — often used in combination ⟨a four=*legged* animal⟩

leg·ging *or* **leg·gin** \'leg-ən, 'lāg-, -iŋ\ *n* : a covering (as of leather or cloth) for the leg — usu. used in pl.

leg·gy \'leg-ē, 'lāg-\ *adj* **leg·gi·er; -est** **1** : having disproportionately long legs **2** : having attractive legs **3** : SPINDLY — used of a plant

leg·horn \'leg-ˌ(h)ȯ(ə)rn, 'leg-ərn\ *n* [*Leghorn*, Italy] **1 a** : a fine plaited straw made from an Italian wheat **b** : a hat of this straw **2** : any of a Mediterranean breed of small hardy fowls noted for their large production of white eggs

leg·i·ble \'lej-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *legibilis*, fr. L *legere* to read] : capable of being read or deciphered : PLAIN — **leg·i·bil·i·ty** \ˌlej-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **leg·i·bly** \'lej-ə-blē\ *adv*

¹le·gion \'lē-jən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *legion-*, *legio*, fr. *legere* to gather — more at LEGEND] **1** : the principal unit of the Roman army comprising 3000 to 6000 foot soldiers with cavalry **2** : a large military force; *esp* : ARMY 1a **3** : a very large number : MULTITUDE **4** : a national association of ex-servicemen

²legion *adj* : MANY, NUMEROUS ⟨the problems are ~⟩

¹le·gion·ary \'lē-jə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* [L *legionarius*, fr. *legion-*, *legio*] : of, relating to, or constituting a legion

²legionary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : LEGIONNAIRE

le·gion·naire \ˌlē-jə-'na(ə)r, -'ne(ə)r\ *n* [F *légionnaire*, fr. L *legionarius*] : a member of a legion

Legion of Honor : a French order conferred as a reward for civil or military merit

Legion of Merit : a U.S. military decoration awarded for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services

legis *abbr* legislation; legislative; legislature

leg·is·late \'lej-ə-ˌslāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back-formation fr. *legislator*] *vi* : to perform the function of legislation; *specif* : to make or enact laws ~ *vt* : to cause, create, provide, or bring about by legislation

leg·is·la·tion \ˌlej-ə-'slā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of legislating; *specif* : the exercise of the power and function of making rules (as laws) that have the force of authority by virtue of their promulgation by an official organ of a state or other organization **2** : the enactments of a legislator or a legislative body **3** : a matter of business for or under consideration by a legislative body

¹leg·is·la·tive \'lej-ə-ˌslāt-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : having the power or performing the function of legislating **b** : belonging to the branch of government that is charged with such powers as making laws, levying and collecting taxes, and making financial appropriations — compare EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL **2 a** : of or relating to a legislature ⟨~ committees⟩ ⟨~ immunity⟩ **b** : composed of members of a legislature ⟨~ caucus⟩ **c** : created by a legislature esp. as distinguished from an executive or judicial body **d** : designed to assist a legislature or its members ⟨a ~ research agency⟩ **3** : of, concerned with, or created by legislation — **leg·is·la·tive·ly** *adv*

²legislative *n* : the body or department exercising the power and function of legislating : LEGISLATURE

legislative assembly *n, often cap L&A* **1** : a bicameral legislature (as in an American state) **2** : the lower house of a bicameral legislature **3** : a unicameral legislature; *esp* : one in a Canadian province

legislative council *n, often cap L&C* **1** : the upper house of a British bicameral legislature **2** : a unicameral legislature (as in a British colony) **3** : a permanent committee chosen from both houses that meets between sessions of a state legislature to study state problems and plan a legislative program

leg·is·la·tor \'lej-ə-ˌslāt-ər\ *n* [L *legis lator*, lit., proposer of a law, fr. *legis*, gen. of *lex* law + *lator* proposer, fr. *latus* suppletive pp. of *ferre* to carry, propose — more at TOLERATE, BEAR] : one that makes laws esp. for a political unit; *esp* : a member of a legislative body — **leg·is·la·to·ri·al** \ˌlej-ə-slə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **leg·is·la·tor·ship** \'lej-ə-ˌslāt-ər-ˌship\ *n* — **leg·is·la·tress** \ˌlej-ə-'slā-trəs\ *n* — **leg·is·la·trix** \-triks\ *n*

leg·is·la·ture \'lej-ə-ˌslā-chər\ *n* : a body of persons having the power to legislate; *specif* : an organized body having the authority to make laws for a political unit

le·gist \'lē-jəst\ *n* [MF *legiste*, fr. ML *legista*, fr. L *leg-*, *lex*] : a specialist in law; *esp* : one learned in Roman or civil law

le·git \li-'jit\ *adj, slang* : LEGITIMATE ⟨a racket boy with a lot of ~ business —Harold Robbins⟩

le·git·i·ma·cy \li-'jit-ə-mə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being legitimate

¹le·git·i·mate \li-'jit-ə-mət\ *adj* [ML *legitimatus*, pp. of *legitimare* to legitimate, fr. L *legitimus* legitimate, fr. *leg-*, *lex* law] **1 a** : lawfully begotten; *specif* : born in wedlock **b** : having full filial rights and obligations by birth ⟨a ~ child⟩ **2** : being exactly as purposed : neither spurious nor false ⟨~ grievance⟩ **3 a** : accordant with law or with established legal forms and requirements ⟨a ~ government⟩ **b** : ruling by or based on the strict principle of hereditary right ⟨a ~ king⟩ **4** : conforming to recognized principles or accepted rules and standards ⟨~ advertising expenditure⟩ ⟨~ inference⟩ **5** : relating to plays acted by professional actors but not including revues, burlesque, or some forms of musical comedy ⟨the ~ theater⟩ ***syn*** see LAWFUL ***ant*** illegitimate — **le·git·i·mate·ly** *adv*

²le·git·i·mate \-ˌmāt\ *vt* **-mat·ed; -mat·ing** : to make legitimate: **a** (1) : to give legal status or authorization to **a** (2) : to show or affirm to be justified **b** : to put (a bastard) in the state of a legitimate child before the law by legal means — **le·git·i·ma·tion** \-ˌjit-ə-'mā-shən\ *n*

le·git·i·ma·tize \li-'jit-ə-mə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** : LEGITIMATE

le·git·i·mism \li-'jit-ə-ˌmiz-əm\ *n, often cap* : adherence to the principles of political legitimacy or to a person claiming legitimacy — **le·git·i·mist** \-məst\ *n, often cap* — **legitimist** *adj*

le·git·i·mize \-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** : LEGITIMATE — **le·git·i·mi·za·tion** \-ˌjit-ə-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **le·git·i·miz·er** \-'jit-ə-ˌmī-zər\ *n*

leg·man \'leg-ˌman, 'lāg-\ *n* **1** : a newspaperman assigned usu. to gather information **2** : an assistant who performs various subordinate tasks (as gathering information or running errands)

leg–of–mut·ton *or* **leg–o'–mut·ton** \ˌleg-ə(v)-'mət-ᵊn, ˌlāg-\ *adj* : having the approximately triangular shape or outline of a leg of mutton ⟨~ sleeve⟩ ⟨~ sail⟩

leg out *vt* : to make (as a base hit) by fast running

leg–pull \'leg-ˌpůl, 'lāg-\ *n* [fr. the phrase *pull one's leg*] : a humorous deception or hoax

leg·room \-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : space in which to extend the legs while seated

le·gume \'leg-ˌyüm, li-'gyüm\ *n* [F *légume*, fr. L *legumin-*, *legumen* leguminous plant, fr. *legere* to gather — more at LEGEND] **1 a** : the fruit or seed of leguminous plants (as peas or beans) used for food **b** : a vegetable used for food **2** : any of a large family (Leguminosae) of dicotyledonous herbs, shrubs, and trees having fruits that are legumes or loments, bearing nodules on the roots that contain nitrogen-fixing bacteria, and including important food and forage plants (as peas, beans, or clovers) **3** : a dry dehiscent one-celled fruit developed from a simple superior ovary and usu. dehiscing into two valves with the seeds attached to the ventral suture : POD

le·gu·mi·nous \li-'gyü-mə-nəs, le-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or consisting of plants that are legumes **2** : resembling a legume

leg up *n* **1** : a helping hand : BOOST **2** : HEAD START

leg·work \'leg-ˌwərk, 'lāg-\ *n* : work (as gathering information) that involves a preponderance of physical activity and that forms the basis of more creative or mentally exacting work (as writing a book)

le·hua \lā-'hü-ə\ *n* [Hawaiian] : a common very showy tree (*Metrosideros villosa*) of the myrtle family of the Pacific islands having bright red corymbose flowers and a hard wood; *also* : its flower

¹lei \'lā, 'lā-ˌē\ *n* [Hawaiian] : a wreath or necklace usu. of flowers or leaves

²lei \'lā\ *pl of* LEU

Leib·niz·ian \līp-'nit-sē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Leibniz or his philosophy — **Leib·niz·ian·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

Leices·ter \'les-tər\ *n* [*Leicester*, county in England] : any of a breed of white-faced long-wool mutton-type sheep originating in England and having white fleece finer than that of most long-wool sheep

Leics *or* **Leic** *abbr* Leicestershire

Lei Day *n* : May Day in Hawaii celebrated with pageants and prizes for the most beautiful or distinctive leis

leish·man·ia \lēsh-'man-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Sir W. B. *Leishman* †1926 Brit medical officer] : any of a genus (*Leishmania*) of flagellate protozoans that are parasitic in the tissues of vertebrates; *broadly* : an organism resembling the leishmanias that is included in the family (Trypanosomatidae) to which they belong

leish·man·i·a·sis \ˌlēsh-mə-'nī-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : infection with or disease caused by leishmanias

¹leis·ter \'lē-stər\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *ljōstr* leister] : a spear armed with three or more barbed prongs for catching fish

²leister *vt* : to spear with a leister

lei·sure \'lēzh-ər, 'lezh-, 'lāzh-\ *n* [ME *leiser*, fr. OF *leisir*, fr. *leisir* to be permitted, fr. L *licēre* — more at LICENSE] **1** : freedom provided by the cessation of activities; *esp* : time free from work or duties **2** : EASE, LEISURELINESS — **leisure** *adj* — **at leisure** *or* **at one's leisure** : in one's leisure time : at one's convenience ⟨finished the book *at his leisure*⟩

lei·sured \-ərd\ *adj* : having leisure : characterized by leisureliness

¹lei·sure·ly \-ər-lē\ *adv* : without haste : DELIBERATELY

²leisurely *adj* : characterized by leisure : UNHURRIED — **lei·sure·li·ness** *n*

Leit *abbr* Leitrim

leit·mo·tiv *or* **leit·mo·tif** \'līt-mō-ˌtēf\ *n* [G *leitmotiv*, fr. *leiten* to lead + *motiv* motive] **1** : an associated melodic phrase or figure that accompanies the reappearance of an idea, person, or situation esp. in a Wagnerian music drama **2** : a dominant recurring theme

¹lek \'lek\ *n* [Alb] — see MONEY table

²lek *n* [prob. fr. Sw, sport, play] : an assembly area where birds and esp. black grouse carry on display and courtship behavior

LEM *abbr* lunar excursion module

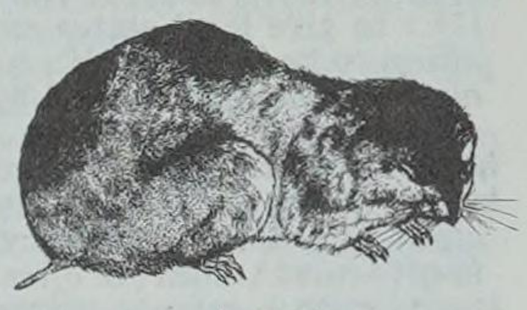
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le·man \'lem-ən, 'lē-mən\ *n* [ME *lefman, leman,* fr. *lef* lief] *archaic* : SWEETHEART, LOVER; *esp* : MISTRESS

[1]lem·ma \'lem-ə\ *n, pl* **lemmas** *or* **lem·ma·ta** \-ət-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *lēmma* thing taken, assumption, fr. *lambanein* to take — more at LATCH] **1** : an auxiliary proposition accepted as true for use in the demonstration of another proposition **2** : the argument or theme of a composition prefixed as a title or introduction; *also* : the heading or theme of a comment or note on a text **3** : a glossed word or phrase

[2]lemma *n* [Gk, husk, fr. *lepein* to peel — more at LEPER] : the lower of the two bracts enclosing the flower in the spikelet of grasses

lem·ming \'lem-iŋ\ *n* [Norw; akin to ON *lōmr* guillemot, L *latrare* to bark — more at LAMENT] : any of several small short-tailed furry-footed rodents (genera *Lemmus* and *Dicrostonyx*) of circumpolar distribution that are notable for the recurrent mass migrations of a European form (*L. lemmus*) which often continue into the sea where vast numbers are drowned



lemming

lem·nis·cate \lem-'nis-kət\ *n* [NL *lemniscata,* fr. fem. of L *lemniscatus* with hanging ribbons, fr. *lemniscus*] : a figure-eight shaped curve whose equation in polar coordinates is $\rho^2 = a^2 \cos 2\theta$

lem·nis·cus \lem-'nis-kəs\ *n, pl* **-nis·ci** \-'nis-ˌ(k)ī, -'nis-ˌkē\ [NL, fr. L, ribbon, fr. Gk *lēmniskos*] : a band of fibers and esp. nerve fibers

[1]lem·on \'lem-ən\ *n* [ME *lymon,* fr. MF *limon,* fr. ML *limon-, limo,* fr. Ar *laymūn*] **1 a** : an acid fruit that is botanically a many-seeded pale yellow oblong berry and is produced by a stout thorny tree (*Citrus limon*) **b** : a tree that bears lemons **2** : one (as an automobile) that is unsatisfactory : DUD

[2]lemon *adj* **1 a** : containing lemon **b** : having the flavor or scent of lemon **2** : of the color lemon yellow

lem·on·ade \ˌlem-ə-'nād\ *n* : a beverage of sweetened lemon juice mixed with water

lemon balm *n* : a bushy perennial Old World mint (*Melissa officinalis*) often cultivated for its fragrant lemon-flavored leaves

lem·on·grass \'lem-ən-ˌgras\ *n* : a grass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) of robust habit that grows in tropical regions (as the West Indies) and is the source of an essential oil with an odor of lemon or verbena; *also* : a similar tropical grass (*C. flexuosus*)

lem·ony \'lem-ə-nē\ *adj* : suggestive of lemon : LEMON ⟨a ~ taste⟩

lemon yellow *n* : a variable color averaging a brilliant greenish yellow

lem·pi·ra \lem-'pir-ə\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. *Lempira,* 16th cent. Indian chief] — see MONEY table

le·mur \'lē-mər\ *n* [L *lemures,* pl., ghosts; akin to Gk *lamia* devouring monster] : any of numerous arboreal chiefly nocturnal mammals that were formerly widespread but are now largely confined to Madagascar, are related to the monkeys but are usu. regarded as constituting a distinct superfamily (Lemuroidea), and usu. have a muzzle like a fox, large eyes, very soft woolly fur, and a long furry tail



lemur

le·mu·res \'lem-ə-ˌrās, 'lem-yə-ˌrēz\ *n pl* [L] : spirits of the unburied dead exorcised from homes in early Roman religious observances

lend \'lend\ *vb* **lent** \'lent\; **lend·ing** [ME *lenen, lenden,* fr. OE *lǣnan,* fr. *lǣn* loan — more at LOAN] *vt* **1 a** : to give for temporary use on condition that the same or its equivalent be returned **b** : to let out (money) for temporary use on condition of repayment with interest **2 a** : to give the assistance or support of : AFFORD, FURNISH ⟨a dispassionate and scholarly manner which ~*s* great force to his criticisms —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **b** : to adapt or apply (oneself) : ACCOMMODATE ⟨a topic that ~*s* itself admirably to class discussion⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a loan — **lend·er** *n*

lending library *n* : RENTAL LIBRARY

lend–lease \'len-'dlēs\ *n* [U.S. *Lend-Lease* Act (1941)] : the transfer of goods and services to an ally to aid in a common cause with payment being made by a return of the original items or their use in the common cause or by a similar transfer of other goods and services — **lend–lease** *vt*

length \'leŋ(k)th\ *n* [ME *lengthe,* fr. OE *lengthu,* fr. *lang* long] **1 a** : the longer or longest dimension of an object **b** : a measured distance or dimension ⟨10-inch ~⟩ — see METRIC SYSTEM table, WEIGHT table **c** : the quality or state of being long ⟨was unconcerned about the ~ or shortness of her visit⟩ **2 a** : duration or extent in time **b** : relative duration or stress of a sound **3 a** : distance or extent in space **b** : the length of something taken as a unit of measure ⟨his horse led by a ~⟩ **4** : the degree to which something (as a course of action or a line of thought) is carried — often used in pl. ⟨went to great ~*s* to learn the truth⟩ **5 a** : a long expanse or stretch **b** : a piece constituting or usable as part of a whole or of a connected series : SECTION ⟨a ~ of pipe⟩ **6** : a vertical dimension of an article of clothing — **at length** **1** : FULLY, COMPREHENSIVELY **2** : at last : FINALLY

length·en \'leŋ(k)-thən\ *vb* **length·ened; length·en·ing** \'leŋ(k)th-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to make longer ~ *vi* : to grow longer ***syn*** see EXTEND ***ant*** shorten — **length·en·er** \'leŋ(k)th-(ə-)nər\ *n*

length·ways \'leŋ(k)th-ˌwāz\ *adv* : LENGTHWISE

length·wise \-ˌwīz\ *adv* : in the direction of the length : LONGITUDINALLY — **lengthwise** *adj*

lengthy \'leŋ(k)-thē\ *adj* **length·i·er; -est** **1** : protracted excessively : OVERLONG **2** : EXTENDED, LONG — **length·i·ly** \-thə-lē\ *adv* — **length·i·ness** \-thē-nəs\ *n*

le·nience \'lē-nyən(t)s, -nē-ən(t)s\ *n* : LENIENCY

le·nien·cy \'lē-nē-ən-sē, -nyən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being lenient **2** : a lenient disposition or practice

le·nient \'lē-nē-ənt, -nyənt\ *adj* [L *lenient-, leniens,* prp. of *lenire* to soften, soothe, fr. *lenis* soft, mild — more at LET] **1** : exerting a soothing or easing influence : relieving pain or stress **2** : of mild and tolerant disposition; *esp* : INDULGENT ***syn*** see SOFT ***ant*** caustic — **le·nient·ly** *adv*

Leni–Le·nape *or* **Len·ni–Le·nape** \ˌlen-ē-lə-'näp-ē, ˌlen-ē-'len-ə-pē, ˌlen-ē-lə-'nāp\ *n* [Delaware] : DELAWARE 1

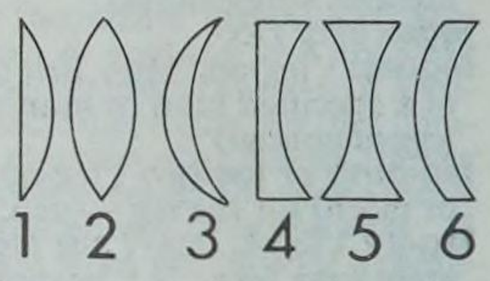
Le·nin·ism \'len-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the political, economic, and social principles and policies advocated by Lenin; *esp* : the theory and practice of communism developed by or associated with Lenin — **Le·nin·ist** \-nəst\ *n or adj* — **Le·nin·ite** \-ˌnīt\ *n or adj*

le·nis \'lē-nəs, 'lā-\ *adj* [NL, fr. L, mild, smooth] : produced with relatively lax articulation and weak expiration ⟨\d\ in *doe* is ~, \t\ in *toe* is fortis⟩

len·i·tive \'len-ət-iv\ *adj* [MF *lenitif,* fr. ML *lenitivus,* fr. L *lenitus,* pp. of *lenire*] : alleviating pain or harshness : SOOTHING — **lenitive** *n* — **len·i·tive·ly** *adv*

len·i·ty \'len-ət-ē\ *n* : usu. unmerited or excessive clemency ⟨errors which . . . regarded with a less affectionate ~, would have stood against his official account —S. H. Adams⟩ ***syn*** see MERCY ***ant*** severity

lens *also* **lense** \'lenz\ *n* [NL *lent-, lens,* fr. L, lentil; fr. its shape — more at LENTIL] **1 a** : a piece of transparent material (as glass) that has two opposite regular surfaces either both curved or one curved and the other plane and that is used either singly or combined in an optical instrument for forming an image by focusing rays of light **b** : a combination of two or more simple lenses **2** : a device for directing or focusing radiation other than light (as sound waves, radio microwaves, or electrons) **3** : something shaped like a double-convex optical lens **4** : a highly transparent biconvex lens-shaped or nearly spherical body in the eye that focuses light rays (as upon the retina) — see EYE illustration — **lensed** \'lenzd\ *adj* — **lens·less** \'lenz-ləs\ *adj*



1 2 3 4 5 6

lens 1a: *1* plano-convex, *2* biconvex, *3* converging meniscus, *4* plano-concave, *5* biconcave, *6* diverging meniscus

Lent \'lent\ *n* [ME *lente* springtime, Lent, fr. OE *lengten;* akin to OHG *lenzin* spring] : the 40 weekdays from Ash Wednesday to Easter observed by the Roman Catholic, Eastern, and some Protestant churches as a period of penitence and fasting

len·ta·men·te \ˌlent-ə-'men-(ˌ)tā\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. *lento* slow] : SLOWLY —used as a direction in music

len·tan·do \len-'tän-(ˌ)dō\ *adv or adj* [It] : in a retarding manner — used as a direction in music

Lent·en \'lent-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Lent **2** : suitable to Lent; *esp* : MEAGER ⟨~ fare⟩

len·tic \'lent-ik\ *adj* [L *lentus* sluggish] : of, relating to, or living in still waters (as lakes, ponds, or swamps) — compare LOTIC

len·ti·cel \'lent-ə-ˌsel\ *n* [NL *lenticella,* dim. of L *lent-, lens* lentil] : a pore in the stems of woody plants through which gases are exchanged between the atmosphere and the stem tissues

len·tic·u·lar \len-'tik-yə-lər\ *adj* [L *lenticularis* lentil-shaped, fr. *lenticula* lentil] **1** : having the shape of a double-convex lens **2** : of or relating to a lens **3** : provided with or utilizing lenticules ⟨a ~ screen⟩

len·tic·u·late \-lət\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** : to provide with lenticules (as by embossing, molding, or coating) ⟨*lenticulated* film⟩ — **len·tic·u·la·tion** \-ˌtik-yə-'lā-shən\ *n*

len·ti·cule \'lent-ə-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [L *lenticula* lentil] **1** : any of the minute lenses on the base side of a film used in stereoscopic or color photography **2** : any of the tiny corrugations or grooves molded or embossed into the surface of a projection screen

len·til \'lent-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *lentille,* fr. L *lenticula,* dim. of *lent-, lens;* akin to Gk *lathyros* vetch] **1** : a widely cultivated Eurasian annual leguminous plant (*Lens culinaris*) with flattened edible seeds and leafy stalks used as fodder **2** : the seed of the lentil

len·tis·si·mo \len-'tis-ə-ˌmō\ *adv or adj* [It, superl. of *lento*] : in a very slow manner — used as a direction in music

len·to \'len-(ˌ)tō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. *lento,* adj., slow, fr. L *lentus* pliant, sluggish, slow — more at LITHE] : in a slow manner — used as a direction in music

Leo \'lē-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [L (gen. *Leonis*), lit., lion — more at LION] **1** : a northern constellation east of Cancer **2 a** : the 5th sign of the zodiac in astrology — see ZODIAC table **b** : one born under this sign

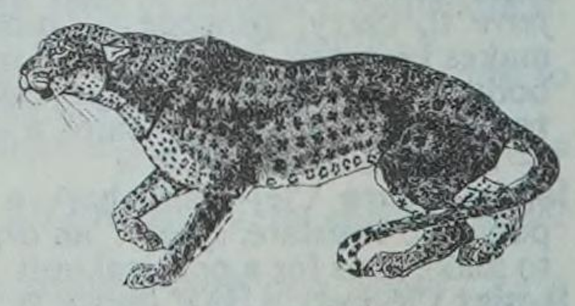
Le·o·nar·desque \ˌlē-ə-ˌnär-'desk, ˌlā-\ *adj* [*Leonardo* da Vinci] : of, relating to, or suggesting Leonardo or his style of painting

le·one \lē-'ōn\ *n* [*Sierra Leone*] — see MONEY table

Leo·nid \'lē-ə-nəd\ *n, pl* **Leo·nids** *or* **Le·on·i·des** \lē-'än-ə-ˌdēz\ [L *Leon-, Leo;* fr. their appearing to radiate from a point in Leo] : one of the shooting stars constituting the meteoric shower that recurs near the 14th of November

le·o·nine \'lē-ə-ˌnīn\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *leoninus,* fr. *leon-, leo*] : of, relating to, or resembling a lion

leop·ard \'lep-ərd\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *leupart,* fr. LL *leopardus,* fr. Gk *leopardos,* fr. *leōn* lion + *pardos* leopard] **1** : a large strong cat (*Felis pardus*) of southern Asia and Africa that is usu. tawny or buff with black spots arranged in broken rings or rosettes — called also *panther* **2** : a heraldic representation of a lion passant guardant — **leop·ard·ess** \-ərd-əs\ *n*



leopard 1

leopard frog *n* : a common American frog (*Rana pipiens*) that is bright green with large black white-margined blotches on the back; *also* : a similar frog (*R. sphenocephala*) of the southeastern U.S.

le·o·tard \'lē-ə-ˌtärd\ *n* [Jules *Léotard,* 19th cent. F aerial gymnast] : a close-fitting garment usu. with long sleeves, a high neck, and

ankle-length legs worn for practice or performance by dancers, acrobats, and aerialists; *also* : TIGHTS

Lep·cha \'lep-chə\ *n, pl* **Lepcha** *or* **Lepchas** **1** : a member of a Mongoloid people of Sikkim, India **2** : the Tibeto-Burman language of the Lepcha people

lep·er \'lep-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. *lepre* leprosy, fr. OF, fr. LL *lepra*, fr. Gk, fr. *lepein* to peel; akin to OE *læfer* reed] **1** : a person affected with leprosy **2** : a person shunned for moral or social reasons : OUTCAST

lepid- *or* **lepido-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *lepid-, lepis* scale, fr. *lepein*] : flake : scale ⟨*Lepido*ptera⟩

le·pid·o·lite \li-'pid-ᵊl-ˌīt\ *n* [G *lepidolith*, fr. *lepid-* + *-lith*] : a variable mineral typically K $(Li,Al)_3(Si,Al)_4O_{10}(F, OH)_2$ that consists of a mica containing lithium and is used esp. in glazes and enamels

lep·i·dop·ter·an \ˌlep-ə-'däp-tə-rən\ *n* [NL *Lepidoptera* order of insects, fr. *lepid-* + Gk *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : any of a large order (Lepidoptera) of insects comprising the butterflies, moths, and skippers that as adults have four broad or lanceolate wings usu. covered with minute overlapping and often brightly colored scales and that as larvae are caterpillars — **lepidopteran** *adj* — **lep·i·dop·ter·ous** \-tə-rəs\ *adj*

lep·i·dop·ter·ist \-tə-rəst\ *n* : a specialist in lepidopterology

lep·i·dop·ter·ol·o·gy \-ˌdäp-tə-'räl-ə-jē\ *n* : a branch of entomology concerned with lepidopterans — **lep·i·dop·ter·o·log·i·cal** \-tə-rə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **lep·i·dop·ter·ol·o·gist** \-tə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n*

lep·i·dop·ter·on \ˌlep-ə-'däp-tə-rən, -ˌrän\ *n, pl* **-ter·a** \-tə-rə\ *also* **-ter·ons** [NL, sing. of *Lepidoptera*] : LEPIDOPTERAN

lep·i·do·sis \ˌlep-ə-'dō-səs\ *n, pl* **-do·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : the arrangement and character of scales or shields (as on a snake)

lep·i·dote \'lep-ə-ˌdōt\ *adj* [Gk *lepidōtos* scaly, fr. *lepid-, lepis*] : covered with scurf or scurfy scales ⟨~ rhododendrons⟩

lep·re·chaun \'lep-rə-ˌkän, -ˌkȯn\ *n* [IrGael *leipreachān*] : a mischievous elf of Irish folklore usu. believed to reveal the hiding place of treasure if caught

lep·ro·sar·i·um \ˌlep-rə-'ser-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-i·ums** *or* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [ML, fr. LL *leprosus*] : a hospital for leprosy patients

lep·ro·sy \'lep-rə-sē\ *n* [*leprous* + *-y*] **1** : a chronic disease caused by a bacillus (*Mycobacterium leprae*) and characterized by the formation of nodules or of macules that enlarge and spread accompanied by loss of sensation with eventual paralysis, wasting of muscle, and production of deformities and mutilations **2** : a morally or spiritually harmful influence ⟨the ~ of poverty⟩ — **lep·rot·ic** \le-'prät-ik\ *adj*

lep·rous \'lep-rəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *leprosus* leprous, fr. *lepra* leprosy] **1 a** : infected with leprosy **b** : of, relating to, or resembling leprosy or a leper **2** : SCALY, SCURFY — **lep·rous·ly** *adv* — **lep·rous·ness** *n*

-lep·sy \ˌlep-sē\ *n comb form* [MF *-lepsie*, fr. LL *-lepsia*, fr. Gk *-lēpsia*, fr. *lēpsis*, fr. *lambanein* to take, seize — more at LATCH] : taking : seizure ⟨nympho*lepsy*⟩

lep·to·ceph·a·lus \ˌlep-tə-'sef-ə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, fr. Gk *leptos* + *kephalē* head — more at CEPHALIC] : a long thin small-headed transparent pelagic first larva of various eels

[1]lep·ton \lep-'tän\ *n, pl* **lep·ta** \-'tä\ [NGk, fr. Gk, a small coin, fr. neut. of *leptos* peeled, slender, small, fr. *lepein* to peel — more at LEPER] — see *drachma* at MONEY table

[2]lep·ton \'lep-ˌtän\ *n* [Gk *leptos* + E [2]*-on*] : any of a group of particles consisting of electrons, muons, and neutrinos that experience no strong interactions and are less massive than mesons and baryons — **lep·ton·ic** \lep-'tän-ik\ *adj*

lep·to·some \'lep-tə-ˌsōm\ *adj* [G *leptosom*, fr. Gk *leptos* slender + *sōma* body] : ASTHENIC 2, ECTOMORPHIC — **leptosome** *n*

lep·to·spire \-ˌspī(ə)r\ *n* [NL *Leptospira*, genus name, fr. Gk *leptos* + L *spira* coil — more at SPIRE] : any of a genus (*Leptospira*) of slender aerobic spirochetes that are free-living or parasitic in mammals — **lep·to·spir·al** \ˌlep-tə-'spī-rəl\ *adj*

lep·to·spi·ro·sis \ˌlep-tə-spī-'rō-səs\ *n, pl* **-ro·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : any of several diseases of man and domestic animals that are caused by infection with leptospires

lep·to·tene \'lep-tə-ˌtēn\ *n* [ISV] : a stage of meiotic prophase immediately preceding synapsis in which the chromosomes appear as fine discrete threads — **leptotene** *adj*

[1]les·bi·an \'lez-bē-ən\ *adj, often cap* **1** : of or relating to Lesbos **2** [fr. the reputed homosexual band associated with Sappho of Lesbos] : of or relating to homosexuality between females

[2]lesbian *n, often cap* : a female homosexual

les·bi·an·ism \'lez-bē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : female homosexuality

lese maj·es·ty *or* **lèse ma·jes·té** \(')lēz-'maj-ə-stē\ *n* [MF *lese majesté*, fr. L *laesa majestas*, lit., injured majesty] **1 a** : a crime (as treason) committed against a sovereign power **b** : an offense violating the dignity of a ruler as the representative of a sovereign power **2** : a detraction from or affront to dignity or importance

le·sion \'lē-zhən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *laesion-, laesio*, fr. *laesus*, pp. of *laedere* to injure] **1** : INJURY, HARM **2** : an abnormal change in structure of an organ or part due to injury or disease; *esp* : one that is circumscribed and well defined

les·pe·de·za \ˌles-pə-'dē-zə\ *n* [NL, irreg. fr. V. M. de *Zespedes fl*1785 Sp governor of East Florida] : any of a genus (*Lespedeza*) of herbaceous or shrubby leguminous plants including some widely used for forage, soil improvement, and esp. hay

[1]less \'les\ *adj* [ME, partly fr. OE *lǣs*, adv. & n.; partly fr. *lǣssa*, adj.; akin to OFris *lēs* less, Gk *limos* hunger] **1** : constituting a more limited number ⟨~ than three⟩ **2** : of lower rank, degree, or importance ⟨no ~ a person than the president himself⟩ **3 a** : of reduced size, extent, or degree **b** : more limited in quantity ⟨in ~ time⟩

syn LESS, LESSER, SMALLER, FEWER *shared meaning element* : not as great (as in size, number, worth, or significance) as some expressed or implied other. In spite of the common element of meaning these terms are rarely interchangeable without loss of precision. LESS in its most characteristic use applies to matters of degree, value, or amount, is opposed to *more*, and chiefly modifies collective nouns or nouns denoting a mass or an abstract whole ⟨the moon gives *less* light than the sun⟩ *Less* is sometimes applied to matters of number, but the usage is decried by many careful writers and speakers. LESSER applies especially to matters of quality, worth, or significance and is opposed to *greater* or *major* ⟨God made . . . the *lesser* light to rule the night —Gen 1:16 (AV)⟩ In vernacular names of plants and animals *lesser* specifically implies distinction based on relative smallness ⟨the *lesser* yellowlegs⟩ ⟨*lesser* celandine⟩ SMALLER is applicable especially to matters of size, dimension, or quantity and is opposed to *larger* ⟨the advantage of *smaller* cars⟩ ⟨use a *smaller* amount of seasoning⟩ FEWER applies specifically to matters of number and therefore regularly modifies a plural noun. Thus, "he has *fewer* (not *less*) spendable dollars this year," but "he has *less* (not *fewer*) money to spend than he used to." Occasionally the distinction between quantity and number is obscured and either *fewer* or *less* is appropriate ⟨seasonal workers who average *fewer* (or *less*) than six months' work a year⟩ ***ant*** more

[2]less *adv* : to a lesser extent or degree — **less and less** : to a progressively smaller size or extent — **less than** : by no means : not at all ⟨was being *less than* honest in his replies⟩

[3]less *prep* : diminished by : MINUS

[4]less *n, pl* **less** **1** : a smaller portion or quantity **2** : something of less importance

-less \ləs\ *adj suffix* [ME *-les, -lesse*, fr. OE *-lēas*, fr. *lēas* devoid, false; akin to OHG *lōs* loose, OE *losian* to get lost — more at LOSE] **1** : destitute of : not having ⟨wit*less*⟩ ⟨child*less*⟩ **2** : unable to be acted on or to act (in a specified way) ⟨daunt*less*⟩ ⟨fade*less*⟩

les·see \le-'sē\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. *lessé*, pp. of *lesser* to lease — more at LEASE] : one that holds real or personal property under a lease

less·en \'les-ᵊn\ *vb* **less·ened; less·en·ing** \'les-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vi* : to shrink in size, number, or degree : DECREASE ~ *vt* **1** : to reduce in size, extent, or degree **2 a** *archaic* : to represent as of little value : MINIMIZE **b** : to lower in status or dignity : DEGRADE ***syn*** see DECREASE

[1]less·er \'les-ər\ *adj* : of less size, quality, or significance ***syn*** see LESS ***ant*** greater, major

[2]lesser *adv* : LESS ⟨*lesser*-known⟩

Lesser Bear *n* : URSA MINOR

lesser celandine *n* : CELANDINE 2

lesser cornstalk borer *n* : a pyralid moth (*Elasmopalpus lignosellus*) whose slender greenish larva is a destructive pest that burrows in the stalk esp. of Indian corn near ground level

Lesser Dog *n* : CANIS MINOR

lesser peach tree borer *n* : a moth (*Synanthedon pictipes* family Aegeriidae) whose larva is a borer in the forks and crotches of stone-fruit trees and esp. the peach

lesser scaup *n* : a common No. American diving duck (*Athya affinis*) similar to but smaller than the greater scaup with a purplish iridescence on the head of the adult male — called also *lesser scaup duck*

lesser yellowlegs *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a common American marsh and shore bird (*Tringa flavipes*) that closely resembles the greater yellowlegs in color and markings but is smaller with a shorter more slender bill

[1]les·son \'les-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *leçon*, fr. LL *lection-, lectio*, fr. L, act of reading, fr. *lectus*, pp. of *legere* to read — more at LEGEND] **1** : a passage from sacred writings read in a service of worship **2 a** : a piece of instruction : TEACHING **b** : a reading or exercise to be studied by a pupil **c** : a division of a course of instruction **3 a** : something learned by study or experience ⟨his years of travel had taught him valuable ~*s*⟩ **b** : an instructive example ⟨the ~*s* history has for us⟩ **c** : REPRIMAND

[2]lesson *vt* **les·soned; les·son·ing** \'les-ə-niŋ, 'les-niŋ\ **1** : to give a lesson to : INSTRUCT **2** : LECTURE, REBUKE

les·sor \'les-ˌȯ(ə)r, le-'sȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME *lessour*, fr. AF, fr. *lesser* to lease] : one that conveys property by lease

lest \(ˌ)lest\ *conj* [ME *les the, leste*, fr. OE *thȳ lǣs the*, fr. *thȳ* (instrumental of *thæt* that) + *lǣs* + *the*, relative particle] : for fear that — used after an expression denoting fear or apprehension ⟨worried ~ he should be late⟩ ⟨hesitant to speak out ~ he be branded a troublemaker⟩

[1]let \'let\ *vt* **let·ted; letted** *or* **let; let·ting** [ME *letten*, fr. OE *lettan* to delay, hinder; akin to OHG *lezzen* to delay, hurt, OE *lǣt* late] *archaic* : HINDER, PREVENT

[2]let *n* **1** : something that impedes : OBSTRUCTION **2** : a stroke in racket games that does not count and must be replayed

[3]let *vb* **let; let·ting** [ME *leten*, fr. OE *lǣtan;* akin to OHG *lāzzan* to permit, L *lassus* weary, *lenis* soft, mild] *vt* **1** : to cause to : MAKE ⟨~ it be known⟩ **2 a** : to offer or grant for rent or lease ⟨~ rooms⟩ **b** : to assign esp. after bids ⟨~ a contract⟩ **3 a** : to give opportunity to whether by positive action or by failure to prevent ⟨live and ~ live⟩ ⟨a break in the clouds ~ him see his objective⟩ **b** — used in the imperative to introduce a request or proposal ⟨~ us pray⟩ **c** — used as an auxiliary to express a warning ⟨~ him try⟩ **4** : to free from or as if from confinement : RELEASE ⟨~ the prisoner go⟩ ⟨she ~ out a scream⟩ **5** : to permit to enter, pass, or leave ⟨~ them through⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become rented or leased **2** : to become awarded to a contractor

syn **1** see HIRE
2 LET, ALLOW, PERMIT, SUFFER *shared meaning element* : to neither forbid nor prevent

-let \lət\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. MF *-elet*, fr. *-el*, dim. suffix (fr. L *-ellus*) + *-et*] **1** : small one ⟨book*let*⟩ **2** : article worn on ⟨wrist*let*⟩

let alone *prep* : to say nothing of : not to mention ⟨lacked the courage, *let alone* the skill, to be effective⟩

let·down \'let-ˌdaun\ *n* **1 a** : DISCOURAGEMENT, DISAPPOINTMENT **b** : a slackening of effort : RELAXATION **2** : the descent of an air-

craft or spacecraft to the point at which a landing approach is begun

¹le·thal \'lē-thəl\ *adj* [L *letalis, lethalis,* fr. *letum* death] **1 a** : of, relating to, or causing death ⟨a ~ injury⟩ **b** : capable of causing death ⟨~ chemicals⟩ **2** : gravely damaging or destructive : DEVASTATING ⟨a ~ attack on his reputation⟩ ***syn*** see DEADLY — **le·thal·i·ty** \lē-'thal-ət-ē\ *n* — **le·thal·ly** \'lē-thə-lē\ *adv*

²lethal *n* **1** : an abnormality of genetic origin causing the death of the organism possessing it **2** : LETHAL GENE

lethal gene *n* : a gene that in some (as homozygous) conditions may prevent development or cause the death of an organism or its germ cells — called also *lethal factor, lethal mutant, lethal mutation*

le·thar·gic \lə-'thär-jik, le-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by lethargy : SLUGGISH **2** : INDIFFERENT, APATHETIC — **le·thar·gi·cal·ly** \-ji-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

syn LETHARGIC, SLUGGISH, TORPID, COMATOSE *shared meaning element* : deficient in alertness or activity ***ant*** energetic

leth·ar·gy \'leth-ər-jē\ *n* [ME *litargie,* fr. ML *litargia,* fr. LL *lethargia,* fr. Gk *lēthargia,* fr. *lēthargos* forgetful, lethargic, fr. *lēthē* + *argos* lazy — more at ARGON] **1** : abnormal drowsiness **2** : the quality or state of being lazy or indifferent

le·the \'lē-thē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Lēthē,* fr. *lēthē* forgetfulness; akin to Gk *lanthanein* to escape notice, *lanthanesthai* to forget — more at LATENT] **1** *cap* : a river in Hades whose waters cause drinkers to forget their past **2** : OBLIVION, FORGETFULNESS — **le·the·an** \'lē-thē-ən, li-'thē-\ *adj, often cap*

let on *vi* **1** : to make acknowledgment : ADMIT ⟨knows more than he *lets on*⟩ **2** : to reveal a secret ⟨nobody *let on* about the surprise party⟩ **3** : PRETEND ⟨*let on* to being a stranger⟩

let's \(,)lets, *rapid* (,)les\ : let us

Lett \'let\ *n* [G *Lette,* fr. Latvian *Latvi*] : a member of a people closely related to the Lithuanians and mainly inhabiting Latvia

¹let·ter \'let-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *lettre,* fr. L *littera* letter of the alphabet, *litterae,* pl., epistle, literature] **1** : a symbol usu. written or printed representing a speech sound and constituting a unit of an alphabet **2 a** : a direct or personal written or printed message addressed to a person or organization **b** : a written communication containing a grant — usu. used in pl. **3** *pl but sing or pl in constr* **a** : LITERATURE, BELLES LETTRES **b** : LEARNING **4** : the strict or outward sense or significance ⟨the ~ of the law⟩ **5 a** : a single piece of type **b** : a style of type **c** : TYPE; *esp* : a supply of type **6** : the initial of a school awarded to a student for achievement usu. in athletics

²letter *vt* **1** : to set down in letters : PRINT **2** : to mark with letters : INSCRIBE ~ *vi* : to win an athletic letter — **let·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

³let·ter \'let-ər\ *n* : one that rents or leases

letter carrier *n* : MAILMAN

let·tered \'let-ərd\ *adj* **1 a** : LEARNED, EDUCATED **b** : of, relating to, or characterized by learning : CULTURED **2** : inscribed with or as if with letters

let·ter·form \-ər-ˌfȯrm\ *n* : the shape of a letter of an alphabet esp. when considered from the standpoint of design or development

let·ter·head \'let-ər-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : a sheet of stationery printed or engraved usu. with the name and address of an organization **2** : the heading at the top of a letterhead

let·ter·ing \'let-ə-riŋ\ *n* : letters used in an inscription

letter missive *n, pl* **letters missive** [ME, fr. MF *lettre missive* letter intended to be sent] : a letter from a superior authority conveying a command, recommendation, permission, or invitation

letter of credence : a formal document furnished a diplomatic agent attesting to his power to act for his government — called also *letters of credence*

letter of credit **1** : a letter addressed by a banker to a correspondent certifying that a person named therein is entitled to draw on him or his credit up to a certain sum **2** : a letter addressed by a banker to a person to whom credit is given authorizing him to draw on the issuing bank or on a bank in his country up to a certain sum and guaranteeing to accept the drafts if duly made

let·ter–per·fect \ˌlet-ər-'pər-fikt\ *adj* : correct to the smallest detail; *esp* : VERBATIM

let·ter·press \'let-ər-ˌpres\ *n* **1 a** : the process of printing from an inked raised surface esp. when the paper is impressed directly upon the surface **b** : work done by this process **c** : a press for letterpress printing **2** *chiefly Brit* : text (as of a book) distinct from pictorial illustrations

letter sheet *n* : a sheet of stationery that can be folded and sealed with the message inside to form its own envelope

letters of administration : a letter evidencing the right of an administrator to administer the goods or estate of a deceased person

letters of marque \-'märk\ : written authority granted to a private person by a government to seize the subjects of a foreign state or their goods; *specif* : a license granted to a private person to fit out an armed ship to plunder the enemy

letters patent *n pl* : a writing (as from a sovereign) that confers on a designated person a grant in a form readily open for inspection by all

letters testamentary *n pl* : a written communication from a court or officer informing an executor of his appointment and authority to execute the will of the testator

¹Lett·ish \'let-ish\ *adj* : of or relating to the Latvians or their language

²Lettish *n* : LATVIAN 2

let·tre de ca·chet \ˌle-trə-də-ˌka-'shā\ *n, pl* **lettres de cachet** \-trə(z)-\ [F] : a letter bearing an official seal and usu. authorizing imprisonment without trial of a named person

let·tuce \'let-əs\ *n* [ME *letuse,* fr. OF *laitues,* pl. of *laitue,* fr. L *lactuca,* fr. *lact-, lac* milk; fr. its milky juice — more at GALAXY] : any of a genus (*Lactuca*) of composite plants; *esp* : a common garden vegetable (*L. sativa*) whose succulent leaves are used esp. in salads

let·up \'let-ˌəp\ *n* : a lessening of effort

let up \(')let-'əp\ *vi* **1 a** : to diminish or slow down **b** : CEASE, STOP **2** : to become less severe — used with *on*

leu \'leu\ *n, pl* **lei** \'lā\ [Rum, lit., lion, fr. L *leo* — more at LION] — see MONEY table

leu·cine \'lü-ˌsēn\ *n* [ISV *leuc-* + *-ine*] : a white crystalline essential amino acid $C_6H_{13}NO_2$ obtained by the hydrolysis of most dietary proteins

leu·cite \'lü-ˌsīt\ *n* [G *leuzit,* fr. *leuz-* leuk-] : a white or gray mineral $KAlSi_2O_6$ consisting of a potassium aluminum silicate and occurring in igneous rocks — **leu·cit·ic** \lü-'sit-ik\ *adj*

leu·co·ci·din \ˌlü-kə-'sīd-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV *leuc-* + *-cide* + *-in*] : a bacterial substance that destroys leukocytes

leu·co·ma \lü-'kō-mə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *leukōma,* fr. *leukos* white] : a dense white opacity in the cornea of the eye

leu·co·plast \'lü-kə-ˌplast\ *also* **leu·co·plas·tid** \ˌlü-kə-'plas-təd\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless plastid esp. in the cytoplasm of interior plant tissues that is potentially capable of developing into a chromoplast

leuk- *or* **leuko-** *also* **leuc-** *or* **leuco-** *comb form* [NL *leuc-, leuco-,* fr. Gk *leuk-, leuko-,* fr. *leukos* — more at LIGHT] **1** : white : colorless : weakly colored ⟨*leuko*cyte⟩ ⟨*leuko*rrhea⟩ **2** : leukocyte ⟨*leuke*mia⟩ **3** : white matter of the brain ⟨*leuco*tomy⟩

leu·ke·mia \lü-'kē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : an acute or chronic disease in man and other warm-blooded animals characterized by an abnormal increase in the number of leukocytes in the tissues and often in the blood — **leu·ke·mic** \-mik\ *adj or n*

leu·ke·moid \-ˌmȯid\ *adj* : resembling leukemia but not involving the same changes in the blood-forming organs ⟨a ~ reaction in malaria⟩

leukocyt- *or* **leukocyto-** *also* **leucocyt-** *or* **leucocyto-** *comb form* [ISV] : leukocyte ⟨*leukocyt*osis⟩

leu·ko·cyte *also* **leu·co·cyte** \'lü-kə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : any of the white or colorless nucleated cells that occur in blood — **leu·ko·cyt·ic** \ˌlü-kə-'sit-ik\ *adj* — **leu·ko·cyt·oid** \'lü-kə-ˌsīt-ˌȯid\ *adj*

leu·ko·cy·to·sis \ˌlü-kə-sī-'tō-səs, -kə-sə-\ *n* [NL] : an increase in the number of leukocytes in the circulating blood — **leu·ko·cy·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*

leu·ko·dys·tro·phy \ˌlü-kō-'dis-trə-fē\ *n, pl* **-phies** : any of several genetically determined diseases characterized by degeneration of the white matter of the brain

leu·kon \'lü-ˌkän\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, neut. of *leukos*] : the white blood cells and their precursors

leu·ko·pe·nia \ˌlü-kə-'pē-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *leuc-* + Gk *penia* poverty, lack] : a condition in which the number of leukocytes circulating in the blood is abnormally low — **leu·ko·pe·nic** \-nik\ *adj*

leu·ko·poi·e·sis \-pȯi-'ē-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation of white blood cells — **leu·ko·poi·et·ic** \-'et-ik\ *adj*

leu·kor·rhea \ˌlü-kə-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a whitish viscid discharge from the vagina resulting from inflammation or congestion of the mucous membrane — **leu·kor·rhe·al** \-'rē-əl\ *adj*

leu·ko·sis \lü-'kō-səs\ *n, pl* **-ko·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : LEUKEMIA — **leu·kot·ic** \-'kät-ik\ *adj*

lev \'lef\ *n, pl* **le·va** \'lev-ə\ [Bulg, lit., lion] — see MONEY table

Lev *abbr* Leviticus

lev- *or* **levo-** *comb form* [F *lévo-,* fr. L *laevus* left; akin to Gk *laios* left] **1** : levorotatory ⟨*levu*lose⟩ **2** : to the left ⟨*levo*rotatory⟩

Le·val·loi·si·an \ˌlev-ə-'lȯi-zē-ən, lə-ˌval-'wä-zē-\ *adj* [*Levallois-*Perret, suburb of Paris, France] : of or relating to a lower Paleolithic culture characterized by a technique of manufacturing tools by striking flakes from a flat flint nodule

le·vant \lə-'vant\ *vi* [perh. fr. Sp *levantar* to break camp, deriv. of L *levare*] *chiefly Brit* : to run away from a debt

le·vant·er \lə-'vant-ər\ *n* **1** *cap* : a native or inhabitant of the Levant **2** : a strong easterly Mediterranean wind

Le·vant storax \lə-'vant-\ *n* : STORAX 1a

le·va·tor \li-'vāt-ər\ *n, pl* **lev·a·to·res** \ˌlev-ə-'tōr-(ˌ)ēz\ *or* **le·va·tors** \li-'vāt-ərz\ [NL, fr. L *levatus,* pp. of *levare* to raise — more at LEVER] : a muscle that serves to raise a body part — compare DEPRESSOR

¹le·vee \'lev-ē; lə-'vē, -'vā\ *n* [F *lever,* fr. MF, act of arising, fr. (*se*) *lever* to rise] **1** : a reception held by a person of distinction on rising from bed **2** : an afternoon assembly at which the British sovereign or his representative receives only men **3** : a reception usu. in honor of a particular person

²lev·ee \'lev-ē\ *n* [F *levée,* fr. OF, act of raising, fr. *lever* to raise — more at LEVER] **1 a** : an embankment for preventing flooding **b** : a river landing place : PIER **2** : a continuous dike or ridge (as of earth) for confining the irrigation areas of land to be flooded

³lev·ee \'lev-ē\ *vt* **lev·eed; lev·ee·ing** : to provide with a levee

¹lev·el \'lev-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *livel,* fr. (assumed) VL *libellum,* alter. of L *libella,* fr. dim. of *libra* weight, balance] **1** : a device for establishing a horizontal line or plane by means of a bubble in a liquid that shows adjustment to the horizontal by movement to the center of a slightly bowed glass tube **2** : a measurement of the difference of altitude of two points by means of a level **3** : horizontal condition; *esp* : equilibrium of a fluid marked by a horizontal surface of even altitude ⟨water seeks its own ~⟩ **4 a** : an approximately horizontal line or surface taken as an index of altitude **b** : a practically horizontal surface or area (as of land) **5** : a position in a scale or rank (as of value or achievement) ⟨the top 10 percent ~⟩ **6 a** : a line or surface that cuts perpendicularly all plumb lines that it meets and hence would everywhere coincide with a surface of still water **b** : the plane of the horizon or a line in it **7** : a horizontal passage in a mine intended for regular working and transportation **8** : a concentration of a constituent esp. of a body fluid (as blood) **9** : the magnitude of a quantity considered in relation to an arbitrary reference value — **on the level** : bona fide : HONEST

²level *vb* **-eled** *or* **-elled; -el·ing** *or* **-el·ling** \'lev-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make (a line or surface) horizontal : make flat or level ⟨~ a field for planting⟩ ⟨~ off a house lot⟩ **2 a** : to bring to a horizontal aiming position **b** : AIM, DIRECT ⟨~*ed* a charge of fraud at him⟩ **3** : to bring to a common level or plane : EQUALIZE ⟨love ~*s* all ranks —W. S. Gilbert⟩ **4** : to lay level with the ground : RAZE **5** : to make (as color) even or uniform **6** : to find the heights of different points in (a piece of land) esp. with a surveyor's level ~ *vi* **1** : to attain or come to a level ⟨the plane ~*ed* off at 10,000 ft.⟩ **2**

: to aim a gun or other weapon horizontally **3** : to bring persons or things to a level **4** : to deal frankly and openly

³level *adj* **1 a** : having no part higher than another : conforming to the curvature of the liquid parts of the earth's surface **b** : parallel with the plane of the horizon : HORIZONTAL **2 a** : even or unvarying in height **b** : equal in advantage, progression, or standing **c** : proceeding monotonously or uneventfully **d** (1) : STEADY, UNWAVERING ⟨gave him a ~ look⟩ (2) : CALM, UNEXCITED ⟨spoke in ~ tones⟩ **3** : REASONABLE, BALANCED ⟨arrive at a justly proportional and ~ judgment on this affair — Sir Winston Churchill⟩ **4** : distributed evenly ⟨~ stress⟩ **5** : being a surface perpendicular to all lines of force in a field of force : EQUIPOTENTIAL **6** : suited to a particular rank or plane of ability or achievement ⟨top-*level* thinking⟩ **7** : bona fide **8** : of or relating to the spreading out of a cost or charge in even payments over a period of time — **lev·el·ly** \'lev-əl-(l)ē\ *adv* — **lev·el·ness** \-əl-nəs\ *n*

syn LEVEL, FLAT, PLANE, EVEN, SMOOTH *shared meaning element* : having a surface without bends, curves, or irregularities

— **level best** : very best

level crossing *n, Brit* : GRADE CROSSING

lev·el·er *or* **lev·el·ler** \'lev-(ə-)lər\ *n* **1** : one that levels **2 a** *cap* : one of a group of radicals arising during the English Civil War and advocating equality before the law and religious toleration **b** : one favoring the removal of political, social, or economic social inequalities **c** : something that tends to reduce or eliminate differences among men

lev·el·head·ed \ˌlev-əl-'hed-əd\ *adj* : having sound judgment : SENSIBLE — **lev·el·head·ed·ness** *n*

leveling rod *n* : a graduated rod used in measuring the vertical distance between a point on the ground and the line of sight of a surveyor's level

level of significance : the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis in a statistical test when it is true — called also *significance level*

¹le·ver \'lev-ər, 'lē-vər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *levier*, fr. *lever* to raise, fr. L *levare*; akin to L *levis* light in weight — more at LIGHT] **1 a** : a bar used for prying or dislodging something **b** : an inducing or compelling force : TOOL ⟨attempts to use food as a political ~ — *Time*⟩ **2 a** : a rigid piece that transmits and modifies force or motion when forces are applied at two points and it turns about a third; *specif* : a rigid bar used to exert a pressure or sustain a weight at one point of its length by the application of a force at a second and turning at a third on a fulcrum **b** : a projecting piece by which a mechanism is operated or adjusted

²lever *vt* **le·vered; le·ver·ing** \'lev-(ə-)riŋ, 'lēv-\ **1** : to pry, raise, or move with or as if with a lever **2** : to operate (a device) in the manner of a lever

¹le·ver·age \'lev-(ə-)rij, 'lēv-\ *n* **1** : the action of a lever or the mechanical advantage gained by it **2** : POWER, EFFECTIVENESS ⟨organizing . . . to gain greater professional, economic, and political ~ —*Change*⟩ **3** : the use of supplementary non-equity capital (as senior securities or borrowed money) to increase the returns on equity; *also* : the resultant economic advantage

²leverage *vt* **-aged; -ag·ing** : to provide (as a corporation) with leverage

lev·er·et \'lev-(ə-)rət\ *n* [ME, fr. (assumed) MF *levret*, fr. MF *levre* hare, fr. L *lepor-, lepus*] : a hare in its first year

Le·vi \'lē-ˌvī\ *n* [LL, from Heb *Lēwī*] : a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of the priestly tribe of Levi

levi·able \'lev-ē-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being levied or levied upon

le·vi·a·than \li-'vī-ə-thən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, fr. Heb *liwyāthān*] **1 a** *often cap* : a sea monster represented as an adversary defeated by Yahweh in various Scriptural accounts **b** (1) : a large sea animal (2) : a large oceangoing ship **2** *cap* : the political state; *esp* : a totalitarian state having a vast bureaucracy **3** : something large or formidable — **leviathan** *adj*

levi·er \'lev-ē-ər\ *n* : one that levies

lev·i·gate \'lev-ə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *levigatus*, pp. of *levigare*, fr. *levis* smooth + *-igare* (akin to *agere* to drive) — more at LIME, AGENT] **1** : POLISH, SMOOTH **2 a** : to grind to a fine smooth powder while in moist condition **b** : to separate (fine powder) from coarser material by suspending in a liquid — **lev·i·ga·tion** \ˌlev-ə-'gā-shən\ *n*

lev·in \'lev-ən\ *n* [ME *levene*] *archaic* : LIGHTNING

le·vi·rate \'lev-ə-rət, 'lē-və-, -ˌrāt\ *n* [L *levir* husband's brother; akin to OE *tācor* husband's brother, Gk *daēr*] : the sometimes compulsory marriage of a widow by a brother of her deceased husband — **le·vi·rat·ic** \ˌlev-ə-'rat-ik, ˌlē-və-\ *adj*

Le·vi's \'lē-ˌvīz\ *trademark* — used esp. for blue denim jeans

Levit *abbr* Leviticus

lev·i·tate \'lev-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [*levity*] *vi* : to rise or float in the air esp. in seeming defiance of gravitation ⟨objects *levitating* during a spiritualistic seance⟩ ~ *vt* : to cause to levitate ⟨a particle *levitated* by an electromagnetic device⟩

lev·i·ta·tion \ˌlev-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of levitating; *esp* : the rising or lifting of a person or thing by means held to be supernatural — **lev·i·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

Le·vite \'lē-ˌvīt\ *n* : a member of the priestly Hebrew tribe of Levi; *specif* : a Levite of non-Aaronic descent assigned to lesser ceremonial offices under the Levitical priests of the family of Aaron

Le·vit·i·cal \li-'vit-i-kəl\ *adj* [LL *Leviticus*] : of or relating to the Levites or to Leviticus

Le·vit·i·cus \-kəs\ *n* [LL, lit., of the Levites] : the third book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture consisting mainly of priestly legislation — see BIBLE table

lev·i·ty \'lev-ət-ē\ *n* [L *levitat-, levitas*, fr. *levis* light in weight — more at LIGHT] **1 a** : excessive or unseemly frivolity **b** : lack of steadiness : CHANGEABLENESS **2** : the quality or state of being light in weight : BUOYANCY ***syn*** see LIGHTNESS ***ant*** gravity

le·vo \'lē-(ˌ)vō\ *adj* : LEVOROTATORY

levo- — see LEV-

le·vo·ro·ta·tion \ˌlē-və-rō-'tā-shən\ *n* : left-handed or counterclockwise rotation — used of the plane of polarization of light

le·vo·ro·ta·to·ry \-'rōt-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *or* **le·vo·ro·ta·ry** \-'rōt-ə-rē\ *adj* : turning toward the left or counterclockwise; *esp* : rotating the plane of polarization of light to the left — compare DEXTRORO-TATORY

lev·u·lose \'lev-yə-ˌlōs, -ˌlōz\ *n* [ISV, irreg. fr. *lev-* + *-ose*] : FRUCTOSE 2

¹levy \'lev-ē\ *n, pl* **lev·ies** [ME, fr. MF *levee*, fr. OF, act of raising — more at LEVEE] **1 a** : the imposition or collection of an assessment **b** : an amount levied **2 a** : the enlistment or conscription of men for military service **b** : troops raised by levy

²levy *vb* **lev·ied; levy·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to impose or collect by legal authority ⟨~ a tax⟩ **b** : to require by authority **2** : to enlist or conscript for military service **3** : to carry on (war) : WAGE ~ *vi* : to seize property

levy en masse *n* : the spontaneous act of the people of a territory of taking up arms for self-defense upon the approach of an enemy without having had time to organize in accordance with recognized rules of warfare

lewd \'lüd\ *adj* [ME *lewed* vulgar, fr. OE *lǣwede* laical, ignorant] **1** *obs* : EVIL, WICKED **2 a** : sexually unchaste or licentious **b** : OBSCENE, SALACIOUS — **lewd·ly** *adv* — **lewd·ness** *n*

lew·is \'lü-əs\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Lewis*] : an iron dovetailed tenon that is made in sections, can be fitted into a dovetail mortise, and is used in hoisting large stones

lew·is·ite \'lü-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [Winford L. *Lewis* †1943 Am chemist] : a colorless or brown vesicant liquid $C_2H_2AsCl_3$ developed as a poison gas for war use

lew·is·son \'lü-ə-sən\ *n* : LEWIS

lex \'leks\ *n, pl* **le·ges** \'lā-(ˌ)gās [L *leg-, lex*] : LAW

lex·i·cal \'lek-si-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to words or the vocabulary of a language as distinguished from its grammar and construction **2** : of or relating to a lexicon or to lexicography — **lex·i·cal·i·ty** \ˌlek-sə-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* — **lex·i·cal·ly** \'lek-si-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

lexical meaning *n* : the meaning of the base (as the word *play*) in a paradigm (as *plays, played, playing*) — compare GRAMMATICAL MEANING

lex·i·cog·ra·pher \ˌlek-sə-'käg-rə-fər\ *n* [LGk *lexikographos*, fr. *lexikon* + Gk *-graphos* -grapher] : an author or editor of a dictionary

lex·i·co·graph·i·cal \ˌlek-sə-kō-'graf-i-kəl\ *or* **lex·i·co·graph·ic** \-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to lexicography — **lex·i·co·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

lex·i·cog·ra·phy \ˌlek-sə-'käg-rə-fē\ *n* **1** : the editing or making of a dictionary **2** : the principles and practices of dictionary making

lex·i·col·o·gy \ˌlek-sə-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *lexicologie*, fr. *lexico-* (fr. LGk *lexiko-*, fr. *lexikon*) + *-logie* -logy] : a branch of linguistics concerned with the signification and application of words — **lex·i·col·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

lex·i·con \'lek-sə-ˌkän, -si-kən\ *n, pl* **lex·i·ca** \-si-kə\ *or* **lexicons** [LGk *lexikon*, fr. neut. of *lexikos* of words, fr. Gk *lexis* word, speech, fr. *legein* to say — more at LEGEND] **1** : a book containing an alphabetical arrangement of the words in a language and their definitions : DICTIONARY **2** : the vocabulary of a language, an individual speaker, or a subject **3** : the total stock of morphemes in a language

lex·is \'lek-səs\ *n, pl* **lex·es** \-ˌsēz\ [Gk, speech, word] : LEXICON 2

ley *var of* LEA

Ley·den jar \ˌlīd-ᵊn-\ *n* [*Leiden, Leyden*, Netherlands] : an electrical condenser consisting of a glass jar coated inside and outside with metal foil and having the inner coating connected to a conducting rod passed through the insulating stopper



Leyden jar

lf *abbr* lightface

LF *abbr* **1** ledger folio **2** low frequency

L–form \'el-ˌfȯrm\ *n* [Lister Institute, London, where it was first isolated] : a filterable form of some bacteria that may be a specialized reproductive body appearing chiefly when the environment is unfavorable and resembling typical pleuropneumonia organisms

lg *abbr* **1** large **2** long

LH *abbr* **1** left hand **2** lower half **3** luteinizing hormone

Lha·sa ap·so \ˌläs-ə-'äp-(ˌ)sō, ˌlas-ə-'ap-\ *n, pl* **Lhasa apsos** [*Lhasa*, Tibet + Tibetan *apso*] *often cap A* : any of a Tibetan breed of small terriers that have a dense coat of long hard straight hair, a heavy fall over the eyes, heavy whiskers and beard, and a well-feathered tail curled over the back

LHD *abbr* [L *litterarum humaniorum doctor*] doctor of humane letters; doctor of humanities

¹li \'lē\ *n, pl* **li** *also* **lis** \'lēz\ [Chin (Pek) *li*³] : any of various Chinese units of distance; *esp* : one equal to about ⅓ mile

²li *abbr* link

Li *symbol* lithium

LI *abbr* Long Island

li·a·bil·i·ty \ˌlī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being liable **b** : LIKELIHOOD **2** : something for which one is liable; *esp, pl* : pecuniary obligations : DEBTS **3** : one that works as a disadvantage : DRAWBACK

li·a·ble \'lī-ə-bəl, *esp in sense 2b also* 'lī-bəl\ *adj* [(assumed) AF, fr. OF *lier* to bind, fr. L *ligare* — more at LIGATURE] **1 a** : obligated according to law or equity : RESPONSIBLE **b** : subject to appropriation or attachment **2 a** : being in a position to incur — used with *to* ⟨~ to diseases⟩ **b** : exposed or subject to some usu. adverse contingency or action ⟨watch out or you're ~ to fall⟩

li·aise \lē-'āz\ *vi* **li·aised; li·ais·ing** [back-formation fr. *liaison*] **1** : to establish liaison **2** : to act as a liaison officer

li·ai·son \ˈlē-ə-ˌzän, lē-ˈā-\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *lier*] **1 a** : a close bond or connection : INTERRELATIONSHIP **b** : an illicit sexual relationship : AFFAIR 3a **2** : the pronunciation of an otherwise absent consonant sound at the end of the first of two consecutive words the second of which begins with a vowel sound and follows without pause **3** : communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding esp. between parts of an armed force

li·a·na \lē-ˈän-ə, -ˈan-ə\ *or* **li·ane** \-ˈän, -ˈan\ *n* [F *liane*] : a climbing herbaceous or woody vine esp. of tropical rain forests that roots in the ground — **li·a·noid** \-ˈän-ˌȯid, -ˈan-\ *adj*

li·ang \lē-ˈäŋ\ *n, pl* **liang** *also* **liangs** [Chin (Pek) *liang*³] : an old Chinese unit of weight equal to $^1/_{16}$ catty

li·ar \ˈlī(-ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lēogere*, fr. *lēogan* to lie — more at LIE] : one that tells lies

Li·as \ˈlī-əs\ *adj* [*Lias*, division of the European Jurassic, fr. F, fr. E (a limestone rock)] : of, relating to, or being a subdivision of the European Jurassic

Li·as·sic \lī-ˈas-ik\ *adj* [modif. (influenced by *Jurassic*) of F *liasique*, fr. *Lias*] : LIAS

¹lib \ˈlib\ *n* : LIBERATION 2

²lib *abbr* **1** liberal **2** librarian; library

li·ba·tion \lī-ˈbā-shən\ *n* [L *libation-, libatio*, fr. *libatus*, pp. of *libare* to pour as an offering; akin to Gk *leibein* to pour] **1 a** : an act of pouring a liquid as a sacrifice (as to a deity) **b** : a liquid (as wine) used in a libation **2 a** : an act or instance of drinking often ceremoniously **b** : BEVERAGE; *esp* : a drink containing alcohol — **li·ba·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*

li·bec·cio \li-ˈbech-(ē-ˌ)ō\ *or* **li·bec·chio** \-ˈbek-ē-ˌō\ *n* [It] : a southwest wind

¹li·bel \ˈlī-bəl\ *n* [ME, written declaration, fr. MF, fr. L *libellus*, dim. of *liber* book — more at LEAF] **1 a** *archaic* : a handbill esp. attacking or defaming someone **b** : a written statement in which a plaintiff in certain courts sets forth his cause of action or the relief he seeks **2 a** : a written or oral defamatory statement or representation that conveys an unjustly unfavorable impression **b** (1) : a statement or representation published without just cause and tending to expose another to public contempt (2) : defamation of a person by written or representational means (3) : the publication of blasphemous, treasonable, seditious, or obscene writings or pictures (4) : the act, tort, or crime of publishing such a libel

²libel *vb* **-beled** *or* **-belled; -bel·ing** *or* **-bel·ling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* : to make libelous statements ~ *vt* : to make or publish a libel against — **li·bel·er** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n* — **li·bel·ist** \-bə-ləst\ *n*

li·bel·ant *or* **li·bel·lant** \ˈlī-bə-lənt\ *n* : one that institutes a suit by a libel

li·bel·ee *or* **li·bel·lee** \ˌlī-bə-ˈlē\ *n* : one against whom a libel has been filed in a court

li·bel·ous *or* **li·bel·lous** \ˈlī-b(ə-)ləs\ *adj* : constituting or including a libel : DEFAMATORY ⟨a ~ statement⟩

Li·be·ra \ˈlē-bə-ˌrä, ˈlē-brə\ *n* [L, lit., deliver, imper. of *liberare* to liberate; fr. the first word of the responsory] : a Roman Catholic funeral responsory

¹lib·er·al \ˈlib(-ə)-rəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *liberalis* suitable for a freeman, generous, fr. *liber* free; akin to OE *lēodan* to grow, Gk *eleutheros* free] **1 a** : of, relating to, or based on the liberal arts ⟨~ education⟩ **b** *archaic* : of or befitting a man of free birth **2 a** : marked by generosity and openhandedness ⟨a ~ giver⟩ **b** : given or provided in a generous and openhanded way ⟨a ~ meal⟩ **c** : AMPLE, FULL **3** *obs* : lacking moral restraint : LICENTIOUS **4** : not literal : LOOSE ⟨a ~ translation⟩ **5** : BROAD-MINDED, TOLERANT; *esp* : not bound by authoritarianism, orthodoxy, or traditional forms **6 a** : of, favoring, or based upon the principles of liberalism **b** *cap* : of or constituting a political party advocating or associated with the principles of political liberalism; *esp* : of or constituting a political party in the United Kingdom associated with ideals of individual esp. economic freedom, greater individual participation in government, and constitutional, political, and administrative reforms designed to secure these objectives — **lib·er·al·ly** \-rə-lē\ *adv* — **lib·er·al·ness** *n*

syn LIBERAL, GENEROUS, BOUNTIFUL, MUNIFICENT *shared meaning element* : giving freely and unstintingly ***ant*** close

²liberal *n* : one who is liberal: as **a** : one who is open-minded or not strict in the observance of orthodox, traditional or established forms or ways **b** *cap* : a member or supporter of a liberal political party **c** : an advocate or adherent of liberalism esp. in individual rights

liberal arts *n pl* **1** : the medieval studies comprising the trivium and quadrivium **2** : the studies (as language, philosophy, history, literature, abstract science) in a college or university intended to provide chiefly general knowledge and to develop the general intellectual capacities (as reason and judgment) as opposed to professional or vocational skills

lib·er·al·ism \ˈlib(-ə)-rə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being liberal **2 a** *often cap* : a movement in modern Protestantism emphasizing intellectual liberty and the spiritual and ethical content of Christianity **b** : a theory in economics emphasizing individual freedom from restraint and usu. based on free competition, the self-regulating market, and the gold standard **c** : a political philosophy based on belief in progress, the essential goodness of man, and the autonomy of the individual and standing for the protection of political and civil liberties **d** *cap* : the principles and policies of a Liberal party — **lib·er·al·ist** \-rə-ləst\ *n or adj* — **lib·er·al·is·tic** \ˌlib(-ə)-rə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj*

lib·er·al·i·ty \ˌlib-ə-ˈral-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the quality or state of being liberal; *also* : an instance of this

lib·er·al·ize \ˈlib(-ə)-rə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to make liberal or more liberal ~ *vi* : to become liberal or more liberal — **lib·er·al·iza·tion** \ˌlib(-ə)-rə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **lib·er·al·iz·er** \ˈlib(-ə)-rə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

lib·er·ate \ˈlib-ə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *liberatus*, pp. of *liberare*, fr. *liber*] **1** : to set at liberty : RELEASE; *specif* : to free (as a country) from domination by a foreign power **2** : to free from combination **3** : to take or take over illegally ⟨a . . . barricade was constructed . . . with material *liberated* from a nearby construction site —Thorne Dreyer⟩ ***syn*** see FREE — **lib·er·a·tor** \-ˌāt-ər\ *n*

lib·er·a·tion \ˌlib-ə-ˈrā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of liberating : the state of being liberated **2** : the action of seeking equal rights and status ⟨women's ~⟩ — **lib·er·a·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nəst\ *n*

lib·er·tar·i·an \ˌlib-ər-ˈter-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : an advocate of the doctrine of free will **2** : one who upholds the principles of absolute and unrestricted liberty esp. of thought and action — **libertarian** *adj* — **lib·er·tar·i·an·ism** \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

lib·er·tin·age \ˈlib-ər-ˌtē-nij\ *n* : LIBERTINISM

¹lib·er·tine \ˈlib-ər-ˌtēn\ *n* [ME *libertyn*, freedman, fr. L *libertinus*, fr. *libertinus*, adj., of a freedman, fr. *libertus* freedman, fr. *liber*] **1** : a freethinker esp. in religious matters — usu. used disparagingly **2** : a person who is unrestrained by convention or morality; *specif* : one leading a dissolute life

²libertine *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a libertine

lib·er·tin·ism \ˈlib-ər-ˌtē-ˌniz-əm, -tə-\ *n* : the quality or state of being libertine : the behavior of a libertine

lib·er·ty \ˈlib-ərt-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME, fr. MF *liberté*, fr. L *libertat-, libertas*, fr. *liber* free — more at LIBERAL] **1** : the quality or state of being free: **a** : the power to do as one pleases **b** : freedom from physical restraint **c** : freedom from arbitrary or despotic control **d** : the positive enjoyment of various social, political, or economic rights and privileges **e** : the power of choice **2 a** : a right or immunity enjoyed by prescription or by grant : PRIVILEGE **b** : permission esp. to go freely within specified limits **3** : an action going beyond normal limits: as **a** : a breach of etiquette or propriety : FAMILIARITY **b** : RISK, CHANCE ⟨took foolish *liberties* with his health⟩ **c** : a violation of rules or standard practice **d** : a distortion of fact **4** : a short authorized absence from naval duty usu. for less than 48 hours ***syn*** see FREEDOM ***ant*** restraint — **at liberty** **1** : FREE **2** : at leisure : UNOCCUPIED

liberty cap *n* : a close-fitting conical cap used as a symbol of liberty by the French revolutionists and in the U.S. before 1800

liberty pole *n* : a tall flagstaff surmounted by a liberty cap or the flag of a republic and set up as a symbol of liberty

li·bid·i·nal \lə-ˈbid-ᵊn-əl, -ˈbid-nᵊl\ *adj* : of or relating to the libido — **li·bid·i·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

li·bid·i·nous \-ᵊn-əs, -ˈbid-nəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *libidineus*, fr. L *libidinosus*, fr. *libidin-, libido*] **1** : having or marked by lustful desires : LASCIVIOUS **2** : LIBIDINAL — **li·bid·i·nous·ly** *adv* — **li·bid·i·nous·ness** *n*

li·bi·do \lə-ˈbēd-(ˌ)ō *also* ˈlib-ə-ˌdō *or* lə-ˈbī-(ˌ)dō\ *n, pl* **-dos** [NL *libidin-, libido*, fr. L, desire, lust, fr. *libēre* to please — more at LOVE] **1** : emotional or psychic energy that in psychoanalytic theory is derived from primitive biological urges and that is usu. goal-directed **2** : sexual drive

li·bra *for 1 & 2a* ˈlī-brə *or* ˈlē-brə, *for 2b* ˈlē-brə *or* ˈlēv-rə\ *n* [ME, fr. L (gen. *Librae*), lit., scales, pound] **1** *cap* **a** : a southern zodiacal constellation between Virgo and Scorpio represented by a pair of scales **b** (1) : the 7th sign of the zodiac in astrology — see ZODIAC table (2) : one born under this sign **2 a** *pl* **li·brae** \ˈlī-ˌbrē, ˈlē-ˌbrī\ [L] : an ancient Roman unit of weight equal to 327.45 grams **b** [Sp & Pg, fr. L] : any of various Spanish, Portuguese, Colombian, or Venezuelan units of weight

li·brar·i·an \lī-ˈbrer-ē-ən\ *n* : a specialist in the care or management of a library — **li·brar·i·an·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

li·brary \ˈlī-ˌbrer-ē\ *n, pl* **-brar·ies** [ME, fr. ML *librarium*, fr. L, neut. of *librarius* of books, fr. *libr-, liber* book — more at LEAF] **1 a** : a place in which literary, musical, artistic, or reference materials (as books, manuscripts, recordings, or films) are kept for use but not for sale **b** : a collection of such literary, musical, artistic, or reference materials **2 a** : a collection resembling or suggesting a library ⟨a ~ of computer programs⟩ ⟨every respectable liquor ~ should have two bottles of cognac —Maurice Zolotow⟩ **b** : MORGUE 2 **3** : a series of related books issued by a publisher

library paste *n* : a thick white adhesive made from starch

library science *n* : the study or the principles and practices of library care and administration

li·bra·tion \lī-ˈbrā-shən\ *n* [L *libration-, libratio*, fr. *libratus*, pp. of *librare* to balance, fr. *libra* scales] : an oscillation in the apparent aspect of a secondary body (as a planet or a satellite) as seen from the primary object around which it revolves — **li·bra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **li·bra·to·ry** \ˈlī-brə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

li·bret·tist \lə-ˈbret-əst\ *n* : the writer of a libretto

li·bret·to \lə-ˈbret-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** *or* **-ti** \-(ˌ)ē\ [It, dim. of *libro* book, fr. L *libr-, liber*] **1** : the text of a work (as an opera) for the musical theater **2** : the book containing a libretto

li·bri·form \ˈlī-brə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [L *libr-, liber* + ISV *-iform*] : resembling phloem fibers

Lib·y·an \ˈlib-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Libya **2** : a Berber language of ancient No. Africa — **Libyan** *adj*

lice *pl of* LOUSE

¹li·cense *or* **li·cence** \ˈlīs-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *licence*, fr. L *licentia*, fr. *licent-, licens*, prp. of *licēre* to be permitted; akin to Latvian *līkt* to come to terms] **1 a** : permission to act **b** : freedom of action **2 a** : a permission granted by competent authority to engage in a business or occupation or in an activity otherwise unlawful **b** : a document, plate, or tag evidencing a license granted **3 a** : freedom that allows or is used with irresponsibility **b** : disregard for rules of personal conduct : LICENTIOUSNESS **4** : deviation from fact, form, or rule by an artist or writer for the sake of the effect gained ***syn*** see FREEDOM

²license *also* **licence** *vt* **li·censed; li·cens·ing** **1** : to issue a license to **2** : to permit or authorize esp. by formal license — **li·cens·able** \-ᵊn-sə-bəl\ *adj* — **li·cens·er** \-sər\ *or* **li·cen·sor** \-sər, ˌlīs-ᵊn-ˈsȯ(ə)r\ *n*

licensed practical nurse *n* : a person who has undergone training and obtained a license (as from a state) conferring authorization to provide routine care for the sick

li·cens·ee \ˌlīs-ᵊn-ˈsē\ *n* : one that is licensed

license plate *n* : a plate or tag (as of metal) attesting that a license has been secured and usu. bearing a registration number

li·cen·sure \'līs-ᵊn-shər, -ˌshu̇(ə)r\ *n* : the granting of licenses esp. to practice a profession
li·cen·ti·ate \lī-'sen-chē-ət, *esp in sense 2* li-\ *n* [ML *licentiatus*, fr. pp. of *licentiare* to allow, fr. L *licentia*] **1** : one who has a license granted esp. by a university to practice a profession **2** : an academic degree ranking below that of doctor given by some European universities
li·cen·tious \lī-'sen-chəs\ *adj* [L *licentiosus*, fr. *licentia*] **1** : lacking legal or moral restraints; *esp* : disregarding sexual restraints **2** : marked by disregard for strict rules of correctness — **li·cen·tious·ly** *adv* — **li·cen·tious·ness** *n*
li·chee *var of* LITCHI
li·chen \'lī-kən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *leichēn, lichēn*] **1** : any of numerous complex thallophytic plants (group Lichenes) made up of an alga and a fungus growing in symbiotic association on a solid surface (as a rock) **2** : any of several skin diseases characterized by a papular eruption — **li·chened** \-kənd\ *adj* — **li·chen·ous** \-kə-nəs\ *adj*



lichens 1

lich–gate *var of* LYCH-GATE
licht \'likt\ *Scot var of* LIGHT
lic·it \'lis-ət\ *adj* [MF *licite*, fr. L *licitus*, fr. pp. of *licēre* to be permitted — more at LICENSE] : conforming to the requirements of the law : not forbidden by law : PERMISSIBLE ***syn*** see LAWFUL ***ant*** illicit — **lic·it·ly** *adv*
[1]lick \'lik\ *vb* [ME *licken*, fr. OE *liccian*; akin to OHG *leckōn* to lick, L *lingere*, Gk *leichein*] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to draw the tongue over ⟨~ a stamp⟩ (2) : to flicker over like a tongue **b** : to take into the mouth with the tongue : LAP **2 a** : to strike repeatedly : THRASH **b** : to get the better of : OVERCOME ⟨has ~*ed* every problem⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to lap with or as if with the tongue **2** : to dart like a tongue ⟨flames ~*ing* out of windows⟩ **3** : to move at top speed — **lick into shape** : to put into proper form or condition — **lick one's wounds** : to recover from injury
[2]lick *n* **1 a** : an act or instance of licking **b** : a small amount : BIT **c** : a hasty careless effort **2 a** : a sharp hit : BLOW **b** : OPPORTUNITY, TURN — usu. used in pl. **3** : a place (as a salt spring) to which animals regularly resort to lick a salt deposit **4** : a musical figure; *specif* : an interpolated and usu. improvised figure or flourish — **lick and a promise** : a perfunctory performance of a task
lick·er·ish \'lik-(ə-)rish\ *adj* [alter. of *lickerous*, fr. ME *likerous*, fr. (assumed) ONF, fr. ONF *leckeur* lecher; akin to OF *lecheor* lecher] **1 a** *archaic* : fond of good food : eager to taste or enjoy **b** : GREEDY, DESIROUS **2** *obs* : tempting to the appetite **3** : LECHEROUS — **lick·er·ish·ly** *adv* — **lick·er·ish·ness** *n*
lick·e·ty–split \ˌlik-ət-ē-'split\ *adv* [prob. irreg. fr. [1]*lick* + *split*] : at great speed
lick·ing *n* **1** : a sound thrashing : DRUBBING **2** : a severe setback : DEFEAT
lick·spit·tle \'lik-ˌspit-ᵊl\ *n* : a fawning subordinate : TOADY
lic·o·rice \'lik(-ə)-rish, -rəs\ *n* [ME *licorice*, fr. OF, fr. LL *liquiritia*, alter. of L *glycyrrhiza*, fr. Gk *glykyrrhiza*, fr. *glykys* sweet + *rhiza* root — more at ROOT] **1** : a European leguminous plant (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*) with pinnate leaves and spikes of blue flowers **2 a** : the dried root of licorice; *also* : an extract of this used esp. in medicine, brewing, and confectionery **b** : a candy flavored with licorice
lic·tor \'lik-tər\ *n* [L] : a Roman officer who bears the fasces as the insignia of his office and whose duties include accompanying the chief magistrates in public appearances
[1]lid \'lid\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hlid*; akin to OHG *hlit* cover, OE *hlinian* to lean — more at LEAN] **1** : a movable cover for the opening of a hollow container (as a vessel or box) **2** : EYELID **3** : the operculum in mosses **4** *slang* : HAT **5** : RESTRAINT, CURB ⟨put a ~ on further release of information⟩ **6** : an ounce of marijuana
[2]lid *vt* **lid·ded; lid·ding** : to cover or supply with a lid
li·dar \'lī-ˌdär\ *n* [*li*ght + ra*dar*] : a device that is similar in operation to radar but emits pulsed laser light instead of microwaves
lid·less \'lid-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no lid **2** *archaic* : WATCHFUL
li·do \'lēd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **lidos** [*Lido*, Italy] : a fashionable beach resort
li·do·caine \'līd-ə-ˌkān\ *n* [acetani*lid* + *-o-* + *-caine*] : a crystalline compound that is used in the form of its hydrochloride as a local anesthetic
[1]lie \'lī\ *vi* **lay** \'lā\; **lain** \'lān\; **ly·ing** \'lī-iŋ\ [ME *lien*, fr. OE *licgan*; akin to OHG *ligen* to lie, L *lectus* bed, Gk *lechos*] **1 a** : to be or to stay at rest in a horizontal position : be prostrate : REST, RECLINE ⟨~ motionless⟩ ⟨~ asleep⟩ **b** : to assume a horizontal position — often used with *down* **c** *archaic* : to reside temporarily : stay for the night : LODGE **d** *archaic* : to have sexual intercourse — used with *with* **e** : to stay in concealment ⟨~ in wait⟩ **2** : to be in a helpless or defenseless state ⟨the town *lay* at the mercy of the invaders⟩ **3** *of an inanimate thing* : to be or remain in a flat or horizontal position upon a broad support ⟨books *lying* on the table⟩ **4** : to have direction : EXTEND ⟨the route *lay* to the west⟩ **5 a** : to occupy a certain relative place or position ⟨hills ~ behind us⟩ **b** : to have a place in relation to something else ⟨the real reason ~*s* deeper⟩ **c** : to have an effect through mere presence, weight, or relative position ⟨remorse *lay* heavily on him⟩ **d** : to be sustainable or admissible **6** : to remain at anchor or becalmed **7** : REMAIN; *esp* : to remain unused, unsought, or uncared for — **li·er** \'lī(-ə)r\ *n* — **lie low** **1** : to lie prostrate, defeated, or disgraced **2** : to stay in hiding : strive to avoid notice **3** : to bide one's time : remain secretly ready for action
[2]lie *n* **1** : the position or situation in which something lies **2** *chiefly Brit* : LAY 6 **3** : the haunt of an animal (as a fish) : COVERT **4** *Brit* : an act or instance of lying or resting
[3]lie *vb* **lied; ly·ing** \'lī-iŋ\ [ME *lien*, fr. OE *lēogan*; akin to OHG *liogan* to lie, OSlav *lŭgati*] *vi* **1** : to make an untrue statement with intent to deceive **2** : to create a false or misleading impression ~ *vt* : to affect by telling lies ⟨managed to ~ his way out of trouble⟩
syn LIE, PREVARICATE, EQUIVOCATE, PALTER, FIB *shared meaning element* : to be untruthful
[4]lie *n* **1 a** : an assertion of something known or believed by the speaker to be untrue with intent to deceive **b** : an untrue or inaccurate statement that may or may not be believed true by the speaker **2** : something that misleads or deceives **3** : a charge of lying
lieb·frau·milch \'lēp-ˌfraù-ˌmilk\ *n* [G, alter. of *liebfrauenmilch*, fr. *Liebfrauenstift*, religious foundation in Worms, Germany + *milch* milk] : a dry white Rhine wine; *also* : a similar wine made elsewhere
lie by *vi* : to remain inactive : REST
lied \'lēt\ *n, pl* **lie·der** \'lēd-ər\ [G, song, fr. OHG *liod* — more at LAUD] : a German art song esp. of the 19th century
Lie·der·kranz \'lēd-ər-ˌkran(t)s, -ˌkrän(t)s\ *trademark* — used for a soft surface-ripened cheese with a fairly strong pungent flavor and odor
lie detector *n* : an instrument for detecting physical evidences of the tension that accompanies lying
lie down *vi* **1** : to submit meekly or abjectly to defeat, disappointment, or insult ⟨won't take that criticism *lying down*⟩ **2** : to fail to perform or to neglect one's part deliberately ⟨*lying down* on the job⟩
[1]lief \'lēf, 'lēv\ *adj* [ME *lief*, *lef*, fr. OE *lēof*; akin to OE *lufu* love — more at LOVE] **1** *archaic* : DEAR, BELOVED **2** *archaic* : WILLING, GLAD
[2]lief \'lēv, 'lēf\ *adv* : SOON, GLADLY ⟨I'd as ~ go as not⟩
[1]liege \'lēj\ *adj* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *laeticus*, fr. *laetus* serf, of Gmc origin; akin to OFris *let* serf] **1 a** : having the right to feudal allegiance or service ⟨his ~ lord⟩ **b** : obligated to render feudal allegiance and service **2** : FAITHFUL, LOYAL ⟨master of his own impulses, as a soloist should be, and not ~ to the conductor — Irving Kolodin⟩
[2]liege *n* **1 a** : a vassal bound to feudal service and allegiance **b** : a loyal subject **2** : a feudal superior to whom allegiance and service are due
liege man *n* **1** : VASSAL **2** : a devoted follower
lie–in \'lī-ˌin\ *n* : an act of lying down (as on a public thoroughfare) in organized protest and as a means of forcing compliance with demands
lie in \(')lī-'in\ *vi* : to be confined to give birth to a child
lien \'lēn, 'lē-ən\ *n* [MF, tie, band, fr. L *ligamen*, fr. *ligare* to bind — more at LIGATURE] **1** : a charge upon real or personal property for the satisfaction of some debt or duty ordinarily arising by operation of law **2** : the security interest created by a mortgage
lie off *vi* **1** : to keep a little away from the shore or another ship **2** : to cease work for a time **3** : to hold back in the early part of a race
lie over *vi* : to await disposal or attention at a later time ⟨several jobs *lying over* from last week⟩
li·erne \lē-'ərn, -'e(ə)rn\ *n* [F] : a rib in Gothic vaulting that passes from one intersection of the principal ribs to another
lie to \(')lī-'tü\ *vi, of a ship* : to stay stationary with head to windward
lieu \'lü\ *n* [MF, fr. L *locus* — more at STALL] *archaic* : PLACE, STEAD — **in lieu** : INSTEAD — **in lieu of** : in the place of : instead of
lie up *vi* **1** : to stay in bed or at rest **2** : to go into or remain in a dock
lieut *abbr* lieutenant
lieu·ten·an·cy \lü-'ten-ən-sē, *Brit* le(f)-'ten-\ *n* : the office, rank, or commission of a lieutenant
lieu·ten·ant \-'ten-ənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. *lieu* + *tenant* holding, fr. *tenir* to hold, fr. L *tenēre* — more at THIN] **1 a** : an official empowered to act for a higher official **b** : a representative of another in the performance of duty : ASSISTANT **2 a** (1) : FIRST LIEUTENANT (2) : SECOND LIEUTENANT **b** : a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard ranking above a lieutenant junior grade and below a lieutenant commander **c** : a fire or police department officer ranking below a captain
lieutenant colonel *n* : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps ranking above a major and below a colonel
lieutenant commander *n* : a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard ranking above a lieutenant and below a commander
lieutenant general *n* : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps who ranks above a major general and whose insignia is three stars
lieutenant governor *n* : a deputy or subordinate governor: as **a** : an elected official serving as deputy to the governor of an American state **b** : the formal head of the government of a Canadian province appointed by the federal government as the representative of the crown — **lieutenant governorship** *n*
lieutenant junior grade *n, pl* **lieutenants junior grade** : a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard ranking above an ensign and below a lieutenant

1life \'līf\ *n, pl* **lives** \'līvz\ [ME *lif,* fr. OE *līf;* akin to OE *libban* to live — more at LIVE] **1 a** : the quality that distinguishes a vital and functional being from a dead body **b** : a principle or force that is considered to underlie the distinctive quality of animate beings — compare VITALISM 1 **c** : an organismic state characterized by capacity for metabolism, growth, reaction to stimuli, and reproduction **2 a** : the sequence of physical and mental experiences that make up the existence of an individual **b** : one or more aspects of the process of living ⟨sex ~ of the frog⟩ **3** : BIOGRAPHY 1 **4** : spiritual existence transcending physical death **5 a** : the period from birth to death **b** : a specific phase of earthly existence ⟨adult ~⟩ **c** : the period from an event until death ⟨a judge appointed for ~⟩ **d** : a sentence of imprisonment for the remainder of a convict's life **6** : a way or manner of living **7** : LIVELIHOOD **8** : a vital or living being; *specif* : PERSON ⟨many *lives* were lost in the disaster⟩ **9** : an animating and shaping force or principle **10** : SPIRIT, ANIMATION ⟨there was no ~ in her dancing⟩ **11** : the form or pattern of something existing in reality ⟨painted from ~⟩ **12** : the period of usefulness of something ⟨the expected ~ of flashlight batteries⟩ **13** : the period of existence (as of a subatomic particle) — compare HALF-LIFE **14** : a property (as resilience or elasticity) of an inanimate substance or object resembling the animate quality of a living being **15** : living beings (as of a particular kind or environment) ⟨forest ~⟩ **16 a** : human activities **b** : animate activity and movement ⟨stirrings of ~⟩ **c** : the activities of a given sphere, area, or time ⟨the political ~ of the country⟩ **17** : one providing interest and vigor ⟨~ of the party⟩ **18** : another chance given to one likely to lose **19** *cap, Christian Science* : GOD 1b

2life *adj* **1** : of or relating to animate being **2** : LIFELONG ⟨a ~ member⟩ **3** : using a living model ⟨a ~ class⟩ **4** : of, relating to, or provided by life insurance ⟨a ~ policy⟩

life–and–death *also* **life–or–death** *adj* : involving or culminating in life or death : having vital importance as if involving life or death

life belt *n* **1** : a life preserver in the form of a buoyant belt **2** : SAFETY BELT

life·blood \'līf-'bləd, -ˌbləd\ *n* **1** : blood regarded as the seat of vitality **2** : a vital or life-giving force ⟨freedom of inquiry is the ~ of a university⟩

life·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* **1** : a strong buoyant boat designed for use in saving lives at sea **2** : a boat carried by a ship for use in an emergency

life buoy *n* : a ring-shaped life preserver

life cycle *n* **1** : the series of stages in form and functional activity through which an organism passes between successive recurrences of a specified primary stage **2** : LIFE HISTORY 1a **3** : a series of stages through which an individual, group, or culture passes during its lifetime

life expectancy *n* : an expected number of years of life based on statistical probability

life–force \'līf-'fō(ə)rs, -'fȯ(ə)rs\ *n* : ÉLAN VITAL

life form *n* : the body form that characterizes a kind of organism (as a species) at maturity

life·ful \'līf-fəl\ *adj, archaic* : full of or giving vitality

life–giv·ing \-ˌgiv-iŋ\ *adj* : giving or having power to give life and spirit : INVIGORATING

life·guard \-ˌgärd\ *n* : a usu. expert swimmer employed (as at a beach or a pool) to safeguard other swimmers — **lifeguard** *vi*

life history *n* **1 a** : a history of the changes through which an organism passes in its development from the primary stage to its natural death **b** : one series of the changes in a life history **2** : the history of an individual's development in his social environment

life insurance *n* : insurance providing for payment of a stipulated sum to a designated beneficiary upon death of the insured

life jacket *n* : a life preserver in the form of a buoyant vest

life·less \'lī-fləs\ *adj* : having no life: **a** : DEAD **b** : INANIMATE **c** : lacking qualities expressive of life and vigor : DULL ⟨~ voice⟩ **d** : destitute of living beings — **life·less·ly** *adv* — **life·less·ness** *n*

life·like \'lī-ˌflīk\ *adj* : accurately representing or imitating real life ⟨a ~ portrait⟩ — **life·like·ness** *n*

life·line \'lī-ˌflīn\ *n* **1 a** : a line to which persons may cling to save or protect their lives; *esp* : one stretched along the deck or from the yards of a ship **b** : a line attached to a diver's helmet by which he is lowered and raised **c** : a rope line for lowering a person to safety **2** : something (as a land, sea, or air route) regarded as indispensable for the maintaining or protection of life

life·long \'lī-ˌflȯŋ\ *adj* **1** : lasting or continuing through life **2** : LONG-STANDING

life·man·ship \'līf-mən-ˌship\ *n* : the skill or practice of achieving superiority or an appearance of superiority over others (as in conversation) by perplexing and demoralizing them

life net *n* : a strong net or sheet (as of canvas) used (as by firemen) to catch a person jumping from a burning building

life of Ri·ley \-'rī-lē\ : a carefree comfortable way of living

life peer *n* : a British peer whose title is not hereditary — **life peerage** *n* — **life peeress** *n*

life plant *n* : AIR PLANT

life preserver *n* **1** : a device (as a life jacket or life buoy) designed to save a person from drowning by buoying up the body while in the water **2** *chiefly Brit* : BLACKJACK 3

lif·er \'lī-fər\ *n* **1** : a person sentenced to imprisonment for life **2** : a person who makes a career of one of the armed forces

life raft *n* : a raft usu. made of wood or an inflatable material and designed for use by people forced into the water

life·sav·er \'līf-ˌsā-vər\ *n* **1** : one trained to save lives of drowning persons **2** : something at once timely and effective in the relief of distress

1life·sav·ing \-viŋ\ *n* : the skill or practice of saving or protecting the lives esp. of drowning persons

2lifesaving *adj* : designed for or used in saving lives ⟨~ drugs⟩

life science *n* : a branch of science (as biology, medicine, anthropology, or sociology) that deals with living organisms and life processes — usu. used in pl. — **life scientist** *n*

life–size \'līf-'sīz\ *or* **life–sized** \-'sīzd\ *adj* : of natural size : of the size of the original ⟨a ~ statue⟩

life span *n* **1** : the duration of existence of an individual **2** : the average length of life of a kind of organism or of a material object esp. in a particular environment or under specified circumstances

life–style \'līf-'stī(ə)l\ *n* : an individual's typical way of life

life–support system *n* : a system that provides all or some of the items (as oxygen, food, water, control of temperature and pressure, disposition of carbon dioxide and body wastes) necessary for maintaining (as in a spacecraft or on the surface of the moon) the life and health of a person

life table *n* : MORTALITY TABLE

life·time \'līf-ˌtīm\ *n* **1** : the duration of the existence of a living being or thing **2** : the duration of the existence of an ion or subatomic particle

life vest *n* : LIFE JACKET

life·way \-ˌwā\ *n* : LIFE 6

life·work \-'wərk\ *n* : the entire or principal work of one's lifetime; *also* : a work extending over a lifetime

life zone *n* : a biogeographic zone

LIFO *abbr* last in, first out

1lift \'lift\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lyft*] *chiefly Scot* : HEAVENS, SKY

2lift *vb* [ME *liften,* fr. ON *lypta;* akin to OE *lyft* air — more at LOFT] *vt* **1 a** : to raise from a lower to a higher position : ELEVATE **b** : to raise in rank or condition **c** : to raise in rate or amount **2** : to put an end to (a blockade or siege) by withdrawing investing forces **3** : REVOKE, RESCIND ⟨~ an embargo⟩ **4 a** : STEAL ⟨had her purse ~*ed*⟩ **b** : PLAGIARIZE **c** : to take out of normal setting ⟨~ a word out of context⟩ **5** : to take up (as a root crop or transplants) from the ground **6** : to pay off (an obligation) ⟨~ a mortgage⟩ **7 a** : to shift (artillery fire) from one area to another **b** : to withhold (artillery fire) from an area **8** : to move from one place to another (as by aircraft) : TRANSPORT **9** : to take up (a fingerprint) from a surface ~ *vi* **1 a** : ASCEND, RISE **b** : to appear elevated (as above surrounding objects) **2 a** : to disperse upward ⟨until the fog ~*s* ⟩ **b** : to cease temporarily — used of rain — **lift·able** \'lif-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **lift·er** *n*

syn LIFT, RAISE, REAR, ELEVATE, HOIST, HEAVE, BOOST *shared meaning element* : to remove from a lower to a higher place or position ***ant*** lower

3lift *n* **1** : the amount that may be lifted at one time : LOAD **2 a** : the action or an instance of lifting **b** : the action or an instance of rising **c** : elevated carriage (as of a part of the body) **d** : the lifting up of a dancer usu. by her partner **3** : a device (as a handle or latch) for lifting **4** : an act of stealing : THEFT **5 a** : ASSISTANCE, HELP **b** : a ride along one's way **6** : one of the layers forming the heel of a shoe **7** : a rise or advance in position or condition **8** : a slight rise or elevation **9** : the distance or extent to which something rises **10** : an apparatus or machine used for hoisting: as **a** : a set of pumps used in a mine **b** *chiefly Brit* : ELEVATOR 1b **c** : an apparatus for raising an automobile (as for repair) **d** : SKI LIFT **11 a** : an elevating influence **b** : an elevation of the spirit **12** : the component of the total aerodynamic force acting on an airplane or airfoil that is perpendicular to the relative wind and that for an airplane constitutes the upward force that opposes the pull of gravity **13** : an organized movement of men, equipment, or supplies by some form of transportation; *esp* : AIRLIFT

lift·man \'lift-ˌman\ *n, Brit* : an elevator operator

lift–off \'lif-ˌtȯf\ *n* : a vertical takeoff by an aircraft or a rocket vehicle or missile

lift truck *n* : a small truck equipped for lifting and transporting loads

lig·a·ment \'lig-ə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. ML & L; ML *ligamentum,* fr. L, band, tie, fr. *ligare*] **1** : a tough band of tissue connecting the articular extremities of bones or supporting an organ in place **2** : a connecting or unifying bond ⟨the law of nations, the great ~ of mankind —Edmund Burke⟩ — **lig·a·men·ta·ry** \ˌlig-ə-'ment-ə-rē, -'men-trē\ *adj* — **lig·a·men·tous** \-'ment-əs\ *adj*

li·gan \'lī-gən, 'lig-ən\ *var of* LAGAN

li·gand \'lig-ənd, 'līg-\ *n* [L *ligandus,* gerundive of *ligare*] : a group, ion, or molecule coordinated to a central atom in a complex

li·gase \'lī-ˌgās, -ˌgāz\ *n* [ISV *lig-* (fr. L *ligare*) + *-ase*] : SYNTHETASE

li·gate \'lī-ˌgāt, lī-'\ *vt* **li·gat·ed; li·gat·ing** [L *ligatus*] : to tie with a ligature

li·ga·tion \lī-'gā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act of ligating **2** : something that binds : LIGATURE

lig·a·ture \'lig-ə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *ligatura,* fr. L *ligatus,* pp. of *ligare* to bind, tie; akin to MHG *geleich* joint, Alb *lith* I tie] **1 a** : something that is used to bind; *specif* : a filament (as a thread) used in surgery **b** : something that unites or connects : BOND **2** : the action of binding or tying **3** : a compound note in mensural notation indicating a group of musical notes to be sung to one syllable **4** : a printed or written character (as æ) consisting of two or more letters or characters joined together

1light \'līt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lēoht;* akin to OHG *lioht* light, L *luc-, lux* light, *lucēre* to shine, Gk *leukos* white] **1 a** : something that makes vision possible **b** : the sensation aroused by stimulation of the visual receptors : BRIGHTNESS **c** : an electromagnetic radiation in the wavelength range including infrared, visible, ultraviolet, and X rays and traveling in a vacuum with a speed of about 186,281 miles per second; *specif* : the part of this range that is visible to the human eye **2 a** : DAYLIGHT **b** : DAWN **3** : a source of light: as **a** : a celestial body **b** : CANDLE **c** : an electric light **4** *archaic* : SIGHT 4a **5 a** : spiritual illumination **b** : INNER LIGHT **c** : ENLIGHTENMENT **d** : TRUTH **6 a** : public knowledge ⟨facts brought to ~⟩ **b** : a particular aspect or appearance presented to view ⟨now saw the matter in a different ~⟩ **7** : a particular illumination **8** : something that enlightens or informs ⟨he shed some ~ on the problem⟩ **9** : a medium (as a window or windowpane)

through which light is admitted **10** *pl* : a set of principles, standards, or opinions ⟨worship according to one's ~*s* —Adrienne Koch⟩ **11** : a noteworthy person in a particular place or field : LUMINARY **12** : a particular expression of the eye **13** **a** : LIGHTHOUSE, BEACON **b** (1) : TRAFFIC SIGNAL (2) : a green traffic light **14** : the representation of light in art **15** : a flame for lighting something — **in the light of** **1** : from the point of view of **2** *or* **in light of** : in view of

²light *adj* **1** : having light : BRIGHT ⟨a ~ airy room⟩ **2** **a** : not dark, intense, or swarthy in color or coloring : PALE **b** *of colors* : medium in saturation and high in lightness ⟨~ blue⟩ **3** *of coffee* : served with cream or milk

³light *vb* **light·ed** *or* **lit** \'lit\; **light·ing** *vi* **1** : to become light : BRIGHTEN — usu. used with *up* ⟨her face *lit* up⟩ **2** : to take fire **3** : to ignite something (as a cigarette) — often used with *up* ~ *vt* **1** : to set fire to **2** **a** : to conduct with a light : GUIDE **b** : ILLUMINATE ⟨rockets ~ up the sky⟩ **c** : ANIMATE, BRIGHTEN ⟨a smile *lit* up her face⟩

syn LIGHT, KINDLE, IGNITE, FIRE *shared meaning element* : to start something to burn

⁴light *adj* [ME, fr. OE *lēoht;* akin to OHG *līhti* light, L *levis,* Gk *elachys* small] **1** **a** : having little weight : not heavy **b** : designed to carry a comparatively small load ⟨a ~ truck⟩ **c** : having relatively little weight in proportion to bulk ⟨aluminum is a ~ metal⟩ **d** : containing less than the legal, standard, or usual weight ⟨a ~ coin⟩ **2** **a** : of little importance : TRIVIAL **b** : not abundant : SCANTY ⟨~ rain⟩ **3** **a** : easily disturbed ⟨a ~ sleeper⟩ **b** : exerting a minimum of force or pressure : GENTLE ⟨a ~ touch⟩ **c** : resulting from a very slight pressure : FAINT ⟨~ print⟩ **4** **a** : easily endurable ⟨a ~ illness⟩ **b** : requiring little effort ⟨~ work⟩ **5** : capable of moving swiftly or nimbly ⟨~ on his feet⟩ **6** **a** : FRIVOLOUS ⟨~ conduct⟩ **b** : lacking in stability : CHANGEABLE ⟨~ opinions⟩ **c** : sexually promiscuous **7** : free from care : CHEERFUL **8** : intended chiefly to entertain ⟨~ verse⟩ **9** **a** : having a comparatively low alcoholic content ⟨~ wines⟩ **b** : having a relatively mild flavor **10** **a** : easily digested ⟨a ~ soup⟩ **b** : well leavened ⟨a ~ crust⟩ **11** : lightly armed or equipped ⟨~ cavalry⟩ **12** : coarse and sandy or easily pulverized ⟨~ soil⟩ **13** : DIZZY, GIDDY ⟨felt ~ in the head⟩ **14** **a** : carrying little or no cargo ⟨the ship returned ~⟩ **b** : producing goods for direct consumption by the consumer ⟨~ industry⟩ **15** : not bearing a stress or accent ⟨a ~ syllable⟩ **16** : having a clear soft quality ⟨a ~ voice⟩ **17** : being in debt to the pot in a poker game ⟨three chips ~⟩ — **light·ish** \-ish\ *adj*

⁵light *adv* **1** : LIGHTLY **2** : with little baggage ⟨travel ~⟩

⁶light *vi* **light·ed** *or* **lit** \'lit\; **light·ing** [ME *lighten,* fr. OE *līhtan;* akin to OE *lēoht* light in weight] **1** : DISMOUNT **2** : SETTLE, ALIGHT ⟨a bird *lit* on the lawn⟩ **3** : to fall unexpectedly **4** : to arrive by chance : HAPPEN ⟨*lit* upon a solution⟩ — **light into** : to attack forcefully ⟨I *lit into* that food until I'd finished off the heel of the loaf —Helen Eustis⟩

light adaptation *n* : the process including contraction of the pupil and decrease in visual purple by which the eye adapts to conditions of increased illumination

light–adapt·ed \'līt-ə-ˌdap-təd\ *adj* : adjusted for vision in bright light : having undergone light adaptation

light air *n* : wind having a speed of 1 to 3 miles per hour

light bread \'līt-ˌbred\ *n* [²*light*] *chiefly South & Midland* : bread in loaves made from white flour leavened with yeast

light breeze *n* : wind having a speed of 4 to 7 miles per hour

light bulb *n* : INCANDESCENT LAMP

light chain *n* : either of the two smaller of the four polypeptide chains comprising antibodies — compare HEAVY CHAIN

¹light·en \'līt-ᵊn\ *vb* **light·ened; light·en·ing** \'līt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ [ME *lightenen,* fr. *light*] *vt* **1** : to make light or clear : ILLUMINATE **2** *archaic* : ENLIGHTEN **3** : to make (as a color) lighter ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to shine brightly **b** : to grow lighter : BRIGHTEN **2** : to give out flashes of lightning — **light·en·er** \'līt-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

²lighten *vb* **light·ened; light·en·ing** \'līt-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** **a** : to relieve of a burden in whole or in part ⟨the news ~*ed* his mind⟩ **b** : to reduce in weight or quantity : LESSEN ⟨~ his duties⟩ **c** : to make less wearisome : ALLEVIATE ⟨~ his sorrow⟩ **2** : CHEER, GLADDEN ~ *vi* **1** : to become lighter or less burdensome **2** : to become more cheerful ⟨his mood ~*ed*⟩ ***syn*** see RELIEVE — **light·en·er** \'līt-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

¹ligh·ter \'līt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. (assumed) MD *lichter,* fr. MD *lichten* to unload; akin to OE *lēoht* light in weight] : a large usu. flat-bottomed barge used esp. in unloading or loading ships

²lighter *vt* : to convey by a lighter

³light·er \'līt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that lights or sets a fire **2** : a device for lighting a fire; *esp* : a mechanical or electrical device used for lighting cigarettes, cigars, or pipes

ligh·ter·age \'līt-ə-rij\ *n* **1** : a price paid for lightering **2** : the loading, unloading, or transportation of goods by means of a lighter **3** : boats engaged in lightering

lighter–than–air *adj* : of less weight than the air displaced

light·face \'līt-ˌfās\ *n* : a typeface having comparatively light thin lines; *also* : printing in lightface — **light·faced** \-'fāst\ *adj*

light·fast \-ˌfast\ *adj* : resistant to light and esp. to sunlight; *esp* : colorfast to light — **light·fast·ness** \-ˌfas(t)-nəs\ *n*

light–fin·gered \-'fiŋ-gərd\ *adj* **1** : adroit in stealing esp. by picking pockets **2** : having a light and dexterous touch : NIMBLE — **light–fin·gered·ness** *n*

light–foot·ed \-'fůt-əd\ *also* **light–foot** \-ˌfůt\ *adj* **1** : having a light and springy step **2** : moving gracefully and nimbly

light–hand·ed \-'han-dəd\ *adj* : having a light or delicate touch : FACILE — **light–hand·ed·ness** *n*

light–head·ed \-'hed-əd\ *adj* **1** : mentally disoriented : DIZZY **2** : lacking in maturity or seriousness : FRIVOLOUS — **light–head·ed·ly** *adv* — **light–head·ed·ness** *n*

light·heart·ed \-'härt-əd\ *adj* **1** : free from care or anxiety : GAY **2** : cheerfully optimistic and hopeful : EASYGOING ***syn*** see GLAD ***ant*** despondent — **light·heart·ed·ly** *adv* — **light·heart·ed·ness** *n*

light heavyweight *n* : a boxer weighing more than 160 but not more than 175 pounds — called also *light heavy*

light·house \'līt-ˌhaůs\ *n* : a structure (as a tower) with a powerful light that gives a continuous or intermittent signal to navigators

light housekeeping *n* **1** : domestic work restricted to the less laborious duties **2** : housekeeping in quarters with limited facilities for cooking

light·ing \'līt-iŋ\ *n* **1** **a** : ILLUMINATION **b** : IGNITION **2** : an artificial supply of light or the apparatus providing it

light·less \'līt-ləs\ *adj* **1** : receiving no light : DARK **2** : giving no light

light·ly \'līt-lē\ *adv* **1** : with little weight or force : GENTLY **2** : in a small degree or amount ⟨~ salted food⟩ **3** : with little difficulty : EASILY **4** : in an agile manner : NIMBLY, SWIFTLY **5** : with indifference or carelessness : UNCONCERNEDLY ⟨the problem should not be passed over ~ —Shelly Halpern⟩ **6** : GAILY, CHEERFULLY ⟨offenses not ~ forgiven⟩

light machine gun *n* : an air-cooled machine gun of not more than .30 caliber

light meter *n* : a small and often portable device for measuring illumination; *esp* : EXPOSURE METER

light–mind·ed \'līt-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : lacking in seriousness : FRIVOLOUS — **light–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **light–mind·ed·ness** *n*

¹light·ness \-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being illuminated : ILLUMINATION **2** : the attribute of object colors by which the object appears to reflect or transmit more or less of the incident light

²lightness *n* **1** : the quality or state of being light in weight **2** : lack of seriousness and stability of character often accompanied by casual heedlessness **3** **a** : the quality or state of being nimble **b** : an ease and gaiety of style or manner **4** : a lack of weightiness or force : DELICACY

syn LIGHTNESS, LEVITY, FRIVOLITY, FLIPPANCY, VOLATILITY *shared meaning element* : gaiety or indifference where seriousness and attention are called for ***ant*** seriousness

¹light·ning \'līt-niŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. gerund of *lightenen* to lighten] **1** : the flashing of light produced by a discharge of atmospheric electricity from one cloud to another or between a cloud and the earth; *also* : the discharge itself **2** : a sudden stroke of fortune

²lightning *adj* : having or moving with or as if with the speed and suddenness of lightning

³lightning *vi* **light·ninged; lightning** : to discharge a flash of lightning

lightning arrester *n* : a device for protecting an electrical apparatus or a radio set from injury by lightning

lightning bug *n* : FIREFLY

lightning rod *n* : a metallic rod set up on a building or mast and connected with the moist earth or water below to diminish the chances of destructive effect by lightning

light–o'–love \ˌlīt-ᵊl-'əv\ *n, pl* **light–o'–loves** **1** : PROSTITUTE **2** : LOVER, PARAMOUR

light opera *n* : OPERETTA

light out *vi* [⁶*light*] : to leave in a hurry ⟨*lit out* for home as soon as he could⟩

light pen *n* : a pen-shaped device for direct interaction with a computer through a cathode-ray tube display — called also *light pencil*

light·plane \'līt-'plān\ *n* : a small and comparatively lightweight airplane; *esp* : a privately owned passenger airplane

light·proof \'līt-'prüf\ *adj* : impenetrable by light

light quantum *n* : PHOTON; *esp* : one of luminous radiation

light red *n* : any of various pale red or reddish orange pigments; *esp* : a calcined yellow ocher

lights \'līts\ *n pl* [ME *lightes,* fr. *light* light in weight] : the lungs esp. of a slaughtered animal

light·ship \'līt-ˌship\ *n* : a ship equipped with a brilliant light and moored at a place dangerous to navigation

light show *n* : a kaleidoscopic display of colored lights, slides, and film loops designed to imitate the effects of psychedelic drugs

¹light·some \'līt-səm\ *adj* **1** : AIRY, NIMBLE ⟨walked with a ~, buoyant step —O. E. Rölvaag⟩ **2** : free from care : LIGHTHEARTED — **light·some·ly** *adv* — **light·some·ness** *n*

²lightsome *adj* **1** : giving light : LUMINOUS **2** : well lighted : BRIGHT

lights–out \'līt-'saůt\ *n* **1** : a command or signal for putting out lights **2** : a prescribed bedtime for persons living under discipline

light–struck \'līt-ˌstrək\ *adj* : fogged by accidental exposure to light — used of a photographic material

light·tight \'līt-ˌtīt\ *adj* : LIGHTPROOF

light trap *n* **1** : a device that allows movement of a sliding part or passage of a person (as into a darkroom) but excludes light **2** : a device for collecting or destroying insects that consists of a bright light in association with a trapping or killing medium

¹light·weight \'līt-ˌwāt\ *n* **1** : one of less than average weight; *specif* : a boxer who weighs more than 126 but not more than 135 pounds **2** : one of little consequence ⟨shows up its author as a ~ —C. J. Rolo⟩

²lightweight *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a lightweight ⟨the ~ championship⟩ **2** : having less than average weight **3** : lacking in earnestness or profundity : INCONSEQUENTIAL

light·wood \'līt-ˌwůd, 'līt-əd\ *n, chiefly South* : wood used for kindling; *esp* : coniferous wood abounding in pitch

light–year \'līt-ˌyi(ə)r\ *n* : a unit of length in interstellar astronomy equal to the distance that light travels in one year in a vacuum or about 5,878,000,000,000 miles

lign- *or* **ligni-** *or* **ligno-** *comb form* [L *lign-, ligni-,* fr. *lignum*] : wood ⟨*lign*in⟩ ⟨*ligno*cellulose⟩

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lig·ne·ous \'lig-nē-əs\ *adj* [L *ligneus*, fr. *lignum* wood, fr. *legere* to gather — more at LEGEND] : of or resembling wood : WOODY
lig·ni·fy \'lig-nə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [F *lignifier*, fr. L *lignum*] *vt* : to convert into wood or woody tissue ~ *vi* : to become wood or woody — **lig·ni·fi·ca·tion** \ˌlig-nə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
lig·nin \'lig-nən\ *n* : an amorphous polymeric substance related to cellulose that together with cellulose forms the woody cell walls of plants and the cementing material between them
lig·nite \'lig-ˌnīt\ *n* [F, fr. L *lignum*] : a usu. brownish black coal intermediate between peat and bituminous coal; *esp* : one in which the texture of the original wood is distinct — called also *brown coal* — **lig·nit·ic** \lig-'nit-ik\ *adj*
lig·no·cel·lu·lose \ˌlig-nō-'sel-yə-ˌlōs, -ˌlōz\ *n* [ISV] : any of several closely related substances constituting the essential part of woody cell walls and consisting of cellulose intimately associated with lignin — **lig·no·cel·lu·los·ic** \-ˌsel-yə-'lō-sik, -zik\ *adj*
lig·no·sul·fo·nate \-'səl-fə-ˌnāt\ *n* : any of various compounds that are produced from the spent sulfite liquor in the pulping of softwood in papermaking and that are used variously (as for binders or dispersing agents or as raw materials for manufacturing other products)
lig·num vi·tae \ˌlig-nəm-'vīt-ē\ *n, pl* **lignum vitaes** [NL, lit., wood of life] **1** : any of several tropical American trees (genus *Guaiacum* of the family Zygophyllaceae) with very hard heavy wood **2** : the wood of a lignum vitae
lig·ro·in \'lig-rə-wən\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of several petroleum naphtha fractions that boil usu. in the range 20° to 135°C and are used esp. as solvents
lig·u·la \'lig-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ *also* **-las** [NL] **1** : LIGULE **2** : the distal lobed part of the labium of an insect
lig·u·late \'lig-yə-lət, -ˌlāt\ *adj* **1** [L *ligula*] : shaped like a strap ⟨~ corolla of a ray flower⟩ **2** : furnished with ligules, ligulae, or ligulate corollas
lig·ule \'lig-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *ligula*, fr. L, small tongue, strap; akin to L *lingere* to lick — more at LICK] : a scalelike projection esp. on a plant: as **a** : a thin appendage of a foliage leaf and esp. of the sheath of a blade of grass **b** : a ligulate corolla of a ray floret in a composite head
lig·ure \'lig-ˌyù(ə)r, -yər\ *n* [LL *ligurius*, fr. Gk *ligyrion*] : a traditional precious stone that is prob. the jacinth
lik·able *also* **like·able** \'lī-kə-bəl\ *adj* : having qualities that bring about a favorable regard : PLEASANT, AGREEABLE — **lik·abil·i·ty** \ˌlī-kə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **lik·able·ness** *n*
[1]like \'līk\ *vb* **liked; lik·ing** [ME *liken*, fr. OE *līcian*; akin to OE *gelīc* alike] *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : to be suitable or agreeable to **2 a** : to feel attraction toward or take pleasure in : ENJOY ⟨~*s* baseball⟩ **b** : to feel toward : REGARD ⟨how would you ~ a change⟩ **3** : to wish to have : WANT ⟨would ~ a drink⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *dial* : APPROVE **2** : to feel inclined : CHOOSE ⟨you can leave any time you ~⟩ **3** : to find oneself attracted
[2]like *n* **1** : a feeling of attraction : PREFERENCE **2** : something that one likes
[3]like *adj* [ME, alter. of *ilich*, fr. OE *gelīc* like, alike; akin to OHG *gilīh* like, alike; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc compound whose first constituent is represented by OE *ge-* (associative prefix) and whose second constituent is represented by OE *līc* body; akin to Lith *lygus* like — more at CO-] **1** : the same or nearly the same (as in appearance, character, or quantity) ⟨suits of ~ design⟩ **2** : LIKELY ⟨the importance of statistics as the one discipline ~ to give accuracy of mind —H. J. Laski⟩
[4]like *prep* **1 a** : having the characteristics of : similar to ⟨his house is ~ a barn⟩ **b** : typical of ⟨was ~ him to do that⟩ **2** : in the manner of : similarly to ⟨acts ~ a fool⟩ **3** : inclined to ⟨looks ~ rain⟩ **4** : such as ⟨a subject ~ physics⟩
[5]like *n* : one that is like another : COUNTERPART, EQUAL ⟨have . . . never seen the ~ before —Sir Winston Churchill⟩ ⟨had no use for the ~*s* of him⟩
[6]like *adv* **1** *archaic* : EQUALLY **2** : LIKELY, PROBABLY ⟨you'll try it, some day, ~ enough —Mark Twain⟩ **3** : to some extent : RATHER ⟨saunter over nonchalantly ~ —Walter Karig⟩ **4** : NEARLY ⟨the actual interest is more ~ 18 percent⟩
[7]like *conj* **1** : in the same way that : AS ⟨they raven down scenery ~ children do sweetmeats —John Keats⟩ **2** : as if ⟨middle-aged men who looked ~ they might be out for their one night of the year —Norman Mailer⟩
[8]like *or* **liked** \'līkt\ *verbal auxiliary, chiefly substand* : came near : was near ⟨so loud I ~ to fell out of bed —Helen Eustis⟩
-like \ˌlīk\ *adj comb form* : resembling or characteristic of ⟨bell~*like*⟩ ⟨lady*like*⟩
like·li·hood \'līk-lē-ˌhůd\ *n* : PROBABILITY ⟨a strong ~ that he is correct —T. D. Anderson⟩
[1]like·ly \'līk-lē\ *adj* **like·li·er; -est** [ME, fr. ON *glīkligr*, fr. *glīkr* like; akin to OE *gelīc*] **1** : of such a nature or circumstance as to make something probable ⟨~ of success⟩ **2 a** : RELIABLE, CREDIBLE ⟨a ~ enough story⟩ **b** : having a high probability of occurring or being true : very probable **3** : apparently qualified : SUITABLE ⟨a ~ place⟩ **4** : PROMISING ⟨a ~ subject⟩ **5** : ATTRACTIVE ⟨a ~ child⟩ ***syn*** see PROBABLE ***ant*** unlikely
[2]likely *adv* : in all probability : PROBABLY ⟨those who seek power will most ~ wind up exercising it —Halton Arp⟩
like–mind·ed \'līk-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : having a like disposition or purpose : of the same mind or habit of thought — **like–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **like–mind·ed·ness** *n*
lik·en \'lī-kən\ *vt* **lik·ened; lik·en·ing** \'līk-(ə-)niŋ\ : COMPARE
like·ness \'līk-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being like : RESEMBLANCE **2** : APPEARANCE, SEMBLANCE **3** : COPY, PORTRAIT
syn LIKENESS, SIMILARITY, RESEMBLANCE, SIMILITUDE, ANALOGY, AFFINITY *shared meaning element* : agreement or correspondence in details (as of appearance, structure, or quality) ***ant*** unlikeness
like·wise \'līk-ˌwīz\ *adv* **1** : in like manner : SIMILARLY ⟨go and do ~⟩ **2** : in addition **3** : similarly so with me ⟨answered "~" to "Pleased to meet you"⟩
lik·ing \'lī-kiŋ\ *n* : favorable regard : FONDNESS, TASTE ⟨had a greater ~ for law —E. M. Coulter⟩ ⟨took a ~ to the newcomer⟩ ⟨things were not to his ~⟩
li·ku·ta \li-'küt-ə\ *n, pl* **ma·ku·ta** \mä-\ [of Niger-Congo origin; prob. akin to obs. Nupe *kuta* stone] — see *zaire* at MONEY table
li·lac \'lī-lək, -ˌlak, -ˌläk\ *n* [obs. F (now *lilas*), fr. Ar *līlak*, fr. Per *nīlak* bluish, fr. *nīl* blue, fr. Skt *nīla* dark blue] **1 a** : a European shrub (*Syringa vulgaris*) of the olive family that is often an escape in No. America and has cordate ovate leaves and large panicles of fragrant pink-purple flowers **b** : a tree or shrub congeneric with the lilac **2** : a variable color averaging a moderate purple


lilac 1a

lil·i·a·ceous \ˌlil-ē-'ā-shəs\ *adj* : of or relating to lilies or the lily family
lil·ied \'lil-ēd\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : resembling a lily in fairness **2** : full of or covered with lilies
Lil·ith \'lil-əth\ *n* [LHeb *līlīth*, fr. Heb, a female demon] **1** : a female figure who in rabbinic legend is Adam's first wife, is supplanted by Eve, and becomes an evil spirit **2** : a famous witch in medieval demonology
lil·li·put \'lil-i-(ˌ)pət\ *n, often cap* : LILLIPUTIAN
[1]lil·li·pu·tian \ˌlil-ə-'pyü-shən\ *adj, often cap* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Lilliputians or the island of Lilliput **2 a** : SMALL, MINIATURE **b** : PETTY
[2]Lilliputian *n* **1** : an inhabitant of an island in Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* who is six inches tall **2** *often not cap* : one resembling a Lilliputian; *esp* : an undersized individual
[1]lilt \'lilt\ *vb* [ME *lulten*] *vt* : to sing or play in a lively cheerful manner ~ *vi* **1** : to sing or speak rhythmically and with fluctuating pitch **2** : to move in a lively springy manner
[2]lilt *n* **1** : a spirited and usu. gay song or tune **2** : a rhythmical swing, flow, or cadence ⟨the ~ of the questioner's voice — Elizabeth Hardwick⟩ **3** : a springy buoyant movement
lilt·ing \'lil-tiŋ\ *adj* **1** : characterized by a rhythmical swing or cadence ⟨a ~ stride⟩ **2** : CHEERFUL, BUOYANT ⟨a ~ comedy⟩ — **lilt·ing·ly** \-tiŋ-lē\ *adv* — **lilt·ing·ness** *n*
[1]lily \'lil-ē\ *n, pl* **lil·ies** [ME *lilie*, fr. OE, fr. L *lilium*] **1** : any of a genus (*Lilium* of the family Liliaceae, the lily family) of erect perennial leafy-stemmed bulbous herbs that are native to the northern hemisphere and are widely cultivated for their showy flowers; *broadly* : any of various plants of the lily family or of the related amaryllis or iris families **2** : any of various plants with showy flowers: as **a** : a scarlet anemone (*Anemone coronaria*) that grows wild in Palestine **b** : WATER LILY **c** : CALLA **3** : FLEUR-DE-LIS 2
[2]lily *adj* : resembling a lily in fairness, purity, or fragility ⟨my lady's ~ hand —John Keats⟩
lily–liv·ered \ˌlil-ē-'liv-ərd\ *adj* : lacking courage : COWARDLY
lily of the valley : a low perennial herb (*Convallaria majalis*) of the lily family that has usu. two large oblong lanceolate leaves and a raceme of fragrant nodding bell-shaped white flowers


lily of the valley

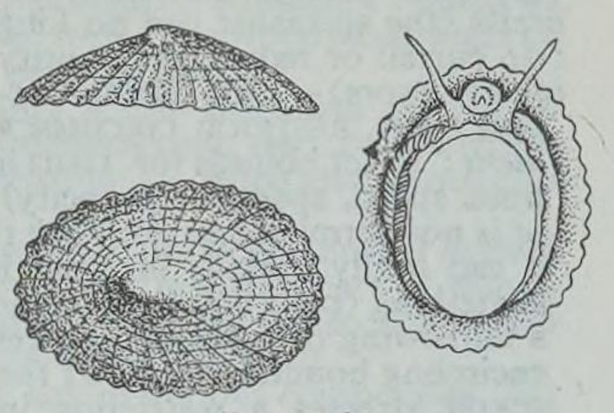
lily pad *n* : a floating leaf of a water lily
[1]lily–white \ˌlil-ē-'hwīt, -'wīt\ *adj* **1** : white as a lily **2** : characterized by or favoring the exclusion of Negroes esp. from politics **3** : IRREPROACHABLE, PURE
[2]lily–white *n* : a member of a lily-white political organization
Lim *abbr* Limerick
Li·ma \'lē-mə\ — a communications code word for the letter *l*
li·ma bean \ˌlī-mə-\ *n* [*Lima*, Peru] **1 a** : any of various bushy or tall-growing beans derived from a perennial tropical American bean (*Phaseolus limensis*) and widely cultivated for their flat edible usu. pale green or whitish seeds **b** : SIEVA BEAN **2** : the seed of a lima bean
li·mac·i·form \lī-'mas-ə-ˌfȯrm, -'mās-\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *limaciformis*, fr. L *limac-*, *limax* slug + *-iformis* -iform] : resembling a slug ⟨~ insect larvae⟩
li·ma·çon \ˌlē-mə-'sōⁿ\ *n* [F, lit., snail, fr. OF, dim. of *limaz* slug, snail, fr. L *limax*] : a curve that consists of the collection of points obtained by measuring a fixed distance in both directions from the second and variable point of intersection with a circle of a half line that extends from a fixed point on the circle
li·man \li-'män, -'man\ *n* [Russ] : a shallow coastal bay or estuary usu. at the mouth of a river : LAGOON
[1]limb \'lim\ *n* [ME *lim*, fr. OE; akin to ON *limr* limb, L *limes* limit, *limen* threshold, Gk *leimōn* meadow] **1** : one of the projecting paired appendages (as wings) of an animal body used esp. for movement and grasping but sometimes modified into sensory or sexual organs; *esp* : a leg or arm of a human being **2** : a large primary branch of a tree **3** : an active member or agent **4** : EXTENSION, BRANCH **5** : a mischievous child — **limbed** \'limd\ *adj* — **limb·less** \'lim-ləs\ *adj* — **limby** \'lim-ē\ *adj* — **out on a limb** : in an exposed or dangerous position with little chance of retreat
[2]limb *vt* : DISMEMBER; *esp* : to cut off the limbs of (a felled tree)
[3]limb *n* [L *limbus* border — more at LIMP] **1** : the graduated margin of an arc or circle in an instrument for measuring angles **2** : the outer edge of the apparent disk of a celestial body **3** : the expanded portion of an organ or structure; *esp* : the spreading upper portion of a gamosepalous calyx or a gamopetalous corolla as distinguished from the lower tubular portion
lim·ba \'lim-bə\ *n* [prob. native name in West Africa] **1** : a tall whitish-trunked West African tree (*Terminalia superba*) with straight-grained wood **2** : the wood of a limba
lim·beck \'lim-ˌbek\ *n* [ME *lembike*, fr. ML *alembicum*] : ALEMBIC
limbed \'limd\ *adj* : having limbs esp. of a specified kind or number — usu. used in combination ⟨strong-*limbed*⟩

[1]lim·ber \'lim-bər\ *n* [ME *lymour*] : a two-wheeled vehicle to which a gun or caisson may be attached
[2]limber *adj* [origin unknown] **1** : capable of being shaped : FLEXIBLE **2** : having a supple and resilient quality (as of mind or body) : AGILE, NIMBLE — **lim·ber·ly** *adv* — **lim·ber·ness** *n*
[3]limber *vb* **lim·bered; lim·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* : to cause to become limber ⟨~ up his fingers⟩ ~ *vi* : to become limber ⟨~ up by running⟩
lim·bers \'lim-bərz\ *n pl* [modif. of F *lumière*, fr. OF, light, opening, fr. L *luminare* window — more at LUMINARY] : gutters or conduits on each side of the keelson of a ship that provide a passage for water to the pump well
lim·bic \'lim-bik\ *adj* [NL *limbicus* of a border or margin, fr. L *limbus*] : of, relating to, or being the limbic system of the brain
limbic system *n* : a group of subcortical structures (as the hypothalamus, the hippocampus, and the amygdala) of the brain that are concerned esp. with emotion and motivation
[1]lim·bo \'lim-(,)bō\ *n, pl* **limbos** [ME, fr. ML, abl. of *limbus* limbo, fr. L, border — more at LIMP] **1** *often cap* : an abode of souls that are according to Roman Catholic theology barred from heaven because of not having received Christian baptism **2 a** : a place or state of restraint or confinement **b** : a place or state of neglect or oblivion ⟨proposals kept in ~⟩ **c** : an intermediate or transitional place or state
[2]limbo *n, pl* **limbos** [native name in West Indies] : a West Indian acrobatic dance orig. for men that involves bending over backwards and passing under a horizontal pole lowered slightly for each successive pass
Lim·burg·er \'lim-,bər-gər\ *n* [Flem, one from Limburg, fr. *Limburg*, Belgium] : a creamy semisoft surface-ripened cheese with a rind of pungent odor
lim·bus \'lim-bəs\ *n* [L, border] : a border distinguished by color or structure; *esp* : the marginal region of the cornea of the eye by which it is continuous with the sclera
[1]lime \'līm\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *līm*; akin to OHG *līm* birdlime, L *linere* to smear, *levis* smooth, Gk *leios*] **1** : BIRDLIME **2 a** : a caustic highly infusible solid that consists of calcium oxide often together with magnesia, that is obtained by calcining forms of calcium carbonate (as shells or limestone), and that is used in building (as in mortar and plaster) and in agriculture — called also *caustic lime* **b** : a dry white powder consisting essentially of calcium hydroxide that is made by treating caustic lime with water **c** : CALCIUM ⟨carbonate of ~⟩
[2]lime *vt* **limed; lim·ing** **1** : to smear with a sticky substance (as birdlime) **2** : to entangle with or as if with birdlime **3** : to treat or cover with lime ⟨~ the lawn in the spring⟩
[3]lime *adj* : of, relating to, or containing lime or limestone
[4]lime *n* [alter. of ME *lind*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *linta* linden] : LINDEN 1a
[5]lime *n* [F, fr. Prov *limo*, fr. Ar *līm*] **1** : a spiny tropical citrus tree (*Citrus aurantifolia*) with elliptic oblong narrowly winged leaves **2** : the small globose greenish yellow fruit of a lime with an acid juicy pulp used as a flavoring agent and as a source of vitamin C
lime·ade \līˈmād\ *n* : a beverage of sweetened lime juice mixed with plain or carbonated water
lime glass *n* : glass containing a substantial proportion of lime
lime–juic·er \'līm-,jü-sər\ *n* [fr. the use of lime juice on British ships as a beverage to prevent scurvy] **1** *slang* **a** : a British ship **b** : a British sailor **2** *slang* : ENGLISHMAN
lime·kiln \-,kil(n)\ *n* : a kiln or furnace for reducing limestone or shells to lime by burning
[1]lime·light \-,līt\ *n* **1 a** : a stage lighting instrument producing illumination by means of an oxyhydrogen flame directed on a cylinder of lime and usu. equipped with a lens to concentrate the light in a beam **b** : the white light produced by such an instrument **c** *Brit* : SPOTLIGHT **2** : the center of public attention
[2]limelight *vt* : to center attention on : SPOTLIGHT
li·men \'lī-mən\ *n* [L *limin-, limen* — more at LIMB] : THRESHOLD 3a
lim·er·ick \'lim-(ə-)rik\ *n* [*Limerick*, Ireland] : a light or humorous verse form of 5 chiefly anapestic verses of which lines 1, 2, and 5 are of 3 feet and lines 3 and 4 are of 2 feet with a rhyme scheme of *aabba*
lime·stone \'līm-,stōn\ *n* : a rock that is formed chiefly by accumulation of organic remains (as shells or coral), consists mainly of calcium carbonate, is extensively used in building, and yields lime when burned
lime sulfur *n* : a fungicide and insecticide that contains calcium polysulfides and is usu. obtained by boiling sulfur with lime and water
lime–twig \'līm-,twig\ *n* **1** : a twig covered with birdlime to catch birds **2** : SNARE
lime·wa·ter \-,wȯt-ər, -,wät-\ *n* **1** : an alkaline water solution of calcium hydroxide used as an antacid **2** : natural water containing calcium carbonate or calcium sulfate in solution
lim·ey \'lī-mē\ *n, pl* **limeys** *often cap* [*lime*-juicer + *-y*] **1** *slang* : a British sailor **2** *slang* : ENGLISHMAN
li·mic·o·line \lī-'mik-ə-,līn, -lən\ *adj* [deriv. of L *limus* mud + *colere* to inhabit; akin to L *linere* to smear — more at LIME, WHEEL] : inhabiting the shore region
lim·i·nal \'lim-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *limin-, limen* threshold] **1** : of or relating to a sensory threshold **2** : barely perceptible
[1]lim·it \'lim-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *limite*, fr. L *limit-, limes* boundary — more at LIMB] **1 a** : a geographical or political boundary **b** *pl* : the place enclosed within a boundary : BOUNDS **2 a** : something that bounds, restrains, or confines **b** : the utmost extent **3** : LIMITATION **4** : a determining feature or differentia in logic **5** : a prescribed maximum or minimum amount, quantity, or number: as **a** : the maximum quantity of game or fish that may be taken legally in a specified period **b** : a maximum established for a gambling bet, raise, or payoff **6 a** : a number whose numerical difference from a mathematical function is arbitrarily small for all values of the independent variables that are sufficiently close to but not equal to given prescribed numbers or that are sufficiently large positively or negatively **b** : a number that for an infinite sequence of numbers is such that ultimately each of the remaining terms of the sequence differs from this number by less than any given amount **7** : something that is exasperating or intolerable — **lim·it·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **lim·it·less·ly** *adv* — **lim·it·less·ness** *n*
[2]limit *vt* **1** : to assign certain limits to : PRESCRIBE ⟨reserved the right to ~ use of the land⟩ **2 a** : to restrict to set bounds or limits ⟨the specialist can no longer ~ himself to his specialty⟩ **b** : to curtail or reduce in quantity or extent ⟨we must ~ the power of aggressors⟩ — **lim·it·able** \-ət-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **lim·it·er** *n*
syn LIMIT, RESTRICT, CIRCUMSCRIBE, CONFINE *shared meaning element* : to set bounds for. LIMIT implies setting a point or line (as in time, speed, space, or capacity) beyond which something cannot or is not permitted to go ⟨*limit* the working day to seven hours⟩ or it can imply bounds inherent in a situation or in the nature of something ⟨poor soil *limits* their crops⟩ RESTRICT usually connotes a narrowing or tightening or restraining within or as if within an encircling boundary ⟨*restrict* the powers of the president⟩ CIRCUMSCRIBE stresses a restricting in every direction and by clearly marked limits ⟨well-considered laws, *circumscribed* by a written constitution —V. L. Parrington⟩ CONFINE usually emphasizes bounds that cannot or must not be passed and often suggests severe restraint and the resulting cramping, fettering, or hampering ⟨*confined* to the house by illness⟩ ⟨now I am cabined, cribbed, *confined*, bound in to saucy doubts and fears —Shak.⟩ ***ant*** widen
lim·i·tary \'lim-ə-,ter-ē\ *adj* **1** *archaic* : subject to limits **2 a** *archaic* : of or relating to a boundary **b** : LIMITING, ENCLOSING
lim·i·ta·tion \,lim-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : an act or instance of limiting **2** : the quality or state of being limited **3** : something that limits : RESTRAINT **4** : a certain period limited by statute after which actions, suits, or prosecutions cannot be brought in the courts — **lim·i·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*
lim·i·ta·tive \'lim-ə-,tāt-iv\ *adj* : serving to limit or restrict : LIMITING, RESTRICTIVE
lim·it·ed *adj* **1 a** : confined within limits : RESTRICTED ⟨~ success⟩ **b** *of a train* (1) : having a limited number of cars and making a limited number of stops (2) : offering superior and faster service and transportation **2** : characterized by enforceable limitations prescribed (as by a constitution) upon the scope or exercise of powers ⟨a ~ monarchy⟩ **3** : lacking breadth and originality ⟨a bit ~; a bit thick in the head —Virginia Woolf⟩ — **lim·it·ed·ly** *adv* — **lim·it·ed·ness** *n*
limited–access highway *n* : EXPRESSWAY
limited edition *n* : an edition of a publication limited to a specified number of copies and usu. printed in a special format
limited liability *n* : liability (as of a stockholder or shipowner) limited by statute or treaty
limited war *n* : a war whose objective is less than the total defeat of the enemy
lim·it·ing *adj* **1** : functioning as a limit : RESTRICTIVE ⟨~ factors⟩ **2** : serving to specify the application of the modified noun ⟨*this* in "this book" is a ~ word⟩
limit point *n* : a point that is related to a set of points in such a way that every neighborhood of the point no matter how small contains another point belonging to the set — called also *point of accumulation*
lim·i·trophe \'lim-ə-,trōf, -,trȯf\ *adj* [F] : situated on a border or frontier : ADJACENT
lim·mer \'lim-ər\ *n* [ME (Sc)] **1** *chiefly Scot* : SCOUNDREL **2** *chiefly Scot* : PROSTITUTE
limn \'lim\ *vt* **limned; limn·ing** \lim-(n)iŋ\ [ME *luminen, limnen* to illuminate (a manuscript), fr. MF *enluminer*, fr. L *illuminare* to illuminate] **1** : to draw or paint on a surface **2** : to outline in clear sharp detail : DELINEATE ⟨sees the tanker ~*ed* in her periscope sights —E. L. Beach⟩ **3** : DESCRIBE — **limn·er** \'lim-(n)ər\ *n*
lim·net·ic \lim-'net-ik\ *adj* [ISV, fr. Gk *limnē* pool, marshy lake; akin to L *limen* threshold — more at LIMB] : of, relating to, or inhabiting the open water of a body of fresh water ⟨~ environment⟩
lim·nic \'lim-nik\ *adj* : LIMNETIC
lim·nol·o·gy \lim-'näl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *limnē* + ISV *-logy*] : the scientific study of physical, chemical, meteorological, and biological conditions in fresh waters — **lim·no·log·i·cal** \,lim-nə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **lim·no·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **lim·nol·o·gist** \lim-'näl-ə-jəst\ *n*
limo \'lim-(,)ō\ *n, pl* **limos** : LIMOUSINE
lim·o·nene \'lim-ə-,nēn\ *n* ch bc [ISV, fr. F *limon* lemon] : a widely distributed terpene hydrocarbon $C_{10}H_{16}$ that occurs in essential oils (as of oranges or lemons) and has a lemon odor
li·mo·nite \'lī-mə-,nīt\ *n* [G *limonit*, fr. Gk *leimōn* meadow — more at LIMB] : a native hydrous ferric oxide of variable composition that is a major ore of iron — **li·mo·nit·ic** \,lī-mə-'nit-ik\ *adj*
lim·ou·sine \'lim-ə-,zēn, ,lim-ə-'\ *n* [F, lit., cloak, fr. *Limousin*, France] **1** : a large luxurious often chauffeur-driven sedan that sometimes has a glass partition separating the driver's seat from the passenger compartment **2** : a small bus with doors along the side like those of a sedan ⟨an airport ~⟩
[1]limp \'limp\ *vi* [prob. fr. ME *lympen* to fall short; akin to OE *limpan* to happen, L *limbus* border, *labi* to slide — more at SLEEP] **1 a** : to walk lamely; *esp* : to walk favoring one leg **b** : to go unsteadily : FALTER **2** : to proceed slowly or with difficulty ⟨commerce ~*ed* toward a standstill —*Time*⟩ — **limp·er** *n*
[2]limp *n* : a limping movement or gait
[3]limp *adj* [akin to [1]*limp*] **1 a** : lacking or seeming to lack firmness and body and consequently drooping or shapeless ⟨~ curtains⟩ ⟨her hair hung ~ about her shoulders⟩ **b** : not stiff or rigid ⟨~

bookbinding〉 **2 a** : WEARY, EXHAUSTED 〈~ with fatigue〉 **b** : lacking in strength, vigor, or firmness : SPIRITLESS — **limp·ly** *adv* — **limp·ness** *n*

syn LIMP, FLOPPY, FLACCID, FLABBY, FLIMSY, SLEAZY *shared meaning element* : deficient in firmness of texture, substance, or structure

lim·pet \'lim-pət\ *n* [ME *lempet*, fr. OE *lempedu*, fr. ML *lampreda*] **1** : a marine gastropod mollusk (esp. families Acmaeidae and Patellidae) that has a low conical shell broadly open beneath, browses over rocks or timbers in the littoral area, and clings very tightly when disturbed **2** : one that clings tenaciously to someone or something **3** : an explosive designed to cling to the hull of a ship



limpet 1

lim·pid \'lim-pəd\ *adj* [F or L; F *limpide*, fr. L *limpidus*, fr. *lympha*, *limpa* water — more at LYMPH] **1 a** : marked by transparency : PELLUCID 〈~ streams〉 **b** : clear and simple in style 〈~ prose〉 **2** : absolutely serene and untroubled — **lim·pid·i·ty** \lim-'pid-ət-ē\ *n* — **lim·pid·ly** \'lim-pəd-lē\ *adv* — **lim·pid·ness** *n*

limp·kin \'lim(p)-kən\ *n* [¹*limp*] : a large brown wading bird (*Aramus pictus*) of Florida and southern Georgia that resembles a bittern but has a longer slightly curved bill, longer neck and legs, and white stripes on head and neck

limp·sy \'lim(p)-sē\ *adj* [³*limp* + *-sy* (as in *tipsy*)] *dial* : limp esp. from weakness

lim·u·lus \'lim-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, genus name, fr. L *limus* sidelong] : HORSESHOE CRAB

limy \'lī-mē\ *adj* **lim·i·er; -est** **1** : smeared with or consisting of lime : VISCOUS **2** : containing lime or limestone **3** : resembling or having the qualities of lime

lin *abbr* **1** lineal **2** linear

lin·ac \'lin-ˌak\ *n* : LINEAR ACCELERATOR

lin·age \'lī-nij\ *n* **1** : the number of lines of printed or written matter **2** : payment for literary matter at so much a line

lin·a·loe \lə-'nal-ə-ˌwō, lī-, -ˌwōl\ *n* [ISV, fr. MexSp *linálo*e, tree yielding perfume, fr. ML *lignum aloes*, lit., wood of the aloe] : a fragrant liquid alcohol $C_{10}H_{18}O$ that occurs both free and in the form of esters in many essential oils and is used in perfumes, soaps, and flavoring materials

linch·pin \'linch-ˌpin\ *n* [ME *lynspin*, fr. *lyns*, linchpin (fr. OE *lynis*) + *pin*; akin to OE *eln* ell] **1** : a locking pin inserted crosswise (as through the end of an axle or shaft) **2** : something that serves to hold together the elements of a complex 〈the ~ in the prosecution's case was a subpoenaed canceled check —Joel Sayre〉

Lin·coln \'liŋ-kən\ *n* [*Lincoln* county, England] : any of an English breed of long-wool mutton-type sheep similar to but heavier than the Leicester

Lin·coln·esque \ˌliŋ-kə-'nesk\ *adj* : resembling Abraham Lincoln

Lin·coln·i·an \liŋ-'kō-nē-ən\ *adj* : of or relating to Abraham Lincoln

Lin·coln·i·a·na \(ˌ)liŋ-ˌkō-nē-'an-ə, -'ān-ə, -'ā-nə\ *n pl* : matter relating to Abraham Lincoln

Lincoln's Birthday \ˌliŋ-kənz-\ *n* **1** : February 12 observed as a legal holiday in many states of the U.S. **2** : the first Monday in February observed as a legal holiday by some states of the U.S.

lin·co·my·cin \ˌliŋ-kə-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* [*linco-* (fr. *Streptomyces lincolnensis*, a streptomyces) + *-mycin*] : an antibiotic obtained from an actinomycete (*Streptomyces umbrinus* var. *cyaneoniger*) and effective esp. against cocci

Lincs *abbr* Lincolnshire

lin·dane \'lin-ˌdān\ *n* [T. van der *Linde*n, 20th cent. D chemist] : an insecticide that consists of the gamma isomer of BHC and is biodegraded very slowly

lin·den \'lin-dən\ *n* [ME, made of linden wood, fr. OE, fr. *lind* linden tree] **1** : any of a genus (*Tilia* of the family Tiliaceae, the linden family) of trees that are native in temperate regions, are planted as shade trees, and are distinguished by having cordate leaves and a winglike bract attached to the peduncle of the flower and fruit: as **a** : a European tree (*T. europaea*) much used for ornamental planting **b** : a tall No. American forest tree (*T. americana*) — called also *basswood, whitewood* **2** : the light fine-grained white wood of a linden; *esp* : BASSWOOD 1b

lin·dy \'lin-dē\ *n* [prob. fr. *Lindy*, nickname of Charles A. Lindbergh] : a jitterbug dance originating in Harlem and later developing many local variants

¹line \'līn\ *vt* **lined; lin·ing** [ME *linen*, fr. *line* flax, fr. OE *līn* — more at LINEN] **1** : to cover the inner surface of 〈~ a cloak with silk〉 **2** : to put something in the inside of : FILL **3** : to serve as the lining of 〈tapestries *lined* the walls〉 **4** *obs* : FORTIFY — **line one's pockets** : to take money freely and esp. dishonestly

²line *n, often attrib* [ME; partly fr. OF *ligne*, fr. L *linea*, fr. fem. of *lineus* made of flax, fr. *linum* flax; partly fr. OE *līne*; akin to OE *līn*] **1 a** : THREAD, STRING, CORD, ROPE: as (1) : a comparatively strong slender cord (2) : CLOTHESLINE (3) : a rope used on shipboard **b** (1) : a device for catching fish consisting of a cord with hooks and other fishing gear (2) : scope for activity **c** : a length of material used in measuring and leveling **d** : piping for conveying a fluid (as steam) **e** (1) : a wire or pair of wires connecting one telegraph or telephone station with another or a whole system of such wires (2) : the principal circuits of an electric power system **2 a** : a horizontal row of written or printed characters **b** : a unit in the rhythmic structure of verse formed by the grouping of a number of the smallest units of the rhythm (as metrical feet) **c** : a short letter : NOTE **d** : a certificate of marriage **e** : the words making up a part in a drama — usu. used in pl. **3 a** : something (as a ridge or seam) that is distinct, elongated, and narrow **b** : a narrow crease (as on the face) : WRINKLE **c** : the course or direction of something in motion : ROUTE **d** (1) : a real or imaginary straight line oriented in terms of stable points of reference (2) : a state of agreement **e** : a boundary of an area 〈the state ~〉 **f** : the track and roadbed of a railway **4 a** : a course of conduct, action, or thought **b** : a field of activity or interest **c** : a glib often persuasive way of talking **5 a** : LIMIT, RESTRAINT **b** *archaic* : position in life : LOT **6 a** (1) : FAMILY, LINEAGE (2) : a strain produced and maintained by selective breeding (3) : a chronological series **b** : dispositions made to cover extended military positions and presenting a front to the enemy — usu. used in pl. **c** : a military formation in which the different elements are abreast of each other **d** : naval ships arranged in a regular order **e** (1) : the combatant forces of an army distinguished from the staff corps and supply services (2) : the force of a regular navy **f** (1) : officers of the navy eligible for command at sea distinguished from officers of the staff (2) : officers of the army belonging to a combatant branch **g** : a rank of objects of one kind **h** (1) : a group of public conveyances plying regularly under one management over a route (2) : a system of transportation together with its equipment, routes, and appurtenances; *also* : the company owning or operating it **i** : a succession of musical notes esp. considered in melodic phrases **j** : an arrangement of operations in manufacturing permitting sequential occurrence on various stages of production **k** (1) : the 7 players including center, 2 guards, 2 tackles, and 2 ends who in offensive football play line up on or within one foot of the line of scrimmage (2) : the players who in defensive play line up within one yard of the line of scrimmage **7** : a narrow elongated mark drawn or projected: as **a** (1) : a circle of latitude or longitude on a map (2) : EQUATOR **b** : a mark (as on a map) recording a boundary, division, or contour **c** : any of the horizontal parallel strokes on a music staff on or between which notes are placed —compare SPACE **d** : a mark (as by pencil) that forms part of the formal design of a picture distinguished from the shading or color **e** : a division on a bridge score dividing the honors from the tricks **f** (1) : a demarcation of a limit with reference to which the playing of some game or sport is regulated — usu. used in combination (2) : a marked or imaginary line across a playing area (as a football field) parallel to the end line (3) : LINE OF SCRIMMAGE **8** : a straight or curved geometric element that is generated by a moving point and that has extension only along the path of the point : CURVE **9 a** : a defining outline : CONTOUR **b** : a general plan : MODEL — usu. used in pl. **10 a** *chiefly Brit* : PICA — used to indicate the size of large type **b** : the unit of fineness of halftones expressed as the number of screen lines to the linear inch **11** : merchandise or services of the same general class for sale or regularly available **12** : a source of information : INSIGHT **13** : a complete game of 10 frames in bowling — called also *string* **14** : LINE DRIVE — **liny** *also* **lin·ey** \'lī-nē\ *adj* — **between the lines** **1** : by implication : in an indirect way **2** : by way of inference — **down the line** : all the way : FULLY — **in line for** : due or in a position to receive — **on the line** **1** : in complete commitment and at great risk 〈puts his future *on the line* by backing that policy〉 **2** : on the border between two categories **3** : IMMEDIATELY 〈paid cash *on the line*〉

³line *vb* **lined; lin·ing** *vt* **1** : to mark or cover with a line or lines **2** : to depict with lines : DRAW **3** : to place or form a line along 〈pedestrians ~ the walks〉 **4** : to form into a line or lines : ALIGN 〈~ up troops〉 **5** : to hit (as a baseball) hard and in a usu. straight line ~ *vi* **1** : to hit a line drive in baseball **2** : to come into the correct relative position : ALIGN

syn LINE, ALIGN, RANGE, ARRAY *shared meaning element* : to arrange in a line or lines

¹lin·eage \'lin-ē-ij\ *n* **1 a** : descent in a line from a common progenitor **b** : DERIVATION **2** : a group of persons tracing descent from a common ancestor regarded as its founder

²line·age \'lī-nij\ *var of* LINAGE

lin·eal \'lin-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : LINEAR **2** : composed of or arranged in lines **3 a** : consisting of or being in a direct male or female line of ancestry **b** : relating to or derived from ancestors : HEREDITARY **c** : descended in a direct line **4 a** : belonging to one lineage 〈~ relatives〉 **b** : of, relating to, or dealing with a lineage — **lin·eal·i·ty** \ˌlin-ē-'al-ət-ē\ *n* — **lin·eal·ly** \'lin-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

lin·ea·ment \'lin-ē-ə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *lineamentum*, fr. *linea*] **1 a** : an outline, feature, or contour of a body or figure and esp. of a face — usu. used in pl. **b** : a linear topographic feature (as of the earth or a planet) that reveals a characteristic (as a fault or the subsurface structure) **2** : a distinguishing or characteristic feature — usu. used in pl. — **lin·ea·men·tal** \ˌlin-ē-ə-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj*

lin·ear \'lin-ē-ər\ *adj* **1 a** (1) : of, relating to, or resembling a line : STRAIGHT (2) : involving a single dimension **b** (1) : of the first degree with respect to one or more variables (2) : of, relating to, or based on linear equations or linear functions **c** (1) : characterized by an emphasis on line 〈~ art〉 (2) : composed of simply drawn lines with little attempt at pictorial representation 〈~ script〉 **d** : consisting of a straight chain of atoms **2** : elongated with nearly parallel sides 〈~ leaf〉 **3** : involving or expressed by a linear equation; *esp* : having or being a response or output that is directly proportional to the input **4** : relating to, concerned with, or psychologically influenced by the linear structure of the printed line — **lin·ear·i·ty** \ˌlin-ē-'ar-ət-ē\ *n* — **lin·ear·ly** \'lin-ē-ər-lē\ *adv*

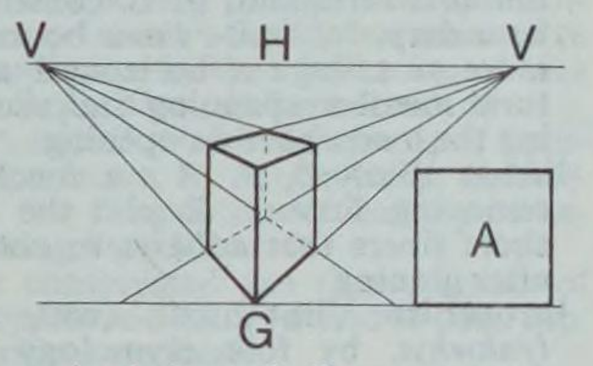
Linear A \-'ā\ *n* : a linear form of writing used in Crete from the 18th to the 15th centuries B.C.

linear accelerator *n* : a device in which charged particles are accelerated in a straight line by successive impulses from a series of electric fields

linear algebra *n* **1** : a branch of mathematics concerned with linear functions and their applications (as in linear programming) **2** : a mathematical ring which is also a vector space with scalars from an associated field and whose multiplicative operation is such that $(aA)\,(bB) = (ab)\,(AB)$ where a and b are scalars and A and B are vectors — called also *algebra*

Linear B \-'bē\ *n* : a linear form of writing employing syllabic characters and used at Knossos on Crete and on the Greek mainland from the 15th to the 12th centuries B.C. for documents in the Mycenaean language

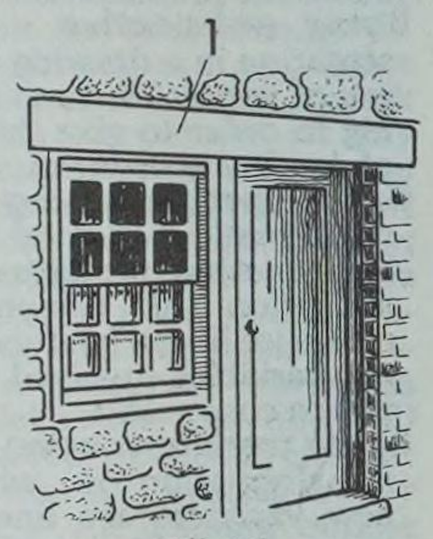
linear combination *n* : a mathematical entity (as 4x + 5y + 6z) which is composed of sums and differences of elements (as variables, matrices, or equations) whose coefficients are not all zero
linear dependence *n* : the property of one set (as of matrices or vectors) with coefficients taken from a given set of having at least one linear combination equal to zero when at least one of the coefficients is not equal to zero — **linearly dependent** *adj*
linear equation *n* : an equation of the first degree in any number of variables
linear function *n* **1** : a mathematical function in which the variables appear only in the first degree, are multiplied by constants, and are combined only by addition and subtraction **2** : LINEAR TRANSFORMATION
linear independence *n* : the property of a set (as of matrices or vectors) of having no linear combination of the elements equal to zero when coefficients are taken from a given set unless the coefficient of each element is zero — **linearly independent** *adj*
lin·ear·ize \ˈlin-ē-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give a linear form to; *also* : to project in linear form — **lin·ear·iz·able** \-ˌrī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **lin·ear·iza·tion** \ˌlin-ē-ə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*
linear measure *n* **1** : a measure of length **2** : a system of measures of length
linear motor *n* : a motor that produces thrust in a straight line by direct induction rather than with the use of gears
linear perspective *n* : representation in a drawing or painting of parallel lines as converging in order to give the illusion of depth and distance



cube *A* drawn in linear perspective: *G* ground plane, *H* horizon, *V* vanishing points

linear programming *n* : a mathematical method of solving practical problems (as the allocation of resources) by means of linear functions where the variables involved are subject to constraints
linear transformation *n* **1** : a transformation in which the new variables are linear functions of the old variables **2** : a function that maps the vectors of one vector space onto the vectors of another vector space with the same field of scalars in such a way that the image of the sum of two vectors equals the sum of their images and the image of a scalar product equals the product of the scalar and the image of the vector
lin·ea·tion \ˌlin-ē-ˈā-shən\ *n* [ME *lineacion* outline, fr. L *lineation-, lineatio,* fr. *lineatus,* pp. of *lineare* to make straight, fr. *linea*] **1 a** : the action of marking with lines : DELINEATION **b** : OUTLINE **2** : an arrangement of lines
line·back·er \ˈlīn-ˌbak-ər\ *n* : a defensive football player who lines up immediately behind the line of scrimmage to make tackles on running plays through the line or defend against short passes
line·back·ing \-ˌbak-iŋ\ *n* : the action or art of playing linebacker
line·breed \ˈlīn-ˈbrēd\ *vb* **-bred** \-ˈbred\; **-breed·ing** *vi* : to interbreed individuals within a particular line of descent usu. to perpetuate desirable characters ~ *vt* : to interbreed (animals) in linebreeding; *also* : to produce by linebreeding
line·cast·er \-ˌkas-tər\ *n* : a machine that casts metal type in lines — **line·cast·ing** \-tiŋ\ *n*
line chief *n* : an air force noncommissioned officer who supervises flight-line upkeep
line·cut \ˈlīn-ˌkət\ *n* : a letterpress printing plate photoengraved from a line drawing — called also *line block, line engraving*
line drawing *n* : a drawing made in solid lines esp. as copy for a linecut
line drive *n* : a batted baseball hit in a nearly straight line usu. not far above the ground
line engraving *n* **1 a** : a metal plate for use in intaglio printing made by hand-engraving lines of different widths and closeness **b** : a process involving such plates or a print made with them **2** : LINECUT — **line engraver** *n*
line gauge *n* : a printer's ruler showing point sizes
line–haul \ˈlīn-ˌhȯl\ *n* : the transporting of items or persons between terminals
line judge *n* : a football linesman whose duties include keeping track of the official time for the game
line·man \ˈlīn-mən\ *n* **1** : one who sets up or repairs electric wire communication or power lines — called also *linesman* **2** : a player in the forward line of a team; *specif* : a football player in the line
[1]lin·en \ˈlin-ən\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *līnen,* fr. *līn* flax; akin to OHG *līn* flax; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc word borrowed fr. L *linum* flax] **1** : made of flax **2** : made of or resembling linen
[2]linen *n* **1 a** : cloth made of flax and noted for its strength, coolness, and luster **b** : thread or yarn spun from flax **2** : clothing or household articles made of linen cloth or similar fabric **3** : paper made from linen fibers or with a linen finish
line of credit : CREDIT LINE 2
line of duty : all that is authorized, required, or normally associated with some field of responsibility
line officer *n* : a commissioned officer assigned to the line of the army or navy — compare STAFF OFFICER
line of force : a line in a field of force (as a magnetic or electric field) whose tangent at any point gives the direction of the field at that point
line of scrimmage : an imaginary line in football that is parallel to the goal lines and tangent to the nose of the ball laid on the ground and that marks the position of the ball at the start of each down
line of sight **1** : a line from an observer's eye to a distant point toward which he is looking **2** : LINE OF VISION **3** : the straight path between a radio or television transmitting antenna and receiving antenna when unobstructed by the horizon
line of vision : a straight line joining the fovea of the eye with the fixation point
lin·eo·late \ˈlin-ē-ə-ˌlāt\ *or* **lin·eo·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* [NL *lineolatus,* fr. *lineola,* dim. of *linea* line — more at LINE] : marked with fine lines
line out *vt* **1 a** : to mark with lines indicating material to be removed **b** : to indicate with or as if with lines : OUTLINE ⟨*line out* a route⟩ **2 a** : to plant (young nursery stock) in rows **b** : to arrange in an extended line **3** : BELT ⟨*line out* a song⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to move rapidly ⟨*lined out* for home⟩ **2** : to make an out by hitting a baseball in a line drive that is caught
line printer *n* : a high-speed printing device (as for a computer) that prints each line as a unit rather than character by character — **line printing** *n*
[1]lin·er \ˈlī-nər\ *n* **1** : one that makes, draws, or uses lines **2** : something with which lines are made **3 a** : a ship belonging to a regular line of ships **b** : an airplane belonging to an airline **4** : LINE DRIVE
[2]liner *n* **1** : one that lines or is used to line or back something **2** : explanatory notes accompanying a recording; *also* : the jacket or insert bearing the notes — **lin·er·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
line score *n* : a printed score of a baseball game giving the runs, hits, and errors made by each team — compare BOX SCORE
lines·man \ˈlīnz-mən\ *n* **1** : LINEMAN 1 **2** : an official who assists a referee in various games esp. in determining if a ball or player is out-of-bounds; *esp* : a football official whose duties include marking the distances gained or lost and the points where the ball goes out-of-bounds and noting violations of the scrimmage formation
line squall *n* : a squall or thunderstorm occurring along a cold front
line storm *n* : an equinoctial storm
line·up \ˈlī-ˌnəp\ *n* **1** : a line of persons arranged esp. for inspection or for identification by police **2 a** : a list of players taking part in a game (as of baseball) **b** : the players on such a list **3 a** : an alignment of persons or things having a common purpose or interest **b** : LINE 11
line up \(ˈ)līˈnəp\ *vi* : to assume an orderly linear arrangement ⟨*line up* for inspection⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to put into alignment **2** : to assemble or organize and make available ⟨*line up* support for a candidate⟩
[1]ling \ˈliŋ\ *n* [ME; akin to D *leng* ling, OE *lang* long] **1** : any of various fishes (as a hake or burbot) of the cod family (Gadidae) **2** : LINGCOD
[2]ling *n* [ME, fr. ON *lyng;* akin to Lith *lenkti* to bend — more at -LING] : a heath plant; *esp* : a common Old World heather (*Calluna vulgaris*)
[3]ling *abbr* linguistics
[1]-ling \liŋ\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *-ing*] **1** : one connected with or having the quality of ⟨hire*ling*⟩ **2** : young, small, or inferior one ⟨duck*ling*⟩
[2]-ling \liŋ\ *or* **-lings** \liŋz\ *adv suffix* [ME *-ling* (fr. OE), *-linges* (fr. *-ling* + *-es* -s); akin to OHG *-lingūn* -ling, Lith *lenkti* to bend] : in (such) a direction or manner ⟨side*ling*⟩ ⟨flat*lings*⟩
Lin·ga·la \liŋ-ˈgäl-ə\ *n* : a Bantu language widely used in trade and public affairs in the Congo
lin·gam \ˈliŋ-gəm\ *or* **lin·ga** \-gə\ *n* [Skt *liṅga* (nom. *liṅgam*), lit., characteristic] : a stylized phallic symbol of the masculine cosmic principle and of the Hindu god Siva — compare YONI
Lin·ga·yat \liŋ-ˈgä-yət\ *n* [Kannada *lingāyata*] : a member of a Saiva sect of southern India marked by wearing of the lingam and characterized by denial of caste distinctions
ling·cod \ˈliŋ-ˌkäd\ *n* : a large greenish-fleshed fish (*Ophiodon elongatus*) of the Pacific coast of No. America that is an important food fish closely related to the typical greenlings
lin·ger \ˈliŋ-gər\ *vb* **lin·gered; lin·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ [ME (northern dial.) *lengeren* to dwell, freq. of *lengen* to prolong, fr. OE *lengan;* akin to OE *lang* long] *vi* **1** : to be slow in parting or in quitting something : TARRY **2** : to remain alive although waning or gradually dying **3** : to be slow to act : PROCRASTINATE **4** : to move slowly : SAUNTER ~ *vt* **1** *obs* : DELAY **2** : to pass (as a period of time) slowly ***syn*** see STAY — **lin·ger·er** \-gər-ər\ *n* — **lin·ger·ing·ly** \-g(ə-)riŋ-lē\ *adv*
lin·ge·rie \ˌlän-jə-ˈrā, ˌlaⁿ-zhə-, -ˈrē\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *linge* linen, fr. L *lineus* made of linen — more at LINE] **1** *archaic* : linen articles or garments **2** : women's intimate apparel — **lingerie** *adj*
lin·go \ˈliŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **lingoes** [prob. fr. Prov, tongue, fr. L *lingua* — more at TONGUE] : strange or incomprehensible language or speech: as **a** : a foreign language **b** : the special vocabulary of a particular field of interest **c** : language characteristic of an individual ***syn*** see DIALECT
ling·on·ber·ry \ˈliŋ-ən-ˌber-ē\ *n* [Sw *lingon* mountain cranberry; akin to ON *lyng* ling] : the fruit of the mountain cranberry; *also* : MOUNTAIN CRANBERRY
lingu- *or* **lingui-** *or* **linguo-** *comb form* [L *lingu-,* fr. *lingua*] **1** : language ⟨*linguist*⟩ **2** : tongue ⟨*linguiform*⟩
lin·gua \ˈliŋ-gwə\ *n, pl* **lin·guae** \-ˌgwē, -ˌgwī\ [L] : a tongue or an organ resembling a tongue
lin·gua fran·ca \ˌliŋ-gwə-ˈfraŋ-kə\ *n, pl* **lingua francas** *or* **linguae fran·cae** \-gwē-ˈfraŋ-(ˌ)kē\ [It, lit., Frankish language] **1** : a common language that consists of Italian mixed with French, Spanish, Greek, and Arabic and is spoken in Mediterranean ports **2** : any of various languages (as Swahili) used as common or commercial tongues among peoples of diverse speech **3** : something resembling a common language
lin·gual \ˈliŋ-g(yə-)wəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or resembling the tongue **b** : lying near or next to the tongue **c** : produced by the tongue **2** : LINGUISTIC — **lin·gual·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

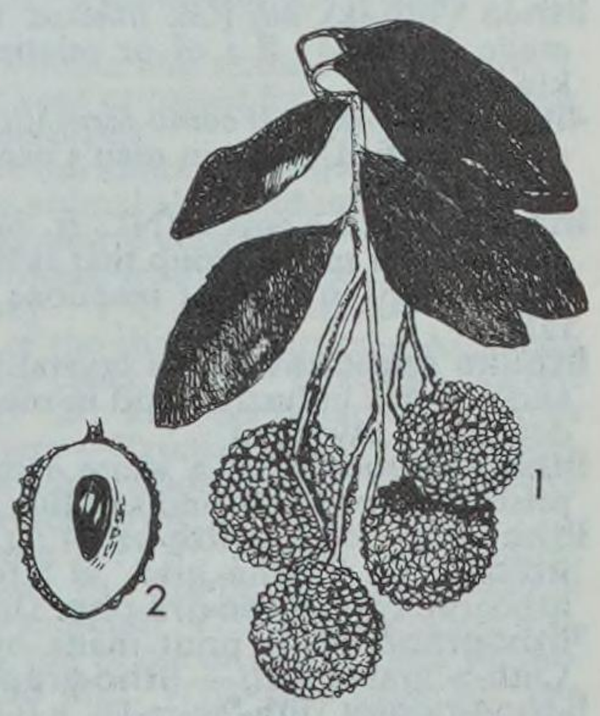
lin·gui·ne \liŋ-'gwē-nē\ *n pl* [It, pl. of *linguina*, dim. of *lingua* tongue, fr. L] : thin flat pasta
lin·guist \'liŋ-gwəst\ *n* **1** : a person accomplished in languages; *esp* : one who speaks several languages **2** : one who specializes in linguistics
lin·guis·tic \liŋ-'gwis-tik\ *also* **lin·guis·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to language or linguistics — **lin·guis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
linguistic analysis *n* : PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS
linguistic atlas *n* : a publication containing a set of maps on which speech variations are recorded — called also *dialect atlas*
linguistic form *n* : a meaningful unit of speech (as a morpheme, word, or sentence) — called also *speech form*
linguistic geographer *n* : a specialist in linguistic geography
linguistic geography *n* : local or regional variations of a language or dialect studied as a field of knowledge — called also *dialect geography*
lin·guis·ti·cian \ˌliŋ-gwə-'stish-ən\ *n* : LINGUIST 2
lin·guis·tics \liŋ-'gwis-tiks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the study of human speech including the units, nature, structure, and modification of language — compare PHILOLOGY
lin·gu·late \'liŋ-gyə-lət, -ˌlāt\ *adj* [L *lingulatus*, fr. *lingula*, dim. of *lingua*] : shaped like a tongue or strap : LIGULATE ⟨a ~ leaf⟩
lin·i·ment \'lin-ə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *linimentum*, fr. L *linere* to smear — more at LIME] : a liquid or semiliquid preparation that is applied to the skin as an anodyne or a counterirritant
li·nin \'lī-nən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *linum* flax] : the feebly-staining portion of the reticulum of the nucleus of a resting cell in which chromatin granules appear to be embedded
lin·ing \'lī-niŋ\ *n* **1** : material used to line esp. the inner surface of something (as a garment) **2** : the act or process of providing something with a lining
[1]link \'liŋk\ *n* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *hlekkr* chain; akin to OE *hlanc* lank] **1** : a connecting structure: as **a** (1) : a single ring or division of a chain (2) : one of the standardized divisions of a surveyor's chain that is 7.92 inches long and serves as a measure of length **b** : a usu. ornamental device for fastening a cuff **c** : BOND 3c **d** : an intermediate rod or piece for transmitting force or motion; *esp* : a short connecting rod with a hole or pin at each end **e** : the fusible member of an electrical fuse **2** : something analogous to a link of chain: as **a** : a segment of sausage in a chain **b** : a connecting element ⟨sought a ~ between smoking and cancer⟩ **c** : a unit in a communication system **d** : an identifier attached to an element (as an index term) in a system in order to indicate or permit connection with other similarly identified elements — **link·er** *n*
[2]link *vt* : to couple or connect by a link ~ *vi* : to become connected by a link ***syn*** see JOIN ***ant*** sunder
[3]link *n* [perh. modif. of ML *linchinus* candle, alter. of L *lychnus*, fr. Gk *lychnos*; akin to Gk *leukos* white — more at LIGHT] : a torch formerly used to light a person's way through the streets
[4]link *vi* [origin unknown] *Scot* : to skip smartly along
link·age \'liŋ-kij\ *n* **1** : the manner or style of being united: as **a** : the manner in which atoms or radicals are linked in a molecule **b** : BOND 3c **2** : the quality or state of being linked; *esp* : the relationship between genes on the same chromosome that causes them to be inherited together **3** **a** : a system of links; *esp* : a system of links or bars which are jointed together and more or less constrained by having a link or links fixed and by means of which straight or nearly straight lines or other point paths may be traced **b** : the product of the magnetic flux through an electrical coil by its number of turns with the magnetic flux and the coil being connected like two links of a chain
linkage group *n* : a set of genes at different loci on the same chromosome that except for crossing-over tend to act as a single pair of genes in meiosis instead of undergoing independent assortment
link·boy \'liŋk-ˌbȯi\ *n* : an attendant formerly employed to bear a light for a person on the streets at night
linked \'liŋ(k)t\ *adj* **1** : marked by linkage and esp. genetic linkage ⟨~ genes⟩ **2** : having or provided with links ⟨a ~ list⟩
linking verb *n* : COPULA b
link·man \'liŋk-mən\ *n* : LINKBOY
links \'liŋ(k)s\ *n pl* [ME, fr. OE *hlincas*, pl. of *hlinc* ridge; akin to OE *hlanc*] **1** *Scot* : sand hills esp. along the seashore **2** : GOLF COURSE
links·man \'liŋ(k)-smən\ *n* : GOLFER
link·up \'liŋ-ˌkəp\ *n* **1** : establishment of contact : MEETING ⟨the ~ of two spacecraft⟩ **2** **a** : something that serves as a linking device or factor **b** : a functional whole resulting from the linking up of separate elements ⟨an instructional TV ~⟩
linn \'lin\ *n* [ScGael *linne* pool] **1** *chiefly Scot* : WATERFALL **2** *chiefly Scot* : PRECIPICE
Lin·nae·an *or* **Lin·ne·an** \lə-'nē-ən, -'nā-; 'lin-ē-\ *adj* [NL Carolus *Linnaeus* (Carl von Linné)] : of, relating to, or following the systematic methods of the Swedish botanist Linné who established the system of binomial nomenclature
lin·net \'lin-ət\ *n* [MF *linette*, fr. *lin* flax, fr. L *linum*] : a common small Old World finch (*Carduelis cannabina*) having plumage that varies greatly according to age, sex, and season
li·no \'lī-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **linos** *chiefly Brit* : LINOLEUM
li·no·cut \'lī-nō-ˌkət\ *n* : a print made from a design cut into a mounted piece of linoleum
li·no·le·ate \lə-'nō-lē-ˌāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of linoleic acid
lin·ole·ic acid \ˌlin-ə-ˌlē-ik-, -ˌlā-\ *n* [Gk *linon* flax + ISV *oleic* (*acid*)] : a liquid unsaturated fatty acid $C_{18}H_{32}O_2$ found in drying and semidrying oils and held to be essential in animal nutrition
lin·ole·nate \ˌlin-ə-'lē-ˌnāt, -'lā-ˌnāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of linolenic acid
lin·ole·nic acid \-ˌlē-nik-, -ˌlā-\ *n* [ISV, irreg. fr. *linoleic*] : a liquid unsaturated fatty acid $C_{18}H_{30}O_2$ found esp. in drying oils and considered an essential animal nutrient
li·no·leum \lə-'nō-lē-əm, -'nōl-yəm\ *n, often attrib* [L *linum* flax + *oleum* oil — more at OIL] **1** : a floor covering made by laying on a burlap or canvas backing a mixture of solidified linseed oil with gums, cork dust or wood flour or both, and usu. pigments **2** : a material similar to linoleum
Li·no·type \'lī-nə-ˌtīp\ *trademark* — used for a keyboard-operated typesetting machine that uses circulating matrices and produces each line of type in the form of a solid metal slug
lin·sang \'lin-ˌsaŋ\ *n* [Malay] : any of various Asiatic mammals (*Prionodon* and related genera) that resemble long-tailed cats and are related to the civets and genets
lin·seed \'lin-ˌsēd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *līnsǣd*, fr. *līn* flax + *sǣd* seed — more at LINEN] : FLAXSEED
linseed oil *n* : a yellowish drying oil obtained from flaxseed and used esp. in paint, varnish, printing ink, and linoleum
lin·sey–wool·sey \ˌlin-zē-'wu̇l-zē\ *n* [ME *lynsy wolsye*] : a coarse sturdy fabric of wool and linen or cotton
lin·stock \'lin-ˌstäk\ *n* [D *lontstok*, fr. *lont* match + *stok* stick] : a staff having a pointed foot (as for sticking into the ground) and a forked tip and formerly used to hold a lighted match for firing cannon
lint \'lint\ *n* [ME] **1** **a** : a soft fleecy material made from linen usu. by scraping **b** : fuzz consisting esp. of fine ravelings and short fibers of yarn and fabric **2** : a fibrous coat of thick convoluted hairs borne by cotton seeds that yields the cotton staple — **linty** \-ē\ *adj*
lin·tel \'lint-ᵊl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *limitaris* threshold, fr. L, constituting a boundary, fr. *limit-*, *limes* boundary — more at LIMB] : a horizontal architectural member spanning and usu. carrying the load above an opening



1 lintel

lint·er \'lint-ər\ *n* **1** : a machine for removing linters **2** *pl* : the fuzz of short fibers that adheres to cottonseed after ginning
lint·white \'lint-ˌhwīt, -ˌwīt\ *n* [ME *lynkwhyt*, by folk etymology fr. OE *līnetwige*] : LINNET
li·num \'lī-nəm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, flax] : any of a genus (*Linum*) of herbaceous small-leaved plants of the flax family; *esp* : one growing wild or cultivated for ornament
li·on \'lī-ən\ *n, pl* **lions** [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *leon-*, *leo*, fr. Gk *leōn*] **1** **a** *or pl* **lion** : a large carnivorous chiefly nocturnal cat (*Felis leo*) of open or rocky areas of Africa and esp. formerly southern Asia that has a tawny body with a tufted tail and a shaggy blackish or dark brown mane in the male **b** : any of several large wildcats; *esp* : COUGAR **c** *cap* : LEO **2** **a** : a person felt to resemble a lion (as in courage or ferocity) **b** : a person of outstanding interest or importance **3** *cap* [*Lions* (*club*)] : a member of a major national and international service club — **li·on·ess** \'lī-ə-nəs\ *n* — **li·on·like** \-ən-ˌlīk\ *adj*
li·on·fish \'lī-ən-ˌfish\ *n* : any of several scorpion fishes (genus *Pterois*) of the tropical Pacific that are brilliantly striped and barred with elongated fins and venomous dorsal spines
li·on·heart·ed \ˌlī-ən-'härt-əd\ *adj* : COURAGEOUS, BRAVE
li·on·ize \'lī-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to treat as an object of great interest or importance **2** *Brit* : to show the sights of a place to — **li·on·iza·tion** \ˌlī-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **li·on·iz·er** \'lī-ə-ˌnī-zər\ *n*
lion's mouth *n* : a place of great danger
lion's share *n* : the largest portion ⟨received the *lion's share* of the research money⟩
[1]lip \'lip\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lippa*; akin to OHG *leffur* lip and prob. to L *labium*, *labrum* lip] **1** : either of two fleshy folds that surround the mouth in man and many other vertebrates and in man are organs of speech **2** *slang* : BACK TALK **3** **a** : a fleshy edge or margin (as of a wound) **b** : LABIUM **c** : LABELLUM 1 **d** : a limb of a labiate corolla **4** **a** : the edge of a hollow vessel or cavity **b** : a projecting edge: as (1) : the slanted upper edge of the mouth of an organ flue pipe (2) : the sharp cutting edge on the end of an auger or similar tool (3) : a short spout (as on a pitcher) **5** : EMBOUCHURE — **lip·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **lip·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
[2]lip *adj* **1** : spoken with the lips only : INSINCERE ⟨~ praise⟩ **2** : produced with the participation of the lips : LABIAL ⟨~ consonants⟩
[3]lip *vt* **lipped; lip·ping** **1** : to touch with the lips; *esp* : KISS **2** : UTTER **3** : to lap against : LICK **4** : to strike a golf ball so that it hits the edge of (the cup) but fails to drop in
lip- *or* **lipo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *lipos* — more at LEAVE] : fat : fatty tissue : fatty ⟨*lip*oid⟩ ⟨*lipo*protein⟩
li·pase \'lī-ˌpās, -ˌpāz\ *n* [ISV] : an enzyme that accelerates the hydrolysis or synthesis of fats or the breakdown of lipoproteins
lip·id \'lip-əd\ *also* **lip·ide** \-ˌīd\ *n* [ISV] : any of various substances that are soluble in nonpolar organic solvents (as chloroform and ether), that with proteins and carbohydrates constitute the principal structural components of living cells, and that include fats, waxes, phosphatides, cerebrosides, and related and derived compounds — **li·pid·ic** \lip-'id-ik\ *adj*
li·po·gen·e·sis \ˌlī-pə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation of fatty acids from acetyl coenzyme A in the living body
li·po·ic acid \lī-ˌpō-ik-, lip-ˌō-\ *n* [*lip-*, *lipo-*] : any of several microbial growth factors; *esp* : a crystalline compound $C_8H_{14}O_2S_2$ that is essential for the oxidation of alpha-keto acids (as pyruric acid) in metabolism
[1]li·poid \'lī-ˌpȯid, 'lip-ˌȯid\ *or* **li·poi·dal** \lī-'pȯid-ᵊl, lip-'ȯid-\ *adj* [ISV] : resembling fat
[2]lipoid *n* [ISV] : LIPID
li·pol·y·sis \lī-'päl-ə-səs, lip-'äl-\ *n* [NL] : the hydrolysis of fat — **li·po·lyt·ic** \ˌlī-pə-'lit-ik, ˌlip-ə-\ *adj*
li·po·ma \lī-'pō-mə, lip-'ō-\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a tumor of fatty tissue — **li·po·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*
li·po·phil·ic \ˌlī-pə-'fil-ik, ˌlip-ə-\ *adj* : having an affinity for lipids (as fats) ⟨a ~ metabolite⟩
li·po·poly·sac·cha·ride \'lī-pō-ˌpäl-i-'sak-ə-ˌrīd, ˌlip-ō-\ *n* : a large molecule consisting of lipids and sugars joined by chemical bonds

li·po·pro·tein \-ˈprō-ˌtēn, -ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n* : a conjugated protein that is a complex of protein and lipid
li·po·tro·pic \-ˈtrō-pik, -ˈträp-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : promoting the physiologic utilization of fat — **li·pot·ro·pism** \lī-ˈpä-trə-ˌpiz-əm, lip-ˈä-\ *n*
lipped \ˈlipt\ *adj* : having a lip or lips esp. of a specified kind or number — often used in combination ⟨tight-*lipped*⟩
lip·pen \ˈlip-ən\ *vb* [ME *lipnien*] *vi, chiefly Scot* : TRUST, RELY ~ *vt, chiefly Scot* : ENTRUST
Lippes loop \ˌlip-əs-, ˈlips-\ *n* [Jack *Lippes*, 20th cent. Am physician] : an S-shaped plastic intrauterine device
lip·ping \ˈlip-iŋ\ *n* **1** : outgrowth of bone in liplike form at a joint margin **2** : a piece of wood set in an archer's bow where a flaw has been cut out **3** : EMBOUCHURE 1
lip·py \ˈlip-ē\ *adj* **lip·pi·er; -est** : given to back talk : IMPUDENT
lip–read \ˈlip-ˌrēd\ *vb* **-read** \-ˌred\; **-read·ing** \-ˌrēd-iŋ\ *vt* : to understand by lipreading ~ *vi* : to use lipreading — **lip–read·er** \-ˌrēd-\ *n*
lip·read·ing \-ˌrēd-iŋ\ *n* : the interpreting of a speaker's words without hearing his voice by watching his lip and facial movements
lip service *n* : avowal of allegiance that goes no further than expression in words
lip·stick \ˈlip-ˌstik\ *n* : a waxy solid usu. colored cosmetic in stick form for the lips; *also* : a stick of such cosmetic with its case
liq *abbr* **1** liquid **2** liquor
li·quate \ˈlī-ˌkwāt\ *vt* **li·quat·ed; li·quat·ing** [L *liquatus*, pp. of *liquare*; akin to L *liquēre*] : to cause (a more fusible substance) to separate out of a combination or mixture by the application of heat ⟨~ metallic lead from its ore⟩ — **li·qua·tion** \lī-ˈkwā-shən\ *n*
liq·ue·fac·tion \ˌlik-wə-ˈfak-shən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *liquefaction-, liquefactio*, fr. L *liquefactus*, pp. of *liquefacere*, fr. *liquēre* to be fluid + *facere* to make — more at DO] **1** : the process of making or becoming liquid **2** : the state of being liquid
liquefied petroleum gas *n* : a compressed gas that consists of flammable hydrocarbons (as propane and butane) and is used esp. as fuel or as raw material for chemical synthesis
liq·ue·fy *also* **liq·ui·fy** \ˈlik-wə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [MF *liquefier*, fr. L *liquefacere*] *vt* : to reduce to a liquid state ~ *vi* : to become liquid — **liq·ue·fi·abil·i·ty** \ˌlik-wə-ˌfī-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **liq·ue·fi·able** \-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **liq·ue·fi·er** \-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n*
li·ques·cent \lik-ˈwes-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *liquescent-, liquescens*, prp. of *liquescere* to become fluid, incho. of *liquēre*] : being or tending to become liquid : MELTING
li·queur \li-ˈkər, -ˈk(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. OF *licour* liquid — more at LIQUOR] : a usu. sweetened alcoholic beverage variously flavored (as with fruit or aromatics)
¹liq·uid \ˈlik-wəd\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *liquide*, fr. L *liquidus*, fr. *liquēre* to be fluid; akin to L *lixa* water, lye, OIr *fliuch* damp] **1** : flowing freely like water **2** : neither solid nor gaseous : characterized by free movement of the constituent molecules among themselves but without the tendency to separate ⟨~ mercury⟩ **3 a** : shining and clear ⟨large ~ eyes⟩ **b** : being musical and free of harshness in sound **c** : smooth and unconstrained in movement **d** : articulated without friction and capable of being prolonged like a vowel ⟨a ~ consonant⟩ **4** : consisting of or capable of ready conversion into cash ⟨~ assets⟩ — **li·quid·i·ty** \lik-ˈwid-ət-ē\ *n* — **liq·uid·ly** \ˈlik-wəd-lē\ *adv* — **liq·uid·ness** *n*
²liquid *n* **1** : a liquid substance **2** : a liquid consonant
liquid air *n* : air in the liquid state that can be prepared by subjecting it to great pressure and then cooling it by its own expansion to a temperature below the boiling point of its chief constituents and that is used chiefly as a refrigerant
liq·uid·am·bar \ˌlik-wə-ˈdam-bər\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *liquidus* + ML *ambar, ambra* amber] **1** : any of a genus (*Liquidambar*) of trees of the witch hazel family with monoecious flowers and a globose fruit of many woody carpels **2** : an American storax from the sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)
liq·ui·date \ˈlik-wə-ˌdāt\ *vb* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** [LL *liquidatus*, pp. of *liquidare* to melt, fr. L *liquidus*] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to determine by agreement or by litigation the precise amount of (indebtedness, damages, or accounts) (2) : to determine the liabilities and apportion assets toward discharging the indebtedness of **b** : to settle (a debt) by payment or other settlement **2** : to get rid of; *specif* : KILL **3** *archaic* : to make clear **4** : to convert (assets) into cash ~ *vi* **1** : to liquidate debts or damages or accounts **2** : to determine liabilities and apportion assets toward discharging indebtedness — **liq·ui·da·tion** \ˌlik-wə-ˈdā-shən\ *n*
liq·ui·da·tor \ˈlik-wə-ˌdāt-ər\ *n* : one that liquidates; *esp* : an individual appointed by law to liquidate assets
liquid crystal *n* : a liquid having certain physical and esp. optical properties shown by crystalline solids but not by ordinary liquids
liq·uid·ize \ˈlik-wə-ˌdīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to cause to be liquid
liquid measure *n* : a unit or series of units for measuring liquid capacity — see METRIC SYSTEM table, WEIGHT table
¹li·quor \ˈlik-ər\ *n* [ME *licour*, fr. OF, fr. L *liquor*, fr. *liquēre*] : a liquid substance: as **a** : a usu. distilled rather than fermented alcoholic beverage **b** : a watery solution of a drug **c** : BATH 2b(1)
²liquor *vb* **li·quored; li·quor·ing** \ˈlik-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to dress (as leather) with oil or grease **2** : to make drunk with alcoholic liquor — usu. used with *up* ~ *vi* : to drink alcoholic liquor esp. to excess — usu. used with *up*
li·quo·rice *chiefly Brit var of* LICORICE
li·ra \ˈlir-ə, ˈlē-rə\ *n* [It, fr. L *libra*, a unit of weight] **1** *pl* **li·re** \ˈlē-(ˌ)rā\ *also* **liras** — see MONEY table **2** [Turk, fr. It] *pl* **liras** *also* **lire** : a Turkish or Syrian pound **3** *pl* **li·roth** *or* **li·rot** \ˈlē-ˌrōt(h)\ [NHeb, fr. It] : the Israeli pound
lir·i·pipe \ˈlir-ə-ˌpīp\ *n* [ML *liripipium*] : a pendent part of a tippet; *also* : TIPPET, SCARF
lisle \ˈlī(ə)l\ *n* [*Lisle* Lille, France] : a smooth tightly twisted thread usu. made of long-staple cotton
¹lisp \ˈlisp\ *vb* [ME *lispen*, fr. OE *-wlyspian*; akin to OHG *lispen* to lisp] *vi* **1** : to pronounce the sibilants *s* and *z* imperfectly esp. by giving them the sound of *th* **2** : to speak falteringly, childishly, or with a lisp ~ *vt* : to utter falteringly or with a lisp — **lisp·er** *n*
²lisp *n* **1** : a speech defect or affectation characterized by lisping **2** : a sound resembling a lisp
lis·some *also* **lis·som** \ˈlis-əm\ *adj* [alter. of *lithesome*] **1** : easily flexed : LITHE **2** : NIMBLE — **lis·some·ly** *adv* — **lis·some·ness** *n*
¹list \ˈlist\ *vb* [ME *lysten*, fr. OE *lystan*; akin to OE *lust*] *vt, archaic* : PLEASE, SUIT ~ *vi, archaic* : WISH, CHOOSE
²list *n* [ME, prob. fr. *lysten*] *archaic* : INCLINATION, CRAVING
³list *vb* [ME *listen*, fr. OE *hlystan*, fr. *hlyst* hearing, fr. *hlysnan* to listen] *vi, archaic* : LISTEN ~ *vt, archaic* : to listen to : HEAR
⁴list *n* [ME, fr. OE *līste*; akin to OHG *līsta* edge, Alb *leth*] **1** : a band or strip of material: as **a** : LISTEL **b** : SELVAGE **c** : a narrow strip of wood cut from the edge of a plank or board **2** *pl but sing or pl in constr* **a** : an arena for jousting **b** : an arena for combat **c** : a field of competition or controversy **3** *obs* : LIMIT, BOUNDARY **4** : STRIPE
⁵list *vt* **1** : to cut away a narrow strip (as sapwood) from the edge of **2** : to prepare or plant (land) in ridges and furrows with a lister
⁶list *n* [F *liste*, fr. It *lista*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *līsta*] **1 a** : a simple series of words or numerals (as the names of persons or objects) ⟨a guest ~⟩ ⟨a grocery ~⟩ **b** : an official roster : ROLL **2** : INDEX, CATALOG
⁷list *vt* **1 a** : to make a list of : ENUMERATE **b** : to include on a list : REGISTER **2** : to place (oneself) in a specified category ⟨~*s* himself as a political liberal⟩ **3** *archaic* : RECRUIT ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : ENLIST **2** : to become entered in a catalog with a selling price ⟨a car that ~*s* for $3000⟩
⁸list *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* : to lean to one side : TILT ~ *vt* : to cause to list
⁹list *n* : a deviation from the vertical : TILT
lis·tel \ˈlis-tᵊl, lis-ˈtel\ *n* [F, fr. It *listello*, dim. of *lista* fillet, roster] : a narrow band in architecture : FILLET
¹lis·ten \ˈlis-ᵊn\ *vb* **lis·tened; lis·ten·ing** \ˈlis-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ [ME *listnen*, fr. OE *hlysnan*; akin to Skt *śroṣati* he hears, OE *hlūd* loud] *vt, archaic* : to give ear to : HEAR ~ *vi* **1** : to pay attention to sound ⟨~ to music⟩ **2** : to hear with thoughtful attention : HEED ⟨~ to a plea⟩ **3** : to be alert to catch an expected sound ⟨~ for his step⟩ — **lis·ten·er** \ˈlis-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*
²listen *n* : an act of listening
lis·ten·able \ˈlis-nə-bəl, -ᵊn-ə-\ *adj* : agreeable to listen to
listen in *vi* **1** : to tune in to or monitor a broadcast **2** : to listen to a conversation without participating in it; *esp* : EAVESDROP — **lis·ten·er–in** \ˌlis-nə-ˈrin, ˌlis-ᵊn-ə-\ *n*
¹list·er \ˈlis-tər\ *n* : one that lists or catalogs
²lister *n* [⁵*list*] **1** : a double-moldboard plow often equipped with a subsoiling attachment and used mainly where rainfall is limited **2** : a lister plow with an attachment for dropping seeds into the furrow
lis·te·ri·osis \lis-ˌtir-ē-ˈō-səs\ *n, pl* **-oses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Listeria*, genus of bacteria, fr. Joseph *Lister*] : a serious commonly fatal encephalitic disease of a great variety of wild and domestic mammals and birds and occas. man that is caused by a bacterium (*Listeria monocytogenes*)
list·ing *n* **1** : an act or instance of making or including in a list **2** : something that is listed
list·less \ˈlist-ləs\ *adj* : characterized by lack of inclination or impetus to exertion : LANGUID — **list·less·ly** *adv* — **list·less·ness** *n*
list price *n* : the basic price of an item as published in a catalog, price list, or advertisement but subject to discounts (as trade or quantity discounts)
¹lit \ˈlit\ *past of* LIGHT
²lit *adj* [pp. of ³*light*] : affected by alcohol : DRUNK
³lit *abbr* **1** liter **2** literal; literally **3** literary **4** literature
lit·a·ny \ˈlit-ᵊn-ē, ˈlit-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [ME *letanie*, fr. OF, fr. LL *litania*, fr. LGk *litaneia*, fr. Gk, entreaty, fr. *litanos* entreating; akin to OE *līm* lime] **1** : a prayer consisting of a series of invocations and supplications by the leader with alternate responses by the congregation **2** : a resonant or repetitive recital or chant ⟨a ~ of cheering phrases —Herman Wouk⟩
Lit B *abbr* — see LITT B
li·tchi \ˈlī-(ˌ)chē, ˈlē-\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *li⁴ chih⁴*] **1** : the oval fruit of a tree (*Litchi chinensis*) of the soapberry family having a hard scaly outer covering, small hard seed, and edible flesh that surrounds the seed and is firm, sweetish, and black when dried — called also *litchi nut* **2** : a tree bearing litchis
Lit D *abbr* — see LITT D
-lite \ˌlīt\ *n comb form* [F, alter. of *-lithe*, fr. Gk *lithos* stone] : mineral ⟨rhod*olite*⟩ : rock ⟨aer*olite*⟩ : fossil ⟨ichn*olite*⟩
li·ter \ˈlēt-ər\ *n* [F *litre*, fr. ML *litra*, a measure, fr. Gk, a weight] : a metric unit of capacity equal to the volume of one kilogram of water at 4°C and at standard atmospheric pressure of 760 millimeters of mercury — see METRIC SYSTEM table


litchi: *1* fruit and leaves, *2* cross section of fruit

lit·er·a·cy \'lit-ə-rə-sē, 'li-trə-\ *n* : the quality or state of being literate

¹lit·er·al \'lit-ə-rəl, 'li-trəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *litteralis*, fr. L, of a letter, fr. *littera* letter] **1 a** : according with the letter of the scriptures **b** : adhering to fact or to the ordinary construction or primary meaning of a term or expression : ACTUAL, OBVIOUS ⟨liberty in the ~ sense is impossible —B. N. Cardozo⟩ **c** : free from exaggeration or embellishment ⟨the ~ truth⟩ **d** : characterized by a concern mainly with facts : PROSAIC ⟨a very ~ man⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or expressed in letters **3** : reproduced word for word : EXACT, VERBATIM ⟨a ~ translation⟩ — **lit·er·al·i·ty** \ˌlit-ə-'ral-ət-ē\ *n* — **lit·er·al·ly** \'lit-ər-(ə-)lē, 'li-trə-lē\ *adv* — **lit·er·al·ness** \'lit-ə-rəl-nəs, 'li-trəl-\ *n*

²literal *n* : a small error usu. of a single letter in writing or printing

lit·er·al·ism \'lit-ə-rə-ˌliz-əm, 'li-trə-\ *n* **1** : adherence to the explicit substance of an idea or expression ⟨biblical ~⟩ **2** : fidelity to observable fact : REALISM — **lit·er·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **lit·er·al·is·tic** \ˌlit-ə-rə-'lis-tik, ˌli-trə-\ *adj*

lit·er·al·ize \'lit-ə-rə-ˌlīz, 'li-trə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make literal

lit·er·ary \'lit-ə-ˌrer-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of letters, humane learning, or literature **b** : BOOKISH 2 **c** : of or relating to books **2 a** : WELL-READ **b** : of or relating to men of letters or writing as a profession ⟨~ journals⟩ — **lit·er·ari·ly** \ˌlit-ə-'rer-ə-lē\ *adv* — **lit·er·ari·ness** \'lit-ə-ˌrer-ē-nəs\ *n*

literary executor *n* : a person entrusted with the management of the papers and unpublished works of a deceased author

¹lit·er·ate \'lit-ə-rət, 'li-trət\ *adj* [ME *literat*, fr. L *litteratus* marked with letters, literate, fr. *litterae* letters, literature, fr. pl. of *littera*] **1 a** : EDUCATED, CULTURED **b** : able to read and write **2 a** : versed in literature or creative writing : LITERARY **b** : LUCID, POLISHED ⟨assembling doctoral findings into a ~ thesis —J. P. Elder⟩ — **lit·er·ate·ly** *adv* — **lit·er·ate·ness** *n*

²literate *n* **1** : an educated person **2** : one who can read and write

li·te·ra·ti \ˌlit-ə-'rät-(ˌ)ē\ *n pl* [obs. It *litterati*, fr. L, pl. of *litteratus*] **1** : the educated class : INTELLIGENTSIA **2** : men of letters

lit·er·a·tim \ˌlit-ə-'rāt-əm, -'rät-\ *adv or adj* [ML, fr. L *littera*] : letter for letter ⟨usually printed ~ from the manuscript —I. A. Gordon⟩

lit·er·a·tion \ˌlit-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* [L *littera* + E *-ation*] : the representation of sound or words by letters

lit·er·a·tor \'lit-ə-ˌrāt-ər, ˌlit-ə-'rä-ˌtȯ(ə)r\ *n* : LITTERATEUR

lit·er·a·ture \'lit-ə-rə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, 'li-trə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, 'lit-ə(r)-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* **1** *archaic* : literary culture **2** : the production of literary work esp. as an occupation **3 a** : writings in prose or verse; *esp* : writings having excellence of form or expression and expressing ideas of permanent or universal interest **b** : the body of writings on a particular subject ⟨scientific ~⟩ **c** : printed matter (as leaflets or circulars) ⟨campaign ~⟩ **4** : the aggregate of musical compositions ⟨Brahms piano ~⟩

lit·er·a·tus \ˌlit-ə-'rät-əs\ *n* [NL, back-formation fr. E *literati* (taken as L)] : a member of the literati

lith *or* **litho** *abbr* lithographic; lithography

lith- *or* **litho-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *lithos*] **1** : stone ⟨*litho*logy⟩ **2** [NL *lithium*] : lithium ⟨*lithic*⟩

-lith \ˌlith\ *n comb form* [NL *-lithus* & F *-lithe*, fr. Gk *lithos*] **1 a** : structure or implement of stone ⟨mega*lith*⟩ ⟨eo*lith*⟩ **b** : artificial stone ⟨grano*lith*⟩ **2** : calculus ⟨uro*lith*⟩ **3** : -LITE ⟨lacco*lith*⟩

li·tharge \'lith-ˌärj, lith-'\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *lithargyrus*, fr. Gk *lithargyros*, fr. *lithos* + *argyros* silver — more at ARGENT] : a fused lead monoxide; *broadly* : LEAD MONOXIDE

lithe \'līth, 'līth\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *līthe* gentle; akin to OHG *lindi* gentle, L *lentus* slow] **1** : easily bent or flexed ⟨~ steel⟩ ⟨a ~ vine⟩ **2** : characterized by easy flexibility and grace ⟨a ~ dancer⟩ ⟨treading with a ~ silent step⟩ — **lithe·ly** *adv* — **lithe·ness** *n*

lithe·some \'līth-səm, 'līth-\ *adj* : LISSOME

lith·ia \'lith-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *lithos*] : a white crystalline oxide of lithium Li_2O

li·thi·a·sis \lith-'ī-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *lithos*] : the formation of stony concretions in the body (as in the gall bladder)

lithia water *n* : a mineral water containing lithium salts

lith·ic \'lith-ik\ *adj* [Gk *lithikos*, fr. *lithos*] **1** : of, relating to, or made of stone **2** : of or relating to lithium — **lith·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

-lith·ic \'lith-ik\ *adj comb form* [*lithic*] : relating to or characteristic of a (specified) stage in man's use of stone as a cultural tool ⟨Neo*lithic*⟩

lith·i·um \'lith-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *lithia*] : a soft silver-white element of the alkali metal group that is the lightest metal known and that is used esp. in nuclear reactions and metallurgy — see ELEMENT table

lithium carbonate *n* : a crystalline salt Li_2CO_3 used in the glass and ceramic industries and in medicine in the treatment of manic-depressive psychosis

lithium fluoride *n* : a white compound LiF used esp. in making prisms and ceramics and as a flux

litho \'līth-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **lith·os** **1** : LITHOGRAPH **2** : LITHOGRAPHY

¹litho·graph \'lith-ə-ˌgraf\ *vt* : to produce, copy, or portray by lithography — **li·tho·gra·pher** \lith-'äg-rə-fər, 'lith-ə-ˌgraf-ər\ *n*

²lithograph *n* : a print made by lithography — **litho·graph·ic** \ˌlith-ə-'graf-ik\ *adj* — **litho·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

li·thog·ra·phy \lith-'äg-rə-fē\ *n* [G *lithographie*, fr. *lith-* + *-graphie* -graphy] **1** : the process of printing from a plane surface (as a smooth stone or metal plate) on which the image to be printed is ink-receptive and the blank area ink-repellent **2** : PLANOGRAPHY

li·thol·o·gy \lith-'äl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** **1** : the study of rocks **2** : the character of a rock formation — **lith·o·log·ic** \ˌlith-ə-'läj-ik\ *also* **lith·o·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **lith·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

lith·o·phane \'lith-ə-ˌfān\ *n* [prob. fr. G *lithophan*, fr. Gk *lithos* + G *diaphan* diaphanous] : porcelain impressed with figures that are made distinct by transmitted light; *also* : an object (as an ornamental panel) of this material

litho·phyte \'lith-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* [F, fr. *lith-* + *-phyte*] **1** : an organism (as a coral) having a hard stony structure or skeleton **2** : a plant that grows on rock — **litho·phyt·ic** \ˌlith-ə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

lith·o·pone \'lith-ə-ˌpōn\ *n* [ISV *lith-* + Gk *ponos* work] : a white pigment consisting essentially of zinc sulfide and barium sulfate

litho·sol \'lith-ə-ˌsäl, -ˌsȯl\ *n* [*lith-* + L *solum* soil] : an azonal shallow soil consisting of imperfectly weathered rock fragments

litho·sphere \'lith-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : the solid part of a celestial body (as the earth); *specif* : the outer part of the solid earth composed of rock essentially like that exposed at the surface and usu. considered to be about 50 miles in thickness

li·thot·o·my \lith-'ät-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [LL *lithotomia*, fr. Gk, fr. *lithotomein* to perform a lithotomy, fr. *lith-* + *temnein* to cut — more at TOME] : surgical incision of the urinary bladder for removal of a stone

Lith·u·a·nian \ˌlith-(y)ə-'wā-nē-ən, -nyən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Lithuania **2** : the Baltic language of the Lithuanian people — **Lithuanian** *adj*

lit·i·gant \'lit-i-gənt\ *n* : one engaged in a lawsuit — **litigant** *adj*

lit·i·gate \'lit-ə-ˌgāt\ *vb* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [L *litigatus*, pp. of *litigare*, fr. *lit-*, *lis* lawsuit + *agere* to drive — more at AGENT] *vi* : to carry on a legal contest by judicial process ~ *vt* **1** *archaic* : DISPUTE **2** : to contest in law — **lit·i·ga·ble** \'lit-i-gə-bəl\ *adj* — **lit·i·ga·tion** \ˌlit-ə-'gā-shən\ *n*

li·ti·gious \lə-'tij-əs, li-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *litigieux*, fr. L *litigiosus*, fr. *litigium* dispute, fr. *litigare*] **1 a** : DISPUTATIOUS, CONTENTIOUS **b** : prone to engage in lawsuits **2** : subject to litigation **3** : of, relating to, or marked by litigation — **li·ti·gious·ly** *adv* — **li·ti·gious·ness** *n*

lit·mus \'lit-məs\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *litmosi* herbs used in dyeing, fr. *litr* color + *mosi* moss; akin to OHG ant*lizzi* face, L *vultus*, and to OE *mōs* moss] : a coloring matter from lichens that turns red in acid solutions and blue in alkaline solutions and is used as an acid-base indicator

litmus paper *n* : unsized paper colored with litmus and used as an indicator

li·to·tes \'līt-ə-ˌtēz, 'lit-\ *n, pl* **litotes** [Gk *litotēs*, fr. *litos* simple; akin to Gk *leios* smooth — more at LIME] : understatement in which an affirmative is expressed by the negative of the contrary (as in "not a bad singer")

li·tre \'lēt-ər\ *var of* LITER

Litt B *or* **Lit B** *abbr* [ML *litterarum baccalaureus*] bachelor of letters; bachelor of literature

Litt D *or* **Lit D** *abbr* [ML *litterarum doctor*] doctor of letters; doctor of literature

lit·ten \'lit-ᵊn\ *adj* [alter. of *lit*, pp. of *light*] *archaic* : being lighted

¹lit·ter \'lit-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *litiere*, fr. *lit* bed, fr. L *lectus* — more at LIE] **1 a** : a covered and curtained couch provided with shafts and used for carrying a single passenger **b** : a device (as a stretcher) for carrying a sick or injured person **2 a** : material used as bedding for animals **b** : the uppermost slightly decayed layer of organic matter on the forest floor **3** : the offspring at one birth of a multiparous animal **4 a** : trash, wastepaper, or garbage lying scattered about ⟨trying to clean up the roadside ~⟩ **b** : an untidy accumulation of objects ⟨a shabby writing-desk covered with a ~ of yellowish dusty documents —Joseph Conrad⟩ — **lit·tery** \-ə-rē\ *adj*

²litter *vt* **1** : BED 1a **2** : to give birth to (young) **3 a** : to strew with scattered articles **b** : to scatter about in disorder ~ *vi* **1** : to give birth to a litter **2** : to strew litter

lit·te·rae hu·ma·ni·o·res \'lit-ə-ˌrī-hü-ˌmän-ē-'ō(ə)r-ˌās, -'ȯ(ə)r-\ *n pl* [ML, lit., more humane letters] : HUMANITIES

lit·ter·a·teur \ˌlit-ə-rə-'tər, ˌli-trə-, -'tu̇(ə)r\ *n* [F *littérateur*, fr. L *litterator* critic, fr. *litteratus* literate] : a literary man; *esp* : a professional writer

lit·ter·bag \'lit-ər-ˌbag\ *n* : a bag used (as in an automobile) for temporary refuse disposal

lit·ter·bug \-ˌbəg\ *n* : one who litters a public area

lit·ter·er \'lit-ər-ər\ *n* : LITTERBUG

lit·ter·mate \'lit-ər-ˌmāt\ *n* : one of the offspring in a litter in relation to the others

¹lit·tle \'lit-ᵊl\ *adj* **lit·tler** \'lit-ᵊl-ər, 'lit-lər\ *or* **less** \'les\ *or* **less·er** \'les-ər\; **lit·tlest** \'lit-ᵊl-əst, 'lit-ləst\ *or* **least** \'lēst\ [ME *littel*, fr. OE *lȳtel*; akin to OHG *luzzil* little, Lith *liūsti* to be sad] **1** : not big: as **a** : small in size or extent : TINY ⟨has ~ feet⟩ **b** *of a plant or animal* : small in comparison with related forms — used in vernacular names **c** : small in number **d** : small in condition, distinction, or scope ⟨~ men temporarily inflated by big jobs —S. K. Padover⟩ **e** : NARROW, MEAN ⟨the pettiness of ~ minds⟩ **f** : pleasingly small ⟨she's a cute ~ thing⟩ **2** : not much: as **a** : existing only in a small amount or to a slight degree ⟨unfortunately he has ~ money⟩ **b** : short in duration : BRIEF **c** : existing to an appreciable though not extensive degree or amount — used with *a* ⟨fortunately he had a ~ money in the bank⟩ **3** : small in importance or interest : TRIVIAL — **lit·tle·ness** \'lit-ᵊl-nəs\ *n*

²little *adv* **less** \'les\; **least** \'lēst\ **1 a** : in only a small quantity or degree : SLIGHTLY ⟨facts that were ~ known at the time⟩ **b** : not at all ⟨cared ~ for his neighbors⟩ **2** : RARELY, INFREQUENTLY

³little *n* **1** : a small amount, quantity, or degree **2 a** : a short time **b** : a short distance — **a little** : SOMEWHAT, RATHER ⟨found the play *a little* dull⟩ — **in little** : on a small scale; *esp* : in miniature

Little Bear *n* : URSA MINOR

lit·tle bit·ty \ˌlit-ᵊl-'bit-ē\ *adj* : SMALL, TINY

little bluestem *n* : a forage grass (*Andropogon scoparius*) of central No. America

little by little *adv* : by small degrees or amounts : GRADUALLY

Little Dipper *n* : DIPPER 2b

little finger *n* : the fourth and smallest finger of the hand counting the forefinger as the first

Little Hours *n pl* : the offices of prime, terce, sext, and none forming part of the canonical hours

little leaf \ˈlit-ᵊl-ˌ(l)ēf\ *n* : a plant disorder characterized by small and often chlorotic and distorted foliage: as **a** : a zinc-deficiency disease of deciduous woody plants (as grape, peach, and pecan) **b** : a destructive disease of southern pines (as *Pinus echinata*) of unknown cause
little-leaf disease *n* : LITTLE LEAF
Little League *n* : a commercially sponsored baseball league for boys and girls from 8 to 12 years old — **Little Leaguer** *n*
little magazine *n* : a literary usu. noncommercial magazine typically small in format that esp. features experimental writing appealing to a relatively limited number of readers
lit·tle·neck \ˈlit-ᵊl-ˌnek\ *n* [*Littleneck* Bay, Long Island, N.Y.] : a young quahog suitable to be eaten raw — called also *littleneck clam*
Little Office *n* : an office in honor of the Virgin Mary like but shorter than the Divine Office
little people *n pl* **1** : tiny imaginary beings (as fairies, elves, and leprechauns) of folklore **2** : CHILDREN **3** : MIDGETS
little slam *n* : the winning of all tricks except one in bridge
little theater *n* : a small theater for low-cost dramatic productions designed for a relatively limited audience
little toe *n* : the outermost and smallest digit of the foot
little woman *n* : WIFE
¹lit·to·ral \ˈlit-ə-rəl; ˌlit-ə-ˈral, -ˈräl\ *adj* [L *litoralis*, fr. *litor-*, *litus* seashore] : of, relating to, or situated or growing on or near a shore esp. of the sea
²littoral *n* : a coastal region; *esp* : the shore zone between high and low watermarks
lit up *adj, slang* : DRUNK
li·tur·gi·cal \lə-ˈtər-ji-kəl, li-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of liturgy **2** : using or favoring the use of liturgy ⟨~ churches⟩ — **li·tur·gi·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
li·tur·gics \-jiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : the practice or study of formal public worship
li·tur·gi·ol·o·gist \-ˌtər-jē-ˈäl-ə-jəst\ *n* : LITURGIST 2
li·tur·gi·ol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* : LITURGICS
lit·ur·gist \ˈlit-ər-jəst\ *n* **1** : one who adheres to, compiles, or leads a liturgy **2** : a specialist in liturgics
lit·ur·gy \ˈlit-ər-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [LL *liturgia*, fr. Gk *leitourgia*, fr. (assumed) Gk (Attic) *leitos* public (fr. Gk *laos* — Attic *leōs* — people) + *-ourgia* -urgy] **1** *often cap* : a eucharistic rite **2** : a rite or body of rites prescribed for public worship
liv·abil·i·ty *also* **live·abil·i·ty** \ˌliv-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : survival expectancy : VIABILITY — used esp. of poultry and livestock **2** : suitability for human living
liv·able *also* **live·able** \ˈliv-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : suitable for living in or with **2** : ENDURABLE — **liv·able·ness** *n*
¹live \ˈliv\ *vb* **lived; liv·ing** [ME *liven*, fr. OE *libban;* akin to OHG *lebēn* to live, L *caelebs* unmarried] *vi* **1** : to be alive : have the life of an animal or plant **2** : to continue alive **3** : to maintain oneself : SUBSIST **4** : to conduct or pass one's life ⟨*lived* only for his work⟩ **5** : to occupy a home : DWELL ⟨*living* in a shabby room⟩ ⟨they had always *lived* in the country⟩ **6** : to attain eternal life ⟨though he die, yet shall he ~ —Jn 11:25 (RSV)⟩ **7** : to remain in human memory or record ⟨the past ~*s* in us all —W. R. Inge⟩ **8** : to have a life rich in experience **9** : COHABIT ~ *vt* **1** : to pass through or spend the duration of **2** : ENACT, PRACTICE **3** : to exhibit vigor, gusto, or enthusiasm in ⟨*lived* life to the fullest⟩ ***syn*** see RESIDE — **live it up** : to live with gusto and usu. fast and loose ⟨*lived it up* with wine and song —*Newsweek*⟩ — **live up to** \liv-ˈəp-tə, -(ˌ)tü\ : to act or be in accordance with ⟨had no intention of *living up to* his promise⟩
²live \ˈlīv\ *adj* [short for *alive*] **1** : having life : LIVING **2** : abounding with life : VIVID **3** : exerting force or containing energy: as **a** : AFIRE, GLOWING ⟨a ~ cigar⟩ **b** : connected to electric power **c** : charged with explosives and containing shot or a bullet ⟨~ ammunition⟩; *also* : not exploded ⟨a ~ bomb⟩ **d** : imparting or driven by power **e** : charged with fissionable material **4** : of continuing or current interest : UNCLOSED ⟨~ issues⟩ **5** : being in a pure native state **6** : of bright vivid color **7** : being in play ⟨a ~ ball⟩ **8 a** : not yet printed from or plated ⟨~ type⟩ **b** : not yet typeset ⟨~ copy⟩ **9 a** : of or involving the actual presence of real people ⟨a ~ audience⟩ **b** : broadcast directly at the time of production instead of from recorded or filmed material ⟨a ~ radio program⟩
³live \ˈlīv\ *adv* : during, from, or at a live production ⟨the programming originated ~ from New York City —*Current Biog.*⟩
live-bear·er \ˈlīv-ˌbar-ər, -ˌber-\ *n* : a fish that brings forth living young rather than eggs
live-bear·ing \ˈlīv-ˌba(ə)r-iŋ, -ˌbe(ə)r-\ *adj* : VIVIPAROUS
live-born \ˈlīv-ˈbȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : born alive — compare STILLBORN
live-box \-ˌbäks\ *n* : a box or pen suspended in water to keep aquatic animals alive
-lived \ˈlīvd, ˈlivd\ *comb form* [ME, fr. *lif* life] : having a life of a specified kind or length ⟨long-*lived*⟩
live down *vt* : to live so as to wipe out the memory or effects of ⟨made a mistake and couldn't *live* it *down*⟩
live-for-ev·er \ˈliv-fə-ˌrev-ər\ *n* : SEDUM
live-in \ˌliv-ˌin\ *adj* : living in one's place of employment ⟨a ~ maid⟩
live in \(ˈ)liv-ˈin\ *vi* : to live in one's place of employment — used of a servant
live·li·hood \ˈlīv-lē-ˌhu̇d\ *n* [ME *livelode* course of life, fr. OE *līflād*, fr. *līf* + *lād* course — more at LODE] **1** : means of support or subsistence **2** *obs* : the quality or state of being lively
live·long \ˌliv-ˌlȯŋ\ *adj* [ME *lef long*, fr. *lef* dear + *long* — more at LIEF] : WHOLE, ENTIRE ⟨the ~ day⟩
live·ly \ˈlīv-lē\ *adj* **live·li·er; -est** [ME, fr. OE *līflīc*, fr. *līf* life] **1** *obs* : LIVING **2** : briskly alert and energetic : VIGOROUS, ANIMATED ⟨a ~ discussion⟩ ⟨~ children racing home from school⟩ **3** : ACTIVE, INTENSE ⟨takes a ~ interest in the people around her⟩ **4** : BRILLIANT, FRESH ⟨a ~ flashing wit⟩ **5** : imparting spirit or vivacity : STIMULATING ⟨many a peer of England brews *livelier* liquor than the Muse —A. E. Housman⟩ **6** : quick to rebound : RESILIENT **7** : responding readily to the helm ⟨a ~ boat⟩ **8** : full of life, movement, or incident ⟨river . . . was ~ with craft of all descriptions — *Amer. Guide Series: Mich.*⟩ — **live·li·ly** \ˈlīv-lə-lē\ *adv* — **live·li·ness** \ˈlīv-lē-nəs\ *n* — **lively** *adv*
syn LIVELY, ANIMATED, VIVACIOUS, SPRIGHTLY, GAY *shared meaning element* : keenly alive and spirited ***ant*** dull
liv·en \ˈlī-vən\ *vb* **liv·ened; liv·en·ing** \ˈlīv-(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : ENLIVEN — often used with *up* ⟨he . . . ~*ed* up the editorial page —*Current Biog.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to become lively
live oak \ˈlī-ˌvōk\ *n* : any of several American evergreen oaks: as **a** : a medium-sized oak (*Quercus virginiana*) of southeastern No. America often cultivated as a shelter and shade tree and noted for its extremely hard tough durable wood **b** : any of various western No. American oaks with evergreen foliage and hard durable wood
live out *vi* : to live outside one's place of employment — used of a servant
live parking *n* : the parking of a vehicle with a driver or operator in attendance
¹liv·er \ˈliv-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lifer;* akin to OHG *lebra* liver] **1 a** : a large very vascular glandular organ of vertebrates that secretes bile and causes important changes in many of the substances contained in the blood (as by converting sugars into glycogen which it stores up until required and in forming urea) **b** : any of various large compound glands associated with the digestive tract of invertebrate animals and prob. concerned with the secretion of digestive enzymes **2** *archaic* : a determinant of the quality or temper of a man **3** : the tissue of the liver (as of a calf or pig) eaten as food **4** : a grayish reddish brown — called also *liver brown, liver maroon*
²liv·er \ˈliv-ər\ *n* **1** : one that lives esp. in a specified way ⟨a fast ~⟩ **2** : RESIDENT
-liv·ered \ˈliv-ərd\ *comb form* : expressing vigor or courage considered suggestive of one with (such) a liver ⟨chicken-*livered*⟩ ⟨lily-*livered*⟩
liver fluke *n* : any of various trematode worms (as *Fasciola hepatica*) that invade the mammalian liver
liv·er·ied \ˈliv-(ə-)rēd\ *adj* : wearing a livery ⟨a ~ chauffeur⟩
liv·er·ish \ˈliv-(ə-)rish\ *adj* **1** : resembling liver esp. in color **2 a** : suffering from liver disorder : BILIOUS **b** : PEEVISH, IRASCIBLE — **liv·er·ish·ness** *n*
liver sausage *n* : a sausage containing cooked ground liver and pork trimmings — called also *liver pudding*
liv·er·wort \ˈliv-ər-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* **1** : a bryophyte of a class (Hepaticae) related to and resembling the mosses but differing in reproduction, development, and in the structure of the gametophyte **2** : HEPATICA


liverwort 1

liv·er·wurst \ˈliv-ə(r)-ˌwərst, -ˌwu̇(ə)rst; ˈliv-ər-ˌwu̇s(h)t\ *n* [part trans. of G *leberwurst*, fr. *leber* liver + *wurst* sausage] : LIVER SAUSAGE
¹liv·ery \ˈliv-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** [ME, fr. OF *livree*, lit., delivery, fr. *livrer* to deliver, fr. L *liberare* to free — more at LIBERATE] **1** *archaic* : the apportioning of provisions esp. to servants : ALLOWANCE **2 a** : the distinctive clothing or badge formerly worn by the retainers of a person of rank **b** : a servant's uniform **c** : distinctive dress : GARB **3** *archaic* **a** : one's retainers or retinue **b** : the members of a British livery company **4 a** : the feeding, stabling, and care of horses for pay **b** : LIVERY STABLE **c** : a concern offering vehicles (as boats) for rent **5** : the act of delivering legal possession of property
²livery *adj* **1** : resembling liver **2** : suggesting liver disorder : LIVERISH
livery company *n* : any of various London craft or trade associations that are descended from medieval guilds
liv·ery·man \ˈliv-(ə-)rē-mən\ *n* **1** *archaic* : a liveried retainer **2** : a freeman of the city of London entitled to wear the livery of the company to which he belongs **3** : the keeper of a vehicle-rental service
livery stable *n* : a stable where horses and vehicles are kept for hire and where stabling is provided — called also *livery barn*
lives *pl of* LIFE
live steam *n* : steam direct from a boiler and under full pressure
live·stock \ˈlīv-ˌstäk\ *n* : animals kept or raised for use or pleasure; *esp* : farm animals kept for use and profit
live-trap \ˈlīv-ˌtrap\ *vt* : to capture (an animal) in a live trap
live trap *n* : a trap for catching an animal alive and uninjured
live wire *n* : an alert, active, or aggressive person
liv·id \ˈliv-əd\ *adj* [F *livide*, fr. L *lividus*, fr. *livēre* to be blue; akin to OE *slāh* sloe, Russ *sliva* plum] **1** : discolored by bruising : BLACK-AND-BLUE ⟨the ~ traces of the sharp scourges —Abraham Cowley⟩ **2** : ASHEN, PALLID ⟨this cross, thy ~ face, thy pierced hands and feet —Walt Whitman⟩ **3** : REDDISH ⟨a fan of gladiolas blushed ~ under the electric letters —Truman Capote⟩ **4** : very angry : ENRAGED ⟨was ~ at his son's disobedience⟩ — **li·vid·i·ty** \liv-ˈid-ət-ē\ *n* — **liv·id·ness** \ˈliv-əd-nəs\ *n*
¹liv·ing \ˈliv-iŋ\ *adj* **1 a** : having life **b** : ACTIVE, FUNCTIONING ⟨~ languages⟩ **2 a** : exhibiting the life or motion of nature : NATURAL ⟨the wilderness is a ~ museum . . . of natural history — *NEA Jour.*⟩ **b** : ²LIVE 3a **3 a** : full of life or vigor ⟨made mathematics a ~ subject⟩ **b** : true to life : VIVID ⟨the program was televised in ~ color⟩ **c** : suited for living ⟨the ~ area⟩ **4** : involving living persons **5** : VERY — used as an intensive ⟨scared the ~ daylights out of him⟩ — **liv·ing·ness** *n*

syn LIVING, ALIVE, ANIMATE, ANIMATED, VITAL *shared meaning element* : having or showing life ***ant*** lifeless

²living *n* **1** : the condition of being alive **2** : conduct or manner of life ⟨the collegiate way of ~ —J. B. Conant⟩ **3 a** : means of subsistence : LIVELIHOOD ⟨earning a ~⟩ **b** *archaic* : ESTATE, PROPERTY **c** *Brit* : BENEFICE 1

living death *n* : life emptied of joys and satisfactions ⟨the *living death* of a concentration camp⟩

living fossil *n* : an organism (as a horseshoe crab or a ginkgo tree) that has remained essentially unchanged from earlier geologic times and whose close relatives are usu. extinct

liv·ing·ly \ˈliv-iŋ-lē\ *adv* : in a vital manner : REALISTICALLY

living room *n* **1** : a room in a residence used for the common social activities of the occupants **2** : LEBENSRAUM — called also *living space*

living standard *n* : STANDARD OF LIVING

living unit *n* : an apartment or house for use by one family

living wage *n* **1** : a subsistence wage **2** : a wage sufficient to provide the necessities and comforts essential to an acceptable standard of living

liv·re \lēvrˀ\ *n* [F, fr. L *libra*, a unit of weight] **1** : an old French monetary unit equal to 20 sols **2** : a coin representing one livre

lix·iv·i·ate \lik-ˈsiv-ē-ˌāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *lixivium* lye, fr. L *lixivius* made of lye, fr. *lixa* lye — more at LIQUID] : to extract a soluble constituent from (a solid mixture) by washing or percolation — **lix·iv·i·a·tion** \(ˌ)lik-ˌsiv-ē-ˈā-shən\ *n*

liz·ard \ˈliz-ərd\ *n* [ME *liserd*, fr. MF *laisarde*, fr. L *lacerta;* akin to L *lacertus* muscle — more at LEG] : any of a suborder (Lacertilia) of reptiles distinguished from the snakes by a fused inseparable lower jaw, a single temporal opening, two pairs of well differentiated functional limbs which may be lacking in burrowing forms, external ears, and eyes with movable lids; *broadly* : any relatively long-bodied reptile (as a crocodile or dinosaur) with legs and tapering tail

lizard's tail *n* : a No. American herbaceous perennial plant (*Saururus cernuus*) with small white apetalous flowers

LJ *abbr* lord justice

Lk *abbr* Luke

ll *abbr* lines

LL *abbr* **1** lending library **2** limited liability **3** lower left

'll \l, əl, ˀl\ *vb* : WILL ⟨you'*ll* be late⟩

lla·ma \ˈläm-ə\ *n* [Sp, fr. Quechua] : any of several wild and domesticated So. American ruminants (genus *Lama*) related to the camels but smaller and without a hump; *esp* : the domesticated guanaco used in the Andes as a beast of burden and a source of wool



llama

lla·no \ˈlän-(ˌ)ō, ˈlan-\ *n, pl* **llanos** [Sp, plain, fr. L *planum* — more at PLAIN] : an open grassy plain in Spanish America or the southwestern U.S.

LLB *abbr* [NL *legum baccalaureus*] bachelor of laws

LLD *abbr* [NL *legum doctor*] doctor of laws

LLM *abbr* [NL *legum magister*] master of laws

Lloyd's \ˈlȯidz\ *n* : an association of individual underwriters in London specializing in marine insurance and shipping news and insuring for losses of almost every conceivable kind

LM *abbr* **1** Legion of Merit **2** long meter **3** lunar module

LMG *abbr* light machine gun

LMT *abbr* local mean time

ln *symbol* natural logarithm

lndg *abbr* landing

LNG *abbr* liquefied natural gas

lo \ˈlō\ *interj* [ME, fr. OE *lā*] — used to call attention or to express wonder or surprise

loach \ˈlōch\ *n* [ME *loche*, fr. MF] : any of a family (Cobitidae) of small Old World freshwater fishes related to the carps

¹load \ˈlōd\ *n* [ME *lod*, fr. OE *lād* support, carrying — more at LODE] **1 a** : whatever is put on a man or pack animal to be carried : PACK **b** : whatever is put in a ship or vehicle or airplane for conveyance : CARGO; *esp* : a quantity of material assembled or packed as a shipping unit **c** : the quantity that can be carried at one time by a specified means; *esp* : a measured quantity of a commodity fixed for each type of carrier — often used in combination ⟨a boat*load* of tourists⟩ **2 a** : a mass or weight supported by something ⟨branches bent low by their ~ of fruit⟩ **b** : the forces to which a structure is subjected due to superposed weight or to wind pressure on the vertical surfaces **3 a** : something that weighs down the mind or spirits ⟨took a ~ off her mind⟩ **b** : a burdensome or laborious responsibility ⟨always carried his share of the ~⟩ **4** *slang* : an intoxicating amount of liquor drunk **5** : a large quantity : LOT — usu. used in pl. **6 a** : a charge for a firearm **b** : the quantity of material loaded into a device at one time **7** : external resistance overcome by a machine or prime mover **8 a** : power output (as of a power plant) **b** : a device to which power is delivered **9 a** (1) : the amount of work that a person carries or is expected to carry (2) : the amount of authorized work to be performed by a machine, a group, a department, or a factory **b** : the demand on the operating resources of a system (as a telephone exchange or a refrigerating apparatus) **10** *slang* : EYEFUL — used in the phrase *get a load of* **11** : the decrease in capacity for survival of the average individual in a population due to the presence of deleterious genes in the gene pool ⟨genetic ~⟩ ⟨mutational ~⟩

²load *vt* **1 a** : to put a load in or on ⟨~ a truck⟩ **b** : to place in or on a means of conveyance ⟨~ freight⟩ **2 a** : to encumber or oppress with something heavy, laborious, or disheartening : BURDEN ⟨a company ~*ed* down with debts⟩ **b** : to place as a burden or obligation ⟨~ more work on him⟩ **3 a** : to increase the weight of by adding something heavy **b** : to add a conditioning substance (as a mineral salt) to for body **c** : to add filler to (paper) **d** : to weight or shape (dice) to fall unfairly **e** : to pack with one-sided or prejudicial influences : BIAS **f** : to charge with emotional associations **g** : to weight (as a test) with factors influencing validity or outcome **4 a** : to supply in abundance or excess : HEAP **b** : to put runners on (first, second, and third bases) in baseball **5 a** : to put a load or charge in (a device or piece of equipment) ⟨~ a gun⟩ **b** : to place or insert as a load in a device or piece of equipment ⟨~ film in a camera⟩ **6** : to alter (as an alcoholic drink) by adding an adulterant or drug **7 a** : to add loading to (an insurance premium) **b** : to add a sum to after profits and expenses are accounted for ⟨~*ed* prices⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to receive a load **2** : to put a load on or in a carrier, device, or container; *esp* : to insert the charge or cartridge in the chamber of a firearm — **load·er** *n*

load·ed *adj* **1** *slang* : DRUNK **2** : having a large amount of money

load·ing *n* **1** : a cargo, weight, or stress placed on something **2** : an amount added (as to the net premium in insurance) to represent business expenses, future contingencies, or profit **3** : material used to load something : FILLER

load line *n* : the line on a ship indicating the depth to which it sinks in the water when properly loaded

load·star *var of* LODESTAR

load·stone *var of* LODESTONE

¹loaf \ˈlōf\ *n, pl* **loaves** \ˈlōvz\ [ME *lof*, fr. OE *hlāf;* akin to OHG *hleib* loaf] **1** : a shaped or molded mass of bread **2** : a regularly molded often rectangular mass: as **a** : a conical mass of sugar **b** : a dish (as of seasoned meat or fish) baked in the form of a loaf

²loaf *vi* [prob. back-formation fr. *loafer*] : to spend time in idleness

loaf·er \ˈlō-fər\ *n* [perh. short for *landloafer*, fr. G *landläufer* tramp, fr. *land* + *läufer* runner] : one that loafs : IDLER

Loafer *trademark* — used for a low leather step-in shoe with an upper resembling the moccasin but with a broad flat heel

loam \ˈlōm, ˈlüm\ *n* [ME *lom*, fr. OE *lām;* akin to OE *līm* lime] **1 a** : a mixture (as for plastering) composed chiefly of moistened clay **b** : a coarse molding sand used in founding **2** : SOIL; *specif* : a soil consisting of a friable mixture of varying proportions of clay, silt, and sand — **loamy** \ˈlō-mē, ˈlü-\ *adj*

¹loan \ˈlōn\ *n* [ME *lon*, fr. ON *lān;* akin to OE *lǣn* loan, *lēon* to lend, L *linquere* to leave, Gk *leipein*] **1 a** : money lent at interest **b** : something lent usu. for the borrower's temporary use **2 a** : the grant of temporary use **b** : the temporary duty of a person transferred to another job for a limited time **3** : LOANWORD

²loan *vt* : LEND ⟨books . . . ~*ed* to children for home use —Phyllis A. Lewis⟩ — **loan·able** \ˈlō-nə-bəl\ *adj*

lo and behold *interj* — used to express wonder or surprise

loan·er \ˈlō-nər\ *n* : one (as a car or a watch) that is lent esp. as a replacement for something being repaired

loan·ing \ˈlō-niŋ\ *n* [ME *loning*, fr. *lone*, alter. of *lane*] **1** *dial Brit* : LANE **2** *dial Brit* : a milking yard

loan shark *n* : one who lends money to individuals at exorbitant rates of interest

loan·shark·ing \-ˌshär-kiŋ\ *n* : the practice of lending money at exorbitant rates of interest

loan translation *n* : a compound, derivative, or phrase that is introduced into a language through translation of the constituents of a term in another language (as *superman* from German *Übermensch*)

loan·word \ˈlōn-ˌwərd\ *n* : a word taken from another language and at least partly naturalized

loath \ˈlōth, ˈlōt͟h\ *also* **loathe** \ˈlōt͟h, ˈlōth\ *adj* [ME *loth* loathsome, fr. OE *lāth;* akin to OHG *leid* loathsome, OIr *liuss* aversion] : unwilling to do something contrary to one's likes, sympathies, or ways of thinking : RELUCTANT ***syn*** see DISINCLINED ***ant*** anxious — **loath·ness** *n*

loathe \ˈlōt͟h\ *vt* **loathed; loath·ing** [ME *lothen*, fr. OE *lāthian*, fr. *lāth*] : to dislike greatly and often with disgust or intolerance : DETEST ***syn*** see HATE ***ant*** dote (*on*) — **loath·er** *n*

loath·ing \ˈlō-t͟hiŋ\ *n* : extreme disgust : DETESTATION

¹loath·ly \ˈlōt͟h-lē, ˈlōth-\ *adj* : LOATHSOME, REPULSIVE

²loath·ly \ˈlōth-lē, ˈlōt͟h-\ *adv* : not willingly : RELUCTANTLY

loath·some \ˈlōth-səm, ˈlōt͟h-\ *adj* [ME *lothsum*, fr. *loth* evil, fr. OE *lāth*, fr. *lāth*, adj.] : giving rise to loathing : DISGUSTING — **loath·some·ly** *adv* — **loath·some·ness** *n*

¹lob \ˈläb\ *n* [prob. of LG origin; akin to LG *lubbe* coarse person] *dial Brit* : a dull heavy person : LOUT

²lob *vb* **lobbed; lob·bing** [*lob* (a loosely hanging object)] *vt* **1** : to let hang heavily : DROOP **2** : to throw, hit, or propel easily or in a high arc ~ *vi* **1 a** : to move slowly and heavily **b** : to move in an arc **2** : to hit a tennis ball easily in a high arc

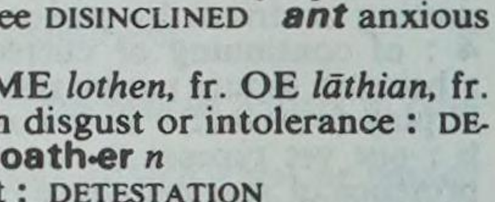
³lob *n* : a ball that is lobbed

lob- *or* **lobo-** *comb form* [*lobe*] : lobe ⟨*lob*ar⟩ ⟨*lobo*tomy⟩

lo·bar \ˈlō-bər, -ˌbär\ *adj* : of or relating to a lobe

lo·bate \ˈlō-ˌbāt\ *also* **lo·bat·ed** \-ˌbāt-əd\ *adj* [NL *lobatus*, fr. LL *lobus*] **1** : having lobes **2** : resembling a lobe — **lo·bate·ly** *adv*

lo·ba·tion \lō-ˈbā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of being lobed **b** : the formation of lobes or lobules **2 a** : LOBE **b** : LOBULE



lobation of leaves: *1* lobed, *2* cleft, *3* parted, *4* divided

¹lob·by \ˈläb-ē\ *n, pl* **lobbies** [ML *lobium* gallery, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *louba* porch] **1** : a corridor or hall connected with a larger room or series of rooms and used as a passageway or waiting room: as **a** : an anteroom of a legislative chamber; *esp* : one of two anterooms of a British parliamentary chamber to which members go to vote during a division **b** : a large hall serving as a foyer (as of a hotel or theater) **2** : a group of persons engaged in lobbying esp. as representatives of a particular interest group

²lobby *vb* **lob·bied; lob·by·ing** *vi* : to conduct activities aimed at influencing public officials and esp. members of a legislative body on legislation ~ *vt* **1** : to promote (as a project) or secure the passage of (as legislation) by influencing public officials **2** : to attempt to influence or sway (as a public official) toward a desired action — **lob·by·er** *n* — **lob·by·ism** \-ē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **lob·by·ist** \-ē-əst\ *n*

lob·by·gow \ˈläb-ē-ˌgaù\ *n* [origin unknown] : an errand boy

lobe \ˈlōb\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *lobus*, fr. Gk *lobos* — more at SLEEP] : a curved or rounded projection or division; *specif* : a usu. somewhat rounded projection or division of a bodily organ or part

lo·bec·to·my \lō-ˈbek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : surgical removal of a lobe of an organ (as a lung) or gland

lobed \ˈlōbd\ *adj* : LOBATE 1

lobe–fin \ˈlōb-ˌfin\ *n* : any of a large group (Crossopterygii) of fishes (as a latimeria) that have paired fins suggesting limbs, that may be ancestral to the terrestrial vertebrates, and that are mostly extinct — **lobe–finned** \-ˈfind\ *adj*

lobe–finned fish *n* : LOBE-FIN

lo·be·lia \lō-ˈbēl-yə, -ˈbē-lē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Matthias de *Lobel* †1616 Flem botanist] **1** : any of a genus (*Lobelia* of the family Lobeliaceae, the lobelia family) of widely distributed herbaceous plants cultivated for their terminal clusters of showy lipped flowers **2** : the leaves and tops of Indian tobacco

lo·be·line \ˈlō-bə-ˌlēn\ *n* [NL *Lobelia* + E *-ine*] : a crystalline alkaloid $C_{22}H_{27}NO_2$ that is obtained from Indian tobacco and is used chiefly as a respiratory stimulant and as a smoking deterrent

lob·lol·ly \ˈläb-ˌläl-ē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [prob. fr. E dial. *lob* (to boil) + obs. E dial. *lolly* broth] **1** *dial* **a** : a thick gruel **b** : MIRE, MUDHOLE **2** *dial* : LOUT

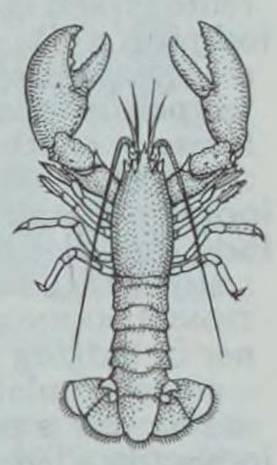
loblolly pine *n* : a pine (*Pinus taeda*) of the southern U.S. with flaky bark, long needles in groups of three, and spiny tipped cones; *also* : its coarse-grained wood

lo·bo \ˈlō-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **lobos** [Sp, wolf, fr. L *lupus* — more at WOLF] : TIMBER WOLF

lo·bot·o·my \lō-ˈbät-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : severance of nerve fibers (as of the frontal lobes) by incision into the brain for the relief of some mental disorders and tensions

lob·scouse \ˈläb-ˌskaùs\ *n* [origin unknown] : a sailor's dish prepared by stewing or baking bits of meat with vegetables and hardtack

lob·ster \ˈläb-stər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *loppestre*, fr. *loppe* spider; akin to ME *sloberen* to slobber] **1** : any of a family (Homaridae and esp. genus *Homarus*) of large edible marine decapod crustaceans that have stalked eyes, a pair of large claws, and a long abdomen and that include species from coasts on both sides of the North Atlantic and from the Cape of Good Hope **2** : SPINY LOBSTER



lobster 1

lob·ster·man \-mən\ *n* : one whose business is catching lobsters

lobster pot *n* : an oblong case with slat sides and a funnel-shaped net used as a trap for catching lobsters

lobster shift *n* : a work shift (as on a newspaper) that covers the late evening and early morning hours — called also *lobster trick*

lobster ther·mi·dor \-ˈthər-mə-ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*thermidor* fr. F, fr. *Thermidor*, drama (1891) by Victorien Sardou] : cooked lobster meat in a rich wine sauce stuffed into a lobster shell and browned

lobster trap *n* : LOBSTER POT

lob·u·lar \ˈläb-yə-lər\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling a lobule — **lob·u·lar·ly** *adv*

lob·u·late \ˈläb-yə-ˌlāt\ *also* **lob·u·lat·ed** \-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : made up of or provided with lobules ⟨the pancreas is a ~ organ⟩ — **lob·u·la·tion** \ˌläb-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*

lob·ule \ˈläb-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* : a small lobe; *also* : a subdivision of a lobe — **lob·u·lose** \-yə-ˌlōs\ *adj*

LOC *abbr* lines of communication

¹lo·cal \ˈlō-kəl\ *adj* [ME *localle*, fr. MF *local*, fr. LL *localis*, fr. L *locus* place — more at STALL] **1** : characterized by or relating to position in space : having a definite spatial form or location **2** : of or relating to a particular place : characteristic of a particular place : not general or widespread **3** **a** : primarily serving the needs of a particular limited district **b** *of a public conveyance* : making all the stops on a route **4** : involving or affecting only a restricted part of the organism : TOPICAL **5** : of or relating to telephone communication within a specified area — **lo·cal·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv*

²local *n* : a local person or thing: as **a** : a local public conveyance (as a train or an elevator) **b** : a local or particular branch, lodge, or chapter of an organization

local color *n* : color in writing derived from the presentation of the features and peculiarities of a particular locality and its inhabitants

lo·cale \lō-ˈkal\ *n* [modif. of F *local*, fr. *local*, adj.] **1** : a place or locality esp. when viewed in relation to a particular event or characteristic **2** : SITE, SCENE ⟨the ~ of a story⟩

local government *n* : the government of a specific local area constituting a subdivision of a major political unit (as a nation or state); *also* : the body of persons constituting such a government

lo·cal·ism \ˈlō-kə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1** : affection or partiality for a particular place : SECTIONALISM **2** **a** : a local idiom **b** : a local peculiarity of speaking or acting

lo·cal·ite \ˈlō-kə-ˌlīt\ *n* : a native or resident of the locality under consideration : LOCAL

lo·cal·i·ty \lō-ˈkal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the fact or condition of having a location in space or time **2** : a particular place, situation, or location

lo·cal·ize \ˈlō-kə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to make local : orient locally **2** : to assign to or keep within a definite locality ~ *vi* : to collect in a specific or limited area — **lo·cal·iza·tion** \ˌlō-kə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

local option *n* : the power granted by a legislature to a political subdivision to determine by popular vote the local applicability of a law on a controversial issue (as the sale of liquor)

local time *n* : time based on the meridian through a particular place as contrasted with that of a time zone

lo·cate \ˈlō-ˌkāt, lō-ˈ\ *vb* **lo·cat·ed; lo·cat·ing** [L *locatus*, pp. of *locare* to place, fr. *locus*] *vi* : to establish oneself or one's business : SETTLE ~ *vt* **1** : to determine or indicate the place, site, or limits of **2** : to set or establish in a particular spot : STATION **3** : to seek out and determine the location of **4** : to find or fix the place of esp. in a sequence : CLASSIFY — **lo·cat·able** \-ˌkāt-ə-bəl, -ˈkāt-\ *adj* — **lo·cat·er** *n*

lo·ca·tion \lō-ˈkā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of locating **2** **a** : a position or site occupied or available for occupancy or marked by some distinguishing feature : SITUATION **b** (1) : a tract of land designated for a purpose (2) *Austral* : FARM, STATION **c** : a place outside a motion-picture studio where a picture or part of it is filmed — usu. used in the phrase *on location* — **lo·ca·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **lo·ca·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

¹loc·a·tive \ˈläk-ət-iv\ *n* [L *locus* + E *-ative* (as in *vocative*)] : the locative case; *also* : a word in that case

²locative *adj* : of or being a grammatical case that denotes place or the place where or wherein

lo·ca·tor \ˈlō-ˌkāt-ər, lō-ˈ\ *n* : one that locates something (as a mining claim or the course of a road)

loc cit *abbr* [L *loco citato*] in the place cited

loch \ˈläk, ˈläk̲\ *n* [ME (Sc) *louch*, fr. ScGael *loch;* akin to L *lacus* lake] **1** *Scot* : LAKE **2** *Scot* : a bay or arm of the sea esp. when nearly landlocked

loci *pl of* LOCUS

¹lock \ˈläk\ *n* [ME *lok*, fr. OE *locc;* akin to OHG *loc* lock, L *luctari* to struggle, *luxus* dislocated] **1** **a** : a tuft, tress, or ringlet of hair **b** *pl* : the hair of the head **2** : a cohering bunch (as of wool, cotton, or flax) : TUFT

²lock *n* [ME *lok*, fr. OE *loc;* akin to OHG *loh* enclosure, OE *locc* lock of hair] **1** **a** : a fastening (as for a door) operated by a key or a combination **b** : the mechanism for exploding the charge or cartridge of a firearm **2** **a** : an enclosure (as in a canal) with gates at each end used in raising or lowering boats as they pass from level to level **b** : AIR LOCK **3** **a** : a locking or fastening together **b** : an intricate mass of objects impeding each other (as in a traffic jam) **c** : a hold in wrestling secured on one part of the body; *broadly* : a controlling hold ⟨his paper . . . had a ~ on a large part of the state —John Corry⟩

³lock *vt* **1** **a** : to fasten the lock of **b** : to make fast with or as if with a lock ⟨~ up the house⟩ **2** **a** : to fasten in or out or to make secure or inaccessible by or as if by means of locks ⟨~*ed* himself away from the curious world⟩ ⟨~*ed* her husband out⟩ **b** : to hold fast or inactive : fix in a particular situation or method of operation ⟨a team firmly ~*ed* in last place⟩ ⟨afraid of being ~*ed* into the system⟩ **3** **a** : to make fast by the interlacing or interlocking of parts **b** : to hold in a close embrace **c** : to grapple in combat; *also* : to bind closely ⟨administration and students were ~*ed* in conflict⟩ **d** : to fasten (imposed letterpress matter) securely in a chase or on the bed of a press by tightening the quoins; *also* : to attach (a curved plate) to the plate cylinder of a rotary press **4** : to invest (capital) without assurance of easy convertibility into money **5** **a** : to move or permit to pass (as a ship) by raising or lowering in a lock **b** : to provide (as a canal) with locks ~ *vi* **1** **a** : to become locked **b** : to be capable of being locked **2** : INTERLACE, INTERLOCK **3** **a** : to build locks to facilitate navigation **b** : to go or pass by means of a lock (as in a canal) — **lock·able** \ˈläk-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **lock horns** : to come into conflict

lock·age \ˈläk-ij\ *n* **1** : an act or the process of passing a ship through a lock **2** : a system of locks **3** : toll paid for passing through a lock

lock·box \ˈläk-ˌbäks\ *n* : a box (as a post-office box, strongbox, or safety-deposit box) that locks

locked–in \ˈläk-ˈtin\ *adj* **1** : unalterably fixed **2** : unable or unwilling to shift invested funds because of the tax effect of realizing capital gains

lock·er \ˈläk-ər\ *n* **1** **a** : a drawer, cupboard, or compartment that may be closed with a lock; *esp* : one for individual storage use **b** : a chest or compartment on shipboard for compact stowage of articles **c** : a compartment for storing quick-frozen foods for long periods usu. at or below 0° F and at 80% relative humidity **2** : one that locks

locker paper *n* : a flexible protective paper for wrapping food for quick-freezing and storage

locker room *n* : a room for changing clothes and for storing clothing and equipment in lockers; *esp* : one for use by sports participants

lock·et \ˈläk-ət\ *n* [MF *loquet* latch, fr. MD *loke;* akin to OE *loc*] : a small case usu. of precious metal that has space for a memento and that is worn typically suspended from a chain or necklace

lock·jaw \ˈläk-ˌjȯ\ *n* : an early symptom of tetanus characterized by spasm of the jaw muscles and inability to open the jaws; *also* : TETANUS

lock·nut \-ˌnət, -ˈnət\ *n* **1** : a nut screwed down hard on another to prevent it from slacking back **2** : a nut so constructed that it locks itself when screwed up tight

lock on *vt* : to sight and follow (a target) automatically by means of a radar beam or sensor

lock·out \ˈläk-ˌaùt\ *n* : the withholding of employment by an employer and the whole or partial closing of his business establish-

ment in order to gain concessions from or resist demands of employees
lock out \(')läk-'aůt\ *vt* : to subject (a body of employees) to a lockout
lock·ram \'läk-rəm\ *n* [ME *lokerham*, fr. *Locronan*, town in Brittany] : a coarse plain-woven linen formerly used in England
lock·smith \'läk-ˌsmith\ *n* : one who makes or repairs locks
lock·smith·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : the work or business of a locksmith
lock·step \'läk-ˌstep\ *n* **1** : a mode of marching in step by a body of men going one after another as closely as possible **2** : a standard method or procedure that is mindlessly adhered to or that minimizes individuality
lock·stitch \-ˌstich\ *n* : a sewing machine stitch formed by the looping together of two threads one on each side of the material being sewn — **lockstitch** *vb*
lock, stock, and barrel *adv* [fr. the principal parts of a flintlock] : WHOLLY, COMPLETELY ⟨the only thing which had not been sold *lock, stock, and barrel* with the . . . house was this piano —Marcia Davenport⟩
lock·up \'läk-ˌəp\ *n* **1** : an act of locking : the state of being locked **2** : JAIL; *esp* : a local jail where persons are detained prior to court hearing
¹lo·co \'lō-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **locos** *or* **locoes** [MexSp, fr. Sp, crazy] **1** : LOCOWEED **2** : LOCOISM
²loco *vt* **1** : to poison with locoweed **2** : to make frenzied or crazy
³loco *adj* [Sp] *slang* : out of one's mind : CRAZY, FRENZIED ⟨most of the resident foreigners . . . take to drink, driven ~ by the Portuguese peculiarities —Mary McCarthy⟩
⁴loco *adv or adj* [It dial, there, fr. L *in loco* in the place] : in the register as written — used as a direction in music
lo·co·fo·co \ˌlō-kə-'fō-(ˌ)kō\ *n, pl* **-focos** [prob. fr. ¹*loco*motive + It *fuoco, foco* fire, fr. L *focus* hearth] **1 a** : a match capable of being ignited by friction on a hard dry rough surface **b** : a cigar with an end that is ignitable by friction **2** *cap* **a** : a member of a radical group of New York Democrats organized in 1835 in opposition to the regular party organization **b** : DEMOCRAT 2
lo·co·ism \'lō-(ˌ)kō-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : a disease of horses, cattle, and sheep caused by chronic poisoning with locoweeds
lo·co·mote \'lō-kə-ˌmōt\ *vi* **-mot·ed; -mot·ing** [back-formation fr. *locomotion*] : to move about
lo·co·mo·tion \ˌlō-kə-'mō-shən\ *n* [L *locus* + E *motion*] **1** : an act or the power of moving from place to place **2** : TRAVEL
¹lo·co·mo·tive \ˌlō-kə-'mōt-iv\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or functioning in locomotion **b** : having the ability to move independently from place to place **2** : of or relating to travel **3** : of, relating to, or being a machine that moves about by operation of its own mechanism
²locomotive *n* **1** : a self-propelled vehicle that runs on rails, utilizes any of several forms of energy for producing motion, and is used for moving railroad cars **2** : a school or college cheer characterized by a slow beginning and a progressive increase in speed
lo·co·mo·tor \ˌlō-kə-'mōt-ər\ *adj* **1** : LOCOMOTIVE 1 **2** : affecting or involving the locomotive organs
locomotor ataxia *n* : a syphilitic disorder of the nervous system marked esp. by disturbances of gait and difficulty in coordinating voluntary movements
lo·co·mo·to·ry \ˌlō-kə-'mōt-ə-rē\ *adj* : LOCOMOTOR
lo·co·weed \'lō-(ˌ)kō-ˌwēd\ *n* : any of several leguminous plants (genera *Astragalus* and *Oxytropis*) of western No. America that cause locoism in livestock


locoweed

loc·u·lar \'läk-yə-lər\ *adj* : having or composed of loculi — often used in combination ⟨multi*locular*⟩
loc·u·lat·ed \'läk-yə-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : having or divided into loculi — **loc·u·la·tion** \ˌläk-yə-'lā-shən\ *n*
loc·ule \'läk-(ˌ)yü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *loculus*] : LOCULUS; *esp* : any of the cells of a compound ovary of a plant — **loc·uled** \-(ˌ)yü(ə)ld\ *adj*
loc·u·li·ci·dal \ˌläk-yə-lə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj* [NL *loculus* + L *-cidere* to cut, fr. *caedere* — more at CONCISE] : dehiscing longitudinally so as to bisect each loculus ⟨~ fruit⟩ — **loc·u·li·ci·dal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
loc·u·lus \'läk-yə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *locus*] : a small chamber or cavity esp. in a plant or animal body
lo·cum te·nens \ˌlō-kəm-'tē-ˌnenz, -nənz\ *n, pl* **locum te·nen·tes** \-ti-'nen-ˌtēz\ [ML, lit., one holding a place] : one filling an office for a time or temporarily taking the place of another — used esp. of a doctor or clergyman
lo·cus \'lō-kəs\ *n, pl* **lo·ci** \'lō-ˌsī, -ˌkī, -ˌkē\ [L — more at STALL] **1 a** : PLACE, LOCALITY ⟨was the culture of medicine in the beginning dispersed from a single focus or did it arise in several *loci*? —S. C. Harvey⟩ **b** : a center of activity or concentration ⟨in democracy the ~ of power is in the people —H. G. Rickover⟩ **2** : the set of all points whose location is determined by stated conditions **3** : the position in a chromosome of a particular gene or allele
lo·cus clas·si·cus \ˌlō-kəs-'klas-i-kəs\ *n, pl* **lo·ci clas·si·ci** \-ˌsī-'klas-ə-ˌsī, -ˌkī-'klas-ə-ˌkī, -ˌkē-'klas-ə-ˌkē\ [NL] : a passage that has become a standard for the elucidation of a word or subject
lo·cust \'lō-kəst\ *n* [ME, fr. L *locusta*] **1** : SHORT-HORNED GRASSHOPPER; *esp* : a migratory grasshopper often traveling in vast swarms and stripping the areas passed of all vegetation **2** : CICADA **3 a** : any of various hard-wooded leguminous trees: as (1) : CAROB 1 (2) : BLACK LOCUST (3) : HONEY LOCUST **b** : the wood of a locust tree
locust bean *n* : CAROB
lo·cu·tion \lō-'kyü-shən\ *n* [ME *locucioun*, fr. L *locution-, locutio*, fr. *locutus*, pp. of *loqui* to speak] **1** : a particular form of expression or a peculiarity of phrasing; *esp* : a word or expression characteristic of a region, group, or cultural level **2** : style of discourse : PHRASEOLOGY
lode \'lōd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lād* course, support; akin to OE *līthan* to go — more at LEAD] **1** *dial Eng* : WATERWAY **2** : an ore deposit **3** : something that resembles a lode : an abundant store
lo·den \'lōd-ᵊn\ *n* [G, fr. OHG *lodo* coarse cloth] **1** : a thick woolen cloth used for outer clothing **2** : a variable color averaging a dull grayish green
lode·star \'lōd-ˌstär\ *n* [ME *lode sterre*, fr. *lode* course, fr. OE *lād*] **1** : a star that leads or guides; *esp* : NORTH STAR **2** : something that serves as a guiding star
lode·stone \-ˌstōn\ *n* [obs. *lode* course, fr. ME] **1** : magnetite possessing polarity **2** : something that strongly attracts : MAGNET
¹lodge \'läj\ *vb* **lodged; lodg·ing** *vt* **1 a** (1) : to provide temporary quarters for (2) : to rent lodgings to **b** : to establish or settle in a place **2** : to serve as a receptacle for : CONTAIN **3** : to beat (as a crop) flat to the ground **4** : to bring to an intended or a fixed position (as by throwing or thrusting) **5** : to deposit for safeguard or preservation **6** : to place or vest esp. in a source, means, or agent **7** : to lay (as a complaint) before a proper authority : FILE ~ *vi* **1 a** : to occupy a place temporarily : SLEEP **b** (1) : to have a residence : DWELL (2) : to be a lodger **2** : to come to a rest **3** : to fall or lie down — used esp. of hay or grain crops
²lodge *n* [ME *loge*, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *louba* porch] **1** *chiefly dial* : a rude shelter or abode **2 a** : the meeting place of a branch of an organization and esp. a fraternal organization **b** : the body of members of such a branch **3 a** : a house set apart for residence in a particular season (as the hunting season) **b** : an inn or resort hotel **4 a** : a house on an estate orig. for the use of a gamekeeper, caretaker, or porter **b** : a shelter for an employee (as a gatekeeper) **5** : a den or lair esp. of gregarious animals **6 a** : WIGWAM **b** : a family of No. American Indians
lodge·pole pine \ˌläj-ˌpōl-\ *n* : either of two pines of western No. America with needles in pairs and short ovoid usu. asymmetric cones: **a** : a scrubby coastal pine (*Pinus contorta*) with thick deeply furrowed bark and hard strong coarse-grained medium-light wood **b** : a tall straight pine (*P. contorta* var. *latifolia* syn. *P. murrayana*) with thin and little furrowed bark and soft weak fine-grained lightweight wood
lodg·er \'läj-ər\ *n* : one that lodges; *esp* : one who occupies a rented room in another's house
lodg·ing *n* **1 a** : a place to live : DWELLING **b** : LODGMENT 3b **2 a** (1) : sleeping accommodations ⟨found ~ in the barn⟩ (2) : a temporary place to stay ⟨a ~ for the night⟩ **b** : a room in the house of another used as a place of residence — usu. used in pl. **3** : the act of lodging
lodging house *n* : a house where lodgings are provided and let
lodg·ment *or* **lodge·ment** \'läj-mənt\ *n* **1 a** : a lodging place : SHELTER ⟨a hut for temporary ~ of cattlemen⟩ **b** : ACCOMMODATIONS, LODGINGS ⟨found ~ in the city⟩ **2 a** : the act, fact, or manner of lodging **b** : a placing, depositing, or coming to rest **3 a** : an accumulation or collection deposited in a place or remaining at rest **b** : a place of rest or deposit
lod·i·cule \'läd-i-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [L *lodicula*, dim. of *lodic-, lodix* cover] : one of usu. two delicate membranous hyaline scales at the base of the ovary of a grass that by their swelling assist in anthesis
loess \'les, 'lə(r)s, 'lō-əs\ *n* [G *löss*] : an unstratified usu. buff to yellowish brown loamy deposit found in No. America, Europe, and Asia and believed to be chiefly deposited by the wind — **loess·ial** \'les-ē-əl, 'lə(r)s-, lō-'es-\ *adj*
¹loft \'lȯft\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. ON *lopt* air; akin to OHG *luft* air] **1** : an upper room or floor : ATTIC **2 a** : a gallery in a church or hall **b** : one of the upper floors of a warehouse or business building esp. when not partitioned **c** : HAYLOFT **3 a** : the backward slant of the face of a golf-club head **b** : the act of lofting
²loft *vt* **1** : to place, house, or store in a loft **2** : to propel through the air or into space ⟨~*ed* a long hit to center⟩ ⟨instruments ~*ed* by a powerful rocket⟩ **3** : to lay out a full sized working drawing of the lines and contours of (as a ship's hull) ~ *vi* **1** : to propel a ball high into the air **2** : to rise high ⟨a huge building ~*ing* into the sky⟩
lofty \'lȯf-tē\ *adj* **loft·i·er; -est** **1** : having a haughty overbearing manner : SUPERCILIOUS **2 a** : elevated in character and spirit : NOBLE **b** : elevated in position : SUPERIOR **3 a** : rising to a great height : impressively high ⟨~ mountains⟩ **b** : REMOTE, ESOTERIC ***syn*** see HIGH — **loft·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **loft·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*
¹log \'lȯg, 'läg\ *n, often attrib* [ME *logge*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *lāg* fallen tree; akin to OE *licgan* to lie — more at LIE] **1** : a usu. bulky piece or length of unshaped timber; *esp* : a length of a tree trunk ready for sawing and over six feet long **2** : an apparatus for measuring the rate of a ship's motion through the water that consists of a block fastened to a line and run out from a reel **3 a** : the record of the rate of a ship's speed or of her daily progress; *also* : the full nautical record of a ship's voyage **b** : the full record of a flight by an aircraft **4** : any of various records of performance ⟨a computer ~⟩
²log *vb* **logged; log·ging** *vt* **1 a** : to cut (trees) for lumber **b** : to clear (land) of trees in lumbering **2** : to enter details of or about in a log **3 a** : to move (an indicated distance) or attain (an indicated speed) as noted in a log **b** (1) : to sail a ship or fly an airplane for (an indicated distance or period of time) (2) : to have (an indicated record) to one's credit : ACHIEVE ⟨*logged* about 30,000 miles a year in his car⟩ ⟨racing drivers *logging* record speeds⟩ ~ *vi* : ³LUMBER 1
³log *n* : LOGARITHM
⁴log *abbr* logic
log- *or* **logo-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *logos* — more at LEGEND] : word : thought : speech : discourse ⟨*logo*gram⟩ ⟨*logo*rrhea⟩
lo·gan·ber·ry \'lō-gən-ˌber-ē\ *n* [James H. *Logan* †1928 Am lawyer + E *berry*] : a red-fruited upright-growing dewberry regarded as a variety (*Rubus ursinus loganobaccus*) of the western dewberry or as

a hybrid of the western dewberry and the red raspberry; *also* : its berry

log·a·oe·dic \ˌläg-ə-ˈēd-ik\ *adj* [LL *logaoedicus*, fr. LGk *logaoidikos*, fr. Gk *log-* + *aeidein* to sing; fr. the resemblance of such rhythm to prose — more at ODE] : marked by the mixture of several meters; *specif* : having a rhythm that uses both dactyls and trochees or anapests and iambs — **logaoedic** *n*

log·a·rithm \ˈlȯg-ə-ˌrith-əm, ˈläg-\ *n* [NL *logarithmus*, fr. *log-* + Gk *arithmos* number — more at ARITHMETIC] : the exponent that indicates the power to which a number is raised to produce a given number ⟨the ~ of 100 to the base 10 is 2⟩ — **log·a·rith·mic** \ˌlȯg-ə-ˈrith-mik, ˌläg-\ *adj* — **log·a·rith·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

logarithmic function *n* : a function (as $y = \log x$) that is the inverse of an exponential function (as $e^x = y$) so that the independent variable appears in a logarithm

log·book \ˈlȯg-ˌbu̇k, ˈläg-\ *n* : LOG 3, 4

loge \ˈlōzh\ *n* [F — more at LODGE] **1 a** : a small compartment : BOOTH **b** : a box in a theater **2 a** : a small partitioned area **b** : a separate forward section of a theater mezzanine or balcony

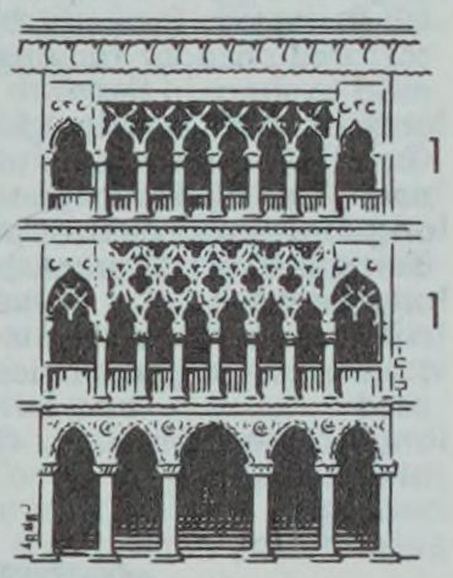
logged \ˈlȯgd, ˈlägd\ *adj* **1** : HEAVY, SLUGGISH **2** : sodden esp. with water

log·ger \ˈlȯg-ər, ˈläg-\ *n* : one engaged in logging

log·ger·head \ˈlȯg-ər-ˌhed, ˈläg-\ *n* [prob. fr. E dial. *logger* (block of wood) + *head*] **1** *chiefly dial* **a** : BLOCKHEAD **b** : HEAD; *esp* : a disproportionately large head **2 a** : any of various very large marine turtles (family Cheloniidae); *esp* : a carnivorous turtle (*Caretta caretta*) of the warmer parts of the western Atlantic **b** : ALLIGATOR SNAPPER **3** : an iron tool consisting of a long handle terminating in a ball or bulb that is heated and used to melt tar or to heat liquids — **at loggerheads** : in or into a state of quarrelsome disagreement

log-gets *or* **log-gats** \ˈlȯg-əts, ˈläg-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [prob. fr. ¹*log* + *-et*] : a game formerly played in England in which participants throw pieces of wood at a stake

log·gia \ˈlō-jē-ə, ˈlȯ-(ˌ)jä\ *n, pl* **loggias** \ˈlō-jē-əz, ˈlȯ-(ˌ)jäz\ *also* **log·gie** \ˈlȯ-(ˌ)jā\ [It, fr. F *loge*] : a roofed open gallery esp. at an upper story overlooking an open court



1 loggias

log·ic \ˈläj-ik\ *n* [ME *logik*, fr. MF *logique*, fr. L *logica*, fr. Gk *logikē*, fr. fem. of *logikos* of reason, fr. *logos* reason — more at LEGEND] **1 a** (1) : a science that deals with the canons and criteria of validity of inference and demonstration : the science of the normative formal principles of reasoning (2) : a branch or variety of logic ⟨modal ~⟩ ⟨Boolean ~⟩ (3) : a branch of semiotic; *esp* : SYNTACTICS (4) : the formal principles of a branch of knowledge **b** (1) : a particular mode of reasoning viewed as valid or faulty (2) : RELEVANCE, PROPRIETY **c** : interrelation or sequence of facts or events when seen as inevitable or predictable **d** : the fundamental principles and the connection of circuit elements for arithmetical computation in a computer; *also* : the circuits themselves **2** : something that forces a decision apart from or in opposition to reason ⟨the ~ of war⟩ — **lo·gi·cian** \lō-ˈjish-ən\ *n*

log·i·cal \ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** (1) : of, relating to, involving, or being in accordance with logic (2) : skilled in logic **b** : formally true or valid : ANALYTIC, DEDUCTIVE **2** : capable of reasoning or of using reason in an orderly cogent fashion ⟨a ~ thinker⟩ — **log·i·cal·i·ty** \ˌläj-ə-ˈkal-ət-ē\ *n* — **log·i·cal·ly** \ˈläj-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **log·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

syn LOGICAL, ANALYTIC, SUBTLE *shared meaning element* : having or showing skill in thinking or reasoning ***ant*** illogical

logical positivism *n* : a 20th century philosophical movement that holds characteristically that all meaningful statements are either analytic or conclusively verifiable or at least confirmable by observation and experiment and that metaphysical theories are therefore strictly meaningless — called also *logical empiricism* — **logical positivist** *n*

log·i·co- \ˌläj-i-kō\ *comb form* : logical : logical and ⟨*logico*-mathematical⟩

lo·gi·on \ˈlō-gē-ˌän\ *n, pl* **lo·gia** \-gē-ˌä\ *or* **logions** [Gk, dim. of *logos*] : SAYING; *esp* : a saying attributed to Jesus

¹lo·gis·tic \lō-ˈjis-tik, lə-\ *or* **lo·gis·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to symbolic logic **b** : of or relating to the philosophical attempt to reduce mathematics to logic **2** : of or relating to logistics — **lo·gis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²logistic *n* : SYMBOLIC LOGIC

logistic curve *n* : an S-shaped curve that represents an exponential function and is used in mathematical models of growth processes

lo·gis·ti·cian \(ˌ)lō-ˌjis-ˈtish-ən, ˌlō-jəs-\ *n* : a specialist in logistics

lo·gis·tics \lō-ˈjis-tiks, lə-\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [F *logistique* art of calculating, logistics, fr. Gk *logistikē* art of calculating, fr. fem. of *logistikos* of calculation, fr. *logizein* to calculate, fr. *logos* reason] **1** : the aspect of military science dealing with the procurement, maintenance, and transportation of military materiel, facilities, and personnel **2** : the handling of the details of an operation ***syn*** see STRATEGY

log·jam \ˈlȯg-ˌjam, ˈläg-\ *n* **1** : a jumble of logs jammed together in a watercourse **2** : DEADLOCK, IMPASSE

log·nor·mal \(ˌ)lȯg-ˈnȯr-məl, (ˌ)läg-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a logarithmic function (as the logarithm of a random variable) that has a normal distribution — **log·nor·mal·i·ty** \ˌlȯg-nȯr-ˈmal-ət-ē, ˌläg-\ *n* — **log·nor·mal·ly** \(ˌ)lȯg-ˈnȯr-mə-lē, (ˌ)läg-\ *adv*

logo \ˈlȯg-(ˌ)ō, ˈläg-\ *n, pl* **log·os** \-(ˌ)ōz\ **1** : LOGOTYPE **2** : an identifying statement : MOTTO

logo·gram \ˈlȯg-ə-ˌgram, ˈläg-\ *n* : a letter, symbol, or sign used to represent an entire word — **logo·gram·mat·ic** \ˌlȯg-ə-grə-ˈmat-ik, ˌläg-\ *adj*

logo·graph \ˈlȯg-ə-ˌgraf, ˈläg-\ *n* : LOGOGRAM

logo·graph·ic \ˌlȯg-ə-ˈgraf-ik, ˌläg-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by the use of logographs : consisting of logographs — **logo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

logo·griph \ˈlȯg-ə-ˌgrif, ˈläg-\ *n* [*log-* + Gk *griphos* reed basket, riddle — more at CRIB] : a word puzzle (as an anagram)

lo·gom·a·chy \lō-ˈgäm-ə-kē\ *n, pl* **-chies** [Gk *logomachia*, fr. *log-* + *machesthai* to fight] **1** : a dispute over or about words **2** : a controversy marked by verbiage

log·or·rhea \ˌlȯg-ə-ˈrē-ə, ˌläg-\ *n* [NL] : excessive and often incoherent talkativeness or wordiness — **log·or·rhe·ic** \-ˈrē-ik\ *adj*

Lo·gos \ˈlō-ˌgäs, -ˌgōs\ *n, pl* **Lo·goi** \-ˌgȯi\ [Gk, speech, word, reason — more at LEGEND] **1** : reason that in ancient Greek philosophy is the controlling principle in the universe **2** : the divine wisdom manifest in the creation, government, and redemption of the world and often identified with the second person of the Trinity

logo·type \ˈlȯg-ə-ˌtīp, ˈläg-\ *n* **1** : a single piece of type or a single plate faced with a term (as the name of a newspaper or a trademark) **2** : an identifying symbol (as for advertising)

log·roll \ˈlȯg-ˌrōl, ˈläg-\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *logrolling*] *vi* : to take part in logrolling ~ *vt* : to promote passage of by logrolling — **log·roll·er** *n*

log·roll·ing \-ˌrō-liŋ\ *n* **1** : the rolling of logs in water by treading; *also* : a sport in which contestants treading logs try to dislodge one another **2** [fr. a former American custom of neighbors assisting one another in rolling logs into a pile for burning] : the exchanging of assistance or favors; *specif* : the trading of votes by legislators to secure favorable action on projects of interest to each one

-logue *or* **-log** \ˌlȯg, ˌläg\ *n comb form* [ME *-logue*, fr. OF, fr. L *-logus*, fr. Gk *-logos*, fr. *legein* to speak — more at LEGEND] **1** : discourse : talk ⟨duo*logue*⟩ **2** : student : specialist ⟨sino*logue*⟩

log·wood \ˈlȯg-ˌwu̇d, ˈläg-\ *n* **1 a** : a Central American and West Indian leguminous tree (*Haematoxylon campechianum*) **b** : the very hard brown or brownish red heartwood of logwood **2** : a dye extracted from the heartwood of logwood — compare HEMATOXYLIN

lo·gy \ˈlō-gē\ *also* **log·gy** \ˈlȯg-ē, ˈläg-\ *adj* **lo·gi·er; -est** [perh. fr. D *log* heavy; akin to MLG *luggich* lazy] : marked by sluggishness and lack of vitality : GROGGY

-l·o·gy \l-ə-jē\ *n comb form* [ME *-logie*, fr. OF, fr. L *-logia*, fr. Gk, fr. *logos* word] **1** : oral or written expression ⟨phraseo*logy*⟩ **2** : doctrine : theory : science ⟨ethno*logy*⟩

Lo·hen·grin \ˈlō-ən-ˌgrin\ *n* [G] : a son of Parsifal and knight of the Holy Grail in Germanic legend

LOI *abbr* lunar orbit insertion

loin \ˈlȯin\ *n* [ME *loyne*, fr. MF *loigne*, fr. (assumed) VL *lumbea*, fr. L *lumbus*; akin to OE *lendenu* loins, OSlav *lędvĭje*] **1 a** : the part of a human being or quadruped on each side of the spinal column between the hipbone and the false ribs **b** : a cut of meat comprising this part of one or both sides of a carcass with the adjoining half of the vertebrae included but without the flank — see BEEF illustration **2** *pl* **a** : the upper and lower abdominal regions and the region about the hips **b** (1) : the pubic region (2) : the generative organs

loin·cloth \-ˌklȯth\ *n* : a cloth worn about the loins often as the sole article of clothing in warm climates

loi·ter \ˈlȯit-ər\ *vi* [ME *loiteren*] **1** : to delay an activity with aimless idle stops and pauses : DAWDLE **2 a** : to remain in an area for no obvious reason : hang around **b** : to lag behind — **loi·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

Lo·ki \ˈlō-kē\ *n* [ON] : a Norse god who contrives evil and mischief for his fellow gods

¹loll \ˈläl\ *vb* [ME *lollen*] *vi* **1** : to hang loosely or laxly : DROOP **2** : to act or move in a lax, lazy, or indolent manner : LOUNGE ~ *vt* : to let droop or dangle — **loll·er** *n*

²loll *n, archaic* : the act of lolling : a relaxed posture

Lol·lard \ˈläl-ərd\ *n* [ME, fr. MD *lollaert*] : one of the followers of Wycliffe who traveled in the 14th and 15th centuries as lay preachers throughout England and Scotland — **Lol·lard·ism** \-ər-ˌdiz-əm\ *n* — **Lol·lardy** \-ərd-ē\ *n*

lol·li·pop *or* **lol·ly·pop** \ˈläl-i-ˌpäp\ *n* [prob. fr. ¹*loll* + *-i-* + *pop*] : a lump of hard candy on the end of a stick

lol·lop \ˈläl-əp\ *vi* [¹*loll* + *-op* (as in *gallop*)] **1** *dial Eng* : LOLL **2** : to proceed with a bounding or bobbing motion

lol·ly \ˈläl-ē\ *n, pl* **lollies** [short for *lollipop*] **1** *Brit* : a piece of candy; *esp* : hard candy **2** *Brit* : MONEY

lol·ly·gag \ˈläl-ē-ˌgag\ *vi* [origin unknown] : to fool around : DAWDLE

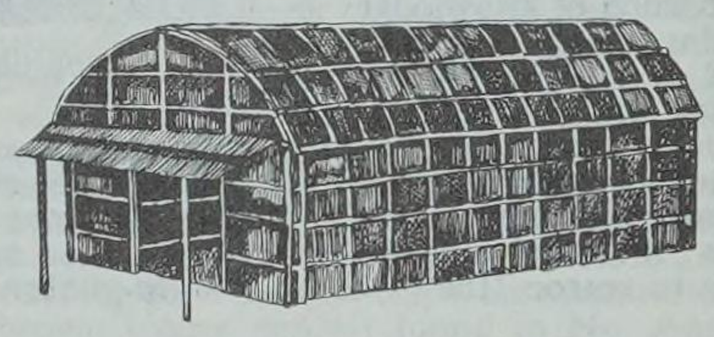
Lom·bard \ˈläm-ˌbärd, -bərd\ *n* [ME *Lumbarde*, fr. MF *lombard*, fr. OIt *lombardo*, fr. L *Langobardus*] **1 a** : a member of a Teutonic people that invaded Italy in A.D. 568, settled in the Po valley, and established a kingdom **b** : a native or inhabitant of Lombardy **2** [fr. the prominence of Lombards as moneylenders] : BANKER, MONEYLENDER — **Lom·bar·di·an** \läm-ˈbärd-ē-ən\ *adj* — **Lom·bar·dic** \läm-ˈbärd-ik\ *adj*

Lom·bar·dy poplar \ˌläm-ˌbärd-ē-, -bərd-\ *n* [*Lombardy*, Italy] : a poplar of a staminate variety (*Populus nigra italica*) of a European poplar that is distinguished by its columnar fastigiate shape and strongly ascending branches

lo·ment \ˈlō-ˌment, -mənt\ *n* [NL *lomentum*, fr. L, wash made fr. bean meal, fr. *lotus*, pp. of *lavare* to wash — more at LYE] : a dry indehiscent one-celled fruit that is produced from a single superior ovary and breaks transversely into numerous segments at maturity

Lond *abbr* **1** London **2** Londonderry

Lon·don broil \ˌlən-dən-\ *n* : a boneless cut of meat (as from the shoulder or flank) usu. marinated and broiled and served sliced diagonally across the grain
lone \ˈlōn\ *adj* [ME, short for *alone*] **1 a** : having no company : SOLITARY **b** : preferring solitude **2** : ONLY, SOLE **3** : situated by itself : ISOLATED ***syn*** see ALONE — **lone·ness** \ˈlōn-nəs\ *n*
lone·li·ness \ˈlōn-lē-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being lonely
lone·ly \ˈlōn-lē\ *adj* **lone·li·er; -est 1 a** : being without company : LONE **b** : cut off from others : SOLITARY **2** : not frequented by human beings : DESOLATE **3** : sad from being alone : LONESOME **4** : producing a feeling of bleakness or desolation ***syn*** see ALONE — **lone·li·ly** \-lə-lē\ *adv*
lonely hearts *adj* : of or relating to lonely persons who are seeking companions or spouses ⟨was convicted of mail fraud for fleecing men attracted to her through ads in a *lonely hearts* column —*Consumer Reports*⟩
lon·er \ˈlō-nər\ *n* : one that avoids others; *esp* : INDIVIDUALIST
¹lone·some \ˈlōn(t)-səm\ *adj* **1 a** : sad or dejected as a result of lack of companionship or separation from others ⟨don't be ~ while we are gone⟩ **b** : causing a feeling of loneliness ⟨the empty house seemed so ~⟩ **2 a** : REMOTE, UNFREQUENTED ⟨look down, look down that ~ road —Gene Austin⟩ **b** : LONE ***syn*** see ALONE — **lone·some·ly** *adv* — **lone·some·ness** *n*
²lonesome *n* : SELF ⟨sat all by his ~⟩
lone wolf *n* : a person who prefers to work, act, or live alone
¹long \ˈlȯŋ\ *adj* **lon·ger** \lȯŋ-gər\; **lon·gest** \ˈlȯŋ-gəst\ [ME *long, lang*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *lang* long, L *longus*, Gk *dolichos*] **1 a** : extending for a considerable distance **b** : having greater length than usual **c** : having greater height than usual : TALL **d** : having a greater length than breadth : ELONGATED **e** : having a greater length than desirable or necessary **2 a** : having a specified length ⟨six feet ~⟩ **b** : forming the chief linear dimension ⟨the ~ side of the room⟩ **3 a** : extending over a considerable time ⟨a ~ friendship⟩ **b** : having a specified duration ⟨two hours ~⟩ **c** : prolonged beyond the usual time ⟨a ~ look⟩ **4 a** : containing many items in a series ⟨a ~ list⟩ **b** : having a specified number of units ⟨300 pages ~⟩ **c** : consisting of a greater number or amount than usual : LARGE **5 a** *of a speech sound* : having a relatively long duration **b** : being the member of a pair of similarly spelled vowel or vowel-containing sounds that is descended from a vowel long in duration ⟨~ *a* in *fate*⟩ ⟨~ *i* in *sign*⟩ **c** *of a syllable in prosody* (1) : of relatively extended duration (2) : bearing a stress or accent **6 a** : having the capacity to reach or extend a considerable distance ⟨a ~ left jab⟩ **b** : hit for a considerable distance ⟨a batter trying for the ~ ball⟩ **7** : larger or longer than the standard ⟨a ~ dozen⟩ **8 a** : extending far into the future ⟨the thoughts of youth are ~, ~ thoughts —H. W. Longfellow⟩ **b** : extending beyond what is known ⟨a ~ guess⟩ **c** : payable after a considerable period ⟨a ~ note⟩ **9** : possessing a high degree or a great deal of something specified : STRONG ⟨~ on common sense⟩ **10 a** : of an unusual degree of difference between the amounts wagered on each side ⟨~ odds⟩ **b** : of or relating to the larger amount wagered ⟨take the ~ end of the bet⟩ **11** : subject to great odds **12** : owning or accumulating securities or goods esp. in anticipation of an advance in prices ⟨they are now ~ on wheat⟩ ⟨take a ~ position in steel⟩ — **long·ness** \ˈlȯŋ-nəs\ *n* — **before long** : in a short time : SOON — **long in the tooth** : past one's best days : OLD — **not long for** : having little time left to do or enjoy something
²long *adv* **1** : for or during a long time ⟨~ a popular hangout⟩ **2** : at or to a long distance : FAR ⟨*long*-traveled⟩ **3** : for the duration of a specified period **4** : at a point of time far before or after a specified moment or event ⟨was excited ~ before the big day⟩ **5** : after or beyond a specified time ⟨didn't stay ~*er* than midnight⟩ ⟨said it was no ~*er* possible⟩ **6** : for a considerable distance ⟨faded back and threw the ball ~⟩ **7** : in or into a long position (as on a market) ⟨went ~ 500 shares⟩ — **so long** : GOOD-BYE
³long *n* **1** : a long period of time **2** : a long syllable **3** : one taking a long position esp. in a security or commodity market **4 a** *pl* : long trousers **b** : a size in clothing for tall men — **the long and short** *or* **the long and the short** : GIST
⁴long *vi* **longed; long·ing** \ˈlȯŋ-iŋ\ [ME *longen*, fr. OE *langian*; akin to OHG *langēn* to long, OE *lang* long] : to feel a strong desire or craving esp. for something not likely to be attained ⟨they ~ for peace but are driven to war⟩ — **long·er** \ˈlȯŋ-ər\ *n*
syn LONG, YEARN, HANKER, PINE, HUNGER, THIRST *shared meaning element* : to desire something strongly
⁵long *vi* [ME *longen*, fr. *along* (*on*) because (of)] *archaic* : to be suitable or fitting
⁶long *abbr* longitude
Long *abbr* Longford
long–ago \ˌlȯŋ-ə-ˌgō\ *adj* : of or relating to the past ⟨~ leaders⟩
long ago *n* : the distant past
lon·gan \ˈlȯŋ-(g)ən\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *lung*² *yen*³, lit., dragon's eye] **1** : a pulpy fruit related to the litchi and produced by an East Indian tree (*Euphoria longana*) **2** : a tree that bears the longan
lon·ga·nim·i·ty \ˌlȯŋ-gə-ˈnim-ət-ē\ *n* [LL *longanimitas*, fr. *longanimis* patient, fr. L *longus* long + *animus* soul — more at ANIMATE] : a disposition to bear injuries patiently : FORBEARANCE
long·boat \ˈlȯŋ-ˌbōt\ *n* : the largest boat carried by a merchant sailing ship
long bone *n* : one of the elongated bones supporting a vertebrate limb and consisting of an essentially cylindrical shaft that contains marrow and ends in enlarged heads for articulation with other bones
long·bow \ˈlȯŋ-ˌbō\ *n* **1** : a wooden bow drawn by hand that is usu. $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 feet long **2** : the medieval English bow sometimes up to 6 feet, 7 inches long
long·bow·man \-ˈbō-mən\ *n* : an archer who uses a longbow
long–case clock *n* : GRANDFATHER CLOCK
long–chain *adj* : having a relatively long chain of atoms and esp. carbon atoms in the molecule ⟨~ hydrocarbons⟩
long–day *adj* : responding to a long photoperiod — used of a plant; compare DAY-NEUTRAL, SHORT-DAY
¹long–distance *adj* **1 a** : situated a long distance away **b** : covering a long distance **c** : effective over long distance ⟨~ listening devices⟩ **2** : of or relating to telephone communication with a distant point
²long–distance *adv* : by long-distance telephone
long distance *n* **1** : communication by long-distance telephone **2** : a telephone operator or exchange that gives long-distance connections
long division *n* : arithmetical division in which the several steps involved in the division of parts of the dividend by the divisor are indicated in detail
long dozen *n* : one more than a dozen : THIRTEEN
long–drawn–out *adj* : extended to a great length : PROTRACTED
lon·ge·ron \ˈlän-jə-ˌrän\ *n* [F] : a fore-and-aft framing member of an airplane fuselage
lon·gev·i·ty \län-ˈjev-ət-ē, lȯn-\ *n* [LL *longaevitas*, fr. L *longaevus* long-lived, fr. *longus* long + *aevum* age — more at AYE] **1 a** : a long duration of individual life **b** : length of life ⟨a study of ~⟩ **2** : long continuance; *esp* : SENIORITY
lon·ge·vous \-ˈjē-vəs\ *adj* : LONG-LIVED
long face *n* : a facial expression of sadness or melancholy
long green *n, slang* : paper money : CASH
long·hair \ˈlȯŋ-ˌha(ə)r, -ˌhe(ə)r\ *n* [back-formation fr. *long-haired*] **1** : a person of artistic gifts or interests; *esp* : a lover of classical music **2** : an impractical intellectual **3** : a person with long hair; *specif* : HIPPIE — **long–hair** *or* **long–haired** \-ˈha(ə)rd, -ˈhe(ə)rd\ *adj*
long·hand \-ˌhand\ *n* : the characters used in ordinary writing : HANDWRITING
long haul *n* : a considerable period of time; *esp* : LONG RUN — **long–haul** *adj*
long·head \ˈlȯŋ-ˌhed\ *n* : a dolichocephalic person
long·head·ed \-ˈhed-əd\ *adj* **1** : having unusual foresight or wisdom **2** : DOLICHOCEPHALIC — **long·head·ed·ness** *n*
long·horn \-ˌhȯ(ə)rn\ *n* **1** : any of the long-horned cattle of Spanish derivation formerly common in southwestern U.S. **2** : a firm-textured cheddar ranging from white to orange in color and from mild to sharp in flavor
long–horned beetle \ˌlȯŋ-ˌhȯrn(d)-\ *n* : any of various beetles (family Cerambycidae) usu. distinguished by their very long antennae — called also *longhorn beetle*
long–horned grasshopper *n* : any of various grasshoppers (family Tettigoniidae) distinguished by their very long antennae
long horse *n* **1** : a vaulting apparatus resembling a side horse without pommels that is used for vaulting feats in gymnastics **2** : an event in gymnastics competition in which the long horse is used
long·house \ˈlȯŋ-ˌhaůs, -ˈhaůs\ *n* : a long communal dwelling esp. of the Iroquois



longhouse

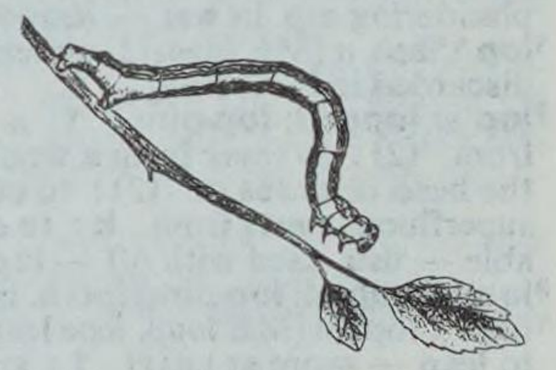
long hundredweight *n, Brit* : HUNDREDWEIGHT 1b
longi- *comb form* [ME, fr. L, fr. *longus*] : long ⟨*longi*pennate⟩
lon·gi·corn \ˈlän-jə-ˌkȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* [deriv. of *longi-* + L *cornu* horn — more at HORN] **1** : of, relating to, or being long-horned beetles **2** : having long antennae — **longicorn** *n*
long·ing \ˈlȯŋ-iŋ\ *n* : a strong desire esp. for something unattainable : CRAVING — **long·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
long·ish \ˈlȯŋ-ish\ *adj* : somewhat long : moderately long
lon·gi·tude \ˈlän-jə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *longitudin-, longitudo*, fr. *longus*] **1 a** : LENGTH **b** *archaic* : long duration **2 a** : angular distance measured on a great circle of reference from the intersection of the adopted zero meridian with this reference circle to the similar intersection of the meridian passing through the object **b** : the arc or portion of the earth's equator intersected between the meridian of a given place and the prime meridian (as from Greenwich, England) and expressed either in degrees or in time



longitude 2a: hemisphere marked with meridians of longitude

lon·gi·tu·di·nal \ˌlän-jə-ˈt(y)üd-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to length or the lengthwise dimension **2** : placed or running lengthwise **3** : dealing with the growth and change of an individual or group over a period of years ⟨~ studies⟩ — **lon·gi·tu·di·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
longitudinal wave *n* : a wave (as a sound wave) in which the particles of the medium vibrate in the direction of the line of advance of the wave
long johns \ˈlȯŋ-ˌjänz\ *n pl* : long underwear
long jump *n* : a jump for distance in track-and-field athletics usu. from a running start — **long jumper** *n*
long·leaf pine \ˌlȯŋ-ˌlēf-\ *n* : a large pine (*Pinus palustris*) of the southern U.S. with green leaves and long cones that is a major timber tree; *also* : its tough coarse-grained reddish orange wood
long–leaved pine \-ˌlēv(d)-\ *n* : LONGLEAF PINE
long·line \ˈlȯŋ-ˌlīn, -ˈlīn\ *n* : a heavy fishing line that may be several miles long and that has baited hooks in series
long–lin·er \-ˈlī-nər\ *n* : one that fishes with a longline; *also* : a fishing vessel used in long-lining

long–lin·ing \-'lī-niŋ\ *n* : fishing with a longline
long–lived \'lȯŋ-'līvd, -'livd\ *adj* **1** : having a long life : characterized by long life ⟨a ~ family⟩ **2** : lasting a long time : ENDURING — **long–lived·ness** \-'līv(d)-nəs, -'liv(d)-\ *n*
long meter *n* : a quatrain in iambic tetrameter in which the second and fourth lines and often the first and third lines rhyme — called also *long measure*
Lon·go·bard \'lȯŋ-gə-ˌbärd, 'läŋ-\ *n, pl* **Longobards** *or* **Lon·go·bar·di** \ˌlȯŋ-gə-'bär-ˌdī, ˌläŋ-, -'bärd-ē\ [L *Langobardus, Longobardus*] : LOMBARD 1a — **Lon·go·bar·dic** \-'bärd-ik, ˌläŋ-\ *adj*
long pig *n* : a human victim of a cannibal feast
long play *n* : a long-playing record
long–play·ing \'lȯŋ-'plā-iŋ\ *adj* : designed to be played at $33\frac{1}{3}$ revolutions per minute — used of a microgroove record
long–range \-'rānj\ *adj* **1** : involving or taking into account a long period of time ⟨~ planning⟩ **2** : relating to or fit for long distances ⟨~ rockets⟩
long run *n* : a relatively long period of time — usu. used in the phrase *in the long run*
long·shore·man \'lȯŋ-'shōr-mən, -'shȯr-\ *n* [*longshore*, short for *alongshore*] : one who loads and unloads ships at a seaport
long·shor·ing \'lȯŋ-'shōr-iŋ, -'shȯr-, 'lȯŋ-ˌ\ *n* : the act or occupation of working as a longshoreman
long shot \'lȯŋ-ˌshät\ *n* **1** : an entry (as in a horse race) given little chance of winning **2** : a bet in which the chances of winning are slight but the possible winnings great **3** : a venture involving great risk but promising a great reward if successful; *also* : a venture unlikely to succeed — **by a long shot** : by a great deal
long·sight·ed \-'sīt-əd\ *adj* : FARSIGHTED — **long·sight·ed·ness** *n*
long since *adv* **1** : long ago ⟨programs which have *long since* ceased to be useful⟩ **2** : for a long time ⟨has *long since* been recognized as a great writer⟩
long·some \'lȯŋ(k)-səm\ *adj* : tediously long — **long·some·ly** *adv* — **long·some·ness** *n*
long·spur \'lȯŋ-ˌspər\ *n* : any of several long-clawed finches (esp. genus *Calcarius*) of the arctic regions and the Great Plains of No. America
long–stand·ing \-'stan-diŋ\ *adj* : of long duration
long–suf·fer·ing \-'səf(-ə)-riŋ\ *n* : long and patient endurance of offense — **long–suffering** *adj* — **long–suf·fer·ing·ly** \-riŋ-lē\ *adv*
long suit *n* **1** : a holding of more than the average number of cards in a suit **2** : the activity or quality in which a person excels
long–term \'lȯŋ-'tərm\ *adj* **1** : occurring over or involving a relatively long period of time **2 a** : of, relating to, or constituting a financial operation or obligation based on a considerable term and esp. one of more than 10 years ⟨~ bonds⟩ **b** : generated by assets held for longer than six months ⟨a ~ capital gain⟩
long·time \ˌlȯŋ-ˌtīm\ *adj* : LONG-STANDING
Long Tom \'lȯŋ-'täm\ *n* [fr. the name *Tom*] **1 a** : a long pivot gun formerly carried on the deck of a warship **b** : a large land gun having a long range **2** : a trough for washing gold-bearing earth
long ton *n* — see WEIGHT table
lon·gueur \lōⁿ-gœr\ *n, pl* **longueurs** \-gœr(z)\ [F, lit., length] : a dull and tedious passage or section (as of a book)
long view *n* : an approach to a problem or situation that emphasizes long-range factors
long–wind·ed \'lȯŋ-'win-dəd\ *adj* **1** : not easily subject to loss of breath **2** : tediously long in speaking or writing — **long–wind·ed·ly** *adv* — **long–wind·ed·ness** *n*
¹loo \'lü\ *n* [short for obs. E *lanterloo*, fr. F *lanturelu* piffle] **1** : an old card game in which the winner of each trick or a majority of tricks takes a portion of the pool while losing players are obligated to contribute to the next pool **2** : money staked at loo
²loo *vt* : to obligate to contribute to a new pool at loo for failing to win a trick
³loo *n* [perh. modif. of F *lieux d'aisances*, lit., places of ease] *chiefly Brit* : TOILET 3
loo·by \'lü-bē\ *n, pl* **loobies** [ME *loby*] : an awkward clumsy fellow : LUBBER
¹look \'lůk\ *vb* [ME *looken*, fr. OE *lōcian;* akin to OS *lōcōn* to look] *vt* **1** : to make sure or take care (that something is done) **2** : to ascertain by the use of one's eyes **3 a** : to exercise the power of vision upon : EXAMINE **b** *archaic* : to search for **4** : to await expectantly or watchfully ⟨we ~ to have immediate success⟩ **5** *archaic* : to bring into a place or condition by the exercise of the power of vision **6** : to express by the eyes or facial expression **7** : to have an appearance that befits or accords with ~ *vi* **1 a** : to exercise the power of vision : SEE **b** : to direct one's attention ⟨~ upon the future with hope⟩ **c** : to direct the eyes **2** : to have the appearance of being : SEEM **3** : to have a specified outlook ⟨the house ~*ed* east⟩ **4** : to gaze in wonder or surprise : STARE **5** : to show a tendency ⟨the evidence ~*s* to acquittal⟩ ***syn*** see SEE, SEEM, EXPECT — **look after** : to take care of — **look down one's nose** : to view something with arrogance, disdain, or disapproval — **look for** **1** : to await with hope or anticipation **2** : to search for
²look *n* **1 a** : the act of looking **b** : GLANCE **2 a** : the expression of the countenance **b** : physical appearance; *esp* : attractive physical appearance — usu. used in pl. **c** : a combination of design features giving a unified appearance ⟨a new ~ in women's fashions⟩ **3** : the state or form in which something appears
look–alike \'lůk-ə-ˌlīk\ *n* : one that looks like another : DOUBLE
look·down \'lůk-ˌdaůn\ *n* : any of several fishes (genus *Selene* and esp. *S. vomer*) that are widely distributed in warm seas and have high truncated foreheads
look down \(')lůk-'daůn\ *vi* : to regard with contempt : DESPISE — used with *on* or *upon* ⟨snobbishly *looks down* on the poor⟩
look·er \'lůk-ər\ *n* **1** : one that looks **2 a** : one having an appearance of a specified kind **b** : one that has an attractive appearance : BEAUTY
look·er–on \ˌlůk-ə-'rȯn, -'rän\ *n, pl* **lookers–on** : ONLOOKER
look–in \'lůk-ˌin\ *n* **1** : a chance of success **2** : a quick pass in football to a receiver running diagonally toward the center of the field
looking glass *n* : MIRROR
look·out \'lůk-ˌaůt\ *n* **1** : one engaged in keeping watch : WATCHMAN **2** : an elevated place or structure affording a wide view for observation **3** : a careful looking or watching **4** : VIEW, OUTLOOK **5** : a matter of care or concern
look·up \'lůk-ˌəp\ *n* : the process or an instance of looking something up; *esp* : the process of matching by computer the words of a text with material stored in memory
look up \(')lůk-'əp\ *vi* **1** : to cheer up ⟨*look up* — things are not all bad⟩ **2** : to improve in prospects or conditions ⟨business conditions are *looking up*⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to search for in or as if in a reference work ⟨*look up* a phone number in the directory⟩ **2** : to seek out esp. for a brief visit
¹loom \'lüm\ *n* [ME *lome* tool, loom, fr. OE *gelōma* tool; akin to MD *allame* tool] : a frame or machine for interlacing at right angles two or more sets of threads or yarns to form a cloth
²loom *vi* [origin unknown] **1** : to come into sight in enlarged or distorted and indistinct form often as a result of atmospheric conditions **2 a** : to appear in an impressively great or exaggerated form **b** : to take shape as an impending occurrence
³loom *n* : the indistinct and exaggerated appearance of something seen on the horizon or through fog or darkness; *also* : a looming shadow or reflection
LOOM *abbr* Loyal Order of Moose
¹loon \'lün\ *n* [ME *loun*] **1** : LOUT, IDLER **2** *chiefly Scot* : BOY **3 a** : a crazy person **b** : SIMPLETON
²loon *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *lōmr* loon — more at LAMENT] : any of several large fish-eating diving birds (genus *Gavia*) of the northern part of the northern hemisphere that have the legs placed far back under the body and as a result have a clumsy floundering gait on land
loo·ny *or* **loo·ney** \'lü-nē\ *adj* **loo·ni·er; -est** [by shortening & alter. fr. *lunatic*] : CRAZY, FOOLISH — **loo·ni·ness** *n* — **loony** *n*
loony bin *n* : an insane asylum : MADHOUSE
¹loop \'lüp\ *n* [ME *loupe;* perh. akin to MD *lupen* to watch, peer] *archaic* : LOOPHOLE 1a
²loop *n* [ME *loupe*, of unknown origin] **1 a** : a curving or doubling of a line so as to form a closed or partly open curve within itself through which another line can be passed or into which a hook may be hooked **b** : such a fold of cord or ribbon serving as an ornament **2 a** : something shaped like a loop **b** : a maneuver in which an airplane starting from straight and level flight passes successively through a climb, inverted flight, a dive, and then returns to normal flight **3** : a ring or curved piece used to form a fastening or a handle **4 a** : the portion of a vibrating body between two nodes **b** : the middle point of such a portion **5** : a closed electric circuit **6** : a piece of film or magnetic tape whose ends are spliced together so as to project or play back the same material continuously **7** : a series of instructions (as for a computer) that is repeated until a terminating condition is reached **8** : a sports league — **loopy** \'lü-pē\ *adj* — **for a loop** : into a state of amazement, confusion, or distress
³loop *vi* **1** : to make or form a loop **2** : to execute a loop in an airplane **3** : to move in loops or in an arc ~ *vt* **1 a** : to make a loop in, on, or about **b** : to fasten with a loop **2** : to join (two courses of loops) in knitting **3** : to connect (electric conductors) so as to complete a loop **4** : to cause to move in an arc
loop·er \'lü-pər\ *n* **1** : any of the usu. rather small hairless caterpillars that are mostly larvae of moths (families Geometridae and Noctuidae) and move with a looping movement in which the anterior and posterior prolegs are alternately made fast and released **2** : one that loops


looper 1

¹loop·hole \'lüp-ˌhōl\ *n* [¹*loop*] **1 a** : a small opening through which small firearms may be discharged **b** : a similar opening to admit light and air or to permit observation **2** : a means of escape; *esp* : an ambiguity or omission in the text through which the intent of a statute, contract, or obligation may be evaded
²loophole *vt* : to make loopholes in
loop of Hen·le \-'hen-lē\ [F. G. J. *Henle* †1885 G pathologist] : a part of the vertebrate nephron that lies between the proximal and distal convoluted tubules and plays a part in water resorption
¹loose \'lüs\ *adj* **loos·er; loos·est** [ME *lous*, fr. ON *lauss;* akin to OHG *lōs* loose — more at -LESS] **1 a** : not rigidly fastened or securely attached **b** (1) : having worked partly free from attachments ⟨the masonry is ~ at the base of the wall⟩ (2) : having relative freedom of movement **c** : produced freely and accompanied by raising of mucus ⟨a ~ cough⟩ **d** : not tight-fitting **2 a** : free from a state of confinement, restraint, or obligation ⟨a lion ~ in the streets⟩ ⟨spend ~ funds wisely⟩ **b** : not brought together in a bundle, container, or binding **c** *archaic* : DISCONNECTED, DETACHED **3** : not dense, close, or compact in structure or arrangement **4 a** : lacking in restraint or power of restraint ⟨a ~ tongue⟩ ⟨~ bowels⟩ **b** : lacking moral restraint : UNCHASTE **5 a** : not tightly drawn or stretched : SLACK **b** : having a flexible or relaxed character **6 a** : lacking in precision, exactness, or care **b** : permitting freedom of interpretation — **loose·ly** *adv* — **looseness** *n*
syn LOOSE, RELAXED, SLACK, LAX *shared meaning element* : not tightly bound, held, restrained, or stretched. LOOSE is widely refer-

able to persons or things freed from a usual or former, material or immaterial restraint ⟨a book with a *loose* page⟩ ⟨a person of *loose* morals⟩ or to something not tight between points of contact ⟨wore a *loose* belt⟩ or to something not close or compact in arrangement or texture ⟨a *loose* easily-worked soil⟩ ⟨a *loose*-woven woolen⟩ RELAXED implies a loosening of prior tightness, tension, strictness, or rigidity; in comparison with *loose* it is likely to imply an easing of rather than a freeing from what restrains; thus, *relaxed* discipline is discipline made as easy as circumstances allow; *loose* discipline is essentially no discipline at all ⟨a *relaxed* painting style⟩ SLACK is likely to add the idea of a lack of firmness and steadiness; thus, *relaxed* control is control deliberately eased for a usually sound reason; *slack* control is irregular control, lacking in sureness and steadiness ⟨shorebirds are notoriously *slack* in regard to the roles of the sexes . . . in nesting —Peter Mathiessen⟩ LAX stresses lack of steadiness, firmness, and tone ⟨the *lax* droop of his mouth⟩ or, in respect to immaterial things, lack of needed or proper steadiness or firmness ⟨a *lax* administration⟩ ⟨*lax* supervision⟩ ***ant*** tight, strict

²loose *vt* **loosed; loos·ing** **1** **a** : to let loose : RELEASE **b** : to free from restraint **2** : to make loose : UNTIE ⟨~ a knot⟩ **3** : to cast loose : DETACH **4** : to let fly : DISCHARGE **5** : to make less rigid, tight, or strict : RELAX ~ *vi* : to let fly a missile (as an arrow) : FIRE

³loose *adv* : LOOSELY

loose end *n* **1** : something left hanging loose **2** : a fragment of unfinished business

loose–joint·ed \ˈlüs-ˈjȯint-əd\ *adj* **1** : having joints apparently not closely articulated **2** : characterized by unusually free movements — **loose–joint·ed·ness** *n*

loose–leaf \ˈlü-ˈslēf\ *adj* **1** : having leaves secured in book form in a cover whose backbone may be opened for the removal, rearrangement, or replacement of leaves ⟨~ notebook⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or used with a loose-leaf binding ⟨~ paper⟩

loos·en \ˈlüs-ᵊn\ *vb* **loos·ened; loos·en·ing** \ˈlüs-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to release from restraint **2** : to make looser **3** : to relieve (the bowels) of constipation **4** : to cause or permit to become less strict ~ *vi* : to become loose or looser

loose sentence *n* : a sentence in which the principal clause comes first and the latter part contains subordinate modifiers or trailing elements

loose smut *n* : a smut disease of grains in which the entire head is transformed into a dusty mass of spores

loose·strife \ˈlü(s)-ˌstrīf\ *n* [intended as trans. of Gk *lysimacheios* loosestrife (as if fr. *lysis* act of loosing + *machesthai* to fight) — more at LYS-] **1** : any of a genus (*Lysimachia*) of plants of the primrose family with leafy stems and yellow or white flowers **2** : any of a genus (*Lythrum*, family Lythraceae, the loosestrife family) of herbs including some with showy spikes of purple flowers; *esp* : PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

¹loot \ˈlüt\ *n* [Hindi *lūṭ*, fr. Skt *luṇṭati* he robs] **1** : goods usu. of considerable value taken in war : SPOILS **2** : something held to resemble goods of value seized in war: as **a** : something taken by force or violence **b** : illicit gains by public officials **c** : MONEY **3** : the action of looting ***syn*** see SPOIL

²loot *vt* **1** **a** : to plunder or sack in war **b** : to rob esp. on a large scale and usu. by violence or corruption **2** : to seize and carry away by force esp. in war ~ *vi* : to engage in robbing or plundering esp. in war — **loot·er** *n*

¹lop \ˈläp\ *n* [ME *loppe*] : material cut away from a tree; *esp* : parts discarded in lumbering

²lop *vt* **lopped; lop·ping** **1** **a** (1) : to cut off branches or twigs from (2) : to sever from a woody plant **b** (1) *archaic* : to cut off the head or limbs of (2) : to cut from a person **2** **a** : to remove superfluous parts from **b** : to eliminate as unnecessary or undesirable — usu. used with *off* — **lop·per** *n*

³lop *vi* **lopped; lop·ping** [perh. imit.] : to hang downward : DROOP

¹lope \ˈlōp\ *n* [ME *loup*, *lope* leap, fr. ON *hlaup;* akin to OE *hlēapan* to leap — more at LEAP] **1** : an easy natural gait of a horse resembling a canter **2** : an easy bounding gait capable of being sustained for a long time

²lope *vi* **loped; lop·ing** : to go, move, or ride at a lope — **lop·er** *n*

lop–eared \ˈläp-ˈi(ə)rd\ *adj* : having ears that droop

loph·o·phore \ˈläf-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Gk *lophos* crest + E *-phore*] : a circular or horseshoe-shaped organ about the mouth esp. of a brachiopod or bryozoan that bears tentacles and functions esp. in food-getting

lop·py \ˈläp-ē\ *adj* **lop·pi·er; -est** : hanging loose : LIMP

lop·sid·ed \ˈläp-ˈsīd-əd\ *adj* **1** : leaning to one side **2** : lacking in balance, symmetry, or proportion — **lop·sid·ed·ly** *adv* — **lop·sid·ed·ness** *n*

loq *abbr* [L *loquitur*] he speaks

lo·qua·cious \lō-ˈkwā-shəs\ *adj* [L *loquac-*, *loquax*, fr. *loqui* to speak] : given to excessive talking : GARRULOUS ***syn*** see TALKATIVE — **lo·qua·cious·ly** *adv* — **lo·qua·cious·ness** *n*

lo·quac·i·ty \-ˈkwas-ət-ē\ *n* : the quality or state of being very talkative

lo·quat \ˈlō-ˌkwät\ *n* [Chin (Cant) *lō-kwat*] : an Asiatic evergreen tree (*Eriobotrya japonica*) of the rose family often cultivated for its fruit; *also* : its yellow edible fruit used esp. for preserves

lor·al \ˈlōr-əl, ˈlȯr-\ *adj* : of or relating to a lore (as of a bird or reptile)

lo·ran \ˈlō(ə)r-ˌan, ˈlȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [*lo*ng-*ra*nge *n*avigation] : a system of long-range navigation in which pulsed signals sent out by two pairs of radio stations are used by a navigator to determine the geographical position of a ship or an airplane

¹lord \ˈlȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [ME *loverd*, *lord*, fr. OE *hlāford*, fr. *hlāf* loaf + *weard* keeper — more at LOAF, WARD] **1** : one having power and authority over others: **a** : a ruler by hereditary right or preeminence to whom service and obedience are due **b** : one of whom a fee or estate is held in feudal tenure **c** : an owner of land or other real property **d** *obs* : the male head of a household **e** : HUSBAND **f** : one who has achieved mastery or who exercises leadership or great power in some area ⟨vice ~*s*⟩ **2** *cap* **a** : GOD 1 **b** : CHRIST **3** : a man of rank or high position: as **a** : a feudal tenant holding directly of the king **b** : a British nobleman: as (1) : BARON 2a (2) : an hereditary peer of the rank of marquess, earl, or viscount (3) : the son of a duke or a marquess or the eldest son of an earl (4) : a bishop of the Church of England **c** *pl, cap* : HOUSE OF LORDS **4** — used as a British title: as **a** — used as part of an official title ⟨*Lord* Advocate⟩ **b** — used informally in place of the full title for a marquess, earl, or viscount **c** — used for a baron **d** — used by courtesy before the name and surname of a younger son of a duke or a marquess **5** : a person chosen to preside over a festival

²lord *vi* : to act like a lord; *esp* : to put on airs — usu. used with *it* ⟨~*s* it over his friends⟩

lord chancellor *n, pl* **lords chancellor** : a British officer of state who presides over the House of Lords in both its legislative and judicial capacities, serves as the head of the British judiciary, and is usu. a leading member of the cabinet

lord·ing \ˈlȯrd-iŋ\ *n* **1** *archaic* : LORD **2** *obs* : LORDLING

lord·ling \ˈlȯ(ə)rd-liŋ\ *n* : a little or insignificant lord

lord·ly \-lē\ *adj* **lord·li·er; -est** **1** **a** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a lord : DIGNIFIED **b** : GRAND, NOBLE **2** : exhibiting such pride and assurance as could only be felt as appropriate to one of the highest birth or rank ***syn*** see PROUD — **lord·li·ness** *n* — **lordly** *adv*

lord of misrule : a master of Christmas revels in England esp. in the 15th and 16th centuries

lor·do·sis \lȯr-ˈdō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *lordōsis*, fr. *lordos* curving forward; akin to OE *belyrtan* to deceive] : abnormal curvature of the spine forward — **lor·dot·ic** \-ˈdät-ik\ *adj*

Lord's day *n, often cap D* [fr. the Christian belief that Christ arose from the dead on Sunday] : SUNDAY

lord·ship \ˈlȯ(ə)rd-ˌship\ *n* **1** **a** : the rank or dignity of a lord — used as a title ⟨his *Lordship* is not at home⟩ **b** : the authority or power of a lord : DOMINION **2** : the territory under the jurisdiction of a lord : SEIGNIORY

Lord's Prayer *n* : the prayer with variant versions in Matthew and Luke that according to the Lucan account Christ taught his disciples

Lord's Supper *n* [ME *Lordis sopere*, trans. of LL *dominica cena*, trans. of Gk *kyriakon deipnon*] : COMMUNION 2a

Lord's table *n, often cap T* : ALTAR 2

¹lore \ˈlō(ə)r, ˈlȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lār;* akin to OHG *lēra* doctrine, OE *leornian* to learn] **1** *archaic* : something that is taught : LESSON **2** : something that is learned: **a** : knowledge gained through study or experience **b** : traditional knowledge or belief **3** : a particular body of knowledge or tradition

²lore *n* [NL *lorum*, fr. L, thong, rein; akin to Gk *eulēra* reins] : the space between the eye and bill in a bird or the corresponding region in a reptile or fish — **lo·re·al** \ˈlȯr-ē-əl, ˈlȯr-\ *adj*

Lo·re·lei \ˈlōr-ə-ˌlī, ˈlȯr-\ *n* [G] : a siren of Germanic legend who by her song lures Rhine river boatmen to destruction on a reef

lor·gnette \lȯrn-ˈyet\ *n* [F, fr. *lorgner* to take a sidelong look at, fr. MF, fr. *lorgne* cross-eyed] : a pair of eyeglasses or opera glasses with a handle

lor·gnon \lȯrn-ˈyōⁿ\ *n* [F, fr. *lorgner*] : LORGNETTE

lo·ri·ca \lə-ˈrī-kə\ *n, pl* **-cae** \-kē, -ˌsē\ [L, fr. *lorum*] **1** : a Roman cuirass of leather or metal **2** [NL, fr. L] : a hard protective case or shell (as of a rotifer)

¹lor·i·cate \ˈlȯr-i-kət, ˈlȯr-ə-, ˈlär-\ *or* **lor·i·cat·ed** \-ə-ˌkāt-əd\ *adj* **1** : having a lorica **2** : of or relating to a loricate animal

²loricate *n* : a loricate animal (as a chiton or a crocodilian)

lor·i·keet \ˈlȯr-ə-ˌkēt, ˈlär-\ *n* [*lory* + *-keet* (as in *parakeet*)] : any of numerous small arboreal parrots mostly of Australasia that usu. have the tongue papillae long and slender forming an organ resembling a brush

lo·ris \ˈlōr-əs, ˈlȯr-\ *n* [F] : either of two small nocturnal slow-moving lemurs: **a** : a slim-bodied lemur (*Loris gracilis*) of southern India and Ceylon **b** : a stocky relatively heavy-limbed lemur (*Bradicebus tardigradus*) of India and the East Indies — **lo·ris·i·form** \lȯ-ˈris-ə-ˌfȯrm, lə-\ *adj*

lorn \ˈlȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* [ME, fr. *loren*, pp. of *lesen* to lose, fr. OE *lēosan* — more at LOSE] : DESOLATE, FORSAKEN ***syn*** see ALONE — **lorn·ness** \ˈlȯ(ə)rn-nəs\ *n*

Lor·raine cross \lə-ˌrān-, lȯ-\ *n* : CROSS OF LORRAINE

lor·ry \ˈlȯr-ē, ˈlär-\ *n, pl* **lorries** [origin unknown] **1** **a** : a large low horse-drawn wagon without sides **b** *Brit* : a motortruck esp. if open **2** : any of various trucks running on rails

lo·ry \ˈlōr-ē, ˈlȯr-\ *n, pl* **lories** [Malay *nuri, luri*] : any of numerous parrots (esp. of the genera *Domicella, Trichoglossus, Chalcopsitta,* and *Eos*) of Australia, New Guinea, and adjacent islands usu. having the tongue papillose at the tip and the mandibles less toothed than other parrots

LOS *abbr* **1** line of scrimmage **2** line of sight

lose \ˈlüz\ *vb* **lost** \ˈlȯst\; **los·ing** \ˈlü-ziŋ\ [ME *losen*, fr. OE *losian* to perish, lose, fr. *los* destruction; akin to OE *lēosan* to lose; akin to ON *losa* to loosen, L *luere* to release, atone for, Gk *lyein* to loosen, dissolve, destroy] *vt* **1** **a** : to bring to destruction — used chiefly in passive construction ⟨the ship was *lost* on the reef⟩ **b** : DAMN ⟨if he shall gain the whole world and ~ his own soul —Mt 16:26 (AV)⟩ **2** : to miss from one's possession or from a customary or supposed place **3** : to suffer deprivation of : part with esp. in an unforeseen or accidental manner **4** **a** : to suffer loss through the death or removal of or final separation from (a person) **b** : to fail to keep control of or allegiance of ⟨~ votes⟩ **5** **a** : to fail to use : let slip by : WASTE ⟨~ the tide⟩ **b** (1) : to fail to win, gain, or obtain ⟨~ a prize⟩ ⟨~ a contest⟩ (2) : to undergo defeat in ⟨*lost* every battle⟩ **c** : to fail to catch with the senses or the mind ⟨*lost* part of what he said⟩ **6** : to cause the loss of ⟨one careless statement *lost* him the election⟩ **7** : to fail to keep, sustain, or maintain ⟨*lost* his balance⟩ **8** **a** : to cause to miss one's way or bearings ⟨*lost* himself in the maze of streets⟩ **b** : to make (oneself) withdrawn from immediate reality ⟨*lost* himself in daydreaming⟩ **9** **a** : to wander or go astray from ⟨*lost* his way⟩ **b** : to draw away from : OUTSTRIP ⟨*lost* his pursuers⟩ **10** : to fail to keep in sight or

in mind **11** : to free oneself from : get rid of ⟨dieting to ~ some weight⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to undergo deprivation of something of value **2** : to undergo defeat ⟨~ with good grace⟩ **3** *of a timepiece* : to run slow — **los·able** \'lü-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **los·able·ness** *n* — **lose ground** : to suffer loss or disadvantage : fail to advance or improve — **lose one's heart** : to fall in love

lo·sel \'lō-zəl\ *n* [ME, fr. *losen* (pp. of *lesen* to lose), alter. of *loren* — more at LORN] : a worthless person

lose out *vi* : to fail to win in competition : fail to receive an expected reward or gain

los·er \'lü-zər\ *n* **1** : one that loses esp. consistently **2** : one that does poorly : FAILURE

loss \'lȯs\ *n* [ME *los*, prob. back-formation fr. *lost*, pp. of *losen* to lose] **1 a** : the act of losing possession **b** : the harm or privation resulting from loss or separation **c** : an instance of losing **2** : a person or thing or an amount that is lost: as **a** *pl* : killed, wounded, or captured soldiers **b** : the power diminution of a circuit element corresponding to conversion of electric power into heat by resistance **3 a** : failure to gain, win, obtain, or utilize **b** : an amount by which the cost of an article or service exceeds the selling price **4** : decrease in amount, magnitude, or degree **5** : DESTRUCTION, RUIN **6** : the amount of an insured's financial detriment by death or damage that the insurer becomes liable for — **at a loss** : UNCERTAIN, PUZZLED — **for a loss** : into a state of distress

loss leader *n* : an article sold at a loss in order to draw customers

loss ratio *n* : the ratio between insurance losses incurred and premiums earned during a given period

lossy \'lȯ-sē\ *adj* : causing attenuation or dissipation of electrical energy ⟨a ~ transmission line⟩ ⟨a ~ dielectric⟩

lost \'lȯst\ *adj* [pp. of *lose*] **1** : not made use of, won, or claimed **2 a** : unable to find the way **b** : no longer visible **c** : lacking assurance or self-confidence : HELPLESS **3** : ruined or destroyed physically or morally : DESPERATE **4 a** : no longer possessed **b** : no longer known **5 a** : taken away or beyond reach or attainment : DENIED ⟨regions ~ to the faith⟩ **b** : INSENSIBLE, HARDENED ⟨~ to shame⟩ **6** : RAPT, ABSORBED ⟨~ in reverie⟩ — **lost·ness** \'lȯs(t)-nəs\ *n*

[1]lot \'lät\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hlot;* akin to OHG *hlōz*, Lith *kliudyti* to hook on] **1** : an object used as a counter in determining a question by chance **2 a** : the use of lots as a means of deciding something **b** : the resulting choice **3 a** : something that comes to one upon whom a lot has fallen : SHARE **b** : one's way of life or worldly fate : FORTUNE **4 a** : a portion of land **b** : a measured parcel of land having fixed boundaries and designated on a plot or survey **c** : a motion-picture studio and its adjoining property **5** : a number of units of an article or a parcel of articles offered as one item (as in an auction sale) **6 a** : a number of associated persons : SET **b** : KIND, SORT **7** : a considerable quantity or extent ⟨a ~ of money⟩ ⟨~*s* of friends⟩ ⟨this is a ~ nicer⟩ ***syn*** see FATE, GROUP

[2]lot *vt* **lot·ted; lot·ting** **1** : to form or divide into lots **2** : ALLOT, APPORTION

Lot \'lät\ *n* [Heb *Lōṭ*] : a nephew of Abraham who according to the account in Genesis escaped from the doomed city of Sodom with his wife who turned into a pillar of salt when she looked back

lo·ta *or* **lo·tah** \'lōt-ə\ *n* [Hindi *loṭā*] : a small usu. spherical water vessel of brass or copper used in India

loth \'lōth, 'lōth\ *var of* LOATH

lo·thar·io \lō-'thar-ē-ˌō, -'ther-, -'thär-\ *n, pl* **-ios** *often cap* [*Lothario*, seducer in the play *The Fair Penitent* (1703) by Nicholas Rowe] : a man whose chief interest is seducing women

lo·tic \'lōt-ik\ *adj* [L *lotus*, pp.] : of, relating to, or living in actively moving water ⟨~ biology⟩ — compare LENTIC

lo·tion \'lō-shən\ *n* [L *lotion-, lotio* act of washing, fr. *lotus*, pp. of *lavere* to wash — more at LYE] : a liquid preparation for cosmetic or external medicinal use

lots \'läts\ *adv* [pl. of [1]*lot*] : MUCH ⟨feeling ~ better⟩

lot·tery \'lät-ə-rē, 'lä-trē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** *often attrib* [MF *loterie*, fr. MD, fr. *lot* lot; akin to OE *hlot* lot] **1** : a drawing of lots in which prizes are distributed to the winners among persons buying a chance **2** : an event or affair whose outcome is or seems to be determined by chance

lot·to \'lät-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [It, lottery, lotto, fr. F. *lot* lot, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *hlot* lot] : a game of chance resembling bingo

lo·tus \'lōt-əs\ *n* [L & Gk; L *lotus*, fr. Gk *lōtos*, fr. Heb *lōt* myrrh] **1** *also* **lo·tos** \'lōt-əs\ : a fruit eaten by the lotus-eaters and considered to cause indolence and dreamy contentment; *also* : a tree (as *Zizyphus lotus* of the buckthorn family) reputed to bear this fruit **2** : any of various water lilies including several represented in ancient Egyptian and Hindu art and religious symbolism **3** [NL, genus name, fr. L] **a** : any of a genus (*Lotus*) of widely distributed upright leguminous herbs or subshrubs **b** : SWEET CLOVER



lotus 2

lo·tus–eat·er \'lōt-ə-ˌsēt-ər\ *n* : one of a people represented in the Odyssey of Homer as subsisting on lotus fruit in Libya and living in the dreamy indolence it induced

Lou *abbr* Louth

loud \'laůd\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *hlūd;* akin to OHG *hlūt* loud, L in*clutus* famous, Gk *klytos*, Skt *śṛṇoti* he hears] **1 a** : marked by intensity or volume of sound **b** : producing a loud sound **2** : CLAMOROUS, NOISY **3** : obtrusive or offensive in appearance or smell : OBNOXIOUS — **loud** *adv* — **loud·ly** *adv*

loud·en \'laůd-ᵊn\ *vb* **loud·ened; loud·en·ing** \'laůd-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vi* : to become loud ~ *vt* : to make loud

loud·mouth \'laůd-ˌmaůth\ *n* : a person given to loud offensive talk — **loud·mouthed** \-'maůthd, -'maůtht\ *adj*

loud·ness *n* : the attribute of a sound that determines the magnitude of the auditory sensation produced and that primarily depends on the amplitude of the sound wave involved

loud·speak·er \'laůd-'spē-kər\ *n* : a device similar to a telephone receiver in operation but amplifying sound

lough \'läk, 'läk\ *n* [ME, of Celt origin; akin to OIr *loch* lake; akin to L *lacus* lake] **1** *chiefly Irish* : LAKE **2** *chiefly Irish* : a bay or inlet of the sea

lou·is d'or \ˌlü-ē-'dȯ(ə)r\ *n, pl* **louis d'or** [F, fr. *Louis* XIII of France + *d'or* of gold] **1** : a French gold coin first struck in 1640 and issued up to the Revolution **2** : the French 20-franc gold piece issued after the Revolution

Lou·is Qua·torze \ˌlü-ē-kə-'tȯ(ə)rz\ *adj* [F, Louis XIV] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the architecture or furniture of the reign of Louis XIV of France

Louis Quinze \-'kaⁿz\ *adj* [F, Louis XV] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the architecture or furniture of the reign of Louis XV of France

Louis Seize \-'sāz, -'sez\ *adj* [F, Louis XVI] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the architecture or furniture of the reign of Louis XVI of France

Louis Treize \-'trāz, -'trez\ *adj* [F, Louis XIII] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the furniture or architecture of the reign of Louis XIII of France

[1]lounge \'laůnj\ *vb* **lounged; loung·ing** [origin unknown] *vi* : to act or move idly or lazily : LOAF ~ *vt* : to pass (time) idly ⟨~ away the afternoon⟩ — **loung·er** *n*

[2]lounge *n* **1** : a place for lounging: as **a** : a room in a private home or public building for leisure occupations : LIVING ROOM; *also* : LOBBY **b** : a room in a public building or vehicle often combining lounging, smoking, and toilet facilities **2** : a long couch

lounge car *n* : a railroad passenger car with seats for lounging and facilities for serving refreshments — called also *club car*

lounge lizard *n* **1** LADIES' MAN **2** : FOP **3** : a social parasite : NE'ER-DO-WELL

loup \'laůp, 'lōp\ *vb* [ME *loupen*, fr. ON *hlaupa;* akin to OE *hlēapan* to leap — more at LEAP] *chiefly Scot* : LEAP — **loup** *n*

loupe \'lüp\ *n* [F, gem of imperfect brilliancy, loupe] : a small magnifier used esp. by jewelers and watchmakers

loup–ga·rou \ˌlü-gə-'rü\ *n, pl* **loups–garous** \ˌlü-gə-'rü(z)\ [MF] : WEREWOLF

lour \'laů(-ə)r\, **loury** \'laů(ə)r-ē\ *var of* LOWER, LOWERY

[1]louse \'laůs\ *n* [ME *lous*, fr. OE *lūs;* akin to OHG *lūs* louse, W *llau* lice] **1** *pl* **lice** \'līs\ **a** : any of various small wingless usu. flattened insects (orders Anoplura and Mallophaga) parasitic on warm-blooded animals **b** : a small usu. sluggish arthropod that lives on other animals or on plants and sucks their blood or juices — usu. used in combination ⟨plant ~⟩ **c** : any of several small arthropods that are not parasitic — usu. used in combination ⟨book ~⟩ ⟨wood ~⟩ **2** *pl* **lous·es** \'laů-səz\ : a contemptible person : HEEL



louse 1a

[2]louse \'laůs, 'laůz\ *vt* **loused; lous·ing** : to pick lice from : DELOUSE

louse up \(')laů-'səp\ *vt* : to foul up : SNARL ~ *vi* : to make a mess

louse·wort \'laů-ˌswərt, -ˌswȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a genus (*Pedicularis*) of plants of the figwort family with pinnate or pinnatifid leaves and variously colored bilabiate flowers in terminal spikes

lousy \'laů-zē\ *adj* **lous·i·er; -est** **1** : infested with lice **2 a** : totally repulsive : CONTEMPTIBLE **b** : miserably poor or inferior **c** : amply supplied : REPLETE ⟨~ with money⟩ **3** *of silk* : fuzzy and specked because of splitting of the fiber — **lous·i·ly** \-zə-lē\ *adv* — **lous·i·ness** \-zē-nəs\ *n*

[1]lout \'laůt\ *vi* [ME *louten*, fr. OE *lūtan;* akin to ON *lūta* to bow down, OE *lȳtel* little] **1** : to bow in respect **2** : SUBMIT, YIELD

[2]lout *n* [perh. fr. ON *lūtr* bent down, fr. *lūta*] : an awkward clownish fellow : OAF

[3]lout *vt* : to treat as a lout : SCORN

lout·ish \'laůt-ish\ *adj* : resembling or befitting a lout (as in clumsiness and stupidity) ***syn*** see BOORISH — **lout·ish·ly** *adv* — **lout·ish·ness** *n*

lou·ver *or* **lou·vre** \'lü-vər\ *n* [ME *lover*, fr. MF *lovier*] **1** : a roof lantern or turret often with slatted apertures for escape of smoke or admission of light in a medieval building **2 a** : an opening (as in a wall or at the front of an automobile) provided with one or more slanted fixed or movable fins to allow flow of air but to exclude rain or sun or to provide privacy **b** : a finned or vaned device for controlling a flow of air or the radiation of light **c** : a fin or shutter of a louver — **lou·vered** \-vərd\ *adj*

lov·able *also* **love·able** \'ləv-ə-bəl\ *adj* : having qualities that attract affection — **lov·able·ness** *n* — **lov·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

lov·age \'ləv-ij\ *n* [ME *lovache*, fr. AF, fr. LL *levisticum*, alter. of L *ligusticum*, fr. neut. of *ligusticus* Ligurian, fr. *Ligur-, Ligus*, n., Ligurian] : any of several aromatic perennial herbs of the carrot family; *esp* : a European herb (*Levisticum officinale*) sometimes cultivated as a domestic remedy, flavoring agent, or potherb

[1]love \'ləv\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lufu;* akin to OHG *lupa* love, OE *lēof* dear, L *lubēre, libēre* to please] **1 a** (1) : strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties ⟨maternal ~ for a child⟩ (2) : attraction based on sexual desire : affection and tenderness felt by lovers (3) : affection based on admiration, benevolence, or common interests ⟨~ for his old schoolmates⟩ **b** : an assurance of love ⟨give her my ~⟩ **2** : warm attachment, enthusiasm, or devotion ⟨~ of the sea⟩ **3 a** : the object of attachment, devotion, or admiration ⟨baseball was his first ~⟩ **b** : a beloved

person : DARLING **4 a** : unselfish loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another: (1) : the fatherly concern of God for man (2) : brotherly concern for others **b** : a person's adoration of God **5** : a god or personification of love **6** : an amorous episode : LOVE AFFAIR **7** : the sexual embrace : COPULATION **8** : a score of zero in tennis **9** *cap, Christian Science* : GOD — **at love** : holding one's opponent scoreless in tennis ⟨won three games *at love*⟩

²love *vb* **loved; lov·ing** *vt* **1** : to hold dear : CHERISH **2 a** : to feel a lover's passion, devotion, or tenderness for **b** (1) : CARESS (2) : to fondle amorously (3) : to copulate with **3** : to like or desire actively : take pleasure in ⟨*loved* to play the violin⟩ **4** : to thrive in ⟨the rose ~*s* sunlight⟩ ~ *vi* : to feel affection or experience desire

love affair *n* **1** : a romantic attachment or episode between lovers **2** : a lively enthusiasm

love apple *n* [prob. trans. of F *pomme d'amour*] : TOMATO

love beads *n pl* : beads worn as a symbol of love and peace

love·bird \'ləv-ˌbərd\ *n* : any of various small usu. gray or green parrots (as of the genera *Agapornis* of Africa, *Loriculus* of Asia, and *Psittacula* of So. America) that show great affection for their mates

love child *n* : an illegitimate child

love feast *n* **1** : a meal eaten in common by a Christian congregation in token of brotherly love **2** : a gathering held to promote reconciliation and good feeling or show someone affectionate honor

love grass *n* : any of a genus (*Eragrostis*) of grasses that resemble the bluegrasses but have flattened spikelets and deciduous lemmas

love–in \'ləv-ˌin\ *n* [*love* + ²*-in*] : a gathering esp. of young people for the expression of their mutual love

love–in–a–mist \'ləv-ə-nə-ˌmist\ *n* : a European garden plant (*Nigella damascena*) of the buttercup family having the flowers enveloped in numerous finely dissected bracts

love knot *n* : a stylized knot sometimes used as an emblem of love

love·less \'ləv-ləs\ *adj* **1** : not giving love **2** : not loved — **love·less·ly** *adv* — **love·less·ness** *n*

love·lock \-ˌläk\ *n* : a long lock of hair worn over the shoulder by men in the 17th and 18th centuries

love·lorn \-ˌlȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : bereft of love or of a lover — **love·lorn·ness** \-ˌlȯrn-nəs\ *n*

¹love·ly \'ləv-lē\ *adj* **love·li·er; -est** **1** *obs* : LOVABLE **2** : eliciting love by moral or ideal worth **3** : delightful for beauty, harmony, or grace : ATTRACTIVE **4** : GRAND, SWELL ***syn*** see BEAUTIFUL ***ant*** unlovely — **love·li·ly** \'ləv-lə-lē\ *adv* — **love·li·ness** \'ləv-lē-nəs\ *n* — **lovely** *adv*

²lovely *n, pl* **lovelies** **1** : a beautiful woman **2** : a lovely object

love·mak·ing \'ləv-ˌmā-kiŋ\ *n* **1** : COURTSHIP **2** : sexual activity; *esp* : COPULATION

lov·er \'ləv-ər\ *n* **1 a** : a person in love; *esp* : a man in love with a woman **b** *pl* : two persons in love with each other **2** : an affectionate or benevolent friend **3** : DEVOTEE **4** : PARAMOUR

lov·er·ly \-lē\ *adj* : resembling or befitting a lover

love seat *n* : a double chair, sofa, or settee for two persons

love·sick \'ləv-ˌsik\ *adj* **1** : languishing with love : YEARNING **2** : expressing a lover's longing — **love·sick·ness** *n*

love·some \-səm\ *adj* **1** : WINSOME, LOVELY **2** : AFFECTIONATE, AMOROUS

lov·ing \'ləv-iŋ\ *adj* : AFFECTIONATE — **lov·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv* — **lov·ing·ness** *n*

loving cup *n* [fr. its former use in ceremonial drinking] **1** : a large ornamental drinking vessel with two or more handles **2** : a loving cup given as a token or trophy

lov·ing–kind·ness \ˌləv-iŋ-'kīn(d)-nəs\ *n* : tender and benevolent affection

¹low \'lō\ *vi* [ME *loowen*, vb., fr. OE *hlōwan*; akin to OHG *hluoen* to moo, L *calare* to call, summon, Gk *kalein*] : MOO

²low *n* : the deep sustained sound characteristic esp. of a cow

³low *adj* **low·er** \'lō(-ə)r\; **low·est** \'lō-əst\ [ME *lah, low*, fr. ON *lāgr*; akin to MHG *læge* low, flat] **1 a** : having a small upward extension or elevation ⟨a ~ wall⟩ **b** : situated or passing little above a reference line, point, or plane ⟨~ bridges⟩ **c** (1) : having a low-cut neckline (2) : not extending as high as the ankle ⟨~ oxfords⟩ **2 a** : situated or passing below the normal level, surface, or base of measurement, or the mean elevation ⟨~ ground⟩ **b** : marking a nadir or bottom ⟨the ~ point of his career⟩ **3** : DEAD — used as a predicate adjective **4 a** : not loud : SOFT; *also* : FLAT **b** : characterized by being toward the bottom of the range of pitch attainable (as by an instrument) **5 a** : being near the equator ⟨~ northern latitudes⟩ **b** : being near the horizon **6** : humble in character or status ⟨~ birth⟩ **7 a** : lacking strength, health, or vitality : WEAK, PROSTRATE ⟨very ~ with pneumonia⟩ **b** : lacking spirit or vivacity : DEPRESSED ⟨a ~ frame of mind⟩ **8 a** : of lesser degree, size, or amount than average or ordinary ⟨~ pressure⟩ **b** (1) : small in number or amount (2) : SUBSTANDARD, INADEQUATE ⟨a ~ level of employment⟩ ⟨a ~ income group⟩ (3) : CHEAP ⟨~ prices⟩ (4) : SHORT, DEPLETED ⟨oil is in ~ supply⟩ **9** : falling short of some standard: as **a** : lacking dignity or elevation ⟨a ~ style of writing⟩ **b** : morally reprehensible : BASE ⟨a ~ trick⟩ **c** : COARSE, VULGAR ⟨~ language⟩ **10 a** : not advanced in complexity, development, or elaboration ⟨~ organisms⟩ **10 b** *often cap* : Low Church **11** : UNFAVORABLE, DISPARAGING ⟨had a ~ opinion of him⟩ **12** : designed for slow and usu. the slowest speed ⟨~ gear⟩ **13** : articulated with a wide opening between the relatively flat tongue and the palate : OPEN ⟨the sounds \ä\, \å\, \a\ are ~⟩ ***syn*** see BASE — **low** *adv* — **low·ness** *n*

⁴low *n* **1** : something that is low: as **a** : DEPTH **b** : a region of low barometric pressure **2** : the transmission gear of an automotive vehicle giving the lowest ratio of propeller-shaft to engine-shaft speed and the highest amplification of torque

⁵low *or* **lowe** \'lō\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *logi, log*; akin to OE *lēoht* light — more at LIGHT] *chiefly Scot* : FLAME, BLAZE

⁶low *or* **lowe** *vb* **lowed; low·ing** *Scot* : FLAME, BLAZE

low beam *n* : the short-range focus of a vehicle headlight

low blood pressure *n* : HYPOTENSION

low·born \'lō-'bȯ(ə)rn\ *adj* : born in a low condition or rank

low·boy \-ˌbȯi\ *n* : a chest or side table about three feet high with drawers and usu. with cabriole legs



lowboy

low·bred \-'bred\ *adj* : RUDE, VULGAR

low·brow \-ˌbraù\ *n* : an uncultivated person — **lowbrow** *adj*

Low Church *adj* : tending esp. in Anglican worship to minimize emphasis on the priesthood, sacraments, and ceremonial in worship and often to emphasize evangelical principles — **Low Churchman** *n*

low comedy *n* : comedy bordering on farce and employing burlesque, horseplay, or the representation of low life — compare HIGH COMEDY

low·down \'lō-ˌdaůn\ *n* : the inside facts : DOPE

low–down \'lō-daůn\ *adj* **1** : CONTEMPTIBLE, BASE **2** : deeply emotional ⟨~ blues⟩

¹low·er \'laů(-ə)r\ *vi* [ME *louren*; akin to MHG *lūren* to lie in wait] **1** : to look sullen : FROWN **2** : to become dark, gloomy, and threatening ***syn*** see FROWN

²lower *n* **1** : FROWN **2** : a gloomy sky or aspect of weather

³low·er \'lō(-ə)r\ *adj* **1** : relatively low in position, rank, or order **2** : less advanced in the scale of evolutionary development **3** : constituting the popular and often the larger and more representative branch of a bicameral legislative body **4 a** : situated or held to be situated beneath the earth's surface **b** *cap* : of, relating to, or constituting an earlier geologic period or formation **5** : SOUTHERN ⟨~ New York State⟩

⁴low·er \'lō(-ə)r\ *vi* : to move down : DROP; *also* : DIMINISH ~ *vt* **1 a** : to let descend : let down **b** : to depress as to direction ⟨~ your aim⟩ **c** : to reduce the height of **2 a** : to reduce in value or amount ⟨~ the price⟩ **b** (1) : to bring down : DEGRADE (2) : ABASE, HUMBLE **c** : to reduce the objective of

¹low·er·case \ˌlō(-ə)r-'kās\ *adj* [fr. the compositor's practice of keeping such types in the lower of a pair of type cases] *of a letter* : having as its typical form a f g or *b n i* rather than A F G or *B N I* — **lowercase** *n*

²lowercase *vt* **-cased; -cas·ing** : to print or set in lowercase letters

low·er–class \ˌlō(-ə)r-'klas\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the lower class **2** : being an inferior or low-ranking specimen of its kind

lower class *n* : a social class occupying a position below the middle class and having the lowest status in a society by virtue of a low material standard of living, social instability, and a low level of personal ambition and aspiration esp. toward education

lower criticism *n* : criticism concerned with the recovery of original texts esp. of Scripture through collation of extant manuscripts — compare HIGHER CRITICISM

lower fungus *n* : a fungus with hyphae absent or rudimentary and nonseptate

low·er·ing \'laů-(ə-)riŋ\ *adj* : dark and threatening : GLOOMY

low·er·most \'lō(-ə)r-ˌmōst\ *adj* : LOWEST

low·ery \'laů-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : GLOOMY, LOWERING

lowest common denominator *n* : LEAST COMMON DENOMINATOR

lowest common multiple *n* : LEAST COMMON MULTIPLE

lowest terms *n pl* : the numerator and denominator of a fraction that have no factor in common ⟨reduce a fraction to *lowest terms*⟩

low frequency *n* : a radio frequency between medium frequency and very low frequency — see RADIO FREQUENCY table

Low German *n* **1** : the German dialects of northern Germany esp. as used since the end of the medieval period : PLATTDEUTSCH **2** : the West Germanic languages other than High German

low–grade \'lō-'grād\ *adj* **1** : of inferior grade or quality **2** : being near that extreme of a specified range which is lowest, least intense, or least competent ⟨a ~ fever⟩ ⟨a ~ imbecile⟩

low–key \-'kē\ *also* **low–keyed** \-'kēd\ *adj* **1** : of low intensity **2** : having or producing dark tones only with little contrast

¹low·land \'lō-lənd, -ˌland\ *n* : low or level country

²lowland *adj* **1** : of or relating to a lowland **2** *cap* : of or relating to the Lowlands of Scotland

low·land·er \-lən-dər, -ˌlan-\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of a lowland region **2** *cap* : an inhabitant of the Lowlands of Scotland

Low Latin *n* : postclassical Latin in its later stages

low–lev·el \'lō-'lev-əl\ *adj* **1** : being of low importance or rank **2** : occurring, done, or placed at a low level

low·li·head \'lō-lē-ˌhed\ *n* [ME *lowliheed*, fr. *lowly* + *-hed* -hood; akin to ME *-hod* -hood] *archaic* : lowly state

low–low \ˌlō-ˌlō\ *adj, of tide* : lower than the normal low

¹low·ly \'lō-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a humble or meek manner **2** : in a low position, manner, or degree **3** : not loudly

²lowly *adj* **low·li·er; -est** **1** : humble in manner or spirit : free from self-assertive pride **2** : of or relating to a low social or economic rank **3** : low in the scale of biological or cultural evolution **4** : ranking low in some hierarchy **5** : not lofty or sublime : PROSAIC ***syn*** see HUMBLE ***ant*** pompous — **low·li·ness** *n*

low–ly·ing \'lō-'lī-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : rising relatively little above the base of measurement ⟨~ hills⟩ **2** : lying below the normal level, surface, or the base of measurement or mean elevation ⟨~ clouds⟩

low mass *n, often cap L&M* : a mass that is recited without singing by the celebrant, without a deacon, subdeacon, or choir assisting the celebrant, and without the use of incense

low–mind·ed \'lō-'mīn-dəd\ *adj* : inclined to low or unworthy things — **low–mind·ed·ly** *adv* — **low–mind·ed·ness** *n*

lown \'laůn, 'lün\ *adj* [ME (Sc) *lowne*] *dial* : CALM, QUIET

low–necked \'lō-'nekt\ *or* **low–neck** \-'nek\ *adj* : DÉCOLLETÉ 2

low–pres·sure \'lō-'presh-ər\ *adj* **1** : having, exerting, or operating under a relatively small pressure **2** : EASYGOING

low–profile \'lō-'prō-ˌfīl\ *adj* **1** : having little height : LOW **2** : intended to attract little attention

low profile *n* : an inconspicuous life style or posture

low relief *n* : BAS-RELIEF

low–rise \'lō-'rīz\ *adj* : being one or two stories and not equipped with elevators ⟨a ~ classroom building⟩

low–spir·it·ed \ˈlō-ˈspir-ət-əd\ *adj* : DEJECTED, DEPRESSED — **low–spir·it·ed·ly** *adv* — **low–spir·it·ed·ness** *n*
Low Sunday *n* : the Sunday following Easter
low–ten·sion \ˈlō-ˈten-chən\ *adj* **1** : having a low potential or voltage **2** : constructed to be used at low voltage
low–test \-ˈtest\ *adj* : having a low volatility ⟨~ gasoline⟩
low tide *n* : the farthest ebb of the tide
low water *n* : a low stage of the water in a river or lake; *also* : LOW TIDE
¹lox \ˈläks\ *n* [*liquid oxygen*] : liquid oxygen
²lox *n, pl* **lox** *or* **lox·es** [Yiddish *laks*, fr. MHG *lahs* salmon] : smoked salmon
loxo·drome \ˈläk-sə-ˌdrōm\ *n* [ISV, back-formation fr. *loxodromic*] : RHUMB LINE
loxo·drom·ic \ˌläk-sə-ˈdräm-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *loxodromicus*, fr. Gk *loxos* oblique + *dromos* course; akin to L *ulna* elbow] : relating to a rhumb line or to sailing on rhumb lines — **loxo·drom·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
loy·al \ˈlȯi(-ə)l\ *adj* [MF, fr. OF *leial, leel*, fr. L *legalis* legal] **1** : unswerving in allegiance : as **a** : faithful in allegiance to one's lawful sovereign or government **b** : faithful to a private person to whom fidelity is due **c** : faithful to a cause, ideal, or custom **2** : showing loyalty ⟨her ~ determination to help the party⟩ **3** *obs* : LAWFUL, LEGITIMATE ***syn*** see FAITHFUL ***ant*** disloyal — **loy·al·ly** \ˈlȯi-ə-lē\ *adv*
loy·al·ist \ˈlȯi-ə-ləst\ *n* : one who is or remains loyal to a political cause, party, government, or sovereign; *esp* : TORY 4
loy·al·ty \ˈlȯi(-ə)l-tē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *loyaltee*, fr. MF *loialté*, fr. OF *leialté*, fr. *leial*] **1** : the quality or state of being loyal **2** : the tie binding a person to something to which he is loyal ***syn*** see FIDELITY ***ant*** disloyalty
loz·enge \ˈläz-ᵊnj\ *n* [ME *losenge*, fr. MF *losange*] **1** : a figure with four equal sides and two acute and two obtuse angles : DIAMOND **2** : something shaped like a lozenge **3** : a small often medicated candy
¹LP \ˈel-ˈpē\ *trademark* — used for a microgroove phonograph record designed to be played at $33^1/_3$ revolutions per minute
²LP *abbr* low pressure
LPG *abbr* liquefied petroleum gas
LPN *abbr* licensed practical nurse
Lr *symbol* lawrencium
LR *abbr* **1** living room **2** log run **3** lower right
LRL *abbr* lunar receiving laboratory
LS *abbr* **1** left side **2** letter signed **3** library science **4** [L *locus sigilli*] place of the seal **5** long shot
LSA *abbr* Linguistic Society of America
LSAT *abbr* Law School Admissions Test
LSD \ˌel-ˌes-ˈdē\ *n* [*l*ysergic acid *d*iethylamide] : an organic compound $C_{20}H_{25}N_3O$ that induces psychotic symptoms similar to those of schizophrenia — called also *lysergic acid diethylamide*
LSS *abbr* **1** lifesaving service; lifesaving station **2** life-support system
LST *abbr* landing ship, tank
LSV *abbr* lunar surface vehicle
lt *abbr* light
Lt *abbr* lieutenant
LT *abbr* **1** long ton **2** low-tension
LTC *or* **Lt Col** *abbr* lieutenant colonel
Lt Comdr *abbr* lieutenant commander
ltd *abbr* limited
LTG *or* **Lt Gen** *abbr* lieutenant general
lt gov *abbr* lieutenant governor
LTh *abbr* licentiate in theology
LTJG *abbr* lieutenant, junior grade
LTL *abbr* less-than-truckload lot
ltr *abbr* **1** letter **2** lighter
LTS *abbr* **1** launch telemetry station **2** launch tracking system
Lu *symbol* lutetium
lu·au \ˈlü-ˌaù\ *n* [Hawaiian *lu'au*] : an Hawaiian feast
lub *abbr* lubricant; lubricating
lub·ber \ˈləb-ər\ *n* [ME *lobre, lobur*] **1** : a big clumsy fellow **2** : a clumsy seaman — **lub·ber·li·ness** \-lē-nəs\ *n* — **lub·ber·ly** \-lē\ *adj or adv*
lubber line *n* : a fixed line on the compass of a ship or airplane that is aligned with the longitudinal axis of the vehicle
lubber's hole *n* : a hole in a ship's top near the mast through which one may go farther aloft without going over the rim by the futtock shrouds
lube \ˈlüb\ *n* [short for *lubricating oil*] : LUBRICANT
lu·bric \ˈlü-brik\ *adj* [MF *lubrique*, fr. ML *lubricus*] *archaic* : LUBRICIOUS — **lu·bri·cal** \-bri-kəl\ *adj*
lu·bri·cant \ˈlü-bri-kənt\ *n* **1** : a substance (as grease) capable of reducing friction, heat, and wear when introduced as a film between solid surfaces **2** : something that lessens or prevents friction or difficulty — **lubricant** *adj*
lu·bri·cate \ˈlü-brə-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *lubricatus*, pp. of *lubricare* fr. *lubricus* slippery — more at SLEEVE] *vt* **1** : to make smooth or slippery **2** : to apply a lubricant to ~ *vi* : to act as a lubricant — **lu·bri·ca·tion** \ˌlü-brə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* — **lu·bri·ca·tive** \ˈlü-brə-ˌkāt-iv\ *adj* — **lu·bri·ca·tor** \-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
lu·bri·cious \lü-ˈbrish-əs\ *or* **lu·bri·cous** \ˈlü-bri-kəs\ *adj* [ML *lubricus*, fr. L, slippery, easily led astray] **1** : marked by wantonness : LECHEROUS; *also* : SALACIOUS **2** [L *lubricus*] : having a smooth or slippery quality ⟨a ~ skin⟩ — **lu·bri·cious·ly** *adv*
lu·bric·i·ty \lü-ˈbris-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** : the property or state of being lubricious; *also* : the capacity for reducing friction
lu·bri·to·ri·um \ˌlü-brə-ˈtōr-ē-əm, -ˈtȯr-\ *n* [*lubric*ate + *-torium* (as in *sanatorium*)] : a station for lubricating motor vehicles
Lu·can \ˈlü-kən\ *adj* [LL *lucanus*, fr. *Lucas* Luke, fr. Gk *Loukas*] : of or relating to Luke or the Gospel ascribed to him
lu·carne \lü-ˈkärn\ *n* [F] : DORMER
Lu·ca·yo \lü-ˈkī-(ˌ)ō\ *n* **1** : an extinct aboriginal Arawakan tribe of the Bahamas **2** : the language of the Lucayo people
lu·cen·cy \-ᵊn-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being lucent
lu·cent \ˈlüs-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *lucent-, lucens*, prp. of *lucēre* to shine — more at LIGHT] **1** : glowing with light : LUMINOUS **2** : marked by clarity or translucence : CLEAR — **lu·cent·ly** *adv*
lu·cern *n* [prob. modif. of G *lüchsern* of a lynx, fr. *luchs* lynx] *obs* : LYNX
lu·cerne *also* **lu·cern** \lü-ˈsərn\ *n* [F *luzerne*, fr. Prov *luserno*] *chiefly Brit* : ALFALFA
lu·cid \ˈlü-səd\ *adj* [L *lucidus;* akin to L *lucēre*] **1 a** : suffused with light : LUMINOUS **b** : TRANSLUCENT **2** : having full use of one's faculties : SANE **3** : clear to the understanding : INTELLIGIBLE ***syn*** see CLEAR ***ant*** obscure, vague, dark — **lu·cid·ly** *adv* — **lu·cid·ness** *n*
lu·cid·i·ty \lü-ˈsid-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : clearness of thought or style **2** : a presumed capacity to perceive the truth directly and instantaneously : CLAIRVOYANCE
Lu·ci·fer \ˈlü-sə-fər\ *n* [ME, the morning star, a fallen rebel archangel, the Devil, fr. OE, fr. L, the morning star, fr. *lucifer* light-bearing, fr. *luc-, lux* light + *-fer* -ferous — more at LIGHT] **1** — used as a name of the devil **2** : the planet Venus when appearing as the morning star **3** *not cap* : a friction match having as active substances antimony sulfide and potassium chlorate
lu·cif·er·ase \lü-ˈsif-ə-ˌrās, -ˌrāz\ *n* [ISV, fr. *luciferin*] : an enzyme that catalyzes the oxidation of luciferin
lu·cif·er·in \-(ə-)rən\ *n* [ISV, fr. L *lucifer* light-bearing] : a pigment in luminescent organisms that furnishes practically heatless light in undergoing oxidation
lu·cif·er·ous \lü-ˈsif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *lucifer*] *archaic* : bringing light or insight : ILLUMINATING
Lu·ci·na \lü-ˈsī-nə\ *n* [L, Roman goddess of childbirth] *archaic* : MIDWIFE
Lu·cite \ˈlü-ˌsīt\ *trademark* — used for an acrylic resin or plastic consisting essentially of polymerized methyl methacrylate
¹luck \ˈlək\ *n* [ME *lucke*, fr. MD *luc;* akin to MHG *gelücke* luck] **1 a** : a force that brings good fortune or adversity **b** : the events or circumstances that operate for or against an individual **2** : favoring chance; *also* : SUCCESS — **luck·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²luck *vi* **1** : to prosper or succeed esp. through chance or good fortune ⟨things were going bad and then he ~*ed* out⟩ **2** : to come upon something desirable by chance — usu. used with *out, on, onto,* or *into* ⟨~ onto a vein of gold⟩
lucky \ˈlək-ē\ *adj* **luck·i·er; -est** **1** : having good luck **2** : happening by chance : FORTUITOUS **3** : producing or resulting in good by chance : FAVORABLE **4** : seeming to bring good luck ⟨a ~ rabbit's foot⟩ — **luck·i·ly** \ˈlək-ə-lē\ *adv* — **luck·i·ness** \ˈlək-ē-nəs\ *n*
syn LUCKY, FORTUNATE, HAPPY, PROVIDENTIAL *shared meaning element* : meeting with or producing unforeseen success ***ant*** unlucky
lu·cra·tive \ˈlü-krət-iv\ *adj* [ME *lucratif*, fr. MF, fr. L *lucrativus*, fr. *lucratus* pp. of *lucrari* to gain, fr. *lucrum*] : producing wealth : PROFITABLE — **lu·cra·tive·ly** *adv* — **lu·cra·tive·ness** *n*
lu·cre \ˈlü-kər\ *n* [ME, fr. L *lucrum;* akin to OE *lēan* reward, OHG *lōn*, Gk *leia* booty] : monetary gain : PROFIT; *also* : MONEY
lu·cu·bra·tion \ˌlü-k(y)ə-ˈbrā-shən\ *n* [L *lucubration-, lucubratio* study by night, work produced at night, fr. *lucubratus*, pp. of *lucubrare* to work by lamplight; akin to L *luc- lux*] **1** : laborious study : MEDITATION **2** : studied or pretentious expression in speech or writing
lu·cu·lent \ˈlü-kyə-lənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *luculentus*, fr. *luc-, lux* light] : clear in thought or expression : LUCID — **lu·cu·lent·ly** *adv*
Lu·cul·lan \lü-ˈkəl-ən\ *or* **Lu·cul·li·an** \-ˈkəl-ē-ən\ *adj* [L *lucullanus* of Lucullus, fr. L. Licinius *Lucullus*] : LAVISH, LUXURIOUS ⟨a ~ feast⟩
Ludd·ite \ˈləd-ˌīt\ *n* [Ned *Ludd fl* 1779 half-witted Leicestershire workman] : one of a group of early 19th century English workmen destroying laborsaving machinery as a protest
lu·di·crous \ˈlüd-ə-krəs\ *adj* [L *ludicrus*, fr. *ludus* play, sport; akin to L *ludere* to play, Gk *loidoros* abusive] **1** : amusing or laughable through obvious absurdity, incongruity, exaggeration, or eccentricity **2** : meriting derisive laughter or scorn as absurdly inept, false, or foolish ***syn*** see LAUGHABLE — **lu·di·crous·ly** *adv* — **lu·di·crous·ness** *n*
lu·es \ˈlü-(ˌ)ēz\ *n, pl* **lues** [NL, fr. L, plague; akin to Gk *lyein* to loosen, destroy — more at LOSE] : SYPHILIS — **lu·et·ic** \lü-ˈet-ik\ *adj* — **lu·et·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹luff \ˈləf\ *n* [ME, weather side of a ship, luff, fr. MF *lof* weather side of ship] **1** : the act of sailing a ship nearer the wind **2** : the forward edge of a fore-and-aft sail
²luff *vi* : to sail nearer the wind
¹lug \ˈləg\ *vb* **lugged; lug·ging** [ME *luggen* to pull by the hair or ear, drag, prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw *lugga* to pull by the hair] *vt* **1** : DRAG, PULL **2** : to carry laboriously **3** : to introduce in a forced manner ⟨~ his name into the talk⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to pull with effort : TUG **2** : to move heavily or by jerks ⟨the car ~*s* on hills⟩
²lug *n* **1** *archaic* **a** : an act of lugging **b** : something that is lugged **c** : a shipping container for fruits or vegetables **2** *pl* : superior airs or affectations ⟨put on ~*s*⟩ **3** : LUGSAIL **4** *slang* : an exaction of money — used in the phrase *put the lug on*
³lug *n* [ME (Sc) *lugge*, perh. fr. ME *luggen*] **1** *chiefly dial* : EAR **2** : something (as a handle) that projects like an ear: as **a** : a leather loop on a harness saddle through which the shaft passes **b** : a fitting of copper or brass to which electrical wires are soldered or connected **3** : BLOCKHEAD, LOUT
luge \ˈlüzh\ *n* [F] : a small sled that is ridden in a supine position and used esp. in competition

lug·gage \'ləg-ij\ *n* : something that is lugged; *esp* : suitcases or traveling bags for a traveler's belongings : BAGGAGE
lug·ger \'ləg-ər\ *n* [*lugsail*] : a small fishing or coasting boat that carries one or more lugsails
lug·gie \'ləg-ē\ *n* [³*lug*] *chiefly Scot* : a small wooden pail or dish with a handle
lug·sail \'ləg-ˌsāl, -səl\ *n* [perh. fr. ³*lug*] : a 4-sided sail bent to an obliquely hanging yard that is hoisted and lowered with the sail
lu·gu·bri·ous \lü-'gü-brē-əs *also* -'gyü-\ *adj* [L *lugubris*, fr. *lugēre* to mourn; akin to Gk *lygros* mournful] : MOURNFUL; *esp* : exaggeratedly or affectedly mournful — **lu·gu·bri·ous·ly** *adv* — **lu·gu·bri·ous·ness** *n*
lug·worm \'ləg-ˌwərm\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of a genus (*Arenicola*) of marine polychaete worms that have a row of tufted gills along each side of the back and are used for bait
Luk·an \'lü-kən\ *var of* LUCAN
Luke \'lük\ *n* [L *Lucas*, fr. Gk *Loukas*] **1** : a Gentile physician and companion of the apostle Paul traditionally identified as the author of the third Gospel in the New Testament and of the Book of Acts **2** : the third Gospel in the New Testament — see BIBLE table
luke·warm \'lü-'kwȯ(ə)rm\ *adj* [ME, fr. *luke* lukewarm + *warm*; akin to OHG *lāo* lukewarm — more at LEE] **1** : moderately warm : TEPID **2** : lacking conviction : HALFHEARTED — **luke·warm·ly** *adv* — **luke·warm·ness** *n*
¹lull \'ləl\ *vt* [ME *lullen*; prob. of imit. origin] **1** : to cause to sleep or rest : SOOTHE **2** : to cause to relax vigilance
²lull *n* **1** *archaic* : something that lulls; *esp* : LULLABY **2** : a temporary pause or decline in activity ⟨the early morning ~ in urban noise⟩: as **a** : a temporary calm before or during a storm **b** : a temporary drop in business activity ***syn*** see PAUSE
¹lul·la·by \'ləl-ə-ˌbī\ *n, pl* **-bies** [obs. E *lulla*, interj. used to lull a child (fr. ME) + *bye*, interj. used to lull a child, fr. ME *by*] : a song to quiet children or lull them to sleep
²lullaby *vt* **-bied; -by·ing** : to quiet with a lullaby
lu·lu \'lü-(ˌ)lü\ *n* [prob. fr. *Lulu*, nickname fr. *Louise*] *slang* : one that is remarkable or wonderful
lum \'ləm\ *n* [origin unknown] *chiefly Scot* : CHIMNEY
lumb- *or* **lumbo-** *comb form* [L *lumbus* loin — more at LOIN] : lumbar and ⟨*lumbo*sacral⟩
lum·ba·go \ˌləm-'bā-(ˌ)gō\ *n* [L, fr. *lumbus*] : usu. painful muscular rheumatism involving the lumbar region
lum·bar \'ləm-bər, -ˌbär\ *adj* [NL *lumbaris*, fr. L *lumbus*] : of, relating to, or constituting the loins or the vertebrae between the thoracic vertebrae and sacrum ⟨~ region⟩
¹lum·ber \'ləm-bər\ *vi* **lum·bered; lum·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *lomeren*] : to move heavily or clumsily; *also* : RUMBLE
²lumber *n* [perh. fr. *Lombard*; fr. the use of pawnshops as storehouses of disused property] **1** : surplus or disused articles (as furniture) that are stored away **2** **a** : timber or logs esp. when dressed for use **b** : any of various structural materials prepared in a form similar to lumber — **lumber** *adj*
³lumber *vb* **lum·bered; lum·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to clutter with or as if with lumber : ENCUMBER **2** : to heap together in disorder **3** : to log and saw the timber of ~ *vi* **1** : to cut logs for lumber **2** : to saw logs into lumber for the market — **lum·ber·er** \-bər-ər\ *n*
lum·ber·jack \'ləm-bər-ˌjak\ *n* : LOGGER
lum·ber·man \-mən\ *n* : one who is engaged in the business of cutting, processing, and marketing lumber esp. in a supervisory or managerial capacity
lum·ber·yard \-ˌyärd\ *n* : a yard where a stock of lumber is kept for sale
lum·bo·sa·cral \ˌləm-bō-'sak-rəl, -'sā-krəl\ *adj* : relating to the lumbar and sacral regions or parts
lu·men \'lü-mən\ *n, pl* **lu·mi·na** \-mə-nə\ *or* **lumens** [NL *lumin-, lumen*, fr. L, light, air shaft, opening] **1** : the cavity of a tubular organ ⟨the ~ of a blood vessel⟩ **2** : the bore of a tube (as of a hollow needle or catheter) **3** : a unit of luminous flux equal to the light emitted in a unit solid angle by a uniform point source of one candle intensity — **lu·mi·nal** *also* **lu·men·al** \-mən-ᵊl\ *adj*
lumin- *or* **lumini-** *or* **lumino-** *comb form* [ME *lumin-*, fr. L *lumin-, lumen*] : light ⟨*lumini*ferous⟩
lu·mi·naire \ˌlü-mə-'na(ə)r, -'ne(ə)r\ *n* [F, lamp, lighting] : a complete lighting unit
Lu·mi·nal \'lü-mə-ˌnal, -ˌnȯl\ *trademark* — used for phenobarbital
lu·mi·nance \'lü-mə-nən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being luminous **2** : the luminous intensity of a surface in a given direction per unit of projected area
lu·mi·nary \'lü-mə-ˌner-ē\ *n, pl* **-nar·ies** [ME *luminarye*, fr. MF & LL; MF *luminaire* lamp, fr. LL *luminaria*, pl. of *luminare* lamp, heavenly body, fr. L, window, fr. *lumin-, lumen* light; akin to L *lucēre* to shine — more at LIGHT] : a source of light or illumination: as **a** : a body that gives light; *esp* : one of the celestial bodies **b** : a person brilliantly outstanding in some respect ⟨the most brilliant intellectual ~ of the departing generation —H. O. Taylor⟩ — **luminary** *adj*
lu·mi·nesce \ˌlü-mə-'nes\ *vi* **-nesced; -nesc·ing** [back-formation fr. *luminescent*] : to exhibit luminescence
lu·mi·nes·cence \-'nes-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* **1** : an emission of light that is not ascribable directly to incandescence and therefore occurs at low temperatures and that is produced by physiological processes (as in the firefly), by chemical action, by friction, or by electrical action **2** : the light produced by luminescence
lu·mi·nes·cent \-ᵊnt\ *adj* : relating to, exhibiting, or adapted for the production of luminescence
lu·mi·nif·er·ous \ˌlü-mə-'nif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : transmitting, producing, or yielding light
lu·mi·nist \'lü-mə-nəst\ *n* [F *luministe*, fr. L *lumin-, lumen*] : a painter who makes a specialty of the effects of light on colored objects
lu·mi·nos·i·ty \ˌlü-mə-'näs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** **a** : the quality or state of being luminous **b** : something luminous **2** **a** : the relative quantity of light **b** : relative brightness of something **3** : the luminous efficiency of radiant energy
lu·mi·nous \'lü-mə-nəs\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *luminosus*, fr. *lumin-, lumen*] **1** **a** : emitting or reflecting usu. steady, suffused, or glowing light **b** : of or relating to light or to luminous flux **2** : bathed in or exposed to steady light ⟨a public square ~ with sunlight⟩ **3** : INTELLIGENT, ENLIGHTENED; *also* : CLEAR, INTELLIGIBLE ***syn*** see BRIGHT — **lu·mi·nous·ly** *adv* — **lu·mi·nous·ness** *n*
luminous energy *n* : energy transferred in the form of visible radiation
luminous flux *n* : radiant flux in the visible-wavelength range usu. expressed in lumens instead of watts
luminous paint *n* : a paint containing a phosphor (as zinc sulfide activated with copper) and so able to glow in the dark
lum·mox \'ləm-əks, -iks\ *n* [origin unknown] : a clumsy person
¹lump \'ləmp\ *n* [ME] **1** : a piece or mass of indefinite size and shape **2** **a** : AGGREGATE, TOTALITY ⟨taken in the ~⟩ **b** : MAJORITY **3** : PROTUBERANCE; *esp* : an abnormal swelling **4** : a thickset heavy person; *specif* : one who is stupid or dull **5** *pl* **a** : BEATINGS ⟨had taken a lot of ~*s* growing up in the city⟩ ⟨on the back waterways the single small craft takes its ~*s* —A. W. Baum⟩ **b** : COMEUPPANCE ⟨self-appointed specialists on women are given their ~*s* —Brendan Gill⟩
²lump *vt* **1** : to group without discrimination **2** : to make into lumps; *also* : to make lumps on or in **3** : to move noisily and clumsily ~ *vi* **1** : to become formed into lumps **2** : to move oneself noisily and clumsily
³lump *adj* : not divided into parts : ENTIRE ⟨a ~ payment⟩
⁴lump *vt* [origin unknown] : to put up with ⟨like it or ~ it⟩
lum·pen \'lům-pən\ *adj* [G *lumpenproletariat* degraded and contemptible section of the proletariat, fr. *lump* contemptible person (fr. *lumpen* rags) + *proletariat*] : of or relating to dispossessed and uprooted individuals cut off from the economic and social class with which they might normally be identified ⟨~ proletariat⟩ ⟨~ intellectuals⟩
lump·er \'ləm-pər\ *n* : a laborer employed to handle freight or cargo
lump·ish \'ləm-pish\ *adj* **1** : DULL, SLUGGISH **2** *obs* : low in spirits : DEJECTED **3** : HEAVY, AWKWARD **4** : LUMPY 1a **5** : tediously slow or dull : BORING — **lump·ish·ly** *adv* — **lump·ish·ness** *n*
lumpy \'ləm-pē\ *adj* **lump·i·er; -est** **1** **a** : filled or covered with lumps **b** : characterized by choppy waves **2** : having a thickset clumsy appearance **3** : uneven and often crude in style — **lump·i·ly** \-pə-lē\ *adv* — **lump·i·ness** \-pē-nəs\ *n*
lumpy jaw *n* : ACTINOMYCOSIS; *esp* : actinomycosis of the head in cattle
lu·na·cy \'lü-nə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [*lunatic*] **1** **a** : insanity interrupted by lucid intervals **b** : any of various forms of insanity **c** : insanity amounting to lack of capacity or of responsibility in the eyes of the law **2** : wild foolishness : extravagant folly **3** : a foolish act
lu·na moth \ˌlü-nə-\ *n* [NL *luna* (specific epithet of *Actias luna*), fr. L, moon] : a large mostly pale green American saturniid moth (*Actias luna*) with long tails on the hind wings
lu·nar \'lü-nər *also* -ˌnär\ *adj* [L *lunaris*, fr. *luna* moon; akin to L *lucēre* to shine — more at LIGHT] **1** **a** : of or relating to the moon **b** : designed for use on the moon ⟨~ vehicles⟩ **2** : CRESCENT, LUNATE **3** : measured by the moon's revolution ⟨~ month⟩
lunar caustic *n* [obs. *luna* silver, fr. ML, fr. L, moon] : silver nitrate esp. when fused and molded into sticks for use as a caustic
lunar eclipse *n* : an eclipse in which the moon near the full phase passes partially or wholly through the umbra of the earth's shadow
lunar excursion module *n* : a space vehicle module designed to carry astronauts from the command module to the surface of the moon and back — called also *lunar module*
lu·nate \'lü-ˌnāt\ *adj* [L *lunatus*, pp. of *lunare* to bend in a crescent, fr. *luna*] : shaped like a crescent — **lu·nate·ly** *adv*
lu·na·tic \'lü-nə-ˌtik\ *adj* [ME *lunatik*, fr. OF or LL; OF *lunatique*, fr. LL *lunaticus*, fr. L *luna*; fr. the belief that lunacy fluctuated with the phases of the moon] **1** **a** : affected with lunacy : INSANE **b** : designed for the care of insane persons ⟨~ asylum⟩ **2** : wildly foolish : GIDDY — **lunatic** *n*
lunatic fringe *n* : an extreme or wild group on the periphery of a larger group; *esp* : the members of a political or social movement espousing extreme, eccentric, or fanatical views
lu·na·tion \lü-'nā-shən\ *n* [ME *lunacioun*, fr. ML *lunation-, lunatio*, fr. L *luna*] : the period of time averaging 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, and 2.8 seconds elapsing between two successive new moons
¹lunch \'lənch\ *n* [prob. short for *luncheon*] **1** : a light meal; *esp* : one taken in the middle of the day **2** : the food prepared for a lunch ⟨eat your ~⟩
²lunch *vi* : to eat lunch ~ *vt* : to provide lunch for — **lunch·er** *n*
lunch counter *n* **1** : a long counter at which lunches are sold **2** : LUNCHEONETTE
lun·cheon \'lən-chən\ *n* [perh. alter. of *nuncheon* (light snack)] : LUNCH; *esp* : a light meal eaten in company
lun·cheon·ette \ˌlən-chə-'net\ *n* : a place where light lunches are sold to be eaten on the premises
lunch·room \'lənch-ˌrům, -ˌrům\ *n* **1** : LUNCHEONETTE **2** : a room (as in a school) where lunches supplied on the premises or brought from home may be eaten
lunch·time \-ˌtīm\ *n* : the time at which lunches are usually served : NOON
lune \'lün\ *n* [L *luna* moon — more at LUNAR] : the part of a plane surface bounded by two intersecting arcs or of a spherical surface bounded by two great circles
lunes \'lünz\ *n pl* [F, pl. of *lune* crazy whim, fr. MF, moon, crazy whim, fr. L *luna*] : fits of lunacy
lu·nette \lü-'net\ *n* [F, fr. OF *lunete* small object shaped like the moon, fr. *lune* moon] **1** **a** : an opening in a vault esp. for a window **b** : the surface at the upper part of a wall that is partly surrounded by a vault which the wall intersects and that is often filled by windows or by mural painting **2** : a temporary fortification consisting of two faces forming a salient angle and two parallel flanks **3** : the figure or shape of a crescent moon

lung \'ləŋ\ *n* [ME *lunge*, fr. OE *lungen;* akin to OHG *lungun* lung, *lihti* light in weight — more at LIGHT] **1 a** : one of the usu. paired compound saccular thoracic organs that constitute the basic respiratory organ of air-breathing vertebrates **b** : any of various respiratory organs of invertebrates **2 a** : a device enabling individuals abandoning a submarine to rise to the surface **b** : a mechanical device for regularly introducing fresh air into and withdrawing stale air from the lung : RESPIRATOR

lun·gan \'ləŋ-gən, 'lùŋ-\ *var of* LONGAN

[1]lunge \'lənj\ *vb* **lunged; lung·ing** [by shortening & alter. fr. obs. *allonge* (to make a thrust with a sword)] *vt* : to thrust or push with a lunge ~ *vi* : to make a thrust or a forceful forward movement

[2]lunge *n* **1** : a sudden thrust or pass (as with a sword or foil) **2** : the act of plunging forward

lunged \'ləŋd\ *adj* **1** : having lungs : PULMONATE **2** : having a lung or lungs of a specified kind or number — used in combination ⟨one-*lunged*⟩

[1]lung·er \'lən-jər\ *n* : one that lunges

[2]lung·er \'ləŋ-ər\ *n* : one suffering from a chronic disease of the lungs; *esp* : one that is tubercular

lung·fish \'ləŋ-ˌfish\ *n* : any of various fishes (order Dipneusti or Cladistia) that breathe by a modified air bladder as well as gills

lung·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : any of various nematodes that infest the lungs and air passages of mammals

lung·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of several plants (as a mullein) formerly used in the treatment of respiratory disorders; *esp* : a European herb (*Pulmonaria officinalis*) of the borage family with hispid leaves and bluish flowers

lu·ni·so·lar \ˌlü-ni-'sō-lər *also* -ˌlär\ *adj* [L *luna* moon + E *-i-* + *solar*] : relating or attributed to the moon and the sun

lu·ni·tid·al \-'tīd-ᵊl\ *adj* [L *luna* + E *-i-* + *tidal*] : relating to or being tidal movements dependent on the moon

lun·ker \'ləŋ-kər\ *n* [origin unknown] : something large of its kind — used esp. of a fish

lunk·head \'ləŋk-ˌhed\ *n* [prob. alter. of *lump* + *head*] : a dull-witted person : DOLT — **lunk·head·ed** \-'hed-əd\ *adj*

lunt \'lənt\ *n* [D *lont*] **1** *chiefly Scot* : SLOW MATCH **2** *chiefly Scot* : SMOKE

lu·nule \'lü-(ˌ)nyü(ə)l\ *n* [NL *lunula*, fr. L, crescent-shaped ornament, fr. dim. of *luna* moon] : a crescent-shaped body part or marking (as the whitish mark at the base of a fingernail)

lu·ny \'lü-nē\ *var of* LOONY

lu·pa·nar \lü-'pā-nər, -'pän-ər\ *n* [L, fr. *lupa* prostitute, lit., she-wolf, fem. of *lupus*] : BROTHEL

Lu·per·ca·lia \ˌlü-pər-'kā-lē-ə, -'kāl-yə\ *n* [L, pl., fr. *Lupercus*, god of flocks] : an ancient Roman festival celebrated February 15 to ensure fertility for the people, fields, and flocks — **Lu·per·ca·lian** \-'kā-lē-ən, -'kāl-yən\ *adj*

[1]lu·pine \'lü-pən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *lupinus, lupinum*, fr. *lupinus*, adj.] : any of a genus (*Lupinus*) of leguminous herbs some of which are poisonous and others cultivated for green manure, fodder, or their edible seeds; *also* : an edible lupine seed (as of the European *L. albus*)

[2]lu·pine \-ˌpīn\ *adj* [L *lupinus*, fr. *lupus* wolf — more at WOLF] : WOLFISH

lu·pu·lin \'lü-pyə-lən\ *n* [NL *lupulus* (specific epithet of the hop plant *Humulus lupulus*), fr. dim. of L *lupus* wolf, hop] : a fine yellow resinous powder on the strobiles of hops having the characteristic hop flavor and odor

lu·pus \'lü-pəs\ *n* [ML, fr. L, wolf] : any of several diseases characterized by skin lesions; *esp* : LUPUS VULGARIS

lupus er·y·the·ma·to·sus \-ˌer-ə-ˌthē-mə-'tō-səs\ *n* [NL, lit., erythematous lupus] : a slowly progressive systemic disease that is marked by degenerative changes of collagenous tissues with erythematous skin lesions, arthritic changes, lesions of internal organs, and wasting and by fever, leukemia, and endocarditis

lupus vul·gar·is \-ˌvəl-'gar-əs, -'ger-\ *n* [NL, lit., common lupus] : a tuberculous disease of the skin marked by formation of soft brownish nodules with ulceration and scarring

[1]lurch \'lərch\ *vb* [ME *lorchen*, prob. alter. of *lurken* to lurk] *vi, dial chiefly Eng* : to loiter about a place furtively : PROWL ~ *vt* **1** *obs* : STEAL **2** *archaic* : CHEAT

[2]lurch *n* [MF *lourche*, adj., defeated by a lurch, deceived] : a decisive defeat in which an opponent wins a game by more than double the defeated player's score esp. in cribbage — **in the lurch** : in a vulnerable and unsupported position

[3]lurch *vt* **1** : to defeat by a lurch (as in cribbage) **2** *archaic* : to leave in the lurch

[4]lurch *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a sudden roll of a ship to one side **2** : an act or instance of swaying or tipping; *esp* : a staggering gait

[5]lurch *vi* : to roll or tip abruptly : PITCH; *also* : STAGGER

lurch·er \'lər-chər\ *n* [[1]*lurch*] **1** *archaic* : a petty thief : PILFERER **2** : SPY, LURKER **3** *Brit* : a mongrel dog; *esp* : one used by poachers

lur·dane \'lərd-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *lurdan*, fr. MF *lourdin* dullard, fr. *lourd* dull, stupid, fr. L *luridus* lurid] *archaic* : a lazy stupid person — **lurdane** *adj*

[1]lure \'l(y)ú(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *loire*, of Gmc origin; akin to MHG *luoder* bait; akin to OE *lathian* to invite, OHG *ladōn*] **1** : a bunch of feathers attached to a long cord and used by a falconer to recall a hawk **2 a** : an inducement to pleasure or gain : ENTICEMENT **b** : APPEAL, ATTRACTION **3** : a decoy for attracting animals to capture: as **a** : artificial bait used for catching fish **b** : an often luminous structure on the head of pediculate fishes that is used to attract prey

[2]lure *vt* **lured; lur·ing** **1** : to recall (a hawk) by means of a lure **2** : to draw with a hint of pleasure or gain : attract actively and strongly ⟨*lured* from his work by the bright spring day⟩ — **lur·er** *n*

syn LURE, ENTICE, INVEIGLE, DECOY, TEMPT, SEDUCE *shared meaning element* : to draw from a usual, desirable, or proper course or situation into one felt as unusual, undesirable, or wrong ***ant*** revolt, repel

lu·rid \'lůr-əd\ *adj* [L *luridus* pale yellow, sallow] **1 a** : wan and ghastly pale in appearance **b** : of any of several light or medium grayish colors ranging in hue from yellow to orange **2** : shining with the red glow of fire seen through smoke or cloud **3 a** : causing horror or revulsion : GRUESOME **b** : highly colored : SENSATIONAL — **lu·rid·ly** *adv* — **lu·rid·ness** *n*

lurk \'lərk\ *vi* [ME *lurken;* akin to MHG *lūren* to lie in wait — more at LOWER] **1 a** : to lie in wait in a place of concealment esp. for an evil purpose **b** : to move furtively or inconspicuously : SNEAK **c** : to persist in staying **2 a** : to be concealed but capable of being discovered; *specif* : to constitute a latent threat **b** : to lie hidden — **lurk·er** *n*

syn LURK, SKULK, SLINK, SNEAK *shared meaning element* : to behave furtively

lus·cious \'ləsh-əs\ *adj* [ME *lucius*, perh. alter. of *licius*, short for *delicious*] **1 a** : having a delicious taste or smell : SWEET **b** *archaic* : excessively sweet : CLOYING **2** : having sensual appeal : SEDUCTIVE **3** : richly luxurious or appealing to the senses; *also* : excessively ornate — **lus·cious·ly** *adv* — **lus·cious·ness** *n*

[1]lush \'ləsh\ *adj* [ME *lusch* soft, tender] **1 a** : producing luxuriant foliage ⟨~ grass⟩ **b** : lavishly productive: as (1) : FERTILE (2) : THRIVING (3) : characterized by abundance : PLENTIFUL (4) : PROSPEROUS, PROFITABLE **2 a** : SAVORY, DELICIOUS **b** : SENSUOUS, VOLUPTUOUS **c** : OPULENT, SUMPTUOUS ***syn*** see PROFUSE — **lush·ly** *adv* — **lush·ness** *n*

[2]lush *n* [origin unknown] **1** *slang* : intoxicating liquor : DRINK **2** : an habitual heavy drinker : DRUNKARD

[3]lush *vb, slang* : DRINK

Lu·so- *comb form* [Pg, fr. *lusitano* Portuguese, fr. L *lusitanus* of Lusitania (ancient region corresponding approximately to modern Portugal)] **1** \ˌlü-(ˌ)sō\ : Portuguese and ⟨*Luso*-Brazilian⟩ **2** : of Portugal

[1]lust \'ləst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin ot OHG *lust* pleasure, L *lascivus* wanton] **1** *obs* **a** : PLEASURE, DELIGHT **b** : personal inclination : WISH **2** : usu. intense sexual desire : LASCIVIOUSNESS **3 a** : an intense longing : CRAVING **b** : ENTHUSIASM, EAGERNESS

[2]lust *vi* : to have an intense desire or need : CRAVE; *specif* : to have a sexual urge

[1]lus·ter *or* **lus·tre** \'ləs-tər\ *n* [ME *lustre*, fr. L *lustrum*] : a period of five years : LUSTRUM 2

[2]luster *or* **lustre** *n* [MF *lustre*, fr. OIt *lustro*, fr. *lustrare* to brighten, fr. L; akin to L *lucēre* to shine — more at LIGHT] **1** : a glow of reflected light : SHEEN; *specif* : the appearance of the surface of a mineral as to its reflecting qualities **2 a** : a glow of light from within : LUMINOSITY **b** : an inner beauty : RADIANCE **3** : BRILLIANCE, DISTINCTION **4 a** : a glass pendant used esp. to ornament a candlestick or chandelier **b** : a decorative object (as a chandelier) hung with glass pendants **5** *chiefly Brit* : a fabric with cotton warp and a filling of wool, mohair, or alpaca **6** : LUSTERWARE — **lus·ter·less** \-tər-ləs\ *adj*

[3]luster *or* **lustre** *vb* **lus·tered** *or* **lus·tred; lus·ter·ing** *or* **lus·tring** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* : to have luster : GLEAM ~ *vt* **1** : to give luster or distinction to **2** : to coat or treat with a substance that imparts luster

lus·ter·ware \'ləs-tər-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : pottery decorated by applying to the glaze metallic compounds which become iridescent metallic films in the process of firing

lust·ful \'ləst-fəl\ *adj* : excited by lust : LECHEROUS — **lust·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **lust·ful·ness** *n*

lust·i·hood \'ləs-tē-ˌhůd\ *n* **1** : vigor of body or spirit : ROBUSTNESS **2** : sexual inclination or capacity

lus·tral \'ləs-trəl\ *adj* [L *lustralis*, fr. *lustrum*] : PURIFICATORY

lus·trate \'ləs-ˌtrāt\ *vt* **lus·trat·ed; lus·trat·ing** [L *lustratus*, pp. of *lustrare* to brighten, purify] : to purify ceremonially — **lus·tration** \ˌləs-'trā-shən\ *n*

[1]lus·tring \'ləs-triŋ\ *n* [modif. of It *lustrino*] : LUTESTRING

[2]lus·tring \-t(ə-)riŋ\ *n* [*lustring*, gerund of [3]*luster*] : a finishing process (as calendering) for giving a gloss to yarns and cloth

lus·trous \'ləs-trəs\ *adj* **1** : reflecting light evenly and efficiently without glitter or sparkle ⟨a ~ satin⟩ ⟨the ~ glow of an opal⟩ **2** : radiant in character or reputation : ILLUSTRIOUS ***syn*** see BRIGHT — **lus·trous·ly** *adv* — **lus·trous·ness** *n*

lus·trum \'ləs-trəm\ *n, pl* **lustrums** *or* **lus·tra** \-trə\ [L; akin to L *lustrare* to brighten, purify] **1 a** : a purification of the whole Roman people made in ancient times after the census every five years **b** : the Roman census **2** : a period of five years : QUINQUENNIUM

lusty \'ləs-tē\ *adj* **lust·i·er; -est** **1** *archaic* : MERRY, JOYOUS **2** : LUSTFUL ⟨~ passion⟩ **3 a** : full of vitality : ROBUST **b** : full of strength : POWERFUL — **lust·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **lust·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

lu·sus na·tu·rae \ˌlü-səs-nə-'t(y)ù(ə)r-(ˌ)ē, -'tù(ə)r-ˌī\ *n* [NL, lit., play of nature] : a sport or freak of nature

[1]lute \'lüt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *lut*, fr. OProv *laut*, fr. Ar *al-'ūd*, lit., the wood] : a stringed instrument with a large pear-shaped body, a neck with a fretted fingerboard, and a head with pegs for tuning



lute

[2]lute *n* [ME, fr. L *lutum* mud — more at POLLUTE] : a substance (as cement or clay) for packing a joint or coating a porous surface to make it impervious to gas or liquid

[3]lute *vt* **lut·ed; lut·ing** : to seal or cover with lute

lute- *or* **luteo-** *comb form* [NL (*corpus*) *luteum*] : corpus luteum ⟨*lute*al⟩
lu·te·al \'lüt-ē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving the corpus luteum
lu·tein \'lüt-ē-ən, 'lü-ˌtēn\ *n* [fr. its occurrence in corpus luteum] : an orange xanthophyll $C_{40}H_{56}O_2$ occurring in plants usu. with carotenes and chlorophylls and in animal fat, egg yolk, and corpus luteum
lu·tein·ize \-ˌīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to cause the production of corpora lutea in ~ *vi* : to undergo transformation into corpus luteum — **lu·tein·iza·tion** \lüt-ē-ən-ə-'zā-shən, ˌlü-ˌtēn-\ *n*
luteinizing hormone *n* : a hormone from the anterior lobe of the pituitary body that in the female stimulates esp. the development of corpora lutea and in the male the development of interstitial tissue
lu·te·nist *or* **lu·ta·nist** \'lüt-ᵊn-əst, 'lüt-nəst\ *n* [ML *lutanista*, fr. *lutana* lute, prob. fr. MF *lut*] : a lute player
lu·teo·tro·phic \ˌlüt-ē-ə-'trō-fik, -'träf-ik\ *adj* : acting on the corpora lutea
luteotrophic hormone *n* : PROLACTIN
lu·teo·tro·phin \ˌlüt-ē-ə-'trō-fən\ *or* **lu·teo·tro·pin** \-pən\ *n* [*luteotrophic* + *-in*] : PROLACTIN
lu·te·ous \'lüt-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *luteus* yellowish, fr. *lutum*, a plant used for dyeing yellow] : yellow tinged with green or brown
lute·string \'lüt-ˌstriŋ\ *n* [by folk etymology fr. It *lustrino* glossy fabric, fr. *lustro* luster] : a plain glossy silk formerly much used for women's dresses and ribbons
lu·te·tium *also* **lu·te·cium** \lü-'tē-sh(ē-)əm\ *n* [NL, fr. L *Lutetia*, ancient name of Paris] : a metallic element of the rare-earth group — see ELEMENT table
Luth *abbr* Lutheran
[1]Lu·ther·an \'lü-th(ə-)rən\ *n* : a member of a Lutheran church
[2]Lutheran *adj* **1** : of or relating to religious doctrines (as justification by faith alone) developed by Martin Luther or his followers **2** : of or relating to the Protestant churches adhering to Lutheran doctrines, liturgy, and polity — **Lu·ther·an·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
lut·ing \'lüt-iŋ\ *n* : [2]LUTE
Lu·wi·an \'lü-(w)ē-ən\ *n* [*Luwi* (an ancient people of the southern coast of Asia Minor)] : an Anatolian language of the Indo-European language family — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Luwian** *adj*
lux \'ləks\ *n, pl* **lux** *or* **lux·es** [L, light — more at LIGHT] : a unit of illumination equal to the direct illumination on a surface that is everywhere one meter from a uniform point source of one candle intensity or equal to one lumen per square meter
lux·ate \'lək-ˌsāt\ *vt* **lux·at·ed; lux·at·ing** [L *luxatus*, pp. of *luxare*, fr. *luxus* dislocated — more at LOCK] : to throw out of place or out of joint : DISLOCATE — **lux·a·tion** \ˌlək-'sā-shən\ *n*
luxe \'lüks, 'ləks, 'lüks\ *n* [F, fr. L *luxus* — more at LUXURY] : LUXURY — **luxe** *adj*
lux·u·ri·ance \(ˌ)ləg-'zhůr-ē-ən(t)s, (ˌ)lək-'shůr-\ *n* : the quality or state of being luxuriant
lux·u·ri·ant \-ē-ənt\ *adj* **1 a** : yielding abundantly : PRODUCTIVE **b** : characterized by abundant growth : LUSH **2 a** : exuberantly rich and varied : PROLIFIC **b** : excessively elaborate : FLORID **3** : characterized by luxury : LUXURIOUS ***syn*** see PROFUSE — **lux·u·ri·ant·ly** *adv*
lux·u·ri·ate \-ē-ˌāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *luxuriatus*, pp. of *luxuriare*, fr. *luxuria*] **1 a** : to grow profusely : THRIVE **b** : to develop extensively **2** : to indulge oneself luxuriously : REVEL
lux·u·ri·ous \(ˌ)ləg-'zhůr-ē-əs, (ˌ)lək-'shůr-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to unrestrained gratification of the senses : VOLUPTUOUS **2** : fond of luxury or self-indulgence **3 a** : exceedingly choice and costly : of the finest and richest kind ⟨~ wines⟩ ⟨a ~ estate⟩ **b** : excessively ornate ⟨a style marred by too ~ descriptions⟩ — **lux·u·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **lux·u·ri·ous·ness** *n*
syn LUXURIOUS, SUMPTUOUS, OPULENT *shared meaning element* : ostentatiously rich or magnificent
lux·u·ry \'ləksh-(ə-)rē, 'ləgzh-\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *luxurie*, fr. MF, fr. L *luxuria* rankness, luxury, excess; akin to L *luxus* luxury, excess] **1** *archaic* : LECHERY, LUST **2** : sumptuous living or equipment : great ease or comfort : rich surroundings ⟨lived in ~⟩ **3 a** : something desirable but costly or hard to get ⟨a ~ few can afford⟩ **b** : something adding to pleasure or comfort but not absolutely necessary — **luxury** *adj*
lv *abbr* leave
LVT *abbr* landing vehicle, tracked
LW *abbr* low water
LWM *abbr* low-water mark
LWV *abbr* League of Women Voters
[1]-ly \lē\ *adj suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-līc, -lic;* akin to OHG *-līh;* both fr. a prehistoric Gmc noun represented by OE *līc* body — more at LIKE] **1** : like in appearance, manner, or nature : having the characteristics of (queen*ly*) ⟨father*ly*⟩ **2** : characterized by regular recurrence in (specified) units of time : every ⟨hour*ly*⟩
[2]-ly *adv suffix* [ME, fr. OE *-līce, -lice*, fr. *-līc*, adj. suffix] **1** : in a (specified) manner ⟨slow*ly*⟩ : in the manner of a ⟨soldier*ly*⟩ **2** : from a (specified) point of view ⟨eschatological*ly*⟩ **3** : with respect to ⟨part*ly*⟩
ly·am–hound \'lī-əm-ˌhau̇nd\ *or* **lyme–hound** \'līm-ˌhau̇nd\ *n* [obs. *lyam* (leash)] *archaic* : BLOODHOUND
ly·art \'lī-ərt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *liart*] *chiefly Scot* : streaked with gray : GRAY
ly·ase \'lī-ˌās, -ˌāz\ *n* [Gk *lyein* to loosen, release + E *-ase* — more at LOSE] : an enzyme (as a decarboxylase) that forms double bonds by removing groups from a substrate other than by hydrolysis or that adds groups to double bonds
ly·can·thrope \'lī-kən-ˌthrōp, lī-'kan-\ *n* [NL *lycanthropus*, fr. Gk *lykanthrōpos* werewolf, fr. *lykos* wolf + *anthrōpos* man — more at WOLF] **1** : a person displaying lycanthropy **2** : WEREWOLF
ly·can·thro·py \lī-'kan(t)-thrə-pē\ *n* **1** : a delusion that one has become a wolf **2** : the assumption of the form and characteristics of a wolf held to be possible by witchcraft or magic — **ly·can·throp·ic** \ˌlī-kən-'thräp-ik\ *adj*
ly·cée \lē-'sā\ *n* [F, fr. MF, lyceum, fr. L *Lyceum*] : a French public secondary school that prepares for the university
ly·ce·um \lī-'sē-əm, 'lī-sē-\ *n* [L *Lyceum*, gymnasium near Athens where Aristotle taught, fr. Gk *Lykeion*, fr. neut. of *lykeios*, epithet of Apollo] **1** : a hall for public lectures or discussions **2** : an association providing public lectures, concerts, and entertainments **3** : LYCÉE
ly·chee *var of* LITCHI
lych–gate \'lich-ˌgāt\ *n* [ME *lycheyate*, fr. *lich* body, corpse, (fr. OE *līc*) + *gate, yate* gate] : a roofed gate in a churchyard under which a bier rests during the initial part of the burial service
lych·nis \'lik-nəs\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, a red flower, fr. Gk; akin to Gk *lychnos* lamp, L *lux* light — more at LIGHT] : any of a genus (*Lychnis*) of herbs of the pink family with terminal cymes of showy mostly red or white flowers having 5 or rarely 4 styles
Ly·cian \'lish-(ē-)ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Lycia **2** : an Anatolian language of the Indo-European language family — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Lycian** *adj*
ly·co·pene \'lī-kə-ˌpēn\ *n* [ISV *lycop-* (fr. NL *Lycopersicon*, genus of herbs) + *-ene*] : a carotenoid pigment $C_{40}H_{56}$ that is the red coloring matter of the tomato
ly·co·pod \'lī-kə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Lycopodium*] : LYCOPODIUM 1; *broadly* : CLUB MOSS
ly·co·po·di·um \ˌlī-kə-'pōd-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *lykos* wolf + *podion*, dim. of *pod-, pous* foot — more at FOOT] **1** : any of a large genus (*Lycopodium*) of erect or creeping club mosses with evergreen one-nerved leaves in four to many ranks **2** : a fine yellowish flammable powder composed of lycopodium spores and used in pharmacy and as a component of fireworks and flashlight powders
lydd·ite \'lid-ˌīt\ *n* [*Lydd*, England] : a high explosive composed chiefly of picric acid
Lyd·i·an \'lid-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Lydia **2** : an Anatolian language of the Indo-European language family — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Lydian** *adj*
lye \'lī\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *lēag*, akin to OHG *louga* lye, L *lavare, lavere* to wash, Gk *louein*] **1** : a strong alkaline liquor rich in potassium carbonate leached from wood ashes and used esp. in making soap and washing; *broadly* : a strong alkaline solution (as of sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide) **2** : a solid caustic (as sodium hydroxide)
ly·gus bug \'lī-gəs-\ *n* [NL *Lygus*, genus name] : any of various small sucking bugs (genus *Lygus*) including some vectors of virus diseases of plants
ly·ing \'lī-iŋ\ *adj* [prp. of [3]*lie*] **1** : marked by or given to falsehood ⟨a ~ account of the accident⟩ ⟨~ children⟩ **2** : likely or calculated to mislead ⟨~ advertisements⟩ ***syn*** see DISHONEST
ly·ing–in \ˌlī-iŋ-'in\ *n, pl* **lyings–in** *or* **lying–ins** : the state attending and consequent to childbirth : CONFINEMENT
lymph \'lim(p)f\ *n* [L *lympha*, water goddess, water, fr. Gk *nymphē* nymph — more at NUPTIAL] **1** *archaic* : a spring or stream of water; *also* : WATER **2** *archaic* : the sap of plants **3** [NL *lympha*, fr. L, water] : a pale coagulable fluid that bathes the tissues, passes into lymphatic channels and ducts, and is discharged into the blood by way of the thoracic duct and that consists of a liquid portion resembling blood plasma and containing white blood cells but normally no red blood cells
lymph- *or* **lympho-** *comb form* [NL *lympha*] : lymph : lymphatic tissue ⟨*lympho*granuloma⟩
lymph·ad·e·ni·tis \ˌlim-ˌfad-ᵊn-'īt-əs\ *n* [NL, fr. *lymphaden* lymph gland, fr. *lymph-* + Gk *adēn* gland — more at ADEN-] : inflammation of lymph glands
[1]lym·phat·ic \lim-'fat-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or produced by lymph, lymphoid tissue, or lymphocytes **b** : conveying lymph **2** : lacking physical or mental energy : SLUGGISH — **lym·phat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]lymphatic *n* : a vessel that contains or conveys lymph
lymph cell *n* : a cell in lymph; *specif* : LYMPHOCYTE
lymph follicle *n* : LYMPH NODE, LYMPH NODULE
lymph gland *n* : LYMPH NODE
lymph node *n* : one of the rounded masses of lymphoid tissue surrounded by a capsule of connective tissue that occur in association with the lymphatic vessels and that consist of a reticulum of connective tissue fibers in the meshes of which are contained numerous small round cells each having a large round deeply staining nucleus and when carried off by the flow of lymph through the node become a lymphocyte
lymph nodule *n* : a small simple lymph node
lym·pho·blast \'lim(p)-fə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : a cell giving rise to lymphocytes — **lym·pho·blas·tic** \ˌlim(p)-fə-'blas-tik\ *adj*
lym·pho·cyte \'lim(p)-fə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless weakly motile cell produced in lymphoid tissue that is the typical cellular element of lymph and constitutes 20 to 30 percent of the leukocytes of normal human blood — **lym·pho·cyt·ic** \ˌlim(p)-fə-'sit-ik\ *adj*
lymphocytic cho·rio·men·in·gi·tis \-ˌmen-ən-'jīt-əs\ *n* [NL *choriomeningitis* cerebral meningitis, fr. *chorio-* of a membrane resembling the chorion] : an acute virus disease that is characterized by fever, nausea and vomiting, headache, stiff neck, and slow pulse, is marked by the presence of numerous lymphocytes in the cerebrospinal fluid, and is transmitted esp. by rodents and bloodsucking insects
lym·pho·cy·to·sis \ˌlim(p)-fə-ˌsī-'tō-səs, -fə-sə-\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *lymphocyte*] : an increase in the number of lymphocytes in the blood usu. associated with chronic infections or inflammations — **lym·pho·cy·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj*
lym·pho·gran·u·lo·ma \'lim(p)-fō-ˌgran-yə-'lō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] **1** : a nodular swelling of a lymph node **2** : a contagious venereal virus disease marked by swelling and ulceration of lymphatic tissues in the iliac and inguinal regions — **lym·pho·gran·u·lo·ma·tous** \-'lō-mət-əs\ *adj*
lymphogranuloma in·gui·na·le \-ˌiŋ-gwə-'näl-ē, -'nal-, -nāl-\ *n* [NL, inguinal lymphogranuloma] : LYMPHOGRANULOMA 2
lym·pho·gran·u·lo·ma·to·sis \-ˌlō-mə-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL *lymphogranulomat-, lymphogranuloma* + *-osis*] : the develop-

ment of benign or malignant lymphogranulomas in various parts of the body; *also* : a condition characterized by lymphogranulomas

lymphogranuloma ve·ne·re·um \-və-'nir-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, venereal lymphogranuloma] : LYMPHOGRANULOMA 2

lym·phog·ra·phy \lim-'fäg-rə-fē\ *n* : X-ray depiction of lymph vessels and nodes after use of a radiopaque material — **lym·pho·graph·ic** \ˌlim-fə-'graf-ik\ *adj*

lym·phoid \'lim-ˌfȯid\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling lymph **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the tissue characteristic of the lymph nodes

lym·pho·ma \lim-'fō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a tumor of lymphoid tissue — **lym·pho·ma·toid** \-mə-ˌtȯid\ *adj* — **lym·pho·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*

lym·pho·ma·to·sis \(ˌ)lim-ˌfō-mə-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL *lymphomat-, lymphoma* + *-osis*] : the presence of multiple lymphomas in the body

lym·pho·poi·e·sis \ˌlim(p)-fə-pȯi-'ē-səs\ *n, pl* **-e·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : the formation of lymphocytes or lymphatic tissue — **lym·pho·poi·et·ic** \-pȯi-'et-ik\ *adj*

lym·pho·sar·co·ma \-sär-'kō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \mət-ə\ [NL] : a malignant lymphoma that tends to metastasize freely esp. along the regional lymphatic drainage — **lym·pho·sar·co·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*

lyn·ce·an \lin-'sē-ən, 'lin(t)-sē-\ *adj* [L *lynceus*, fr. Gk *lynkeios*, lit., of Lynceus, Argonaut famous for his sharpness of sight, fr. *Lynkeus* Lynceus] : SHARP-SIGHTED

lynch \'linch\ *vt* [*lynch law*] : to put to death by mob action without legal sanction — **lynch·er** *n*

lynch law *n* [prob. fr. Charles *Lynch* †1796 Am justice of the peace; fr. his presiding over an extralegal court to suppress Tory activity] : the punishment of presumed crimes or offenses usu. by death without due process of law

lynx \'liŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **lynx** *or* **lynx·es** [L, fr. Gk; akin to OE *lox* lynx, Gk *leukos* white — more at LIGHT] : any of various wildcats with relatively long legs, a short stubby tail, mottled coat, and often tufted ears: as **a** : the common lynx (*Lynx lynx*) of northern Europe and Asia **b** : BOBCAT



lynx *c*

lynx-eyed \'liŋ(k)-'sīd\ *adj* : SHARP-SIGHTED

lyo- *comb form* [prob. fr. NL, fr. Gk *lyein* to loosen, dissolve — more at LOSE] : dispersed state : dispersion ⟨*lyo*philic⟩

ly·on·naise \ˌlī-ə-'nāz\ *adj* [F (*à la*) *lyonnaise* in the manner of Lyons, fr. fem. of *lyonnais* of Lyons, fr. *Lyon* Lyons, France] : prepared with onions ⟨~ potatoes⟩

Ly·on·nesse \ˌlī-ə-'nes\ *n* : a country that according to Arthurian legend was contiguous to Cornwall before sinking beneath the sea

lyo·phile \'lī-ə-ˌfīl\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : LYOPHILIC **2 a** : of or relating to lyophilization **b** *or* **lyo·philed** \-ˌfīld\ : obtained by lyophilization

lyo·phil·ic \ˌlī-ə-'fil-ik\ *adj* : marked by strong affinity between a dispersed phase and the liquid in which it is dispersed ⟨a ~ colloid⟩

ly·oph·i·lize \lī-'äf-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** : FREEZE-DRY — **ly·oph·i·li·za·tion** \-ˌäf-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **ly·oph·i·liz·er** \-'äf-ə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

lyo·pho·bic \ˌlī-ə-'fō-bik\ *adj* : marked by lack of strong affinity between a dispersed phase and the liquid in which it is dispersed ⟨a ~ colloid⟩

Ly·ra \'lī-rə\ *n* [L (gen. *Lyrae*), lit., lyre] : a northern constellation representing the lyre of Orpheus or Mercury and containing Vega

ly·rate \'lī-ˌrāt\ *or* **ly·rat·ed** \-ˌrāt-əd\ *adj* : having or suggesting the shape of a lyre ⟨the ~ horns of the impala⟩ — **ly·rate·ly** *adv*

lyre \'lī(ə)r\ *n* [ME *lire*, fr. OF, fr. L *lyra*, fr. Gk] **1** : a stringed instrument of the harp class used by the ancient Greeks esp. to accompany song and recitation **2** *cap* : LYRA



youth playing lyre, from a Greek vase painting

lyre·bird \-ˌbərd\ *n* : either of two Australian passerine birds (genus *Menura*) distinguished in the male by very long tail feathers displayed during courtship in the shape of a lyre

[1]lyr·ic \'lir-ik\ *adj* **1** : suitable for singing to the lyre or for being set to music and sung **2 a** : expressing direct usu. intense personal emotion ⟨~ poetry⟩ **b** : EXUBERANT, RHAPSODIC **3** *of an opera singer* : having a light voice and a melodic style — compare DRAMATIC

[2]lyric *n* **1** : a lyric composition; *specif* : a lyric poem **2** *pl* : the words of a popular song or musical-comedy number

lyr·i·cal \'lir-i-kəl\ *adj* : LYRIC — **lyr·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **lyr·i·cal·ness** \-kəl-nəs\ *n*

lyr·i·cism \'lir-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : the quality or state of being lyric : SONGFULNESS **b** : a personal direct intense style or quality in an art (as poetry or music) **2** : exuberance of style or feeling

lyr·i·cist \-səst\ *n* : a writer of lyrics

lyr·ism \'li(ə)r-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : LYRICISM

lyr·ist *n* **1** \'lī(ə)r-əst\ : a player on the lyre **2** \'lir-əst\ : LYRICIST

lys- *or* **lysi-** *or* **lyso-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *lys-, lysi-* loosening, fr. *lysis*] : lysis ⟨*lys*in⟩

ly·sate \'lī-ˌsāt\ *n* : a product of lysis

lyse \'līs, 'līz\ *vb* **lysed; lys·ing** [back-formation fr. NL *lysis*] *vt* : to cause to undergo lysis ~ *vi* : to undergo lysis

Ly·sen·ko·ism \lə-'seŋ-kō-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [Trofim *Lysenko*] : a biological doctrine asserting the fundamental influence of somatic and environmental factors on heredity in contradiction of orthodox genetics

ly·ser·gic acid \lə-ˌsər-jik-, (ˌ)lī-\ *n* [*lys-* + *ergot*] : a crystalline acid $C_{16}H_{16}N_2O_2$ from ergotic alkaloids

lysergic acid di·eth·yl·am·ide \ˌdī-ˌeth-ə-'lam-ˌīd\ *n* : LSD

ly·sim·e·ter \lī-'sim-ət-ər\ *n* : a device for measuring the percolation of water through soils and for determining the soluble constituents removed in the drainage — **ly·si·met·ric** \ˌlī-sə-'me-trik\ *adj*

ly·sin \'līs-ᵊn\ *n* : a substance capable of causing lysis; *esp* : an antibody capable of causing disintegration of red blood cells or microorganisms

ly·sine \'lī-ˌsēn\ *n* : a crystalline basic amino acid $C_6H_{14}N_2O_2$ that is essential to animal nutrition

ly·sis \'lī-səs\ *n, pl* **ly·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, act of loosening, dissolution, remission of fever, fr. *lyein* to loosen — more at LOSE] **1** : the gradual decline of a disease process (as fever) **2** : a process of disintegration or dissolution (as of cells)

-ly·sis \l-ə-səs, -'lī-səs\ *n comb form, pl* **-l·y·ses** \l-ə-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. L & Gk; L, loosening, fr. Gk, fr. *lysis*] **1** : decomposition ⟨electro*lysis*⟩ **2** : disintegration : breaking down ⟨auto*lysis*⟩

ly·so·gen \'lī-sə-jən\ *n* : a lysogenic bacterium or bacterial strain

ly·so·gen·ic \ˌlī-sə-'jen-ik\ *adj* [fr. the capacity of the prophage to lyse other bacteria] **1** : harboring a prophage as hereditary material ⟨~ bacteria⟩ **2** : TEMPERATE 3 ⟨~ viruses⟩ — **ly·so·ge·nic·i·ty** \-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*

ly·sog·e·nize \lī-'säj-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** : to render lysogenic — **ly·sog·e·ni·za·tion** \-ˌsäj-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

ly·sog·e·ny \lī-'säj-ə-nē\ *n* : the state of being lysogenic

ly·so·lec·i·thin \ˌlī-sə-'les-ə-thən\ *n* : a hydrolytic substance formed by the enzymatic hydrolysis (as by some snake venoms) of a lecithin

ly·so·some \'lī-sə-ˌsōm\ *n* [ISV *lys-* + [3]*-some*] : a saclike cellular organelle that contains various hydrolytic enzymes — see CELL illustration — **ly·so·som·al** \ˌlī-sə-'sō-məl\ *adj* — **ly·so·so·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

ly·so·zyme \'lī-sə-ˌzīm\ *n* : a basic bacteriolytic protein that is present in egg white and in human tears and saliva and that functions as a mucolytic enzyme

-lyte \ˌlīt\ *n comb form* [Gk *lytos* that may be untied, soluble, fr. *lyein*] : substance capable of undergoing (such) decomposition ⟨hydro*lyte*⟩

lyt·ic \'lit-ik\ *adj* [Gk *lytikos* able to loose, fr. *lyein*] : of or relating to lysis or a lysin; *also* : productive of or effecting lysis (as of cells) — **ly·ti·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

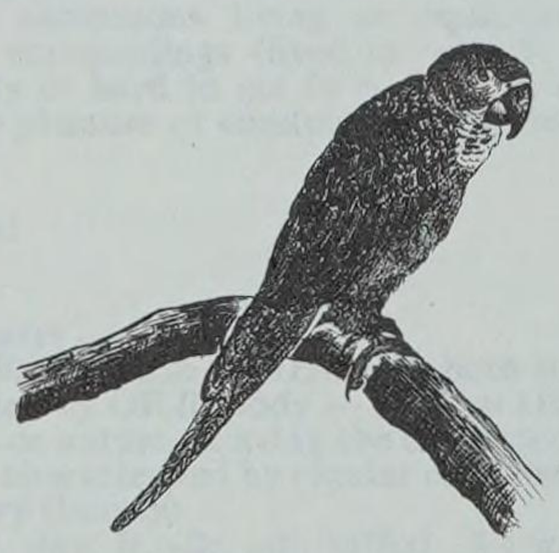
-lyt·ic \'lit-ik\ *adj suffix* [Gk *lytikos*] : of, relating to, or effecting (such) decomposition ⟨hydro*lytic*⟩

-lyze \ˌlīz\ *vb comb form* [ISV, prob. irreg. fr. NL *-lysis*] : produce or undergo lytic disintegration or dissolution ⟨electro*lyze*⟩

LZ *abbr* landing zone



¹m \'em\ *n, pl* **m's** *or* **ms** \'emz\ *often cap, often attrib* **1 a** : the 13th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic *m* **2** : one thousand — see NUMBER table **3** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter *m* **4** : one designated *m* esp. as the 13th in order or class **5** : something shaped like the letter M **6 a** : EM 2 **b** : PICA
²m *abbr, often cap* **1** mach **2** male **3** manual **4** March **5** martyr **6** masculine **7** mass **8** May **9** mega- **10** [L *meridies*] noon **11** meter **12** middle **13** mile **14** [L *mille*] thousand **15** milli- **16** million **17** molal; molality **18** molar; molarity **19** mole **20** month **21** moon **22** morning **23** muscle
m- \ˌem, 'em\ *abbr* meta-
'm \m\ *vb* : AM ⟨I'*m* going⟩
¹ma \'mä, 'mȯ\ *n* [short for *mama*] : MOTHER
²ma *abbr* milliampere
MA *abbr* **1** Massachusetts **2** [ML *magister artium*] master of arts **3** mental age **4** Middle Ages
MAA *abbr* master of applied arts
ma'am \'mam, *after "yes" often* əm\ *n* : MADAM
MA and A *abbr* master of aeronautics and astronautics
MAArch *abbr* master of arts in architecture
Mab \'mab\ *n* : a queen of fairies in English literature
MABE *abbr* master of agricultural business and economics
mac \'mak\ *n, Brit* : MACKINTOSH
¹Mac \'mak\ *n* [*Mac-, Mc-*, common patronymic prefix in Scotch and Irish surnames] : FELLOW — used informally to address a man whose name is not known
²Mac *or* **Macc** *abbr* Maccabees
MAc *abbr* master of accounting
MAC *abbr* **1** master of arts in communications **2** military airlift command
ma·ca·bre \mə-'käb(-rə), -'käb-ər, -'käbr\ *adj* [F, fr. (*danse*) *macabre* dance of death, fr. MF (*danse de*) *Macabré*] **1** : having death as a subject : comprising or including a personalized representation of death **2** : dwelling on the gruesome **3** : tending to produce horror in a beholder
mac·ad·am \mə-'kad-əm\ *n* [John L. *McAdam* †1836 Brit engineer] : macadamized roadway or pavement esp. with a bituminous binder
mac·a·da·mia nut \ˌmak-ə-'dā-mē-ə-\ *n* [NL *Macadamia*, genus of evergreens, fr. John *Macadam* †1865 Australian chemist] : a hard-shelled nut somewhat resembling a filbert and produced by an Australian evergreen tree (*Macadamia ternifolia*) of the protea family that is cultivated extensively in Hawaii
mac·ad·am·ize \mə-'kad-ə-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to construct or finish (a road) by compacting into a solid mass a layer of small broken stone on a convex well-drained roadbed and using a binder (as cement or asphalt) for the mass
ma·caque \mə-'kak, -'käk\ *n* [F, fr. Pg *macaco*] : any of numerous short-tailed Old World monkeys (*Macaca* and related genera) chiefly of southern Asia and the East Indies; *esp* : RHESUS MONKEY
mac·a·ro·ni \ˌmak-ə-'rō-nē\ *n* [It *maccheroni*, pl. of *maccherone*, fr. It dial. *maccarone* dumpling, macaroni] **1** : a paste composed chiefly of semolina dried in the form of slender tubes for use as food **2** *pl* **macaronis** *or* **macaronies** **a** : a member of a class of traveled young Englishmen of the late 18th and early 19th centuries who affected foreign ways **b** : an affected young man : FOP
mac·a·ron·ic \-'rän-ik\ *adj* [NL *macaronicus*, fr. It dial. *maccarone* macaroni] **1** : characterized by a mixture of vernacular words with Latin words or with non-Latin words having Latin endings **2** : characterized by a mixture of two languages — **macaronic** *n* — **mac·a·ron·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mac·a·roon \ˌmak-ə-'rün\ *n* [F *macaron*, fr. It dial. *maccarone*] : a small cookie composed chiefly of egg whites, sugar, and ground almonds or coconut
ma·caw \mə-'kȯ\ *n* [Pg *macau*] : any of numerous parrots (esp. genus *Ara*) of South and Central America including some of the largest and showiest of parrots



macaw

Mac·beth \mək-'beth, mak-\ *n* : a Scottish general who is the protagonist of Shakespeare's tragedy *Macbeth*
Mac·ca·bees \'mak-ə-(ˌ)bēz\ *n pl* [Gk *Makkabaioi*, fr. pl. of *Makkabaios*, surname of Judas Maccabaeus 2d cent. B.C. Jewish patriot] **1** : a priestly family leading a Jewish revolt begun in 168 B.C. against Hellenism and Syrian rule and reigning over Palestine from 142 B.C. to 63 B.C. **2** *sing in constr* : either of two narrative and historical books included in the Roman Catholic canon of the Old Testament and in the Protestant Apocrypha — see BIBLE table — **Mac·ca·be·an** \ˌmak-ə-'bē-ən\ *adj*
mac·ca·boy \'mak-ə-ˌbȯi\ *n* [F *macouba*, fr. *Macouba*, district in Martinique] : a snuff from Martinique
Mc·Car·thy·ism \mə-'kär-thē-ˌiz-əm *also* -'kärt-ē-\ *n* [Joseph R. *McCarthy*] : a mid-twentieth-century political attitude characterized chiefly by opposition to elements held to be subversive and by the use of tactics involving personal attacks on individuals by means of widely publicized indiscriminate allegations esp. on the basis of unsubstantiated charges — **Mc·Car·thy·ite** \-ˌīt\ *n*
Mc·Coy \mə-'kȯi\ *n* [alter. of *Mackay* (in the phrase *the real Mackay* the true chief of the Mackay clan, a position often disputed)] : something that is neither imitation nor substitute — often used in the phrase *the real McCoy*

¹mace \'mās\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *mattia*; akin to OHG *medela* plow, L *mateola* mallet] **1 a** : a heavy often spiked staff or club used esp. in the Middle Ages for breaking armor **b** : a club used as a weapon **2 a** : an ornamental staff borne as a symbol of authority before a public official or a legislative body **b** : one who carries a mace
²mace *n* [ME, fr. MF *macis*, fr. L *macir*, an East Indian spice, fr. Gk *makir*] : an aromatic spice consisting of the dried external fibrous covering of a nutmeg
³mace *vt* **maced; mac·ing** : to attack with the liquid Mace
Mace \'mās\ *trademark* — used for a temporarily disabling liquid that when sprayed in the face of a person (as a rioter) causes tears, dizziness, immobilization, and sometimes nausea
ma·cé·doine \ˌmas-ə-'dwän\ *n* [F, fr. *Macédoine* Macedonia; perh. fr. the mixture of races in Macedonia] **1** : a mixture of fruits or vegetables served as a salad or cocktail or in a jellied dessert or used in a sauce or as a garnish **2** : a confused mixture : MEDLEY
Mac·e·do·nian \ˌmas-ə-'dō-nyən, -nē-ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Macedonia **2** : the Slavic language of modern Macedonia **3** : the language of ancient Macedonia of uncertain affinity but generally assumed to be Indo-European
mac·er·ate \'mas-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [L *maceratus*, pp. of *macerare* to soften, steep] *vt* **1** : to cause to waste away by or as if by excessive fasting **2** : to cause to become soft or separated into constituent elements by or as if by steeping in fluid ~ *vi* : to soften and wear away esp. as a result of being wetted or steeped — **mac·er·a·tion** \ˌmas-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* — **mac·er·a·tor** \'mas-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
mach *abbr* machine; machining; machinist
Mach \'mäk\ *n* : a usu. high speed expressed by a Mach number ⟨an airplane flying at ~ 2⟩
Mach·a·bees \'mak-ə-(ˌ)bēz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [LL *Machabaei*, modif. of Gk *Makkabaioi*] : MACCABEES
ma·chete \mə-'shet-ē, -'chet-; -'shet\ *n* [Sp] : a large heavy knife used for cutting sugarcane and underbrush and as a weapon
Ma·chi·a·vel·lian \ˌmak-ē-ə-'vel-ē-ən, -'vel-yən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Machiavelli or Machiavellianism **2** : suggesting the principles of conduct laid down by Machiavelli; *specif* : characterized by cunning, duplicity, or bad faith — **Machiavellian** *n*
Ma·chi·a·vel·lian·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the political theory of Machiavelli; *esp* : the view that politics is amoral and that any means however unscrupulous can justifiably be used in achieving political power
ma·chic·o·late \mə-'chik-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [ML *machicolatus*, pp. of *machicolare*, fr. OF *machicoller*, fr. *machicoleis* machicolation, fr. *macher* to crush + *col* neck, fr. L *collum* — more at COLLAR] : to furnish with machicolations
ma·chic·o·la·tion \mə-ˌchik-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : an opening between the corbels of a projecting parapet or in the floor of a gallery or roof of a portal for discharging missiles upon assailants below — see BATTLEMENT illustration **b** : a gallery or parapet containing such openings **2** : construction imitating medieval machicolation
mach·i·nate \'mak-ə-ˌnāt, 'mash-ə-\ *vb* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [L *machinatus*, pp. of *machinari*, fr. *machina* machine, contrivance] *vi* : to plan or plot esp. to do harm ~ *vt* : to scheme or contrive to bring about : PLOT — **mach·i·na·tor** \-ˌnāt-ər\ *n*
mach·i·na·tion \ˌmak-ə-'nā-shən, ˌmash-ə-\ *n* **1** : an act of machinating **2** : a scheming or crafty action or artful design intended to accomplish some usu. evil end
¹ma·chine \mə-'shēn\ *n, often attrib* [MF, fr. L *machina*, fr. Gk *mēchanē* (Dor dial. *machana*), fr. *mēchos* means, expedient — more at MAY] **1 a** *archaic* : a constructed thing whether material or immaterial **b** : CONVEYANCE, VEHICLE; *specif* : AUTOMOBILE **c** *archaic* : a military engine **d** : any of various apparatus formerly used to produce stage effects **e** (1) : an assemblage of parts that transmit forces, motion, and energy one to another in a predetermined manner (2) : an instrument (as a lever) designed to transmit or modify the application of power, force, or motion **f** : a mechanically, electrically, or electronically operated device for performing a task ⟨a calculating ~⟩ ⟨a card-sorting ~⟩ **g** : a coin-operated device ⟨a cigarette ~⟩ **h** : MACHINERY — used with *the* or in pl. ⟨man must not become the servant of the ~⟩ **2 a** : a living organism or one of its functional systems **b** : a person or organization that acts like a machine **c** (1) : a combination of persons acting together for a common end along with the agencies they use (2) : a highly organized political group under the leadership of a boss or small clique **3** : a literary device or contrivance introduced for dramatic effect
²machine *vt* **ma·chined; ma·chin·ing** : to process by machine; *specif* : to reduce or finish as by turning, shaping, planing, or milling by machine-operated tools — **ma·chin·abil·i·ty** \-ˌshē-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ma·chin·able** *also* **ma·chine·able** \-'shē-nə-bəl\ *adj*
machine gun *n* : an automatic gun using small-arms ammunition for rapid continuous firing — **machine-gun** *vb* — **machine gunner** *n*
machine language *n* **1** : information recorded in a form usable by a machine (as a computer) **2** : numbers or instructions expressed in a form directly usable by a computer
ma·chine·like \mə-'shēn-ˌlīk\ *adj* : resembling a machine esp. in regularity of action or stereotyped uniformity of product
machine-readable *adj* : directly usable by a computer ⟨~ text⟩
ma·chin·ery \mə-'shēn-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1 a** : machines in general or as a functioning unit: as (1) : apparatus for producing stage effects (2) : literary devices used esp. for dramatic effect **b** : the working parts of a machine **2** : the means by which something is kept in action or a desired result is obtained
machine shop *n* : a workshop in which work is machined to size and assembled
machine tool *n* : a usu. power-driven machine designed for shaping solid work
ma·chin·ist \mə-'shē-nəst\ *n* **1 a** : a worker who fabricates, assembles, or repairs machinery **b** : a craftsman skilled in the use of machine tools **c** : one who operates a machine **2** *archaic* : a person in charge of the mechanical aspects of a theatrical produc-

tion **3** : a warrant officer who supervises machinery and engine operation

ma·chis·mo \mä-'chēz-(,)mō, -'chiz-\ *n* [MexSp, fr. Sp *macho* male] : a strong sense of masculine pride : an exaggerated awareness and assertion of masculinity

Mach number \'mäk-\ *n* [Ernst *Mach* †1916 Austrian physicist] : a number representing the ratio of the speed of a body to the speed of sound in the surrounding atmosphere ⟨a *Mach number* of 2 indicates a speed that is twice that of sound and a *Mach number* of 0.5 a speed that is one half that of sound⟩

¹ma·cho \'mä-,chō\ *adj* [Sp, male, fr. L *masculus* — more at MALE] : aggressively virile

²macho *n* **1** : MACHISMO **2** : one who exhibits machismo

mack *var of* MAC

mack·er·el \'mak-(ə-)rəl\ *n, pl* **mackerel** *or* **mackerels** [ME *makerel*, fr. OF] **1** : a fish (*Scomber scombrus*) of the No. Atlantic that is green above with dark blue bars and silvery below, reaches a length of about 18 inches, and is one of the most important food fishes **2** : a fish of the suborder (Scombroidea) to which the common mackerel belongs; *esp* : a comparatively small member of this group as distinguished from a bonito or tuna

mackerel shark *n* : any of a family (Lamnidae) of large fierce pelagic sharks; *esp* : PORBEAGLE

mackerel sky *n* : a sky covered with rows of altocumulus or cirrocumulus clouds resembling the patterns on a mackerel's back

mack·i·naw \'mak-ə-,nȯ\ *n* [*Mackinaw* City, Michigan, formerly an Indian trading post] **1** : a flat-bottomed boat with pointed prow and square stern formerly much used on the upper Great Lakes **2** : a heavy woolen blanket formerly distributed by the U.S. government to the Indians **3 a** : a heavy cloth of wool or wool and other fibers often with a plaid design and usu. heavily napped and felted **b** : a short coat of mackinaw or similar heavy fabric

mack·in·tosh *also* **mac·in·tosh** \'mak-ən-,täsh\ *n* [Charles *Macintosh* †1843 Sc chemist & inventor] **1** *chiefly Brit* : RAINCOAT **2** : a lightweight waterproof fabric orig. of rubberized cotton

¹mack·le \'mak-əl\ *n* [F *macule* spot, mackle, fr. L *macula* spot, stain] : a blur or a double impression on a printed sheet

²mackle *vb* **mack·led; mack·ling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ : BLUR

Mac·lau·rin's series \mə-,klȯr-ən(z)-\ *n* [Colin *Maclaurin* †1746 Sc mathematician] : a Taylor's series of the form

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!}x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \ldots + \frac{f^{[n]}(0)}{n!}x^n + \ldots$$

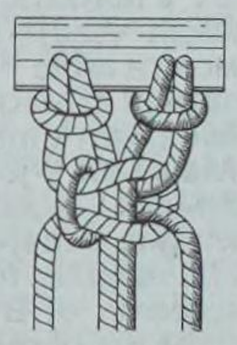
in which the expansion is about the reference point zero — called also *Maclaurin series*

ma·cle \'mak-əl\ *n* [F, wide-meshed net, lozenge voided, macle, fr. OF, mesh, lozenge voided, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *masca* mesh — more at MESH] **1 a** : a twin crystal **b** : a flat often triangular diamond that is usu. a twin crystal **2** : a dark or discolored spot (as in a mineral) — **ma·cled** \'mak-əld\ *adj*

macr- *or* **macro-** *comb form* [F & L, fr. Gk *makr-, makro-* long, fr. *makros* — more at MEAGER] **1** : long ⟨*macro*diagonal⟩ **2** : large ⟨*macro*spore⟩

mac·ra·me \'mak-rə-,mā\ *n* [F or It; F *macramé*, fr. It *macramè*, fr. Turk *makrama* napkin, towel, fr. Ar *migramah* embroidered veil] : a coarse lace or fringe made by knotting threads or cords in a geometrical pattern; *also* : the art of tying knots in patterns

macrame knot *n* : an ornate knot used in making macrame



macrame knot

¹mac·ro \'mak-(,)rō\ *adj* [*macr-*] **1** : being large, thick, or exceptionally prominent ⟨the book as the ~ unit of thought —Eugene Garfield⟩ **2** : of, involving, or intended for use with relatively large quantities or on a large scale **3** : GROSS 1c

²macro *n, pl* **macros** [short for *macroinstruction*] : a single computer instruction that stands for a sequence of operations — called also *macroinstruction*

mac·ro·ag·gre·gate \,mak-rō-'ag-ri-gət\ *n* : a relatively large particle (as of soil or a protein) — **mac·ro·ag·gre·gat·ed** \-,gāt-əd\ *adj*

mac·ro·bi·ot·ic \-bī-'ät-ik, -bē-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an extremely restricted diet (as one containing chiefly whole grains) that is usu. undertaken by its advocates to promote health and well-being although it may actually be deficient in essential nutrients (as fats)

mac·ro·ceph·a·lous \-'sef-ə-ləs\ *or* **mac·ro·ce·phal·ic** \-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj* [F *macrocéphale*, fr. Gk *makrokephalos* having a long head, fr. *makr-* + *kephalē* head — more at CEPHALIC] : having or being an exceptionally large head or cranium ⟨a ~ idiot⟩ — **mac·ro·ceph·a·ly** \-'sef-ə-lē\ *n*

mac·ro·cosm \'mak-rə-,käz-əm\ *n* [F *macrocosme*, fr. ML *macrocosmos*, fr. L *macr-* + Gk *kosmos* order, universe] **1** : the great world : UNIVERSE **2** : a complex that is a large-scale reproduction of one of its constituents — **mac·ro·cos·mic** \,mak-rə-'käz-mik\ *adj* — **mac·ro·cos·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mac·ro·cyte \'mak-rə-,sīt\ *n* [ISV] : an exceptionally large red blood cell occurring chiefly in anemias — **mac·ro·cyt·ic** \,mak-rə-'sit-ik\ *adj*

mac·ro·cy·to·sis \,mak-rə-sī-'tō-səs, -rə-sə-\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-,sēz\ [NL] : the occurrence of macrocytes in the blood

mac·ro·eco·nom·ics \'mak-rō-,ek-ə-'näm-iks, -,ē-kə-\ *n pl but usu sing in constr* : a study of economics in terms of whole systems esp. with reference to general levels of output and income and to the interrelations among sectors of the economy — compare MICROECONOMICS — **mac·ro·eco·nom·ic** \-ik\ *adj*

mac·ro·evo·lu·tion \'mak-rō-,ev-ə-'lü-shən *also* -,ē-və-\ *n* : evolutionary change involving relatively large and complex steps — **mac·ro·evo·lu·tion·ary** \-shə-,ner-ē\ *adj*

mac·ro·fos·sil \'mak-rō-,fäs-əl\ *n* : a fossil large enough to be observed by direct inspection

mac·ro·ga·mete \,mak-rō-gə-'mēt, -'gam-,ēt\ *n* [ISV] : the larger and usu. female gamete of a heterogamous organism

mac·ro·glob·u·lin \-'gläb-yə-lən\ *n* [ISV] : a highly polymerized globulin of high molecular weight

mac·ro·glob·u·lin·emia \-,gläb-yə-lə-'nē-mē-ə\ *n* [NL] : a disorder characterized by increased blood serum viscosity and the presence of macroglobulins in the serum — **mac·ro·glob·u·lin·emic** \-mik\ *adj*

mac·ro·in·struc·tion \,mak-rō-in-'strək-shən\ *n* : MACRO

mac·ro·lep·i·dop·tera \'mak-rō-,lep-ə-'däp-tə-rə\ *n pl* [NL] : lepidoptera (as butterflies, skippers, saturniids, noctuids, and geometrids) that include most of the large forms and none of the minute ones

mac·ro·mere \'mak-rə-,mi(ə)r\ *n* : a large blastomere — see BLASTULA illustration

mac·ro·mol·e·cule \,mak-rō-'mäl-i-,kyü(ə)l\ *n* [ISV] : a large molecule (as of a protein or rubber) built up from smaller chemical structures — **mac·ro·mo·lec·u·lar** \-mə-'lek-yə-lər\ *adj*

ma·cron \'mā-,krän, 'mak-, -rən\ *n* [Gk *makron*, neut. of *makros* long] : a mark ¯ placed over a vowel to indicate that the vowel is long or placed over a syllable or used alone to indicate a stressed or long syllable in a metrical foot

mac·ro·nu·cle·us \,mak-rō-'n(y)ü-klē-əs\ *n* [NL] : a relatively large densely staining nucleus that is believed to exert a controlling influence over the trophic activities of most ciliated protozoans

mac·ro·nu·tri·ent \-'n(y)ü-trē-ənt\ *n* : a chemical element of which relatively large quantities are essential to the growth and welfare of a plant

mac·ro·phage \'mak-rə-,fāj, -,fázh\ *n* [F, fr. *macr-* + *-phage*] : a large phagocyte; *specif* : HISTIOCYTE — **mac·ro·phag·ic** \,mak-rə-'faj-ik\ *adj*

mac·ro·phyte \'mak-rə-,fīt\ *n* : a member of the macroscopic plant life esp. of a body of water — **mac·ro·phyt·ic** \,mak-rə-'fit-ik\ *adj*

mac·rop·ter·ous \ma-'kräp-tə-rəs\ *adj* [Gk *makropteros*, fr. *makr-* + *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : having long or large wings or fins

mac·ro·scale \'mak-rō-,skāl\ *n* : a large often macroscopic scale ⟨study of atmospheric motions on a ~⟩

mac·ro·scop·ic \,mak-rə-'skäp-ik\ *also* **mac·ro·scop·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* [ISV *macr-* + *-scopic* (as in *microscopic*)] **1** : large enough to be observed by the naked eye **2** : considered in terms of large units or elements — **mac·ro·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mac·ro·struc·ture \'mak-rō-,strək-chər\ *n* : the structure (as of metal, a body part, or the soil) revealed by visual examination with little or no magnification — **mac·ro·struc·tur·al** \,mak-rō-'strək-chə-rəl, -'strək-shə-rəl\ *adj*

MACT *abbr* master of arts in college teaching

mac·u·la \'mak-yə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-,lē, -,lī\ *also* **-las** [L] **1** : BLOTCH, SPOT; *esp* : MACULE **2** : an anatomical structure (as the macula lutea) having the form of a spot differentiated from surrounding tissues — **mac·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

macula lu·tea \-'lüt-ē-ə\ *n, pl* **maculae lu·te·ae** \-ē-,ē, -ē-,ī\ [NL, lit., yellow spot] : a small yellowish area lying slightly lateral to the center of the retina that constitutes the region of maximum visual acuity — called also *yellow spot*

mac·u·late \'mak-yə-lət\ *or* **mac·u·lat·ed** \-,lāt-əd\ *adj* [L *maculatus*, pp. of *maculare* to stain, fr. *macula*] **1** : marked with spots : BLOTCHED **2** : BESMIRCHED, IMPURE

mac·u·la·tion \,mak-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** *archaic* : the state of being spotted **2 a** : a blemish in the form of a discrete spot ⟨acne scars and ~*s*⟩ **b** : the arrangement of spots and markings on an animal or plant

mac·ule \'mak-(,)yü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. L *macula*] : a patch of skin that is altered in color but usu. not elevated and that is a characteristic feature of various diseases (as smallpox)

¹mad \'mad\ *adj* **mad·der; mad·dest** [ME *medd, madd*, fr. OE *gemæd*, pp. of (assumed) *gemædan* to madden, fr. *gemād* silly, mad; akin to OHG *gimeit* foolish, crazy, Skt *methati* he hurts] **1** : disordered in mind : INSANE **2 a** : completely unrestrained by reason and judgment : SENSELESS **b** : incapable of being explained or accounted for : ILLOGICAL **3 a** : carried away by intense anger : FURIOUS **b** : keenly displeased : ANGRY **4** : carried away by enthusiasm or desire **5** : affected with rabies : RABID **6** : marked by wild gaiety and merriment : HILARIOUS **7** : intensely excited : FRANTIC **8** : marked by intense and often chaotic activity : WILD

²mad *vb* **mad·ded; mad·ding** : MADDEN

³mad *n* **1** : ANGER, FURY **2** : a fit or mood of bad temper

Mad·a·gas·car periwinkle \,mad-ə-'gas-kər-\ *n* [*Madagascar*, Africa] : ¹PERIWINKLE b

mad·am \'mad-əm\ *n, pl* **madams** [ME, fr. OF *ma dame*, lit., my lady] **1** *pl* **mes·dames** \mā-'däm, -'dam\ : LADY — used without a name as a form of respectful or polite address to a woman **2** : MISTRESS 1 — used as a title formerly with the given name but now with the surname or esp. with a designation of rank or office ⟨*Madam* Chairman⟩ ⟨*Madam* President⟩ **3** : the female head of a house of prostitution **4** : the female head of a household : WIFE

ma·dame \mə-'dam, ma-', *before a surname also* ,mad-əm\ *n* [F, fr. OF *ma dame*] **1** *pl* **mes·dames** \mā-'däm, -'dam\ — used as a title equivalent to *Mrs.* for a married woman not of English-speaking nationality **2** *pl* **madames** : MADAM 3

mad–brained \'mad-'brānd\ *adj* : HOTHEADED, RASH

mad·cap \'mad-,kap\ *adj* : marked by impulsiveness, recklessness, or foolishness — **madcap** *n*

mad·den \'mad-ᵊn\ *vb* **mad·dened; mad·den·ing** \'mad-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vi* : to become or act as if mad ~ *vt* **1** : to drive mad : CRAZE **2** : to make intensely angry : ENRAGE
mad·den·ing *adj* **1** : tending to craze **2 a** : tending to infuriate **b** : tending to vex : IRRITATING — **mad·den·ing·ly** \'mad-niŋ-lē, -ᵊn-iŋ-\ *adv*
mad·der \'mad-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mædere;* akin to OHG *matara* madder] **1** : a Eurasian herb (*Rubia tinctorum* of the family Rubiaceae, the madder family) with verticillate leaves and small yellowish panicled flowers succeeded by berries; *broadly* : any of several related herbs (genus *Rubia*) **2 a** : the root of the Eurasian madder used formerly in dyeing; *also* : an alizarin dye prepared from it **b** : a moderate to strong red
mad·dish \'mad-ish\ *adj* : somewhat mad
made \'mād\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *maken* to make] **1 a** : artificially produced **b** : FICTITIOUS, INVENTED ⟨a ~ excuse⟩ **c** : put together of various ingredients ⟨a ~ dish⟩ **2** : assured of success ⟨a ~ man⟩
Ma·dei·ra \mə-'dir-ə, -'der-\ *n* [Pg, fr. *Madeira* islands] : an amber-colored dessert wine of Madeira; *also* : a similar wine made elsewhere
ma·de·moi·selle \ˌmad-(ə-)m(w)ə-'zel, mam-'zel\ *n, pl* **ma·de·moi·selles** \-'zelz\ *or* **mes·de·moi·selles** \ˌmād-(ə-)m(w)ə-'zel\ [F, fr. OF *ma damoisele,* lit., my (young) lady] **1** : an unmarried French girl or woman — used as a title equivalent to *Miss* for an unmarried woman not of English-speaking nationality **2** : a French governess **3** : SILVER PERCH a
made–up \'mā-'dəp\ *adj* **1** : marked by the use of makeup **2** : fancifully conceived or falsely devised **3** : fully manufactured
mad·house \'mad-ˌhaůs\ *n* **1** : a place where insane persons are detained and treated **2** : a place of bewildering uproar or confusion
Mad·i·son Avenue \ˌmad-ə-sən-\ *n* [*Madison Avenue,* New York City, center of the American advertising business] : the American advertising industry
mad·ly \'mad-lē\ *adv* : in a mad manner or to a degree suggestive of madness
mad·man \'mad-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : a man who is or acts as if insane : LUNATIC
mad·ness \'mad-nəs\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being mad: as **a** : INSANITY **b** : extreme folly **c** : RAGE **d** : ECSTASY, ENTHUSIASM **2** : any of several ailments of animals marked by frenzied behavior; *specif* : RABIES
Ma·don·na \mə-'dän-ə\ *n* [It, fr. OIt *ma donna,* lit., my lady] **1** *archaic* : LADY — used as a form of respectful address **2** *obs* : an Italian lady **3** : VIRGIN MARY
Madonna lily *n* : a white lily (*Lilium candidum*) with bell-shaped to broad funnel-shaped flowers formerly extensively forced for spring blooming
ma·dras \'mad-rəs; ˌmə-'dras, -'dräs\ *n* [*Madras,* India] **1 a** : a fine plain-woven shirting and dress fabric usu. of cotton with varied designs (as plaid) in bright colors or in white **b** : a light open usu. cotton fabric with a heavy design used for curtains **2** : a large silk or cotton kerchief usu. of bright colors that is often worn as a turban
mad·re·pore \'mad-rə-ˌpō(ə)r, -ˌpȯ(ə)r\ *n* [F *madrépore,* fr. It *madrepora,* fr. *madre* mother (fr. L *mater*) + *poro* pore (fr. L *porus*) — more at MOTHER] : any of various stony reef-building corals (order Madreporaria) of tropical seas that assume a variety of branching, encrusting, or massive forms — **mad·re·po·ri·an** \ˌmad-rə-'pōr-ē-ən, -'pȯr-\ *adj or n* — **mad·re·por·ic** \-'pōr-ik, -'pȯr-\ *adj*
mad·re·por·ite \'mad-rə-ˌpōr-ˌīt, -ˌpȯr-\ *n* [ISV *madrepore* + ¹*-ite* (segment); fr. the resemblances of the perforations to those of a madrepore] : a perforated or porous body that is situated at the distal end of the stone canal in echinoderms
mad·ri·gal \'mad-ri-gəl\ *n* [It *madrigale,* fr. ML *matricale,* fr. neut. of (assumed) *matricalis* simple, fr. LL, of the womb, fr. L *matric-, matrix* womb] **1** : a medieval short lyrical poem in a strict poetic form **2 a** : a complex polyphonic unaccompanied vocal piece on a secular text developed esp. in the 16th and 17th centuries **b** : PART-SONG; *esp* : GLEE — **mad·ri·gal·ian** \ˌmad-rə-'gal-ē-ən, -'gāl-\ *adj* — **mad·ri·gal·ist** \'mad-ri-gə-ləst\ *n*
ma·dri·lene \ˌmad-rə-'len, -'lān\ *n* [F (*consommé*) *madrilène,* lit., Madrid consommé] : a consommé flavored with tomato
ma·dro·na *or* **ma·dro·ne** *or* **ma·dro·no** \mə-'drō-nə\ *n* [Sp *madroño*] : an evergreen tree or shrub (*Arbutus menziesii*) of the heath family of the Pacific coast of No. America with smooth bark, thick shining leaves, and edible red berries
ma·du·ro \mə-'dů(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-ros** [Sp, fr. *maduro* ripe, fr. L *maturus* — more at MATURE] : a dark-colored relatively strong cigar
mad·wom·an \'mad-ˌwům-ən\ *n* : a woman who is or acts as if insane
mad·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* **1** : ALYSSUM 1 **2** : a low hairy annual herb (*Asperugo procumbens*) of the borage family with blue flowers and a root used as a substitute for madder
MAE *abbr* **1** master of aeronautical engineering **2** master of aerospace engineering **3** master of art education **4** master of arts in education
Mae·ce·nas \mi-'sē-nəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gaius *Maecenas* †8 B.C. Roman statesman & patron of literature] : a generous patron esp. of literature or art
MA Ed *abbr* master of arts in education
mael·strom \'mā(ə)l-strəm, -ˌsträm\ *n* [obs. D (now *maalstroom*), fr. *malen* to grind + *strom* stream; akin to OHG *malan* to grind and to OHG *stroum* stream — more at MEAL, STREAM] **1** : a powerful often violent whirlpool sucking in objects within a given radius **2** : something resembling a maelstrom in turbulence : TURMOIL
mae·nad \'mē-ˌnad\ *n* [L *maenad-, maenas,* fr. Gk *mainad-, mainas,* fr. *mainesthai* to be mad; akin to Gk *menos* spirit — more at MIND] **1** : a woman participant in orgiastic Dionysian rites : BACCHANTE **2** : an unnaturally excited or distraught woman — **mae·nad·ic** \mē-'nad-ik\ *adj*
MAeroE *abbr* master of aeronautical engineering
mae·sto·so \mī-'stō-(ˌ)sō, -(ˌ)zō\ *adj or adv* [It, fr. L *majestosus,* fr. *majestas* majesty] : majestic and stately — used as a direction in music
mae·stro \'mī-(ˌ)strō\ *n, pl* **maestros** *or* **mae·stri** \-ˌstrē\ [It, lit., master, fr. L *magister* — more at MASTER] : a master in an art; *esp* : an eminent composer; conductor, or teacher of music
Mae West \'mā-'west\ *n* [*Mae West b*1892 Am actress noted for her full figure] : an inflatable life jacket
maf·fick \'maf-ik\ *vi* [back-formation fr. *Mafeking night,* English celebration of the lifting of the siege of Mafeking, So. Africa, May 17, 1900] : to celebrate with boisterous rejoicing and hilarious behavior
Ma·fia \'mäf-ē-ə, 'maf-\ *n* [*Mafia, Maffia,* a Sicilian secret criminal society, fr. It] **1** : a secret society of political terrorists **2** : a secret organization composed chiefly of criminal elements and usu. held to control racketeering, peddling of narcotics, gambling, and other illicit activities throughout the world
maf·ic \'maf-ik\ *adj* [NL *ma*gnesium + L *f*errum iron + E *-ic*] : of, relating to, or being a group of usu. dark-colored minerals rich in magnesium and iron
ma·fi·o·so \ˌmäf-ē-'ō-(ˌ)sō, ˌmaf-, -(ˌ)zō\ *n, pl* **-si** \-(ˌ)sē, -(ˌ)zē\ [It, fr. *Mafia*] : a member of the Mafia
¹mag *abbr* **1** magnesium **2** magnetism **3** magneto **4** magnitude
²mag \'mag\ *n, slang* : MAGAZINE
mag·a·zine \'mag-ə-ˌzēn, ˌmag-ə-'\ *n* [MF, fr. OProv, fr. Ar *makhāzin,* pl. of *makhzan* storehouse] **1** : a place where goods or supplies are stored : WAREHOUSE **2** : a room in which powder and other explosives are kept in a fort or a ship **3** : the contents of a magazine: as **a** : an accumulation of munitions of war **b** : a stock of provisions or goods **4 a** : a periodical containing miscellaneous pieces (as articles, stories, poems) often illustrated **b** : a similar section of a newspaper usu. appearing on Sunday **5** : a supply chamber: as **a** : a holder in or on a gun for cartridges to be fed into the gun chamber automatically **b** : a lightproof chamber for films or plates on a camera or for film on a motion-picture projector
mag·a·zin·ist \-ˌzē-nəst, -'zē-\ *n* : one who writes for or edits a magazine
mag·da·len \'mag-də-lən\ *or* **mag·da·lene** \-ˌlēn\ *n, often cap* [Mary *Magdalen* or *Magdalene* woman healed by Jesus of evil spirits (Lk 8:2), considered identical with a reformed prostitute (Lk 7:36–50)] **1** : a reformed prostitute **2** : a house of refuge or reformatory for prostitutes
Mag·da·le·ni·an \ˌmag-də-'lē-nē-ən\ *adj* [F *magdalénien,* fr. *La Madeleine,* rock shelter in southwest France] : of or relating to an Upper Paleolithic culture characterized by flint, bone, and ivory implements, carving, and paintings
Mag·el·lan·ic Cloud \ˌmaj-ə-ˌlan-ik-, *chiefly Brit* ˌmag-\ *n* [Ferdinand *Magellan*] : either of the two nearest galaxies to the Milky Way system located within 25 degrees of the south celestial pole and appearing as conspicuous patches of light
Ma·gen Da·vid \ˌmȯ-gən-'dȯ-vəd\ *n* [Heb *māghēn Dāwīdh,* lit., shield of David] : a hexagram used as a symbol of Judaism
ma·gen·ta \mə-'jent-ə\ *n* [*Magenta,* Italy] **1** : FUCHSINE **2** : a deep purplish red
mag·got \'mag-ət\ *n* [ME *mathek, magotte,* of Scand origin; akin to ON *mathkr* maggot; akin to OE *matha* maggot] **1** : a soft-bodied legless grub that is the larva of a dipterous insect (as the housefly) **2** : a fantastic or eccentric idea : WHIM — **mag·goty** \-ē\ *adj*
Magh \'mäj\ *n* [Skt *māgha*] : a month of the Hindu year — see MONTH table
magi *pl of* MAGUS
¹Ma·gi·an \'mā-jē-ən\ *n* : MAGUS
²Ma·gi·an \-jē-ən, -jī-\ *adj* : of or relating to the Magi — **Ma·gi·an·ism** \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
¹mag·ic \'maj-ik\ *n* [ME *magik,* fr. MF *magique,* fr. L *magice,* fr. Gk *magikē,* fem. of *magikos* Magian, magical, fr. *magos* magus, sorcerer, of Iranian origin; akin to OPer *mogush* sorcerer] **1 a** : the use of means (as charms or spells) believed to have supernatural power over natural forces **b** : magic rites or incantations **2 a** : an extraordinary power or influence seemingly from a supernatural source **b** : something that seems to cast a spell : ENCHANTMENT **3** : the art of producing illusions by sleight of hand
²magic *adj* **1** : of or relating to magic **2 a** : having seemingly supernatural qualities or powers **b** : giving a feeling of enchantment — **mag·i·cal** \'maj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mag·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
³magic *vt* **mag·icked; mag·ick·ing** : to affect or influence by magic : BEWITCH
ma·gi·cian \mə-'jish-ən\ *n* **1** : one skilled in magic; *esp* : SORCERER **2** : one who performs tricks of illusion and sleight of hand
magic lantern *n* : an early form of optical projector of still pictures using a transparent slide
magic realism *n* [trans. of G *magischer realismus*] : painting in a meticulously realistic style of imaginary or fantastic scenes or images — **magic realist** *n*
Ma·gi·not Line \ˌmazh-ə-ˌnō-, ˌmaj-\ *n* [André *Maginot* †1932 Fr minister of war] : a line of defensive fortifications built before World War II to protect the eastern border of France but easily outflanked by German invaders
mag·is·te·ri·al \ˌmaj-ə-'stir-ē-əl\ *adj* [LL *magisterialis* of authority, fr. *magisterium* office of a master, fr. *magister*] **1 a** (1) : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a master or teacher : AUTHORITATIVE (2) : marked by a sedately dignified or pompously assured or overbearing manner or aspect ⟨writing marred by a tone of ~ condescension⟩ **b** : of, relating to, or required for a master's degree **2** : of or relating to a magistrate, his office, or his duties ***syn*** see DICTATORIAL — **mag·is·te·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
mag·is·te·ri·um \ˌmaj-ə-'stir-ē-əm\ *n* [L] : teaching authority esp. of the Roman Catholic Church
mag·is·tra·cy \'maj-ə-strə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the state of being a magistrate **2** : the office, power, or dignity of a magistrate **3** : a body of magistrates **4** : the district under a magistrate

ma·gis·tral \'maj-ə-strəl, mə-'jis-trəl\ *adj* [LL *magistralis*, fr. L *magistr-, magister*] : of, relating to, or characteristic of a master : MAGISTERIAL 1a — **ma·gis·tral·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

mag·is·trate \'maj-ə-ˌstrāt, -strət\ *n* [ME *magistrat*, fr. L *magistratus* magistracy, magistrate, fr. *magistr-, magister* master, political superior — more at MASTER] : an official entrusted with administration of the laws: as **a** : a principal official exercising governmental powers over a major political unit (as a nation) **b** : a local official exercising administrative and often judicial functions **c** : a local judiciary official having limited original jurisdiction esp. in criminal cases — **mag·is·trat·i·cal** \ˌmaj-ə-'strat-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mag·is·trat·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

magistrate's court *n* **1** : POLICE COURT **2** : a court that has minor civil and criminal jurisdiction

mag·is·tra·ture \'maj-ə-ˌstrā-chər, -strə-ˌchu̇(ə)r\ *n* : MAGISTRACY

mag·ma \'mag-mə\ *n* [L *magmat-, magma*, fr. Gk, thick unguent, fr. *massein* to knead — more at MINGLE] **1** *archaic* : DREGS, SEDIMENT **2** : a thin pasty suspension (as of a precipitate in water) **3** : molten rock material within the earth from which an igneous rock results by cooling — **mag·mat·ic** \mag-'mat-ik\ *adj*

Mag·na Char·ta *or* **Mag·na Car·ta** \ˌmag-nə-'kärt-ə\ *n* [ML, lit., great charter] **1** : a charter of liberties to which the English barons forced King John to give his assent in June 1215 at Runnymede **2** : a document constituting a fundamental guarantee of rights and privileges

mag·na cum lau·de \ˌmäg-nə-(ˌ)ku̇m-'la u̇d-ə, -'la u̇d-ē; ˌmag-nə-ˌkəm-'lȯd-ē\ *adv* [L] : with great distinction ⟨graduated *magna cum laude*⟩ — compare CUM LAUDE, SUMMA CUM LAUDE

mag·na·nim·i·ty \ˌmag-nə-'nim-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality of being magnanimous : loftiness of spirit enabling one to bear trouble calmly, to disdain meanness and revenge, and to make sacrifices for worthy ends **2** : a magnanimous act

mag·nan·i·mous \mag-'nan-ə-məs\ *adj* [L *magnanimus*, fr. *magnus* great + *animus* spirit — more at MUCH, ANIMATE] **1** : showing or suggesting a lofty and courageous spirit ⟨the irreproachable lives and ~ sufferings of their followers —Joseph Addison⟩ **2** : showing or suggesting nobility of feeling and generosity of mind : FORGIVING ⟨even his enemies considered him ~⟩ — **mag·nan·i·mous·ly** *adv* — **mag·nan·i·mous·ness** *n*

mag·nate \'mag-ˌnāt, -nət\ *n* [ME *magnates*, pl., fr. LL, fr. L *magnus*] : a person of rank, power, influence, or distinction often in a specified area

mag·ne·sia \mag-'nē-shə, -'nē-zhə\ *n* [NL, fr. *magnes carneus*, a white earth, lit., flesh magnet] **1** : a white highly infusible oxide of magnesium MgO used esp. in refractories, in cements, insulation, fertilizers, and rubber, and in medicine as an antacid and mild laxative **2** : MAGNESIUM — **mag·ne·sian** \-shən, -zhən\ *adj*

mag·ne·site \'mag-nə-ˌsīt\ *n* : native magnesium carbonate used esp. in making refractories and magnesia

mag·ne·sium \mag-'nē-zē-əm, -zhəm\ *n* [NL, fr. *magnesia*] : a silver-white light malleable ductile metallic element that occurs abundantly in nature and is used in metallurgical and chemical processes, in photography, in signaling, and in the manufacture of pyrotechnics because of the intense white light it produces on burning, and in construction esp. in the form of light alloys — see ELEMENT table

magnesium carbonate *n* : a carbonate of magnesium; *esp* : a white crystalline salt $MgCO_3$ that occurs naturally as dolomite and magnesite

magnesium chloride *n* : a bitter deliquescent salt $MgCl_2$ used esp. as a source of magnesium metal

magnesium hydroxide *n* : a slightly alkaline crystalline compound $Mg(OH)_2$ used esp. as a laxative and gastric antacid

magnesium oxide *n* : MAGNESIA 1

magnesium sulfate *n* : a sulfate of magnesium: as **a** : a white salt $MgSO_4$ used in medicine and in industry **b** : EPSOM SALTS

mag·net \'mag-nət\ *n* [ME *magnete*, fr. MF, fr. L *magnet-, magnes*, fr. Gk *magnēs* (*lithos*), lit., stone of Magnesia, ancient city in Asia Minor] **1 a** : LODESTONE **b** : a body having the property of attracting iron and producing a magnetic field external to itself; *specif* : a mass of iron, steel, or alloy that has this property artificially imparted **2** : something that attracts

magnet- *or* **magneto-** *comb form* [L *magnet-, magnes*] **1** : magnetic force ⟨*magneto*meter⟩ **2** : magnetism : magnetic ⟨*magneto*electric⟩ ⟨*magneto*n⟩ **3** : magnetoelectric ⟨*magneto*generator⟩

¹mag·net·ic \mag-'net-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a magnet or to magnetism **b** : of, relating to, or characterized by the earth's magnetism **c** : magnetized or capable of being magnetized **d** : actuated by magnetic attraction **2** : possessing an extraordinary power or ability to attract ⟨a ~ personality⟩ — **mag·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²magnetic *n* : a magnetic substance

magnetic core *n* : CORE 1e(2)

magnetic equator *n* : ACLINIC LINE

magnetic field *n* : the portion of space near a magnetic body or a current carrying body in which the forces due to the body or current can be detected

magnetic flux *n* : lines of force used to represent magnetic induction

magnetic head *n* : an electromagnet used in magnetic recording for converting electrical signals into a magnetic record (as on tape), converting a magnetic recording into electrical signals, or erasing a magnetic recording

magnetic moment *n* : a vector quantity that is a measure of the torque exerted on a magnetic system (as a bar magnet or dipole) when placed in a magnetic field : the product of the distance between the poles of a magnet and the strength of either pole

magnetic needle *n* : a slender bar of magnetized steel that when suspended so as to be free to turn indicates the direction of a magnetic field in which it is placed and that constitutes the essential part of a compass

magnetic north *n* : the northerly direction in the earth's magnetic field indicated by the north-seeking pole of the horizontal magnetic needle

magnetic pole *n* **1** : either of the poles of a magnet **2** : either of two small nonstationary regions which are located respectively in the polar areas of the northern and southern hemispheres and toward which the compass needle points from any direction throughout adjacent regions; *also* : either of two comparable regions on a celestial body

magnetic quantum number *n* : an integer that expresses the component of the quantized angular momentum of an electron, atom, or molecule in the direction of an externally applied magnetic field

magnetic recording *n* : the process of recording sound, data (as for a computer), or a television program by producing varying local magnetization of a moving tape, wire, or disc — **magnetic recorder** *n*

magnetic resonance *n* : the response of electrons, atoms, molecules, or nuclei to various discrete radiation frequencies as a result of space quantization in a magnetic field

magnetic storm *n* : a marked temporary disturbance of the earth's magnetic field held to be related to sunspots

magnetic tape *n* : a ribbon of thin paper or plastic coated for use in magnetic recording

magnetic wire *n* : a thin wire used in magnetic recording

mag·ne·tism \'mag-nə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a class of physical phenomena that include the attraction for iron observed in lodestone and a magnet, are believed to be inseparably associated with moving electricity, are exhibited by both magnets and electric currents, and are characterized by fields of force **b** : a science that deals with magnetic phenomena **2** : an ability to attract or charm

mag·ne·tite \'mag-nə-ˌtīt\ *n* : a black isometric mineral (Fe_3O_4) of the spinel group that is an oxide of iron and an important iron ore — **mag·ne·tit·ic** \ˌmag-nə-'tit-ik\ *adj*

mag·ne·ti·za·tion \ˌmag-nət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n* : a magnetizing or state of being magnetized; *also* : degree to which a body is magnetized

mag·ne·tize \'mag-nə-ˌtīz\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** **1** : to attract like a magnet : CHARM **2** : to communicate magnetic properties to — **mag·ne·tiz·able** \-ˌtī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **mag·ne·tiz·er** *n*

mag·ne·to \mag-'nēt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** : a magnetoelectric machine; *esp* : an alternator with permanent magnets used to generate current for the ignition in an internal-combustion engine

mag·ne·to·elec·tric \-ˌnēt-ō-ə-'lek-trik\ *adj* : relating to or characterized by electromotive forces developed by magnetic means ⟨~ induction⟩

mag·ne·to·flu·id·dy·nam·ic \mag-'nēt-ō-ˌflü-əd-dī-'nam-ik, -'net-, -də-\ *adj* : MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC — **mag·ne·to·flu·id·dy·nam·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*

mag·ne·to·flu·id·me·chan·ic \-ˌflü-əd-mə-'kan-ik\ *adj* : MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC — **mag·ne·to·flu·id·me·chan·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*

mag·ne·to·gas·dy·nam·ic \-ˌgas-dī-'nam-ik, -də-\ *adj* : MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC — **mag·ne·to·gas·dy·nam·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*

mag·ne·to·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* : an automatic instrument for recording measurements of a magnetic field (as of the earth or the sun)

mag·ne·to·hy·dro·dy·nam·ic \mag-'nēt-ō-ˌhī-drə-dī-'nam-ik, -'net-, -də-\ *adj* : of or relating to phenomena arising from the motion of electrically conducting fluids in the presence of electric and magnetic fields — **mag·ne·to·hy·dro·dy·nam·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*

mag·ne·tom·e·ter \ˌmag-nə-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for measuring magnetic intensity esp. of the earth's magnetic field — **mag·ne·to·met·ric** \mag-ˌnēt-ə-'me-trik, -ˌnet-\ *adj* — **mag·ne·tom·e·try** \ˌmag-nə-'täm-ə-trē\ *n*

mag·ne·to·mo·tive force \mag-ˌnēt-ə-ˌmōt-iv-, -ˌnet-\ *n* : a force that is the cause of a flux of magnetic induction

mag·ne·ton \'mag-nə-ˌtän\ *n* [ISV *magnet-* + *²-on*] : a unit of the quantized magnetic moment of a particle (as an atom)

mag·ne·to–op·tic \mag-ˌnēt-ō-'äp-tik, -ˌnet-\ *also* **mag·ne·to–op·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the influence of a magnetic field upon light — **mag·ne·to–op·tics** \-tiks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*

mag·ne·to·pause \mag-'nēt-ə-ˌpȯz, -'net-\ *n* [*magneto*sphere + L *pausa* stop — more at PAUSE] : the outer boundary of a magnetosphere

mag·ne·to·plas·ma·dy·nam·ic \mag-'nēt-ō-ˌplaz-mə-dī-'nam-ik, -'net-, -də-\ *adj* [*magnet-* + *plasma* + *dynamic*] : MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC — **mag·ne·to·plas·ma·dy·nam·ics** \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr*

mag·ne·to·re·sis·tance \-ˌnēt-ō-ri-'zis-tən(t)s, -ˌnet-\ *n* : a change in electrical resistance due to the presence of a magnetic field

mag·ne·to·sphere \mag-'nēt-ə-ˌsfi(ə)r, -'net-\ *n* **1** : a region of the upper atmosphere that surrounds the earth, extends out for thousands of miles, and is dominated by the earth's magnetic field so that charged particles are trapped in it **2** : a region that surrounds a celestial body (as a planet) and is comparable to the earth's magnetosphere in trapping charged particles — **mag·ne·to·spher·ic** \-ˌnēt-ə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, -'sfer-\ *adj*

mag·ne·to·stat·ic \mag-ˌnēt-ō-'stat-ik, -ˌnet-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a stationary magnetic field

mag·ne·to·stric·tion \-'strik-shən\ *n* [ISV *magnet-* + *-striction* (as in *constriction*)] : the change in the dimensions of a ferromagnetic body caused by a change in its state of magnetization — **mag·ne·to·stric·tive** \-'strik-tiv\ *adj* — **mag·ne·to·stric·tive·ly** *adv*

mag·ne·tron \'mag-nə-ˌträn\ *n* [blend of *magnet* and *-tron*] : a diode vacuum tube in which the flow of electrons is controlled by an externally applied magnetic field to generate power at microwave frequencies

mag·nif·ic \mag-'nif-ik\ *adj* [MF *magnifique*, fr. L *magnificus*] **1** : MAGNIFICENT 2 **2** : imposing in size or dignity **3** **a** : SUBLIME, EXALTED **b** : characterized by grandiloquence : POMPOUS — **mag·nif·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mag·nif·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mag·nif·i·cat \mag-'nif-i-ˌkat, män-'yif-i-ˌkät\ *n* [ME, fr. L, magnifies, fr. *magnificare* to magnify; fr. the first word of the canticle] **1** *cap* **a** : the canticle of the Virgin Mary in Luke 1:46–55 **b** : a musical setting for the Magnificat **2** : an utterance of praise

mag·ni·fi·ca·tion \ˌmag-nə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of magnifying **2** **a** : the state of being magnified **b** : the apparent enlargement of an object by an optical instrument

mag·nif·i·cence \mag-'nif-ə-sən(t)s, məg-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *magnificentia*, fr. *magnificus* noble in character, magnificent, fr. *magnus* great — more at MUCH] **1** : the quality or state of being magnificent **2** : splendor of surroundings

mag·nif·i·cent \-sent\ *adj* **1** : great in deed or exalted in place — used only of former famous rulers ⟨Lorenzo the *Magnificent*⟩ **2** : marked by stately grandeur and lavishness ⟨a ~ way of life⟩ **3** : sumptuous in structure and adornment ⟨a ~ cathedral⟩; *broadly* : strikingly beautiful or impressive ⟨a ~ physique⟩ **4** : impressive to the mind or spirit : SUBLIME ⟨~ prose⟩ **5** : exceptionally fine ⟨a ~ day⟩ ***syn*** see GRAND ***ant*** modest — **mag·nif·i·cent·ly** *adv*

mag·nif·i·co \mag-'nif-i-ˌkō\ *n, pl* **-coes** *or* **-cos** [It, fr. *magnifico*, adj., magnificent, fr. L *magnificus*] **1** : a nobleman of Venice **2** : a person of high position or distinguished appearance and manner

mag·ni·fi·er \'mag-nə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that magnifies; *esp* : a lens or combination of lenses that makes something appear larger

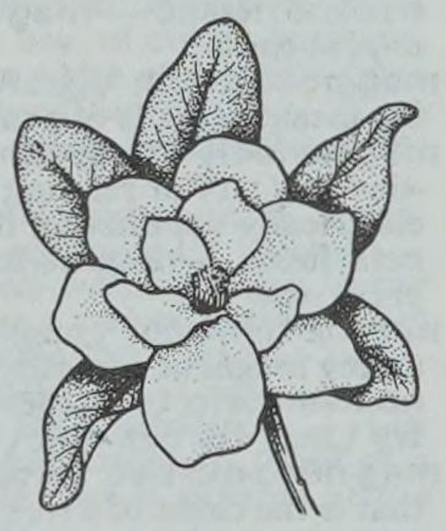
mag·ni·fy \'mag-nə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *magnifien*, fr. MF *magnifier*, fr. L *magnificare*, fr. *magnificus*] *vt* **1** **a** : EXTOL, LAUD **b** : to cause to be held in greater esteem or respect **2** **a** : to increase in significance : INTENSIFY **b** : EXAGGERATE **3** : to enlarge in fact or in appearance ~ *vi* : to have the power of causing objects to appear larger than they are

mag·nil·o·quence \mag-'nil-ə-kwən(t)s\ *n* [L *magniloquentia*, fr. *magniloquus* magniloquent, fr. *magnus* + *loqui* to speak] : the quality or state of being magniloquent

mag·nil·o·quent \-kwənt\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *magniloquence*] : speaking in or characterized by a high-flown often bombastic style or manner : GRANDILOQUENT — **mag·nil·o·quent·ly** *adv*

mag·ni·tude \'mag-nə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *magnitudo*, fr. *magnus*] **1** **a** : great size or extent **b** (1) : spatial quality : SIZE (2) : QUANTITY, NUMBER (3) : volume of sound : LOUDNESS **2** : the importance, quality, or caliber of something **3** : a number representing the intrinsic or apparent brightness of a celestial body on a logarithmic scale in which a difference of one unit corresponds to the multiplication or division of the brightness of light by 2.512 **4** : a numerical quantitative measure expressed usu. as a multiple of a standard unit

mag·no·lia \mag-'nōl-yə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Pierre *Magnol* †1715 F botanist] : any of a genus (*Magnolia* of the family Magnoliaceae, the magnolia family) of No. American and Asian shrubs and trees with entire evergreen or deciduous leaves and usu. showy white, yellow, rose, or purple flowers appearing in early spring



magnolia

mag·num \'mag-nəm\ *n* [L, neut. of *magnus* great] : a large wine bottle holding about $^2/_5$ of a gallon

mag·num opus \ˌmag-nə-'mō-pəs\ *n* [L] : a great work; *esp* : the greatest achievement of an artist or writer

mag·pie \'mag-ˌpī\ *n* [*Mag* (nickname for *Margaret*) + *pie*] **1** : any of numerous birds (esp. of the genus *Pica*) related to the jays but having a long graduated tail and black-and-white plumage **2** : a person who chatters noisily

MAgr *abbr* master of agriculture

ma·guey \mə-'gā\ *n* [Sp, fr. Taino] **1** : any of various fleshy-leaved agaves; *also* : a plant (genus *Furcraea*) related to the agaves **2** : any of several hard fibers derived from magueys; *esp* : CANTALA

ma·gus \'mā-gəs\ *n, pl* **ma·gi** \'mā-ˌjī\ [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *magos* — more at MAGIC] **1** **a** : a member of a hereditary priestly class among the ancient Medes and Persians **b** *often cap* : one of the traditionally three wise men from the East paying homage to the infant Jesus **2** : MAGICIAN, SORCERER

Mag·yar \'mag-ˌyär, 'mäg-; 'mäj-ˌär\ *n* [Hung] **1** : a member of the dominant people of Hungary **2** : the Finno-Ugric language of the Magyars — **Magyar** *adj*

ma·ha·ra·ja *or* **ma·ha·ra·jah** \ˌmä-hə-'räj-ə, -'räzh-ə\ *n* [Skt *mahārāja*, fr. *mahat* great + *rājan* raja; akin to Gk *megas* great — more at MUCH] : a Hindu prince ranking above a raja

ma·ha·ra·ni *or* **ma·ha·ra·nee** \-'rän-ē\ *n* [Hindi *mahārānī*, fr. *mahā* great (fr. Skt *mahat*) + *rānī* rani] **1** : the wife of a maharaja **2** : a Hindu princess ranking above a rani

ma·ha·ri·shi \mə-'här-ə-shē\ *n* [Skt *maharṣi*, fr. *mahat* + *ṛṣi* sage and poet] : a Hindu teacher of mystical knowledge

ma·hat·ma \mə-'hät-mə, -'hat-\ *n* [Skt *mahātman*, fr. *mahātman* great-souled, fr. *mahat* + *ātman* soul — more at ATMAN] **1** : a person to be revered for high-mindedness, wisdom, and selflessness **2** : a person of great prestige in a field of endeavor

Ma·ha·ya·na \ˌmä-hə-'yän-ə\ *n* [Skt *mahāyāna*, lit., great vehicle] : a liberal and theistic branch of Buddhism comprising sects chiefly in Tibet, China, and Japan, recognizing a large body of scripture in addition to the Pali canon, and teaching social concern and universal salvation — compare THERAVADA — **Ma·ha·ya·nist** \-'yän-əst\ *n* — **Ma·ha·ya·nis·tic** \-yä-'nis-tik\ *adj*

Mah·di \'mäd-ē\ *n* [Ar *mahdīy*, lit., one rightly guided] **1** : the expected messiah of Muslim tradition **2** : a Muslim leader who assumes a messianic role — **Mah·dism** \'mäd-ˌiz-əm\ *n* — **Mah·dist** \'mäd-əst\ *n*

Ma·hi·can \mə-'hē-kən\ *n, pl* **Mahican** *or* **Mahicans** [Mahican] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of the upper Hudson river valley **2** : the language of the Mahican people

mah–jongg \(')mäzh-'äŋ, (')mäj-, -'ȯŋ, 'mäzh-ˌ, 'mäj-ˌ\ *n* [fr. *Mah-Jongg*, a trademark] : a game of Chinese origin usu. played by 4 persons with 144 tiles that are drawn and discarded until one player secures a winning hand

mahl·stick \'mȯl-\ *var of* MAULSTICK

ma·hoe \mə-'hō, 'mä-ˌ\ *n* [F *maho*, fr. Taino] : any of various tropical trees with strong bast fibers: as **a** : MAJAGUA **b** : a West Indian tree (*Daphnopsis caribaea* of the mezereon family)

ma·hog·a·ny \mə-'häg-ə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [origin unknown] **1** : the wood of any of various chiefly tropical trees (family Meliaceae, the mahogany family): **a** (1) : the durable yellowish brown to reddish brown usu. moderately hard and heavy wood of a West Indian tree (*Swietenia mahagoni*) that is widely used for cabinetwork and fine finish work (2) : a wood similar to mahogany from a congeneric tree **b** (1) : the rather hard heavy usu. odorless wood of any of several African trees (genus *Khaya*) (2) : the rather lightweight cedar-scented wood of any of several African trees (genus *Entandrophragma*) that varies in color from pinkish to deep reddish brown **2** : any of various woods resembling or substituted for mahogany obtained from trees of the mahogany family **3** : a tree that yields mahogany **4** : a moderate reddish brown

ma·ho·nia \mə-'hō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Bernard Mc*Mahon* †1816 Am botanist] : any of a genus (*Mahonia*) of No. American and Asiatic shrubs of the barberry family

Ma·hound *n* [ME *Mahun, Mahoun*, fr. OF *Mahom, Mahun*, short for *Mahomet*] **1** \mə-'hünd, -'haůnd\ *archaic* : Muhammad **2** \-'hün\ *Scot* : DEVIL

ma·hout \mə-'haůt\ *n* [Hindi *mahāwat, mahāut*] : a keeper and driver of an elephant

mah·rat·ta *var of* MARATHA

maid \'mād\ *n* [ME *maide*, short for *maiden*] **1** : an unmarried girl or woman esp. when young : VIRGIN **2** : a female servant

¹maid·en \'mād-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mægden, mæden*, dim. of *mægeth*; akin to OHG *magad* maiden, OIr *mug* serf, *macc* son] **1** : an unmarried girl or woman : MAID **2** : a former Scottish beheading device resembling the guillotine **3** : a horse that has never won a race

²maiden *adj* **1** **a** (1) : not married ⟨~ aunt⟩ (2) : VIRGIN **b** *of a female animal* (1) : never yet mated (2) : never having borne young **2** : of, relating to, or befitting a maiden **3** : FIRST, EARLIEST ⟨the ship's ~ voyage⟩ **4** : INTACT, FRESH

maid·en·hair \-ˌha(ə)r, -ˌhe(ə)r\ *n* : any of a genus (*Adiantum*) of ferns with delicate palmately branched fronds — called also *maidenhair fern*



maidenhair

maidenhair tree *n* : GINKGO

maid·en·head \'mād-ᵊn-ˌhed\ *n* [ME *maidenhed*, fr. *maiden* + *-hed* -hood; akin to ME *-hod* -hood] **1** : the quality or state of being a maiden : VIRGINITY **2** : HYMEN

maid·en·hood \-ˌhůd\ *n* : the quality, state, or time of being a maiden

maid·en·li·ness \-lē-nəs\ *n* : conduct or traits befitting a maiden

maid·en·ly \-lē\ *adj* : of, resembling, or suitable to a maiden

maiden name *n* : the surname of a woman before she married

maid·hood \'mād-ˌhůd\ *n* : MAIDENHOOD

maid–in–wait·ing \ˌmād-ᵊn-'wāt-iŋ\ *n, pl* **maids–in–wait·ing** \ˌmād-zən-\ : a young woman of a queen's or princess's household appointed to attend her

Maid Mar·i·an \-'mer-ē-ən, -'mar-\ *n* : a companion of Robin Hood in some forms of his legend

maid of honor **1** : an unmarried lady usu. of noble birth whose duty it is to attend a queen or a princess **2** : a bride's principal unmarried wedding attendant

maid·ser·vant \'mād-ˌsər-vənt\ *n* : a female servant

ma·ieu·tic \mā-'yüt-ik, mī-\ *adj* [Gk *maieutikos* of midwifery] : relating to or resembling the Socratic method of eliciting new ideas from another

¹mail \'mā(ə)l\ *n* [ME *male, maille*, fr. OE *māl* agreement, pay, fr. ON *māl* speech, agreement; akin to OE *mæl* speech, *mōt* meeting — more at MEET] *chiefly Scot* : PAYMENT, RENT

²mail *n, often attrib* [ME *male*, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *malaha* bag] **1** *chiefly Scot* : BAG, WALLET **2** **a** : the bags of letters and the other postal matter conveyed under public authority from one post office to another **b** : the postal matter consigned at one time to or from one person or one post office or conveyed by a particular train, airplane, or ship **c** : a conveyance that transports mail **3** **a** : a nation's postal system — often used in pl. **b** : postal matter

³mail *vt* : to send by mail : POST

⁴mail *n* [ME *maille*, fr. MF, fr. L *macula* spot, mesh] **1** : armor made of metal links or sometimes plates **2** : a hard enclosing covering of an animal (as a tortoise) — **mailed** \'mā(ə)ld\ *adj*

⁵mail *vt* : to arm with mail

mail·able \'mā-lə-bəl\ *adj* : adapted for mailing : legally admissible as mail — **mail·abil·i·ty** \ˌmā-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

mail·bag \'mā(ə)l-ˌbag\ *n* **1** : a letter carrier's shoulder bag **2** : a pouch used in the shipment of mail

mail·box \-ˌbäks\ *n* **1** : a public box for deposit of outgoing mail **2** : a box at or near a dwelling for the occupant's mail

mail drop *n* **1** : a receptacle or a slot for deposit of mail **2** : an address used in transmitting secret communications

mai·le \'mī-lē\ *n* [Hawaiian] : a Pacific island vine (*Alyxia olivaeformis* of the family Apocynaceae) with fragrant leaves and bark that are used for decoration and in Hawaii for leis

mailed fist *n* : a threat of armed force

mail·er \'mā-lər\ *n* **1** : one that mails **2** : a machine for addressing mail matter **3** : a container for mailing something

[1]mail·ing \'mā-liŋ\ *n* [ME *mailling*, fr. *maille* rent] **1** *Scot* : a rented farm **2** *Scot* : the rent paid for a farm
[2]mailing *n* : the mail dispatched at one time by a sender
mail·lot \mī-'ō, mä-'yō\ *n* [F] **1** : tights for dancers or gymnasts **2** : JERSEY 2 **3** : a woman's one-piece bathing suit
mail·man \'mā(ə)l-ˌman\ *n* : a man who delivers mail — called also *postman*
mail order *n* : an order for goods that is received and filled by mail
mail–order house *n* : a retail establishment whose business is conducted by mail
[1]maim \'mām\ *vt* [ME *maynhen, maymen*, fr. OF *maynier*] **1** : to commit the felony of mayhem upon **2** : to mutilate, disfigure, or wound seriously : CRIPPLE — **maim·er** *n*
syn MAIM, CRIPPLE, MUTILATE, BATTER, MANGLE *shared meaning element* : to injure so severely as to cause lasting damage
[2]maim *n* **1** *obs* : serious physical injury; *esp* : loss of a member of the body **2** *obs* : a serious loss
[1]main \'mān\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. ME, fr. OE *maegen;* akin to OHG *magan* strength, OE *magan* to be able; in other senses, fr. [2]*main* or by shortening — more at MAY] **1** : physical strength : FORCE — used in the phrase *with might and main* **2** **a** : MAINLAND **b** : HIGH SEA **3** : the chief part : essential point ⟨men who are in the ~ well-trained⟩ **4** : a pipe, duct, or circuit to or from which lead tributary branches of a utility system and which carries their combined flow **5** **a** : MAINMAST **b** : MAINSAIL
[2]main *adj* [ME, fr. OE *maegen-*, fr. *maegen* strength] **1** : CHIEF, PRINCIPAL **2** : fully exerted : SHEER ⟨~ force⟩ ⟨by ~ strength⟩ **3** *obs* : of or relating to a broad expanse (as of sea) **4** : connected with or located near the mainmast or mainsail **5** : expressing the chief predication in a complex sentence ⟨the ~ clause⟩
[3]main *n* [prob. fr. [2]*main*] **1** : a number exceeding four and not exceeding nine called by the caster in the game of hazard before throwing **2** : a cockfight series consisting of an odd number of matches
main·frame \'mān-ˌfrām\ *n* : COMPUTER; *esp* : the computer itself and its cabinet as distinguished from peripheral devices connected with it
main·land \'mān-ˌland, -lənd\ *n* : a continent or the main part of a continent as distinguished from an offshore island or sometimes from a cape or peninsula — **main·land·er** \-ər\ *n*
main·line \'mān-'līn\ *vi, slang* : to inject a narcotic drug as heroin into a principal vein (as heroin)
main line *n* **1** : a principal highway or railroad line **2** *slang* **a** : a principal vein ⟨a shot of heroin in the *main line*⟩ **b** : injection of a narcotic into a principal vein
main·lin·er \-'lī-nər\ *n, slang* : one that mainlines
main·ly \'mān-lē\ *adv* **1** *obs* : in a forceful manner **2** : for the most part : CHIEFLY
main·mast \'mān-ˌmast, -məst\ *n* : a sailing ship's principal mast usu. second from the bow
mains \'mānz\ *n pl but sing in constr* [short for *domains*] *dial Brit* : the home farm of a manor
main·sail \'mān-ˌsāl, 'mān(t)-səl\ *n* : the principal sail on the mainmast — see SAIL illustration
main·sheet \'mān-ˌshēt\ *n* : a rope by which the mainsail is trimmed and secured
main·spring \'mān-ˌspriŋ\ *n* **1** : the chief spring in a mechanism esp. of a watch or clock **2** : the chief or most powerful motive, agent, or cause
main·stay \-ˌstā\ *n* **1** : a ship's stay extending from the maintop forward usu. to the foot of the foremast **2** : a chief support
main stem *n* : a main trunk or channel: as **a** : the main course of a stream **b** : the main line of a railroad **c** : the main street of a city or town
main·stream \'mān-ˌstrēm\ *n* : a prevailing current or direction of activity or influence — **mainstream** *adj*
Main Street *n* **1** : the principal street of a small town **2** **a** : the sections of a country centering about its small towns **b** : a place or environment characterized by materialistic self-complacent provincialism — **Main Street·er** \'mān-ˌstrēt-ər\ *n*
main·tain \mān-'tān, mən-\ *vt* [ME *mainteinen*, fr. OF *maintenir*, fr. ML *manutenēre*, fr. L *manu tenēre* to hold in the hand] **1** : to keep in an existing state (as of repair, efficiency, or validity) : preserve from failure or decline ⟨~ one's health⟩ ⟨~ machinery⟩ **2** : to sustain against opposition or danger : uphold and defend ⟨~ a position⟩ **3** : to continue or persevere in : carry on : keep up ⟨couldn't ~ his composure⟩ **4** **a** : to support or provide for : bear the expense of ⟨has a family to ~⟩ **b** : SUSTAIN ⟨enough food to ~ life⟩ **5** : to affirm in or as if in argument : ASSERT ⟨~*ed* that all men are not equal⟩ — **main·tain·abil·i·ty** \-ˌtā-nə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **main·tain·able** \-'tā-nə-bəl\ *adj* — **main·tain·er** *n*
syn MAINTAIN, ASSERT, DEFEND, VINDICATE, JUSTIFY *shared meaning element* : to uphold as true, right, just, or reasonable
main·te·nance \'mānt-nən(t)s, -ᵊn-ən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *maintenir*] **1** : the act of maintaining : the state of being maintained : SUPPORT **2** : something that maintains **3** : the upkeep of property or equipment **4** : an officious or unlawful intermeddling in a legal suit by assisting either party with means to carry it on
main·top \'mān-ˌtäp\ *n* : a platform about the head of the mainmast of a square-rigged ship
main–top·mast \mān-'täp-ˌmast, -məst\ *n* : a mast next above the mainmast
main yard *n* : the yard of a mainsail
maiolica *var of* MAJOLICA
mair \'mār\ *chiefly Scot var of* MORE
mai·son·ette \ˌmāz-ᵊn-'et, ˌmās-\ *n* [F *maisonnette*, fr. OF, dim. of *maison* house, fr. L *mansion-, mansio* dwelling place — more at MANSION] **1** : a small house **2** : an apartment often on two floors
maî·tre d' \ˌmā-trə-'dē, ˌme-; ˌmāt-ər-'dē, ˌmet-\ *n, pl* **maître d's** \-'dēz\ : MAÎTRE D'HÔTEL
maî·tre d'hô·tel \ˌmā-trə-(ˌ)dō-'tel, ˌme-; ˌmāt-dō-, ˌmet-\ *n, pl* **maîtres d'hôtel** *same*\ [F, lit., master of house] **1** **a** : MAJORDOMO **b** : HEADWAITER **2** : a sauce of butter, parsley, salt, pepper, and lemon juice
maize \'māz\ *n* [Sp *maíz*, fr. Taino *mahiz*] : INDIAN CORN
Maj *abbr* major
ma·ja·gua \mə-'häg-wə\ *n* [AmerSp, fr. Taino] : either of two tropical trees of the mallow family that are often considered variant forms of a single species: **a** : an irregularly spreading or shrubby tree (*Hibiscus tilaceus*) that yields a light tough wood and a fibrous bast **b** : an erect forest tree (*H. elatus*) of the West Indian uplands that yields a moderately dense timber with variegated heartwood that is used esp. for cabinetwork and the stocks of guns
ma·jes·tic \mə-'jes-tik\ *adj* : having or exhibiting majesty : STATELY ***syn*** see GRAND — **ma·jes·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **ma·jes·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
maj·es·ty \'maj-ə-stē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [ME *maieste*, fr. OF *majesté*, fr. L *majestat-, majestas;* akin to L *major* greater] **1** : sovereign power, authority, or dignity **2** — used in addressing or referring to reigning sovereigns and their consorts ⟨Your *Majesty*⟩ ⟨Her *Majesty's* Government⟩ **3** **a** : royal bearing or aspect : GRANDEUR **b** : greatness or splendor of quality or character
Maj Gen *abbr* major general
ma·jol·i·ca \mə-'jäl-i-kə\ *also* **ma·iol·i·ca** \-'yäl-\ *n* [It *maiolica*, fr. ML *Majolica* Majorca, fr. LL *Majorca*] **1** : earthenware covered with an opaque tin glaze and decorated on the glaze before firing; *esp* : an Italian ware of this kind **2** : a 19th century earthenware modeled in naturalistic shapes and glazed in lively colors
[1]ma·jor \'mā-jər\ *adj* [ME *maiour*, fr. L *major*, compar. of *magnus* great, large — more at MUCH] **1** : greater in dignity, rank, importance, or interest ⟨one of the ~ poets⟩ **2** : greater in number, quantity, or extent ⟨the ~ part of his work⟩ **3** : having attained majority **4** : notable or conspicuous in effect or scope : CONSIDERABLE ⟨a ~ improvement⟩ **5** : involving grave risk : SERIOUS ⟨a ~ illness⟩ **6** **a** : of or relating to a subject of academic study chosen as a field of specialization **b** : of or relating to a secondary-school course requiring a maximum of classroom hours **7** **a** : having half steps between the third and fourth and the seventh and eighth degrees ⟨~ scale⟩ **b** : based on a major scale ⟨~ key⟩ **c** : equivalent to the distance between the keynote and another tone (except the fourth and fifth) of a major scale ⟨~ third⟩ **d** : containing a major third ⟨~ triad⟩
[2]major *n* **1** : a person having attained majority **2** **a** : one that is superior in rank, importance, station, or performance **b** : a major musical interval, scale, key, or mode **3** : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps ranking above a captain and below a lieutenant colonel **4** **a** : a subject of academic study chosen as a field of specialization **b** : a student specializing in such a field ⟨he is a history ~⟩ **5** *pl* : major league baseball
[3]major *vi* **ma·jored; ma·jor·ing** \'māj-(ə-)riŋ\ : to pursue an academic major
major axis *n* : the axis passing through the foci of an ellipse
ma·jor·do·mo \ˌmā-jər-'dō-(ˌ)mō\ *n, pl* **-mos** [Sp *mayordomo* or obs. It *maiordomo*, fr. ML *major domus*, lit., chief of the house] **1** : a man having charge of a large household (as a palace) : a head steward **2** : BUTLER, STEWARD
majorette *n* : DRUM MAJORETTE 2
major form class *n* : one of the parts of speech of traditional grammar (as noun, verb, or preposition)
major general *n* [F *major général*, fr. *major*, n. + *général*, adj., general] : a commissioned officer in the army, air force, or marine corps who ranks above a brigadier general and whose insignia is two stars
ma·jor·i·tar·i·an \mə-ˌjȯr-ə-'ter-ē-ən, -ˌjär-\ *n* : one that believes in or advocates majoritarianism — **majoritarian** *adj*
ma·jor·i·tar·i·an·ism \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* : the philosophy or practice according to which decisions of an organized group should be made by a numerical majority of its members
ma·jor·i·ty \mə-'jȯr-ət-ē, -'jär-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** *obs* : the quality or state of being greater : SUPERIORITY **2** **a** : the age at which full civil rights are accorded; *esp* : the age of 21 **b** : the status of one who has attained this age **3** **a** : a number greater than half of a total **b** : the excess of a majority over the remainder of the total : MARGIN **c** : the preponderant quantity or share **4** : the group or political party whose votes preponderate **5** : the military office, rank, or commission of a major
majority leader *n* : a leader of the majority party in a legislative body (as the U.S. Senate)
majority rule *n* : a political principle providing that a majority usu. constituted by fifty percent plus one of an organized group will have the power to make decisions binding upon the whole
major league *n* : a league of highest classification in U.S. professional baseball; *broadly* : a league of major importance in any of various sports
major order *n* : one of the Roman Catholic or Eastern clerical orders that are sacramentally conferred and have a sacred character that implies major religious obligations (as clerical celibacy) — usu. used in pl.; compare MINOR ORDER
major party *n* : a political party having electoral strength sufficient to permit it to win control of a government usu. with comparative regularity and when defeated to constitute the principal opposition to the party in power
major penalty *n* : a 5-minute suspension of a player in ice hockey
major premise *n* : the premise of a syllogism containing the major term
major seminary *n* : a Roman Catholic seminary giving usu. the entire six years of senior college and theological training required for major orders
major suit *n* : either of two bridge suits of superior scoring value: **a** : SPADES **b** : HEARTS

major term *n* : the term of a syllogism constituting the predicate of the conclusion
ma·jus·cule \'maj-əs-ˌkyü(ə)l, mə-'jəs-\ *n* [F, fr. L *majusculus* rather large, dim. of *major*] : a large letter (as a capital) — **ma·jus·cu·lar** \mə-'jəs-kyə-lər\ *adj* — **majuscule** *adj*
mak·able *or* **make·able** \'mā-kə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being made
mak·ar \'mäk-ər, 'māk-\ *n* [ME *maker*] *chiefly Scot* : POET
¹make \'māk\ *vb* **made** \'mād\; **mak·ing** [ME *maken*, fr. OE *macian*; akin to OHG *mahhōn* to prepare, make, OSlav *mazati* to anoint] *vt* **1 a** *obs* : BEHAVE, ACT **b** : to seem to begin (an action) ⟨he *made* to go⟩ **2 a** : to cause to happen to or be experienced by someone ⟨*made* trouble for him⟩ **b** : to cause to exist, occur, or appear : CREATE ⟨~ a disturbance⟩ **c** : to favor the growth or occurrence of ⟨haste ~*s* waste⟩ **d** : to fit, intend, or destine by or as if by creating ⟨was *made* to be an actor⟩ **3 a** : to bring into being by forming, shaping, or altering material : FASHION ⟨~ a dress⟩ **b** : COMPOSE, WRITE ⟨~ verses⟩ **c** : to lay out and construct ⟨~ a road⟩ **4** : to frame or formulate in the mind ⟨~ plans⟩ **5** : to put together from components : CONSTITUTE ⟨houses *made* of stone⟩ **6 a** : to compute or estimate to be **b** : to form and hold in the mind ⟨~ no doubt of it⟩ **7 a** : to assemble and set alight the materials for (a fire) **b** : to set in order ⟨~ beds⟩ **c** : PREPARE, FIX ⟨~ dinner⟩ **d** : to shuffle (a deck of cards) in preparation for dealing **8** : to prepare (hay) by cutting, drying, and storing **9 a** : to cause to be or become ⟨*made* himself useful⟩ **b** : APPOINT ⟨*made* him bishop⟩ **10 a** : ENACT, ESTABLISH ⟨~ laws⟩ **b** : to execute in an appropriate manner ⟨~ a will⟩ **c** : SET, NAME ⟨~ a price⟩ **11 a** *chiefly dial* : to make fast : SHUT **b** : to cause (an electric circuit) to be completed **12 a** : to conclude as to the nature or meaning of ⟨didn't know what to ~ of his actions⟩ **b** : to regard as being ⟨not the fool some ~ him⟩ **13 a** : to carry out (an action indicated or implied by the object) ⟨~ war⟩ ⟨~ a speech⟩ ⟨*made* his lunch on bread and cheese⟩ **b** : to perform with a bodily movement ⟨~ a sweeping gesture⟩ **c** : to achieve by traversing ⟨~ a detour⟩ ⟨a mailman *making* his rounds⟩ **14 a** : to produce as a result of action, effort, or behavior with respect to something ⟨~ a mess of the job⟩ ⟨tried to ~ a thorough job of it⟩ **b** *archaic* : to turn into another language by translation **15** : to cause to act in a certain way : COMPEL ⟨~ him return⟩ **16** : to cause or assure the success or prosperity of ⟨anyone he takes a liking to is *made*⟩ **17 a** : to amount to in significance ⟨~*s* a great difference⟩ **b** : to form the essential being of ⟨clothes ~ the man⟩ **c** : to form by an assembling of individuals ⟨~ a quorum⟩ **d** : to count as ⟨that ~*s* the third time he's said it⟩ **18 a** : to be or be capable of being changed or fashioned into ⟨rags ~ the best paper⟩ **b** : to develop into ⟨she will ~ a fine wife⟩ **c** : FORM 5b **19 a** : REACH, ATTAIN — often used with *it* ⟨you'll never ~ it that far⟩ **b** : to gain the rank of ⟨~ major⟩ **c** : to gain a place on or in ⟨~ the team⟩ ⟨the story *made* the papers⟩ **20** : to gain (as money) by working, trading, or dealing **21 a** : to act so as to win or acquire ⟨~*s* friends easily⟩ **b** : to score (points) in a game or sport **c** : to convert (a split) into a spare in bowling **22 a** : to fulfill (a contract) in a card game **b** : to win a trick with (a card) **23 a** : to include in a route or itinerary ⟨~ New York on the return trip⟩ **b** : CATCH ⟨*made* the bus just in time⟩ **24** : to persuade to consent to sexual intercourse ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to compose poetry **2 a** : BEHAVE, ACT **b** : to begin or seem to begin a certain action ⟨*made* as though to hand it to me⟩ **c** : to act so as to be or to seem to be ⟨~ merry⟩ **d** *slang* : to play a part — usu. used with *like* **3** : to set out : HEAD ⟨*made* after the fox⟩ **4** : to increase in height or size ⟨the tide is *making* now⟩ **5** : to reach or extend in a certain direction **6** : to have weight or effect : TELL ⟨courtesy ~*s* for safer driving⟩ **7** : to undergo manufacture or processing ⟨the silk ~*s* up beautifully⟩
syn MAKE, FORM, SHAPE, FASHION, FABRICATE, MANUFACTURE *shared meaning element* : to cause to come into being
— **make a face** : to distort one's features : GRIMACE — **make a mountain out of a molehill** : to treat a trifling matter as of great importance — **make away with** **1** : to carry off **2** : SPEND, DISSIPATE **3** : DESTROY, KILL **4** : CONSUME, EAT — **make believe** : PRETEND, FEIGN — **make bold** : VENTURE, DARE — **make book** : to accept bets at calculated odds on all the entrants in a race or contest — **make do** : to get along or manage with the means at hand — **make ends meet** : to make one's means adequate to one's needs — **make eyes** : OGLE — **make fun of** : to make an object of amusement or laughter : RIDICULE, MOCK — **make good** **1** : to make valid or complete: as **a** : to make up for (a deficiency) **b** : INDEMNIFY ⟨*make good* the loss⟩ **c** : to carry out (a promise or prediction) : FULFILL **d** : PROVE ⟨*make good* a charge⟩ **2** : to prove to be capable; *also* : SUCCEED — **make hay** : to make use of offered opportunity esp. in gaining an early advantage — **make head** **1** : to make progress esp. against resistance **2** : to rise in armed revolt **3** : to build up pressure (as in a steam boiler) — **make it** **1** : to be successful ⟨trying to *make it* in the big time as a fashion photographer —Joe Kane⟩ **2** : to have sexual intercourse — **make light of** : to treat as of little account — **make love** **1** : WOO, COURT **2 a** : NECK, PET **b** : to engage in sexual intercourse — **make much of** **1** : to treat as of importance **2** : to treat with obvious affection or special consideration — **make no bones** : to be straightforward, unhesitating, or sure ⟨*makes no bones* about giving his opinion on the matter⟩ — **make public** : DISCLOSE — **make sail** **1** : to raise or spread sail **2** : to set out on a voyage — **make time** **1** : to travel fast **2** : to gain time **3** : to make progress toward winning favor ⟨trying to *make time* with the waitress⟩ — **make tracks** **1** : to proceed at a walk or run **2** : to go in a hurry : run away : FLEE — **make water** **1** *of a boat* : LEAK **2** : URINATE — **make waves** : to create a stir or disturbance — **make way** **1** : to give room for passing, entering, or occupying ⟨the crowd *made way* for the ambulance⟩ ⟨tore down the building to *make way* for a new parking lot⟩ **2** : to make progress ⟨the ship could not *make way* against the winds⟩ — **make with** *slang* : PRODUCE, PERFORM — usu. used with *the*
²make *n* **1 a** : the manner or style in which a thing is constructed **b** : BRAND 4 **2** : the physical, mental, or moral constitution of a person ⟨men of his ~ are rare⟩ **3 a** : the action of producing or manufacturing **b** : the actual yield or amount produced over a specified period : OUTPUT **4** : the declaration of trumps in an early form of bridge **5** : the closing or completing of an electric circuit **6** : the act of shuffling cards; *also* : turn to shuffle — **on the make** **1** : in the process of forming, growing, or improving **2** : in quest of a higher social or financial status **3** : in search of sexual adventure
make·bate \'māk-ˌbāt\ *n* [¹*make* + obs. *bate* (strife)] *archaic* : one that excites contention and quarrels
¹make–be·lieve \'māk-bə-ˌlēv\ *n* : a pretending to believe ***syn*** see PRETENSE
²make–believe *adj* : IMAGINARY, PRETENDED ⟨the child wrote about ~ characters and situations⟩
make–do \'māk-ˌdü\ *adj* : MAKESHIFT — **make–do** *n*
make·fast \-ˌfast\ *n* : something (as a post or buoy) to which a boat can be fastened
make off *vi* : to leave in haste — **make off with** : to take away : GRAB, STEAL
make out *vt* **1** : to fill in (as a printed form) ⟨*make out* a check⟩ **2** : to find or grasp the meaning of ⟨tried to *make out* what had really happened⟩ **3** : to form an opinion or idea about : CONCLUDE ⟨how do you *make* that *out*⟩ **4** : to pretend to be true ⟨*made out* that he had never heard of me⟩ **5** : to represent or delineate in detail ⟨every detail of the landscape was faithfully *made out*⟩ **6** : to see and identify with difficulty or effort : DISCERN ⟨*make out* a ship through the fog⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to get along : FARE ⟨how is he *making out* with his new job⟩ **2** : to engage in sexual intercourse **3** : NECK
make over *vt* **1** : to transfer the title of (property) **2** : REMAKE, REMODEL ⟨*made* the whole house *over*⟩
mak·er \'mā-kər\ *n* : one that makes: as **a** *cap* : GOD 1 **b** *archaic* : POET **c** : a person who borrows money on a promissory note **d** : a declarer in bridge **e** : MANUFACTURER
syn MAKER, CREATOR, AUTHOR *shared meaning element* : one who brings something new into being or existence. Written with an initial capital letter all three terms designate God or the Supreme Being; without the capital they ascribe comparable but not equivalent effects and powers to a person. MAKER is likely to imply a close and immediate relationship between the one who makes and the thing that is made and an ensuing responsibility or concern for what is turned out; hence, God is often called one's Maker (as in hymns and prayers). In many of its human applications (as in king*maker*, a *maker* of men, a *maker* of phrases) *maker* suggests the use of appropriate material as an instrument through which one gives form to one's own ideas. CREATOR stresses a bringing into existence of what the mind conceives; in application to God it is likely to emphasize omnipotence and the greatness of his works ⟨touched their golden harps, and hymning praised God and his works; *Creator* him they sung —John Milton⟩ In relation to human endeavor *creator* is likely to suggest originality and delving into the unknown ⟨they are genuine *creators:* they do not describe nor interpret reality as much as construct it —Howard Moss⟩ AUTHOR applies to one who originates and is the source of something's being and is, therefore, wholly responsible for its existence. It is applied to God chiefly in the phrase "Author of one's being" when the reference is to the gift of life and its attending circumstances. In application to persons it is aptly applicable to a writer ⟨the *author* of several books⟩ or to one who (as a founder, an initiator, or an inventor) brings something new into existence ⟨the policy of which he was principally the *author* —Hilaire Belloc⟩
make·ready \'mā-ˌkred-ē\ *n* : final preparation (as of a form on a printing press) for running; *also* : material used in this preparation
make·shift \'māk-ˌshift\ *n* : a usu. crude and temporary expedient : SUBSTITUTE ***syn*** see RESOURCE — **makeshift** *adj*
make·up \'mā-ˌkəp\ *n* **1 a** : the way in which the parts or ingredients of something are put together : COMPOSITION **b** : physical, mental, and moral constitution **2** : the operation of making up (as of matter for printing); *also* : the arrangement of such matter **3 a** : cosmetics used to color and beautify the face; *also* : a cosmetic applied to other parts of the body **b** : materials (as wigs and cosmetics) used in making up or in special costuming (as for a play)
make up \(')mā-'kəp\ *vt* **1 a** : INVENT, IMPROVISE ⟨*make up* a story⟩ **b** : to set (an account) in order : BALANCE **2 a** : to form by fitting together or assembling ⟨*make up* a train of cars⟩ **b** : to arrange type matter into (columns or pages) for printing **3** : to wrap or fasten up ⟨*make* the books *up* into a parcel⟩ **4** : to make good (a deficiency) **5** : SETTLE, DECIDE ⟨*made up* his mind to depart⟩ **6 a** : to prepare in physical appearance for a role **b** : to apply cosmetics to ~ *vi* **1** : to become reconciled ⟨quarreled but later *made up*⟩ **2 a** : to act ingratiatingly and flatteringly ⟨*made up* to his aunt for a new bicycle⟩ **b** : to make advances : COURT **3** : COMPENSATE ⟨*make up* for lost time⟩ **4 a** : to put on costumes or makeup (as for a play) **b** : to apply cosmetics
make·weight \'mā-ˌkwāt\ *n* **1 a** : something thrown into a scale to bring the weight to a desired value **b** : something of little independent value thrown in to fill a gap **2** : COUNTERWEIGHT, COUNTERPOISE
make–work \'mā-ˌkwərk\ *n* : work assigned chiefly to keep one busy
ma·ki·mo·no \ˌmäk-i-'mō-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [Jap, scroll, fr. *maki* roll + *mono* thing] : a horizontal Japanese ornamental pictorial or calligraphic scroll
mak·ing \'mā-kiŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of forming, causing, doing, or coming into being ⟨spots problems in the ~⟩ **2** : a process or means of advancement or success **3** : something made; *esp* : a quantity produced at one time : BATCH **4 a** : POTENTIALITY — often used in pl. ⟨had the ~*s* of a great artist⟩ **b** *pl* : the material from which something is to be made; *esp* *usu* 'mā-kənz\ : paper and tobacco used by one who rolls his own cigarettes
ma·ko \'mäk-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **makos** [Maori] : either of two mackerel sharks (*Isurus glaucus* and *I. oxyrhynchus*) that are notable sport

fish and are considered dangerous to man — called also *mako shark*

makuta *pl of* LIKUTA

Mal *abbr* Malachi

mal- *comb form* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *mal* bad (fr. L *malus*) & *mal* badly, fr. L *male*, fr. *malus* — more at SMALL] **1 a** : bad ⟨*mal*practice⟩ **b** : badly ⟨*mal*odorous⟩ **2 a** : abnormal ⟨*mal*formation⟩ **b** : abnormally ⟨*mal*formed⟩ **3 a** : inadequate ⟨*mal*adjustment⟩ **b** : inadequately ⟨*mal*nourished⟩

mal·ab·sorp·tion \ˌmal-əb-ˈsȯrp-shən, -ˈzȯrp-\ *n* : faulty absorption of nutrient materials from the alimentary canal

malac- *or* **malaco-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk *malak-*, *malako-*, fr. *malakos*; akin to L *molere* to grind] : soft ⟨*malac*oid⟩ ⟨*malaco*phyllous⟩

ma·lac·ca cane \mə-ˌlak-ə-\ *n* [*Malacca*, Malaya] : an often mottled cane from an Asiatic rattan palm (*Calamus rotang*)

Mal·a·chi \ˈmal-ə-ˌkī\ *n* [Heb *Mal'ākhī*] **1** — used as the conventional name for the unidentified 5th century B.C. writer of the book of Malachi **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

Mal·a·chi·as \ˌmal-ə-ˈkī-əs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *Mal'ākhī*] : MALACHI

mal·a·chite \ˈmal-ə-ˌkīt\ *n* [ME *melochites*, fr. L *molochites*, fr. Gk *molochitēs*, fr. *molochē* mallow] : a mineral $Cu_2CO_3(OH)_2$ that is a green basic carbonate of copper used as an ore and for making ornamental objects

mal·a·col·o·gy \ˌmal-ə-ˈkäl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *malacologie*, contr. of *malacozoologie*, fr. NL *Malacozoa*, zoological group including soft-bodied animals (fr. *malac-* + *-zoa*) + F *-logie* -logy] : a branch of zoology dealing with mollusks — **mal·a·co·log·i·cal** \ˌmal-ə-kə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *also* **mal·a·co·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **mal·a·col·o·gist** \ˌmal-ə-ˈkäl-ə-jəst\ *n*

mal·a·cos·tra·can \ˌmal-ə-ˈkäs-tri-kən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *malakostrakos* soft-shelled, fr. *malak-* + *ostrakon* shell — more at OYSTER] : any of a major subclass (Malacostraca) of crustaceans including most of the well-known marine, freshwater, and terrestrial members of the group (as crabs and sow bugs) — **malacostracan** *adj*

mal·ad·ap·ta·tion \ˌmal-ˌad-ˌap-ˈtā-shən\ *n* : poor or inadequate adaptation

mal·adapt·ed \ˌmal-ə-ˈdap-təd\ *adj* : unsuited or poorly suited (as to a particular use, purpose, or situation)

mal·adap·tive \-tiv\ *adj* **1** : marked by poor or inadequate adaptation **2** : not conducive to adaptation

mal·ad·just·ed \ˌmal-ə-ˈjəs-təd\ *adj* : poorly or inadequately adjusted; *specif* : lacking harmony with one's environment from failure to adjust one's desires to the conditions of one's life

mal·ad·jus·tive \-ˈjəs-tiv\ *adj* : not conducive to adjustment

mal·ad·just·ment \-ˈjəs(t)-mənt\ *n* : poor, faulty, or inadequate adjustment

mal·ad·min·is·ter \ˌmal-əd-ˈmin-ə-stər\ *vt* : to administer improperly or inefficiently — **mal·ad·min·is·tra·tion** \-ˌmin-ə-ˈstrā-shən\ *n*

mal·adroit \ˌmal-ə-ˈdrȯit\ *adj* [F, fr. MF, fr. *mal-* + *adroit*] : lacking adroitness : INEPT ***syn*** see AWKWARD ***ant*** adroit — **mal·adroit·ly** *adv* — **mal·adroit·ness** *n*

mal·a·dy \ˈmal-əd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [ME *maladie*, fr. OF, fr. *malade* sick, fr. L *male habitus* in bad condition] **1** : a disease or disorder of the animal body **2** : an unwholesome condition

ma·la fi·de \ˌmal-ə-ˈfīd-ē, -ˈfīd-ə\ *adv or adj* [LL] : with or in bad faith

Ma·la·ga \ˈmal-ə-gə\ *n* : any of several usu. sweet dessert wines of Málaga, Spain; *also* : a similar wine made elsewhere

Mal·a·gasy \ˌmal-ə-ˈgas-ē\ *n, pl* **Malagasy** *also* **Mal·a·gas·ies** **1** : a native or inhabitant of Madagascar or of the Malagasy Republic **2** : the Austronesian language of the Malagasy people — **Malagasy** *adj*

ma·la·gue·na \ˌmal-ə-ˈgān-yə, ˌmäl-\ *n* [Sp *malagueña*, fr. fem. of *malagueño* of Málaga, fr. *Málaga*] **1** : a folk tune native to Málaga that is similar to a fandango **2** : a Spanish dance for couples that is similar to a fandango

mal·aise \mə-ˈlāz, ma-; ma-ˈlez\ *n* [F *malaise*, fr. OF, fr. *mal-* + *aise* comfort — more at EASE] **1** : an indefinite feeling of debility or lack of health often indicative of or accompanying the onset of an illness **2** : a vague sense of mental or moral ill-being

mal·a·mute \ˈmal-ə-ˌmyüt\ *n* [*Malemute*, an Alaskan Eskimo people] : a sled dog of northern No. America; *esp* : ALASKAN MALAMUTE

mal·apert \ˌmal-ə-ˈpərt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF unskillful, fr. *mal-* + *apert* skillful, modif. of L *expertus* expert] : impudently bold : SAUCY — **mal·apert·ly** *adv* — **mal·apert·ness** *n*

mal·ap·por·tioned \ˌmal-ə-ˈpōr-shənd, -ˈpȯr-\ *adj* : characterized by an inequitable or unsuitable apportioning of representatives to a legislative body ⟨one of the country's most ~ legislatures. Eight percent of the population controlled a majority of the Senate seats —*N.Y. Times*⟩

mal·ap·por·tion·ment \-shən-mənt\ *n* : the state of being malapportioned

¹mal·a·prop \ˈmal-ə-ˌpräp\ *n* [Mrs. *Malaprop*] : an example of malapropism ⟨was famed for ~*s*: he always said "polo bears" and "Remember Pearl Island" and "neon stockings" —*Time*⟩

²malaprop *or* **mal·a·prop·ian** \ˌmal-ə-ˈpräp-ē-ən\ *adj* [Mrs. *Malaprop*] : using or marked by the use of malapropisms

mal·a·prop·ism \ˈmal-ə-ˌpräp-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [Mrs. *Malaprop*, character noted for her misuse of words in R. B. Sheridan's comedy *The Rivals* (1775)] **1** : a usu. humorous misapplication of a word; *specif* : the use of a word sounding somewhat like the one intended but ludicrously wrong in the context **2** : MALAPROP

mal·ap·ro·pos \ˌmal-ˌap-rə-ˈpō, (ˌ)mal-ˈap-rə-ˌ\ *adv* [F *mal à propos*] : in an inappropriate or inopportune way — **malapropos** *adj*

¹ma·lar \ˈmā-lər, -ˌlär\ *adj* [NL *malaris*, fr. L *mala* jawbone, cheek] : of or relating to the cheek or the side of the head

²malar *n* : ZYGOMATIC BONE — called also *malar bone*

ma·lar·ia \mə-ˈler-ē-ə\ *n* [It, fr. *mala aria* bad air] **1** *archaic* : air infected with a noxious substance capable of causing disease; *esp* : MIASMA **2 a** : a human disease that is caused by sporozoan parasites (genus *Plasmodium*) in the red blood cells, is transmitted by the bite of anopheline mosquitoes, and is characterized by periodic attacks of chills and fever **b** : any of various diseases of birds and mammals caused by blood protozoans — **ma·lar·i·al** \-əl\ *also* **ma·lar·i·an** \-ən\ *adj* — **ma·lar·i·ous** \-əs\ *adj*

ma·lar·i·ol·o·gy \-ˌler-ē-ˈäl-ə-jē\ *n* : the scientific study of malaria — **ma·lar·i·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

ma·lar·key \mə-ˈlär-kē\ *n* [origin unknown] : insincere or foolish talk : BUNKUM

ma·late \ˈmal-ˌāt, ˈmā-ˌlāt\ *n* : a salt or ester of malic acid

mal·a·thi·on \ˌmal-ə-ˈthī-ən, -ˌän\ *n* [fr. *Malathion*, a trademark] : a thiophosphate insecticide $C_{10}H_{19}O_6PS_2$ with a lower mammalian toxicity than parathion

Ma·lay \mə-ˈlā, ˈmā-(ˌ)lā\ *n* [obs. D *Malayo* (now *Maleier*), fr. Malay *Mĕlayu*] **1** : a member of a people of the Malay peninsula, eastern Sumatra, parts of Borneo, and some adjacent islands **2** : the Austronesian language of the Malays — **Malay** *adj* — **Ma·lay·an** \mə-ˈlā-ən, ˈmā-ˌlā-\ *n or adj*

Mal·a·ya·lam \ˌmal-ə-ˈyäl-əm\ *n* : the Dravidian language of Kerala, southwest India, closely related to Tamil

Ma·layo- \mə-ˌlā-(ˌ)ō-, mā-\ *comb form* : Malayan and ⟨*Malayo*-Indonesian⟩

¹mal·con·tent \ˌmal-kən-ˈtent\ *n* : a discontented person: **a** : one who bears a grudge from a sense of grievance or thwarted ambition **b** : one who is in active opposition to an established order or government : REBEL

²malcontent *adj* [MF, fr. OF, fr. *mal-* + *content*] : dissatisfied with the existing state of affairs : DISCONTENTED ⟨awed by the greatness of the universe and ~ with what the philosophers told me —W. S. Maugham⟩

mal·con·tent·ed \-əd\ *adj* : MALCONTENT — **mal·con·tent·ed·ly** *adv* — **mal·con·tent·ed·ness** *n*

mal de mer \ˌmal-də-ˈme(ə)r\ *n* [F] : SEASICKNESS

mal·dis·tri·bu·tion \ˌmal-ˌdis-trə-ˈbyü-shən\ *n* : bad or faulty distribution : undesirable inequality or unevenness of placement or apportionment (as of population, resources, or wealth) over an area or among members of a group

¹male \ˈmā(ə)l\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *masle*, *male*, adj. & n., fr. L *masculus*, dim. of *mar-*, *mas* male] **1 a** (1) : of, relating to, or being the sex that begets young by performing the fertilizing function in generation and produces relatively small usu. motile gametes (as sperms, spermatozoids, or spermatozoa) by which the eggs of a female are made fertile ⟨~ organs⟩ (2) : STAMINATE; *esp* : having only staminate flowers and not producing fruit or seeds ⟨a ~ holly⟩ **b** (1) : of, relating to, or characteristic of the male sex ⟨a deep ~ voice⟩ (2) : made up of male individuals and esp. men ⟨a ~ choir⟩ **2** : MASCULINE 3a **3** : designed for fitting into a corresponding hollow part — **male·ness** \-nəs\ *n*

²male *n* : a plant or animal that is male

male alto *n* : COUNTERTENOR

ma·le·ate \ˈmā-lē-ˌāt, -lē-ət\ *n* : a salt or ester of maleic acid

¹male·dict \ˌmal-ə-ˈdikt\ *adj* [LL *maledictus*] *archaic* : ACCURSED

²maledict *vt* : CURSE, EXECRATE

male·dic·tion \ˌmal-ə-ˈdik-shən\ *n* [ME *maledicciouη*, fr. LL *malediction-*, *maledictio*, fr. *maledictus*, pp. of *maledicere* to curse, fr. L, to speak evil of, fr. *male* badly + *dicere* to speak, say — more at MAL-, DICTION] : CURSE, EXECRATION — **male·dic·to·ry** \-ˈdik-t(ə-)rē\ *adj*

male·fac·tion \ˌmal-ə-ˈfak-shən\ *n* : an evil deed : CRIME

male·fac·tor \ˈmal-ə-ˌfak-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. L, fr. *malefactus*, pp. of *malefacere* to do evil, fr. *male* + *facere* to do — more at DO] **1** : one who commits an offense against the law; *esp* : FELON **2** : one who does ill toward another

male fern *n* : a fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*) producing an oleoresin used in expelling tapeworms

ma·lef·ic \mə-ˈlef-ik\ *adj* [L *maleficus* wicked, mischievous, fr. *male*] **1** : having malignant influence : BALEFUL **2** : MALICIOUS

ma·lef·i·cence \mə-ˈlef-ə-sən(t)s\ *n* **1 a** : the act of committing harm or evil **b** : a harmful or evil act **2** : the quality or state of being maleficent

ma·lef·i·cent \-sənt\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *maleficence*] : working or productive of harm or evil : BALEFUL

ma·le·ic acid \mə-ˌlē-ik-, -ˌlā-\ *n* [F *acide maléique*, alter. of *acide malique* malic acid; fr. its formation by dehydration of malic acid] : a crystalline dicarboxylic acid $C_4H_4O_4$ that is isomeric with fumaric acid and used esp. in making resins

maleic anhydride *n* : a caustic crystalline cyclic anhydride $C_4H_2O_3$ used esp. in making resins

maleic hydrazide *n* : a crystalline cyclic hydrazide $C_4H_4N_2O_2$ used to retard plant growth

mal·e·mute *var of* MALAMUTE

mal·en·ten·du \mȧ-läⁿ-täⁿ-dǖ\ *n* [F, fr. *mal entendu* misunderstood] : MISUNDERSTANDING ⟨through some stupid ~ he arrived an hour late⟩

male–ster·ile \ˈmā(ə)l-ˈster-əl\ *adj* : having male gametes lacking or nonfunctional

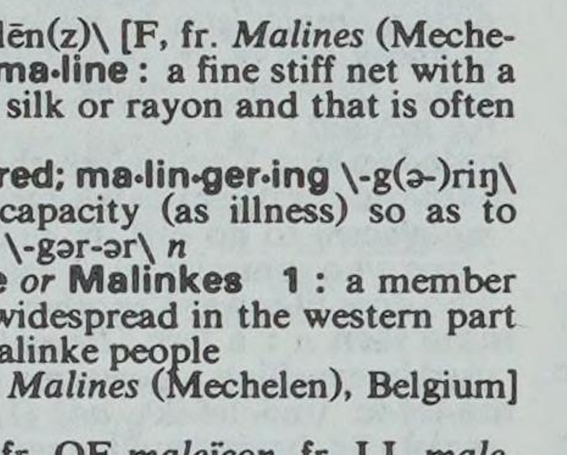
ma·lev·o·lence \mə-ˈlev-ə-lən(t)s\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being malevolent **2** : malevolent behavior ***syn*** see MALICE ***ant*** benevolence

ma·lev·o·lent \-lənt\ *adj* [L *malevolent-*, *malevolens*, fr. *male* badly + *volent-*, *volens*, prp. of *velle* to wish — more at MAL-, WILL] : having, showing, or arising from intense often vicious ill will, spite, or hatred — **ma·lev·o·lent·ly** *adv*

mal·fea·sance \(ˈ)mal-ˈfēz-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [*mal-* + obs. *feasance* (doing, execution)] : wrongdoing or misconduct esp. by a public official

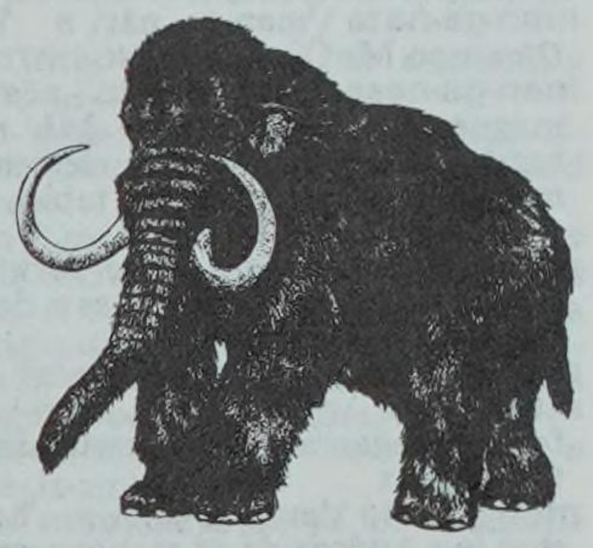
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mal·for·ma·tion \ˌmal-fȯr-ˈmā-shən, -fər-\ *n* : irregular, anomalous, abnormal, or faulty formation or structure
mal·formed \(ˈ)mal-ˈfȯ(ə)rmd\ *adj* : characterized by malformation : badly or imperfectly formed : MISSHAPEN
mal·func·tion \(ˈ)mal-ˈfəŋ(k)-shən\ *vi* : to function imperfectly or badly : fail to operate in the normal or usual manner — **malfunction** *n*
mal·gré \mal-ˈgrā, ˈmal-ˌ\ *prep* [F, fr. OF *maugré* — more at MAUGRE] : DESPITE
ma·lic \ˈmal-ik, ˈmā-lik\ *adj* : involved in and esp. catalyzing a reaction in which malic acid participates ⟨~ dehydrogenase⟩ ⟨~ enzyme⟩
malic acid *n* [F *acide malique*, fr. L *malum* apple, fr. Gk *mēlon*, *malon*] : a crystalline dicarboxylic acid $C_4H_6O_5$; *esp* : the one of three optical isomers of malic acid that is found in various plant juices and is formed as an intermediate in the Krebs cycle
mal·ice \ˈmal-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *malitia*, fr. *malus* bad — more at SMALL] : desire to see another suffer that may be fixed and unreasonable or no more than a passing mischievous impulse; *also* : intent to commit an unlawful act or cause harm without legal justification or excuse
syn MALICE, ILL WILL, MALEVOLENCE, SPITE, MALIGNITY, MALIGNANCY, SPLEEN, GRUDGE *shared meaning element* : a desiring or wishing pain, injury, or distress to another ***ant*** charity
ma·li·cious \mə-ˈlish-əs\ *adj* : given to, marked by, or arising from malice — **ma·li·cious·ly** *adv* — **ma·li·cious·ness** *n*
malicious mischief *n* : willful, wanton, or reckless damage to or destruction of another's property
[1]ma·lign \mə-ˈlīn\ *adj* [ME *maligne*, fr. MF, fr. L *malignus*, fr. *male* badly + *gignere* to beget — more at MAL-, KIN] **1 a** : evil in nature, influence, or effect : INJURIOUS **b** : MALIGNANT, VIRULENT **2** : having or showing intense often vicious ill will : MALEVOLENT
syn see SINISTER — **ma·lign·ly** *adv*
[2]malign *vt* [ME *malignen*, fr. MF *maligner* to act maliciously, fr. LL *malignari*, fr. L *malignus*] : to utter injuriously misleading or false reports about : speak evil of
syn MALIGN, TRADUCE, ASPERSE, VILIFY, CALUMNIATE, DEFAME, SLANDER *shared meaning element* : to injure by speaking ill of ***ant*** defend
ma·lig·nance \mə-ˈlig-nən(t)s\ *n* : MALIGNANCY
ma·lig·nan·cy \-nən-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** **1** : the quality or state of being malignant **2 a** : exhibition (as by a tumor) of malignant qualities : VIRULENCE **b** : a malignant tumor ***syn*** see MALICE ***ant*** benignancy
ma·lig·nant \mə-ˈlig-nənt\ *adj* [LL *malignant-*, *malignans*, prp. of *malignari*] **1 a** *obs* : MALCONTENT, DISAFFECTED **b** : evil in nature, influence, or effect : INJURIOUS **c** : passionately and relentlessly malevolent : aggressively malicious **2** : tending to produce death or deterioration ⟨~ malaria⟩; *esp* : tending to infiltrate, metastasize, and terminate fatally ⟨~ tumor⟩ — **ma·lig·nant·ly** *adv*
ma·lig·ni·ty \mə-ˈlig-nət-ē\ *n* **1** : MALIGNANCY, MALEVOLENCE **2** : an instance of malignant or malicious behavior or nature ***syn*** see MALICE ***ant*** benignity
ma·li·hi·ni \ˌmäl-i-ˈhē-nē\ *n* [Hawaiian] : a newcomer or stranger among the people of Hawaii
ma·lines \mə-ˈlēn\ *n, pl* **ma·lines** \-ˈlēn(z)\ [F, fr. *Malines* (Mechelen), Belgium] **1** : MECHLIN **2** *also* **ma·line** : a fine stiff net with a hexagonal mesh that is usu. made of silk or rayon and that is often used for veils
ma·lin·ger \mə-ˈliŋ-gər\ *vi* **ma·lin·gered; ma·lin·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ [F *malingre* sickly] : to pretend incapacity (as illness) so as to avoid duty or work — **ma·lin·ger·er** \-gər-ər\ *n*
Ma·lin·ke \mə-ˈliŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **Malinke** *or* **Malinkes** **1** : a member of a people of Mandingo affiliation widespread in the western part of Africa **2** : the language of the Malinke people
Malinois *n* [F. one from Malines, fr. *Malines* (Mechelen), Belgium] : BELGIAN MALINOIS
mal·i·son \ˈmal-ə-sən, -zən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *maleïçon*, fr. LL *malediction-*, *maledictio*] : CURSE, MALEDICTION
mal·kin \ˈmȯ(l)-kən, ˈmal-\ *n* [ME *malkyn*, fr. *Malkyn*, fem. name] **1** *dial chiefly Brit* : an untidy woman : SLATTERN **2** *dial chiefly Brit* **a** : CAT **b** : HARE
[1]mall \ˈmȯl\ *var of* MAUL
[2]mall \ˈmȯl, *esp Brit & for 1* ˈmal\ *n* [short for obs. *pall-mall* (mallet used in pall-mall)] **1** : an alley used for pall-mall **2** [The *Mall*, promenade in London, orig. a pall-mall alley] **a** : a usu. public area often set with shade trees and designed as a promenade or as a pedestrian walk **b** : a usu. paved or grassy strip between two roadways **3** : an open or covered passageway or concourse providing access to rows of stores and closed permanently or at stated times to motor vehicles; *also* : a complex of shops with associated passageways and parking space
mal·lard \ˈmal-ərd\ *n, pl* **mallard** *or* **mallards** [ME, fr. MF *mallart*] : a common and widely distributed wild duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*) of the northern hemisphere that is the source of the domestic ducks

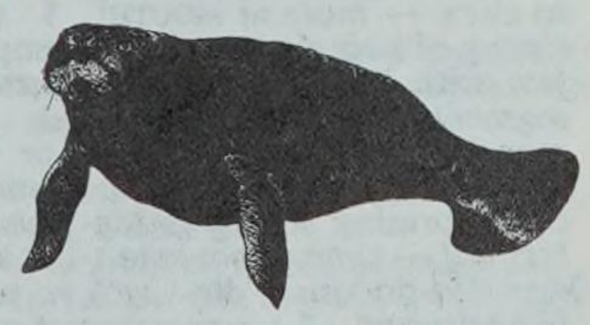

mallard

mal·lea·ble \ˈmal-ē-ə-bəl, ˈmal-(y)ə-bəl\ *adj* [ME *malliable*, fr. MF or ML; MF *malleable*, fr. ML *malleabilis*, fr. *malleare* to hammer, fr. L *malleus* hammer — more at MAUL] **1** : capable of being extended or shaped by beating with a hammer or by the pressure of rollers **2** : plastically open to outside forces or influences : having a capacity for adaptive change ***syn*** see PLASTIC ***ant*** refractory — **mal·lea·bil·i·ty** \ˌmal-ē-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē, ˌmal-(y)ə-\ *n* — **mal·lea·ble·ness** \ˈmal-ē-ə-bəl-nəs, ˈmal-(y)ə-\ *n*
mal·lee \ˈmal-ē\ *n* [native name in Australia] **1** : any of several low-growing shrubby Australian eucalypts (as *Eucalyptus dumosa* and *E. oleosa*) **2** : a dense thicket or growth of mallees; *also* : land covered by such growth
mal·le·muck \ˈmal-i-ˌmək\ *n* [D *mallemuk*, fr. *mal* silly + *mok* gull] : any of several large oceanic birds (as the fulmar or petrel)
mal·let \ˈmal-ət\ *n* [ME *maillet*, fr. MF, fr. OF, dim. of *mail* maul — more at MAUL] : a hammer with typically a barrel-shaped head of wood: as **a** : a tool with a large head for driving another tool or for striking a surface without marring it **b** : an implement for striking a ball (as in polo or croquet) **c** : a light hammer with a small rounded or spherical usu. padded head used in playing certain musical instruments (as a vibraphone)
mal·le·us \ˈmal-ē-əs\ *n, pl* **mal·lei** \-ē-ˌī, -ē-ˌē\ [NL, fr. L, hammer] : the outermost of the three small bones of the mammalian ear — see EAR illustration
mal·low \ˈmal-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *malwe*, fr. OE *mealwe*, fr. L *malva*] : any of a genus (*Malva* of the family Malvaceae, the mallow family) of herbs with palmately lobed or dissected leaves, usu. showy flowers, and a disk-shaped fruit
malm \ˈmäm, ˈmälm\ *n* [ME *malme*, fr. OE *mealm-*; akin to OE *melu* meal — more at MEAL] **1** : a soft friable chalky limestone; *also* : a fertile friable loam rich in lime **2** : an artificial mixture of clay and chalk used in the manufacture of bricks
malm·sey \ˈmäm-zē, ˈmälm-\ *n, often cap* [ME *malmesey*, fr. ML *Malmasia* Monemvasia, village in Greece where it was orig. produced] : the sweetest variety of Madeira wine
mal·nour·ished \(ˈ)mal-ˈnər-isht, -ˈnə-risht\ *adj* : UNDERNOURISHED
mal·nu·tri·tion \ˌmal-n(y)ù-ˈtrish-ən\ *n* : faulty or inadequate nutrition
mal·oc·clu·sion \ˌmal-ə-ˈklü-zhən\ *n* : improper occlusion; *esp* : abnormality in the coming together of teeth
mal·odor \(ˈ)mal-ˈōd-ər\ *n* : an offensive odor
mal·odor·ous \-ˈōd-ə-rəs\ *adj* **1** : ill-smelling **2** : highly improper ⟨~ practices and chicanery in high financial places —*New Republic*⟩ — **mal·odor·ous·ly** *adv* — **mal·odor·ous·ness** *n*
syn MALODOROUS, STINKING, FETID, NOISOME, PUTRID, RANCID, RANK, FUSTY, MUSTY *shared meaning element* : having an unpleasant smell
ma·lo·lac·tic \ˌmal-ō-ˈlak-tik, ˌmā-lō-\ *adj* : relating to or involved in the bacterial conversion of malic acid to lactic acid in wine ⟨~ fermentation⟩
Mal·pi·ghi·an \mal-ˈpig-ē-ən, -ˈpē-gē-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or discovered by Marcello Malpighi
Malpighian corpuscle *n* : the part of a nephron that consists of a glomerulus and its membrane — called also *Malpighian body*
Malpighian layer *n* : the deeper part of the epidermis consisting of cells whose protoplasm has not yet changed into horny material
Malpighian tubule *n* : any of a group of long blind vessels opening into the posterior part of the alimentary canal in most insects and some other arthropods and functioning primarily as excretory organs — called also *Malpighian tube*
mal·po·si·tion \ˌmal-pə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* : wrong or faulty position
mal·prac·tice \(ˈ) mal-ˈprak-təs\ *n* **1** : a dereliction from professional duty or a failure to exercise an accepted degree of professional skill or learning by one (as a physician) rendering professional services which results in injury, loss, or damage **2** : an injurious, negligent, or improper practice : MALFEASANCE
mal·prac·ti·tio·ner \ˌmal-prak-ˈtish-(ə-)nər\ *n* : one who engages in or commits malpractice
[1]malt \ˈmȯlt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mealt*; akin to OHG *malz* malt, OE *meltan* to melt] **1** : grain softened by steeping in water, allowed to germinate, and used esp. in brewing and distilling **2** : MALT LIQUOR **3** : MALTED MILK — **malty** \ˈmȯl-tē\ *adj*
[2]malt *vt* **1** : to convert into malt **2** : to make or treat with malt or malt extract ~ *vi* **1** : to become malt **2** : to make grain into malt
MALT *abbr* master of arts in language teaching
Mal·ta fever \ˌmȯl-tə-\ *n* [*Malta*, island in the Mediterranean] : typical human brucellosis
malt·ase \ˈmȯl-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* : an enzyme that accelerates the hydrolysis of maltose to glucose
malted milk *n* **1** : a soluble powder prepared from dried milk and malted cereals **2** : a beverage made by dissolving malted milk in milk often with ice cream and flavoring added — called also *malted*
Mal·tese \mȯl-ˈtēz, -ˈtēs\ *n, pl* **Maltese** **1** : a native or inhabitant of Malta **2** : the Semitic language of the Maltese people **3** : any of a breed of toy dogs with a long white coat, a black nose, and very dark eyes — **Maltese** *adj*
Maltese cat *n* : a bluish gray domestic short-haired cat
Maltese cross *n* **1 a** : a cross formée **b** : a cross that resembles the cross formée but has the outer face of each arm indented in a V — see CROSS illustration **2** : a Eurasian perennial (*Lychnis chalcedonica*) having scarlet or rarely white flowers in dense terminal heads
Mal·thu·sian \mal-ˈth(y)ü-zhən, mȯl-\ *adj* [Thomas R. *Malthus*] : of or relating to Malthus or to his theory that population tends to increase at a faster rate than its means of subsistence and that unless it is checked by moral restraint or by disease, famine, war, or other disaster widespread poverty and degradation inevitably result — **Malthusian** *n* — **Mal·thu·sian·ism** \-zhə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
malt liquor *n* : a fermented liquor (as beer) made with malt
malt·ose \ˈmȯl-ˌtōs, -ˌtōz\ *n* [F, fr. E [1]*malt*] : a crystalline dextrorotatory fermentable sugar $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$ formed esp. from starch by amylase
mal·treat \(ˈ)mal-ˈtrēt\ *vt* [F *maltraiter*, fr. MF, fr. *mal-* + *traiter* to treat, fr. OF *traitier* — more at TREAT] : to treat cruelly or roughly : ABUSE — **mal·treat·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
malt·ster \ˈmȯlt-stər\ *n* : a maker of malt
malt sugar *n* : MALTOSE
mal·va·sia \ˌmal-və-ˈzē-ə\ *n* [It, fr. *Monemvasia*, Greece] : MALMSEY — **mal·va·si·an** \-ən\ *adj*
mal·ver·sa·tion \ˌmal-vər-ˈsā-shən\ *n* [MF, fr. *malverser* to be corrupt, fr. *mal* + *verser* to turn, handle, fr. L *versare*, fr. *versus*, pp. of *vertere* to turn — more at WORTH] **1** : misbehavior and esp. corruption in an office, trust, or commission **2** : corrupt administration

mal·voi·sie \ˌmalv-wə-ˈzē\ *n* [F, fr. MF *malvesie*, fr. *Malvesie* Monemvasia] : MALMSEY
ma·ma *or* **mam·ma** \ˈmäm-ə, *chiefly Brit* mə-ˈmȧ\ *n* [baby talk] **1** : MOTHER **2** *slang* : WIFE, WOMAN
mam·ba \ˈmäm-bə, ˈmam-\ *n* [Zulu *im-amba*] : any of several tropical and southern African venomous snakes (genus *Dendraspis*) related to the cobras but with no hood; *esp* : an aggressive southern African snake (*D. angusticeps*) that grows to a length of 12 feet, has a light or olive green phase and a black phase, and readily inflicts its often fatal bite
mam·bo \ˈmäm-(ˌ)bō\ *n, pl* **mambos** [AmerSp] : a ballroom dance of Cuban origin that resembles the rumba and the cha-cha; *also* : the music for this dance — **mambo** *vi*
Mam·luk \ˈmam-ˌlük\ *or* **Mam·e·luke** \ˈmam-ə-ˌlük\ *n* [Ar *mamlūk*, lit., slave] **1** : a member of a politically powerful Egyptian military class occupying the sultanate from 1250 to 1517 **2** *usu Mameluke, often not cap* : a Caucasian or oriental slave in Muslim countries
mam·ma \ˈmam-ə\ *n, pl* **mam·mae** \ˈmam-ˌē, -ˌī\ [L, mother, breast, of baby-talk origin] : a mammary gland and its accessory parts — **mam·mate** \ˈmam-ˌāt\ *adj*
mam·mal \ˈmam-əl\ *n* [deriv. of LL *mammalis* of the breast, fr. L *mamma* breast] : any of a class (Mammalia) of higher vertebrates comprising man and all other animals that nourish their young with milk secreted by mammary glands and have the skin usu. more or less covered with hair — **mam·ma·li·an** \mə-ˈmā-lē-ən, ma-\ *adj or n*
mam·mal·o·gy \mə-ˈmal-ə-jē, ma-ˈmal-, -ˈmäl-\ *n* [ISV, blend of *mammal* and *-logy*] : a branch of zoology dealing with mammals — **mam·mal·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*
mam·ma·ry \ˈmam-ə-rē\ *adj* : of, relating to, lying near, or affecting the mammae
mammary gland *n* : one of the large compound modified sebaceous glands that in female mammals are modified to secrete milk, are situated ventrally in pairs, and usu. terminate in a nipple
mam·ma·to·cu·mu·lus \ma-ˌmāt-ō-ˈkyü-myə-ləs\ *n* [NL, fr. L *mammatus* having breasts, (fr. *mamma*) + NL *cumulus*] : a cumulus or cumulostratus storm cloud having breast-shaped protuberances below
mammer *vi* [ME *mameren* to stammer, of imit. origin] *obs* : WAVER, HESITATE
mam·mil·la·ry \ˈmam-ə-ˌler-ē, ma-ˈmil-ə-rē\ *adj* [L *mammilla* breast, nipple, dim. of *mamma*] **1** : of, relating to, or resembling the breasts **2** : studded with breast-shaped protuberances
mam·mil·lat·ed \ˈmam-ə-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* [LL *mammillatus*, fr. L *mammilla*] **1** : having nipples or small protuberances **2** : having the form of a bluntly rounded protuberance
¹mam·mock \ˈmam-ək\ *n* [origin unknown] *chiefly dial* : a broken piece : SCRAP
²mammock *vt, chiefly dial* : to tear into fragments : MANGLE
mam·mo·gram \ˈmam-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [L *mamma* + *-o-* + *-gram*] : a photograph of the breasts made by X rays
mam·mog·ra·phy \ma-ˈmäg-rə-fē\ *n* : X-ray examination of the breasts (as for early detection of cancer)
mam·mon \ˈmam-ən\ *n, often cap* [LL *mammona*, fr. Gk *mamōna*, fr. Aram *māmōnā* riches] : material wealth or possessions esp. as having a debasing influence ⟨you cannot serve God and ~ —Mt 6:24 (RSV)⟩ — **mam·mon·ism** \-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*
mam·mon·ist \-ə-nəst\ *n, archaic* : one devoted to the ideal or pursuit of wealth
mam·mon·ite \-ə-ˌnīt\ *n, archaic* : MAMMONIST
¹mam·moth \ˈmam-əth\ *n* [Russ *mamont, mamot*] **1** : any of numerous extinct Pleistocene elephants distinguished from recent elephants by molars with cementum filling the spaces between the ridges of enamel and by large size, very long tusks that curve upward, and well-developed body hair **2** : something immense of its kind : GIANT ⟨a company that is a ~ of the industry⟩


mammoth 1

²mammoth *adj* : of very great size : GIGANTIC ***syn*** see HUGE
mam·my \ˈmam-ē\ *n, pl* **mammies** [alter. of *mamma*] **1** : MAMA **2** : a Negro woman serving as a nurse to white children esp. formerly in the southern U.S.
mammy wagon *n* : a small open-sided bus or light truck used to transport passengers or goods in West Africa
¹man \ˈman, *in compounds* ˌman *or* mən\ *n, pl* **men** \ˈmen, *in compounds* ˌmen *or* mən\ [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *man* man, Skt *manu*] **1 a** (1) : a human being; *esp* : an adult male human (2) : a man belonging to a particular category (as by birth, residence, membership, or occupation) — usu. used in combination ⟨council*man*⟩ (3) : HUSBAND **b** : the human race : MANKIND **c** : a bipedal primate mammal (*Homo sapiens*) that is anatomically related to the great apes but distinguished esp. by notable development of the brain with a resultant capacity for articulate speech and abstract reasoning, is usu. considered to form a variable number of freely interbreeding races, and is the sole representative of a natural family (Hominidae); *broadly* : any living or extinct member of this family **d** (1) : one possessing in high degree the qualities considered distinctive of manhood (2) *obs* : the quality or state of being manly : MANLINESS **e** : FELLOW, CHAP ⟨come, come, my good ~⟩ **f** — used interjectionally to express intensity of feeling ⟨~, what a game⟩ **2 a** : a feudal tenant : VASSAL **b** : an adult male servant **c** *pl* : the working force as distinguished from the employer and usu. the management **3** : INDIVIDUAL, PERSON ⟨a ~ could get killed there⟩ **4** : one of the distinctive objects moved by each player in various board games **5** *Christian Science* : the compound idea of infinite Spirit : the spiritual image and likeness of God : the full representation of Mind **6** *often cap* : POLICE ⟨when I heard the siren, I knew it was the *Man* —*Amer. Speech*⟩ **7** *often cap* : the white establishment : white society ⟨surprise that any black . . . should take on so about The *Man* —Peter Goldman⟩ — **man·less** \ˈman-ləs\ *adj* — **man·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **as one man** : with the agreement and consent of all : UNANIMOUSLY — **one's own man** : free from interference or control : INDEPENDENT — **to a man** : without exception
²man *vt* **manned; man·ning** **1 a** : to supply with men ⟨~ a fleet⟩ **b** : to station members of a ship's crew at ⟨~ the capstan⟩ **c** : to serve in the force or complement of ⟨workers who ~ the production lines⟩ **2** : to furnish with strength or powers of resistance : BRACE
³man *abbr* manual
Man *abbr* Manitoba
ma·na \ˈmän-ə\ *n* [of Melanesian & Polynesian origin; akin to Hawaiian & Maori *mana*] **1** : the power of the elemental forces of nature embodied in an object or person **2** : moral authority : PRESTIGE
man–about–town \ˌman-ə-ˌbau̇t-ˈtau̇n\ *n, pl* **men–about–town** \ˌmen-\ : a worldly and socially active man
¹man·a·cle \ˈman-i-kəl\ *n* [ME *manicle*, fr. MF, fr. L *manicula*, dim. of *manus* hand — more at MANUAL] **1** : a shackle for the hand or wrist : HANDCUFF **2** : something used as a restraint
²manacle *vt* **man·a·cled; man·a·cling** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to confine (the hands) with manacles **2** : to make fast or secure : BIND; *broadly* : to restrain from movement, progress, or action ***syn*** see HAMPER
¹man·age \ˈman-ij\ *vb* **man·aged; man·ag·ing** [It *maneggiare*, fr. *mano* hand, fr. L *manus*] *vt* **1** : to handle or direct with a degree of skill or address: as **a** : to make and keep submissive ⟨my mother . . . was the only one that ever could ~ him —George Macdonald †1905⟩ **b** : to treat with care : HUSBAND ⟨*managed* his resources carefully⟩ **2** : to alter by manipulation **3** : to succeed in accomplishing : CONTRIVE ~ *vi* **1 a** : to direct or carry on business or affairs **b** : to admit of being carried on **2** : to achieve one's purpose ***syn*** see CONDUCT
²manage *n* [It *maneggio* management, training of a horse, fr. *maneggiare*] **1 a** *archaic* : the action and paces of a trained riding horse **b** : the schooling or handling of a horse **c** : a riding school : MANEGE **2** *obs* : MANAGEMENT
man·age·able \ˈman-ij-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being managed : TRACTABLE — **man·age·abil·i·ty** \ˌman-ij-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **man·age·able·ness** \ˈman-ij-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **man·age·ably** \-blē\ *adv*
man·age·ment \ˈman-ij-mənt\ *n* **1** : the act or art of managing : the conducting or supervising of something (as a business) **2** : judicious use of means to accomplish an end **3** : capacity for managing : executive skill **4** : the collective body of those who manage or direct an enterprise — **man·age·men·tal** \ˌman-ij-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj*
man·ag·er \ˈman-ij-ər\ *n* : one that manages: as **a** : one who conducts business or household affairs **b** : a person whose work or profession is management **c** (1) : a person who directs a team or athlete **c** (2) : a student who in scholastic or collegiate sports supervises equipment and records under the direction of a coach — **man·ag·er·ess** \-ə-rəs\ *n* — **man·a·ge·ri·al** \ˌman-ə-ˈjir-ē-əl\ *adj* — **man·a·ge·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv* — **man·ag·er·ship** \ˈman-ij-ərˌship\ *n*
managing editor *n* : an editor in executive and supervisory charge of all editorial activities of a publication (as a newspaper)
¹ma·ña·na \mən-ˈyän-ə\ *adv* [Sp, lit., tomorrow, fr. earlier *cras mañana* early tomorrow, fr. *cras* tomorrow (fr. L) + *mañana* early, fr. L *mane* early in the morning] : at an indefinite time in the future
²mañana *n* : an indefinite time in the future
man ape *n* **1** : GREAT APE **2** : any of various fossil primates intermediate in characters between recent man and the great apes
Ma·nas·seh \mə-ˈnas-ə\ *n* [Heb *Mĕnashsheh*] **1** : a son of Joseph and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel **2** : a king of Judah reigning in the 7th century B.C. and noted for his attempt to establish polytheism
man–at–arms \ˌman-ət-ˈärmz\ *n, pl* **men–at–arms** \ˌmen-\ : SOLDIER; *esp* : a heavily armed and usu. mounted soldier
man·a·tee \ˈman-ə-ˌtē\ *n* [Sp *manatí*] : any of several chiefly tropical aquatic herbivorous mammals (genus *Trichechus*) that differ from the related dugong esp. in having the tail broad and rounded


manatee

Man·ches·ter terrier \ˌman-ˌches-tər-, -chə-stər-\ *n* [*Manchester*, England] : any of a breed of small slightly built short-haired black-and-tan terriers developed in England by interbreeding local rat-catching dogs with whippets
man·chet \ˈman-chət\ *n* [ME] *archaic* : a loaf or roll of fine wheat bread
man·chi·neel \ˌman-chə-ˈnē(ə)l\ *n* [F *mancenille*, fr. Sp *manzanilla*, fr. dim. of *manzana* apple] : a poisonous tropical American tree (*Hippomane mancinella*) of the spurge family having a blistering milky juice and apple-shaped fruit
Man·chu \ˈman-(ˌ)chü, man-ˈ\ *n, pl* **Manchu** *or* **Manchus** **1** : a member of the native Mongolian race of Manchuria that is related

to the Tungus, was orig. nomadic but conquered China and established a dynasty there in 1644, and has largely assimilated Chinese culture **2 :** the Tungusic language of the Manchu people — **Manchu** *adj*

man·ci·ple \'man(t)-sə-pəl\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *mancipium* office of steward, fr. L, act of purchase, fr. *mancip-, manceps* purchaser — more at EMANCIPATE] **:** a steward or purveyor esp. for a college or monastery

-man·cy \‚man(t)-sē\ *n comb form* [ME *-mancie,* fr. OF, fr. L *-mantia,* fr. Gk *-manteia,* fr. *manteia,* fr. *mantis* diviner, prophet — more at MANTIS] **:** divination ⟨oneiro*mancy*⟩

Man·dae·an \man-'dē-ən\ *n* [Mandaean *mandayyā* having knowledge] **1 :** a member of a Gnostic sect of the lower Tigris and Euphrates **2 :** a form of Aramaic found in documents written by Mandaeans — **Mandaean** *adj*

man·da·la \'mən-də-lə\ *n* [Skt *maṇḍala* circle] **1 :** a Hindu or Buddhist graphic symbol of the universe; *specif* **:** a circle enclosing a square with a deity on each side **2 :** a graphic and often symbolic pattern usu. in the form of a circle divided into four separate sections or bearing a multiple projection of an image — **man·dal·ic** \‚mən-'dal-ik\ *adj*

man·da·mus \man-'dā-məs\ *n* [L, we enjoin, fr. *mandare*] **:** a writ issued by a superior court commanding the performance of a specified official act or duty

[1]man·da·rin \'man-d(ə-)rən\ *n* [Pg *mandarim,* fr. Malay *mĕntĕri,* fr. Skt *mantrin* counselor, fr. *mantra* counsel — more at MANTRA] **1 a :** a public official in the Chinese Empire of any of nine superior grades **b** (1) **:** a pedantic official (2) **:** BUREAUCRAT **c :** a person of position and influence esp. in intellectual or literary circles; *esp* **:** an elder and often traditionalist or reactionary member of such a circle **2** *cap* **a :** the primarily northern dialect of Chinese used by the court and the official classes of the Empire **b :** the chief dialect of China that is spoken in about four fifths of the country and has a standard variety centering about Peking **3** [F *mandarine,* fr. Sp *mandarina,* prob. fr. *mandarín* mandarin, fr. Pg *mandarim;* prob. fr. the color of a mandarin's robes] **a :** a small spiny Chinese orange tree (*Citrus reticulata*) with yellow to reddish orange loose-skinned fruits; *also* **:** a derivative of the Chinese mandarin developed in cultivation by artificial selection or hybridization **b :** the fruit of a mandarin — **man·da·rin·ic** \‚man-də-'rin-ik\ *adj* — **man·da·rin·ism** \'man-d(ə-)rə-‚niz-əm\ *n*

[2]mandarin *adj* **1 :** of, relating to, or typical of a mandarin ⟨~ graces⟩ **2 :** marked by polished ornate complexity of language ⟨~ prose⟩

man·da·rin·ate \'man-d(ə-)rə-‚nāt\ *n* **1 :** a body of mandarins **2 :** rule by mandarins

mandarin collar *n* **:** a narrow stand-up collar usu. open in front

mandarin orange *n* **:** MANDARIN 3

man·da·tary \'man-də-‚ter-ē\ *n, pl* **-tar·ies :** MANDATORY

[1]man·date \'man-‚dāt\ *n* [MF & L; MF *mandat,* fr. L *mandatum,* fr. neut. of *mandatus,* pp. of *mandare* to entrust, enjoin, prob. irreg. fr. *manus* hand + *-dere* to put — more at MANUAL, DO] **1 :** an authoritative command; *esp* **:** a formal order from a superior court or official to an inferior one **2 :** an authorization to act given to a representative ⟨accepted the ~ of the people⟩ **3 a :** an order or commission granted by the League of Nations to a member nation for the establishment of a responsible government over a former German colony or other conquered territory **b :** a mandated territory

[2]mandate *vt* **man·dat·ed; man·dat·ing :** to administer or assign (as a territory) under a mandate

man·da·tor \'man-‚dāt-ər\ *n* **:** one that gives a mandate

[1]man·da·to·ry \'man-də-‚tōr-ē, -‚tȯr-\ *adj* **1 :** containing or constituting a command : OBLIGATORY ⟨~ reexamination of drivers' eyes —*Springfield (Mass.) Daily News*⟩ **2 :** of, relating to, or holding a League of Nations mandate

[2]mandatory *n, pl* **-ries :** one given a mandate; *esp* **:** a nation holding a mandate from the League of Nations

man–day \'man-'dā\ *n* **1 :** the labor of one man in one normal working day **2 :** a unit consisting of a hypothetical average man-day

Man·de \'män-‚dā, män-'\ *n* **1 :** MANDINGO **2 :** a branch of the Niger-Congo language family spoken in French West Africa, Sierra Leone, and Liberia

man·di·ble \'man-də-bəl\ *n* [MF, fr. LL *mandibula,* fr. L *mandere* to chew — more at MOUTH] **1 a :** JAW la; *esp* **:** a lower jaw consisting of a single bone or of completely fused bones **b :** the lower jaw with its investing soft parts **c :** either the upper or lower segment of the bill of a bird **2 :** any of various invertebrate mouthparts serving to hold or bite food materials; *esp* **:** either member of the anterior pair of mouth appendages of an arthropod often forming strong biting jaws — **man·dib·u·lar** \man-'dib-yə-lər\ *adj* — **man·dib·u·late** \-lət\ *adj or n*

Man·din·go \man-'diŋ-(‚)gō\ *n, pl* **Mandingo** *or* **Mandingoes** *or* **Mandingos 1 :** a member of a people of western Africa centering in the upper Niger valley **2 :** the language of the Mandingo people

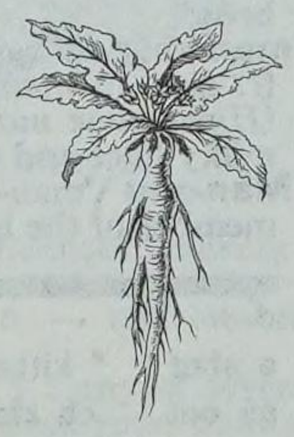
man·di·o·ca \‚man-dē-'ō-kə\ *var of* MANIOC

man·do·la \man-'dō-lə\ *n* [It, fr. F *mandore,* modif. of LL *pandura* 3-stringed lute — more at BANDORE] **:** a 16th and 17th century lute that is the ancestor of the smaller mandolin

man·do·lin \‚man-də-'lin, 'man-d°l-ən\ *also* **man·do·line** \‚man-də-'lēn, 'man-d°l-ən\ *n* [It *mandolino,* dim. of *mandola*] **:** a musical instrument of the lute family that has a pear-shaped body and fretted neck and four to six pairs of strings — **man·do·lin·ist** \‚man-də-'lin-əst\ *n*

man·drag·o·ra \man-'drag-ə-rə\ *n* [ME] **:** MANDRAKE 1

man·drake \'man-‚drāk\ *n* [ME, prob. alter. of *mandragora,* fr. OE, fr. L *mandragoras,* fr. Gk] **1 a :** a Mediterranean herb (*Mandragora officinarum*) of the nightshade family with ovate leaves, whitish or purple flowers, and a large forked root traditionally credited with human attributes **b :** the root of a mandrake formerly used esp. to promote conception, as a cathartic, or as a narcotic and soporific **2 :** MAYAPPLE



mandrake 1a

man·drel *also* **man·dril** \'man-drəl\ *n* [prob. modif. of F *mandrin*] **1 a :** a usu. tapered or cylindrical axle, spindle, or arbor inserted into a hole in a piece of work to support it during machining **b :** a metal bar that serves as a core around which material (as metal) may be cast, molded, forged, bent, or otherwise shaped **2 :** the shaft and bearings on which a tool (as a circular saw) is mounted

man·drill \'man-drəl\ *n* [prob. fr. [1]*man* + *drill*] **:** a large fierce gregarious baboon (*Mandrillus mormon*) of western Africa

mane \'mān\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *manu;* akin to OHG *mana* mane, L *monile* necklace] **1 :** long and heavy hair growing about the neck of some mammals (as a horse or lion) **2 :** long heavy hair on a person's head — **maned** \'mānd\ *adj*

man–eat·er \'man-‚ēt-ər\ *n* **:** one that has or is thought to have an appetite for human flesh: as **a :** CANNIBAL 1 **b :** MACKEREL SHARK; *esp* **:** WHITE SHARK **c :** a large feline (as a lion or tiger) that has acquired the habit of feeding on human flesh — **man–eat·ing** \-‚ēt-iŋ\ *adj*

man–eater shark *n* **:** MACKEREL SHARK; *esp* **:** WHITE SHARK

man–eating shark *n* **:** MAN-EATER SHARK

ma·nege *also* **ma·nège** \ma-'nezh, mə-, -'nāzh\ *n* [F *manège,* fr. It *maneggio* training of a horse — more at MANAGE] **1 :** a school for teaching horsemanship and for training horses **2 :** the art of horsemanship or of training horses **3 :** the movements or paces of a trained horse

ma·nes \'män-‚ās, 'mā-‚nēz\ *n pl* [L] **1** *often cap* **:** the deified spirits of the ancient Roman dead honored with graveside sacrifices **2 :** the venerated or appeased spirit of a dead person

[1]ma·neu·ver \mə-'n(y)ü-vər\ *n* [F *manœuvre,* fr. OF *maneuvre* work done by hand, fr. ML *manuopera,* fr. L *manu operare* to work by hand] **1 a :** a military or naval movement **b :** an armed forces training exercise; *esp* **:** an extended and large-scale training exercise involving military and naval units separately or in combination — often used in pl. **2 :** a procedure or method of working usu. involving expert physical movement **3 a :** evasive movement or shift of tactics **b :** an intended and controlled variation from a straight and level flight path in the operation of an airplane **4 a :** an action taken to gain a tactical end **b :** an adroit and clever management of affairs often using trickery and deception ***syn*** see TRICK

[2]maneuver *vb* **ma·neu·vered; ma·neu·ver·ing** \-'n(y)üv-(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* **1 a :** to perform a movement in military or naval tactics in order to secure an advantage **b :** to make a series of changes in direction and position for a specific purpose **2 :** to use stratagems **:** SCHEME ~ *vt* **1 :** to cause to execute tactical movements **2 :** to manage into or out of a position or condition **:** MANIPULATE **3 a :** to guide with adroitness and design **b :** to bring about or secure as a result of skillful management — **ma·neu·ver·abil·i·ty** \-‚n(y)üv-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ma·neu·ver·able** \-'n(y)üv-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* — **ma·neu·ver·er** \-'n(y)ü-vər-ər\ *n*

man–for–man \‚man-fər-'man\ *adj* **:** MAN-TO-MAN 2

man Fri·day \'man-'frīd-ē\ *n* [*Friday,* native servant in *Robinson Crusoe* (1719), novel by Daniel Defoe] **:** an efficient and devoted aide or employee **:** a right-hand man

man·ful \'man-fəl\ *adj* **:** having or showing courage and resolution — **man·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **man·ful·ness** *n*

mangan- *or* **mangano-** *comb form* [G *mangan,* fr. F *manganèse*] **:** manganese ⟨*mangan*ous⟩

man·ga·nate \'maŋ-gə-‚nāt\ *n* **1 :** a salt containing manganese in the anion MnO_4 **2 :** MANGANITE

man·ga·nese \'maŋ-gə-‚nēz, -‚nēs\ *n* [F *manganèse,* fr. It *manganese* magnesia, manganese, fr. ML *magnesia*] **:** a grayish white usu. hard and brittle metallic element that resembles iron but is not magnetic — see ELEMENT table — **man·ga·ne·sian** \‚maŋ-gə-'nē-zhən, -shən\ *adj*

manganese dioxide *n* **:** a dark insoluble compound MnO_2 used esp. as an oxidizing agent, as a depolarizer of dry cells, and in making glass and ceramics

manganese spar *n* **:** RHODONITE

man·gan·ic \man-'gan-ik, maŋ-\ *adj* **:** of, relating to, or derived from manganese; *esp* **:** containing this element with a valence of three or six

man·ga·nite \'maŋ-gə-‚nīt\ *n* **1 :** an ore of manganese MnO(OH) that is a hydroxide of manganese usu. in brilliant gray crystals **2 :** any of various unstable salts made by reaction of manganese dioxide with a base

man·ga·nous \-nəs\ *adj* **:** of, relating to, or derived from manganese; *esp* **:** containing this element with a valence of two

mange \'mānj\ *n* [ME *manjewe,* fr. MF *mangene* itching, fr. *mangier* to eat] **:** any of various persistent contagious skin diseases marked esp. by eczematous inflammation and loss of hair that affect domestic animals or sometimes man; *esp* **:** one caused by a minute parasitic mite

man·gel \'maŋ-gəl\ *n* [short for *mangel-wurzel*] **:** MANGEL-WURZEL

man·gel–wur·zel \-‚wər-zəl\ *n* [G *mangoldwurzel, mangelwurzel,* fr. *mangold* beet + *wurzel* root] **:** a large coarse yellow to reddish orange beet extensively grown as food for cattle

man·ger \'mān-jər\ *n* [ME *mangeour, manger,* fr. MF *maingeure,* fr. *mangier* to eat, fr. L *manducare* to chew, devour, fr. *manducus* glutton, fr. *mandere* to chew — more at MOUTH] **:** a trough or open box in a stable designed to hold feed or fodder for livestock

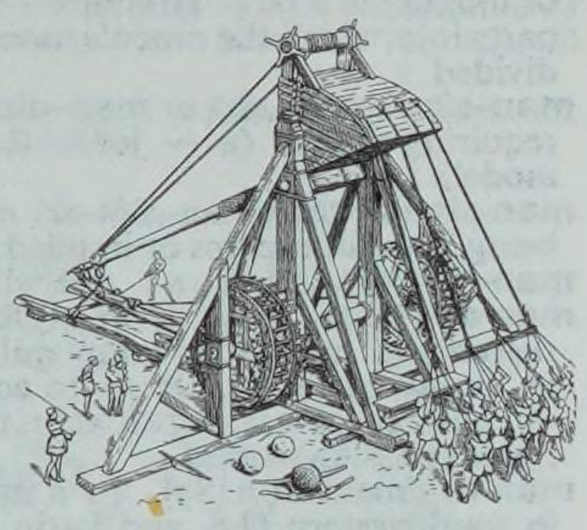
[1]man·gle \'maŋ-gəl\ *vt* **man·gled; man·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *manglen,* fr. AF *mangler,* freq. of OF *maynier* to maim] **1 :** to injure with deep disorganizing wounds by cutting, tearing, or crushing ⟨people . . . *mangled* by sharks —V. G. Heiser⟩ **2 :** to spoil or injure in making or performing ***syn*** see MAIM — **man·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*

[2]mangle *n* [D *mangel,* fr. G, fr. MHG, dim. of *mange* mangonel, mangle, fr. L *manganum*] **:** a machine for ironing laundry by passing it between heated rollers

[3]mangle *vt* **man·gled; man·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ : to press or smooth (as damp linen) with a mangle — **man·gler** \-g(ə-)lər\ *n*

man·go \'maŋ-(,)gō\ *n, pl* **mangoes** *or* **mangos** [Pg *manga*, fr. Tamil *mān-kāy*] **1** : a yellowish red tropical fruit with a firm skin, hard central stone, and juicy aromatic subacid pulp; *also* : the evergreen tree (*Mangifera indica*) of the sumac family that bears this fruit **2** : SWEET PEPPER

man·go·nel \'maŋ-gə-,nel\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, prob. fr. ML *manganellus*, dim. of LL *manganum* philter, mangonel, fr. Gk *manganon;* akin to MIr *meng* deception] : a military engine formerly used to throw missiles



mangonel

man·go·steen \'maŋ-gə-,stēn\ *n* [Malay *mangustan*] : a dark reddish brown East Indian fruit with thick rind and juicy flesh having a flavor suggestive of both peach and pineapple; *also* : a tree (*Garcinia mangostana*, family Guttiferae) that bears this fruit

man·grove \'man-,grōv, 'maŋ-\ *n* [prob. fr. Pg *mangue* mangrove (fr. Sp *mangle*, fr. Taino) + E *grove*] **1** : any of a genus (*Rhizophora*, esp. *R. mangle*) of tropical maritime trees or shrubs that throw out many prop roots and form dense masses important in coastal land building **2** : a tree (genus *Avicennia*) of the verbena family with growth habits like those of the true mangroves

mangy \'mān-jē\ *adj* **mang·i·er; -est** **1** : affected with or resulting from mange **2** : having many worn or bare spots : SEEDY, SHABBY — **man·gi·ly** \-jə-lē\ *adv* — **man·gi·ness** \-jē-nəs\ *n*

man·han·dle \'man-,han-dᵊl\ *vt* **1** : to move or manage by human force ⟨~ their car out of a ditch —*Scots Mag.*⟩ **2** : to handle roughly

man·hat·tan \man-'hat-ᵊn, mən-\ *n, often cap* [*Manhattan*, borough of New York city] : a cocktail consisting of sweet vermouth, rye or bourbon whiskey, and sometimes a dash of bitters

man·hole \'man-,hōl\ *n* : a hole through which a man may go esp. to gain access to an underground or enclosed structure

man·hood \'man-,hůd\ *n* **1** : the condition of being a human being **2** : manly qualities : COURAGE **3** : the condition of being an adult male as distinguished from a child or female **4** : adult males : MEN

man–hour \'man-'aů(-ə)r\ *n* : a unit of one hour's work by one man that is used esp. as a basis for cost accounting and wages

man·hunt \'man-,hənt\ *n* : an organized and usu. intensive hunt for a person and esp. for one charged with a crime

ma·nia \'mā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *mainesthai* to be mad; akin to Gk *menos* spirit — more at MIND] **1** : excitement manifested by mental and physical hyperactivity, disorganization of behavior, and elevation of mood; *specif* : the manic phase of manic-depressive psychosis **2** : excessive or unreasonable enthusiasm : CRAZE ⟨had a ~ for saving things⟩

ma·ni·ac \'mā-nē-,ak\ *n* [LL *maniacus* maniacal, fr. Gk *maniakos*, fr. *mania*] **1** : LUNATIC, MADMAN **2** : a person characterized by an inordinate or ungovernable enthusiasm for something

ma·ni·a·cal \mə-'nī-ə-kəl\ *also* **ma·ni·ac** \'mā-nē-ak\ *adj* **1** : affected with or suggestive of madness **2** : characterized by ungovernable excitement or frenzy : FRANTIC — **ma·ni·a·cal·ly** \mə-'nī-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

man·ic \'man-ik\ *adj* : affected with, relating to, or resembling mania — **manic** *n* — **man·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

man·ic–de·pres·sive \,man-ik-di-'pres-iv\ *adj* : characterized either by mania or psychotic depression or by alternating mania and depression — **manic–depressive** *n*

Man·i·chae·an *or* **Man·i·che·an** \,man-ə-'kē-ən\ *or* **Man·i·chee** \'man-ə-,kē\ *n* [LL *manichaeus*, fr. LGk *manichaios*, fr. *Manichaios* Manes †*ab* 276 A.D. Pers founder of the sect] **1** : a believer in a syncretistic religious dualism originating in Persia in the 3d century A.D. and teaching the release of the spirit from matter through asceticism **2** : a believer in religious or philosophical dualism — **Manichaean** *adj* — **Man·i·chae·an·ism** \,man-ə-'kē-ə-,niz-əm\ *n* — **Man·i·chae·ism** \'man-ə-(,)kē-,iz-əm\ *n*

ma·ni·cot·ti \,man-ə-'kät-ē\ *n, pl* **manicotti** [It, pl. of *manicotto* muff, fr. *manica* sleeve, fr. L, fr. *manus* hand] : tubular pasta shells that may be stuffed with ricotta or a meat mixture; *also* : a dish of stuffed manicotti usu. with tomato sauce

[1]man·i·cure \'man-ə-,kyů(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. L *manus* hand + F *-icure* (as in *pédicure* pedicure) — more at MANUAL] **1** : MANICURIST **2** : a treatment for the care of the hands and fingernails

[2]manicure *vt* **-cured; -cur·ing** **1** : to do manicure work on; *esp* : to trim and polish the fingernails of **2** : to trim closely and evenly ⟨*manicured* lawns⟩

man·i·cur·ist \-,kyůr-əst\ *n* : a person who gives manicure treatments

[1]man·i·fest \'man-ə-,fest\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF *manifeste*, fr. L *manifestus*, lit., hit by the hand, fr. *manus* + *-festus* (akin to L in*festus* hostile) — more at DARE] **1** : readily perceived by the senses and esp. by the sight **2** : easily understood or recognized by the mind : OBVIOUS ***syn*** see EVIDENT ***ant*** latent, constructive — **man·i·fest·ly** *adv*

[2]manifest *vt* : to make evident or certain by showing or displaying ***syn*** see SHOW — **man·i·fest·er** *n*

[3]manifest *n* **1** : MANIFESTATION, INDICATION **2** : MANIFESTO **3** : a list of passengers or an invoice of cargo for a ship or plane

man·i·fes·tant \,man-ə-'fes-tənt\ *n* : one who makes or participates in a manifestation

man·i·fes·ta·tion \,man-ə-fə-'stā-shən, -,fes-'tā-\ *n* **1 a** : the act, process, or an instance of manifesting **b** : something that manifests **c** : one of the forms in which an individual is manifested **d** : an occult phenomenon; *specif* : MATERIALIZATION **2** : a public demonstration of power and purpose

manifest destiny *n, often cap M&D* : a future event accepted as inevitable ⟨in the mid-19th century expansion to the Pacific was regarded as the *Manifest Destiny* of the United States⟩; *broadly* : an ostensibly benevolent or necessary policy of imperialistic expansion

[1]man·i·fes·to \,man-ə-'fes-(,)tō\ *n, pl* **-tos** *or* **-toes** [It, denunciation, manifest, fr. *manifestare* to manifest, fr. L, fr. *manifestus*] : a public declaration of intentions, motives, or views

[2]manifesto *vi* : to issue a manifesto

[1]man·i·fold \'man-ə-,fōld\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *manigfeald*, fr. *manig* many + *-feald* -fold] **1** : marked by diversity or variety : VARIOUS **2** : comprehending or uniting various features : MULTIFARIOUS **3** : rightfully so-called for many reasons ⟨a ~ liar⟩ **4** : consisting of or operating many of one kind combined ⟨a ~ bellpull⟩ — **man·i·fold·ly** \-,fōl-(d)lē\ *adv* — **man·i·fold·ness** \-,fōl(d)-nəs\ *n*

[2]manifold *adv* : many times : a great deal ⟨will increase your blessings ~⟩

[3]manifold *n* : something that is manifold: as **a** : a whole that unites or consists of many diverse elements ⟨the ~ of aspirations, passions, frustrations —Harry Slochower⟩ **b** : a pipe fitting with several lateral outlets for connecting one pipe with others; *also* : a fitting on an internal-combustion engine that receives the exhaust gases from several cylinders **c** : SET 19 **d** : a topological space such that every point has a neighborhood which is homeomorphic to the interior of a sphere in Euclidean space of the same number of dimensions

[4]manifold *vt* **1** : to make several or many copies of **2** : to make manifold : MULTIPLY ~ *vi* : to make several or many copies

man·i·kin *or* **man·ni·kin** \'man-i-kən\ *n* [D *mannekijn* little man, fr. MD, dim. of *man;* akin to OE *man*] **1** : MANNEQUIN **2** : a little man : DWARF, PYGMY

ma·nila *also* **ma·nil·la** \mə-'nil-ə\ *adj* **1** : made of manila paper **2** *cap* : made from Manila hemp — **manila** *n*

Manila hemp *n* [*Manila*, Philippine islands] : ABACA

manila paper *n, often cap M* : a strong and durable paper of a brownish or buff color and smooth finish made orig. from Manila hemp

ma·nille \mə-'nil\ *n* [modif. of Sp *malilla*] : the second highest trump in various card games (as ombre)

man in the street : an average or ordinary man

man·i·oc \'man-ē-,äk\ *or* **man·i·o·ca** \,man-ē-'ō-kə\ *n* [F *manioc* & Sp & Pg *mandioca*, of Tupian origin; akin to Tupi *manioca* cassava] : CASSAVA

man·i·ple \'man-ə-pəl\ *n* [ML *manipulus*, fr. L, handful, fr. *manus* hand + *-pulus* (akin to L *plēre* to fill); fr. its having been originally held in the hand — more at MANUAL, FULL] **1** : a long narrow strip of silk worn at mass over the left arm by clerics of or above the order of subdeacon — see VESTMENT illustration **2** [L *manipulus*, fr. *manipulus* handful; fr. the custom of using a handful of hay on the end of a pole as a military standard] : a subdivision of the Roman legion consisting of either 120 or 60 men

ma·nip·u·la·ble \mə-'nip-yə-lə-bəl\ *adj* : MANIPULATABLE — **ma·nip·u·la·bil·i·ty** \-,nip-yə-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

ma·nip·u·lar \mə-'nip-yə-lər\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the ancient Roman maniple **2** : of, relating to, or performed by manipulation : MANIPULATIVE

ma·nip·u·late \mə-'nip-yə-,lāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [back-formation fr. *manipulation*, fr. F, fr. *manipule* handful, fr. L *manipulus*] **1** : to treat or operate with the hands or by mechanical means esp. in a skillful manner **2 a** : to manage or utilize skillfully **b** : to control or play upon by artful, unfair, or insidious means esp. to one's own advantage **3** : to change by artful or unfair means so as to serve one's purpose : DOCTOR ***syn*** see HANDLE — **ma·nip·u·lat·able** \-,lāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **ma·nip·u·la·tion** \-,nip-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **ma·nip·u·la·tive** \-'nip-yə-,lāt-iv\ *adj* — **ma·nip·u·la·tive·ly** *adv* — **ma·nip·u·la·tor** \-,lāt-ər\ *n* — **ma·nip·u·la·to·ry** \-lə-,tōr-ē, -,tȯr-\ *adj*

man·i·tou *or* **man·i·tu** \'man-ə-,tü\ *also* **man·i·to** \-,tō\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Ojibwa *manito* spirit, god] : a supernatural force that according to an Algonquian conception pervades the natural world

man jack \'man-,jak, -'jak\ *n* : individual man ⟨every *man jack*⟩

man·kind *n sing but sing or pl in constr* **1** \'man-'kīnd, -,kīnd\ : the human race : the totality of human beings **2** \-,kīnd\ : men as distinguished from women

[1]man·ly \'man-lē\ *adj* **man·li·er; -est** **1** : having qualities generally associated with a man : STRONG, VIRILE **2** : appropriate in character to a man ⟨~ sports⟩ — **man·li·ness** *n*

[2]manly *adv* : in a manly manner

man–made \'man-'mād\ *adj* : manufactured, created, or constructed by man; *specif* : SYNTHETIC ⟨~ fibers⟩

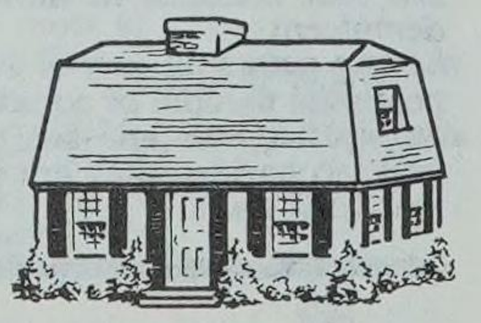
mann- *or* **manno-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. *manna*] : manna ⟨*mann*ose⟩

man·na \'man-ə\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *mān*] **1 a** : food miraculously supplied to the Israelites in their journey through the wilderness **b** : divinely supplied spiritual nourishment **c** : a usu. sudden and unexpected source of gratification, pleasure, or gain **2** : sweetish dried exudate esp. of a European ash that contains mannitol and has been used as a laxative and demulcent

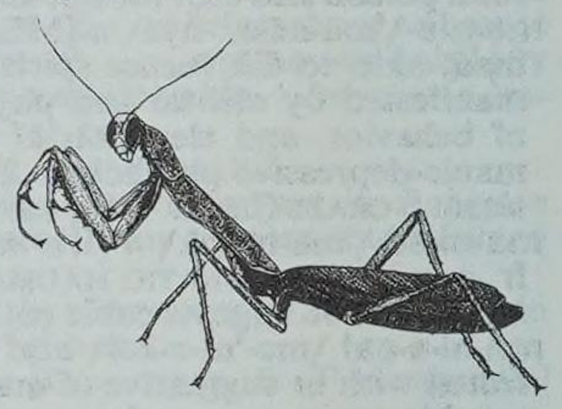
manna grass *n* : any of a genus (*Glyceria*) of chiefly No. American perennial paludal or aquatic grasses with 5- to 9- nerved lemmas

man·nan \'man-,an, -ən\ *n* [ISV *mann*ose + [3]*-an*] : any of several polysaccharides that are polymers of mannose and occur esp. in plant cell walls

manned \'mand\ *adj* : carrying or performed by a man ⟨~ space flight⟩
man·ne·quin \'man-i-kən\ *n* [F, fr. D *mannekijn* little man — more at MANIKIN] **1** : an artist's, tailor's, or dressmaker's lay figure; *also* : a form representing the human figure used esp. for displaying clothes **2** : a woman who models clothing : MODEL
man·ner \'man-ər\ *n* [ME *manere*, fr. OF *maniere* way of acting, fr. (assumed) VL *manuaria*, fr. L, fem. of *manuarius* of the hand, fr. *manus* hand — more at MANUAL] **1** : KIND, SORT ⟨what ~ of man is he⟩ **2 a** (1) : a characteristic or customary mode of acting : CUSTOM (2) : a mode of procedure or way of acting : FASHION (3) : method of artistic execution or mode of presentation : STYLE **b** *pl* : social conduct or rules of conduct as shown in the prevalent customs ⟨Victorian ~*s*⟩ **c** : characteristic or distinctive bearing, air, or deportment ⟨his poised gracious ~⟩ **d** *pl* (1) : habitual conduct or deportment : BEHAVIOR ⟨mind your ~*s*⟩ (2) : good manners **e** : a distinguished or stylish air ***syn*** see BEARING, METHOD — **man·ner·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
man·nered \'man-ərd\ *adj* **1** : having manners of a specified kind ⟨well-*mannered*⟩ **2 a** : having or displaying a particular manner **b** : having an artificial or stilted character ⟨passages . . . so ~ as to be unintelligible —R. G. G. Price⟩
man·ner·ism \'man-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : exaggerated or affected adherence to a particular style or manner : ARTIFICIALITY, PRECIOSITY ⟨refined almost to the point of ~ —Winthrop Sargeant⟩ **b** *often cap* : an art style in late 16th century Europe characterized by spatial incongruity and excessive elongation of the human figures **2** : a characteristic and often unconscious mode or peculiarity of action, bearing, or treatment ***syn*** see POSE — **man·ner·ist** \-rəst\ *n* — **man·ner·is·tic** \ˌman-ə-'ris-tik\ *adj*
man·ner·ly \'man-ər-lē\ *adj* : showing good manners — **man·ner·li·ness** *n* — **mannerly** *adv*
man·nish \'man-ish\ *adj* **1** : resembling or suggesting a man rather than a woman **2** : generally associated with or characteristic of a man rather than a woman ⟨her ~ clothes⟩ — **man·nish·ly** *adv* — **man·nish·ness** *n*
man·nite \'man-ˌīt\ *n* [F, fr. *manna*, fr. LL] : MANNITOL — **man·nit·ic** \ma-'nit-ik\ *adj*
man·ni·tol \'man-ə-ˌtȯl, -ˌtōl\ *n* [ISV] : a slightly sweet crystalline alcohol $C_6H_{14}O_6$ found in many plants and used esp. in testing kidney function
man·nose \'man-ˌōs, -ˌōz\ *n* [ISV] : an aldose sugar $C_6H_{12}O_6$ obtained by oxidation of mannitol
ma·no \'män-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **manos** [Sp, lit., hand, fr. L *manus* — more at MANUAL] : a stone used as the upper millstone for grinding foods (as Indian Corn) by hand in a metate
ma·noeu·vre \mə-'n(y)ü-vər\ *chiefly Brit var of* MANEUVER
man of God : CLERGYMAN
man of letters **1** : SCHOLAR **2** : AUTHOR
man of straw : STRAW MAN
man of the cloth : CLERGYMAN
man of the house : the chief male in a household
man of the world : a practical or worldly-wise man of wide experience
man–of–war \ˌman-ə(v)-'wȯ(ə)r\ *n, pl* **men–of–war** \ˌmen-\ : a combatant warship of a recognized navy
ma·nom·e·ter \mə-'näm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *manomètre*, fr. Gk *manos* sparse, loose, rare + F *-mètre* — more at MONK] **1** : an instrument (as a pressure gauge) for measuring the pressure of gases and vapors **2** : SPHYGMOMANOMETER — **mano·met·ric** \ˌman-ə-'me-trik\ *or* **mano·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **mano·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **ma·nom·e·try** \mə-'näm-ə-trē\ *n*
man on horseback [*Man on Horseback*, epithet applied to Georges E. J. M. Boulanger, who frequently appeared in public on horseback] **1** : a usu. military figure whose ambitions and popularity mark him as a potential dictator **2** : DICTATOR
man·or \'man-ər\ *n* [ME *maner*, fr. OF *manoir*, fr. *manoir* to sojourn, dwell, fr. L *manēre* — more at MANSION] **1 a** : the house or hall of an estate : MANSION **b** : a landed estate **2 a** : a unit of English rural territorial organization; *esp* : such a unit in the Middle Ages consisting of an estate under a lord enjoying a variety of rights over land and tenants including the right to hold court **b** : a tract of land in No. America occupied by tenants who pay a fixed rent in money or kind to the proprietor — **ma·no·ri·al** \mə-'nōr-ē-əl, -'nȯr-\ *adj* — **ma·no·ri·al·ism** \-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n*
manor house *n* : the house of the lord of a manor
man–o'–war bird \ˌman-ə-'wȯr-\ *n* : FRIGATE BIRD
man·pack \'man-ˌpak\ *adj* : designed to be carried by one person ⟨the silver-zinc battery is widely used as a power source for . . . ~ radios —*The Sciences*⟩
man power *n* **1** : power available from or supplied by the physical effort of man **2** *usu* **manpower** : the total supply of persons available and fitted for service (as in the armed forces or industry)
man·qué \mäⁿ-'kā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *manquer* to lack, fail] : short of or frustrated in the fulfillment of one's aspirations or talents ⟨a poet ~⟩
man·rope \'man-ˌrōp\ *n* : a side rope (as to a ship's gangway or ladder) used as a handrail
man·sard \'man-ˌsärd\ *n* [F *mansarde*, fr. François *Mansart* †1666 F architect] : a roof having two slopes on all sides with the lower slope steeper than the upper one — **man·sard·ed** \-əd\ *adj*


mansard roof

manse \'man(t)s\ *n* [ME *manss*, fr. ML *mansa*, *mansus*, *mansum*, fr. L *mansus*, pp. of *manēre*] **1** *archaic* : the dwelling of a householder **2** : the residence of a clergyman; *esp* : the house of a Presbyterian clergyman
man·ser·vant \'man-ˌsər-vənt\ *n, pl* **men·ser·vants** \'men-ˌsər-vən(t)s\ : a male servant
-man·ship \-mən-ˌship\ *n suffix* [*sportsmanship*] : the art or practice of maneuvering to gain a tactical advantage ⟨games*manship*⟩
man·sion \'man-chən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *mansion-*, *mansio*, fr. *mansus*, pp. of *manēre* to remain, dwell; akin to Gk *menein* to remain] **1 a** *obs* : the act of remaining or dwelling : STAY **b** *archaic* : DWELLING, ABODE **2 a** (1) : the house of the lord of a manor (2) : a large imposing residence **b** : a separate apartment or lodging in a large structure **3 a** : HOUSE 3b **b** : one of the 28 parts into which the moon's monthly course through the heavens is divided
man–size \'man-ˌsīz\ *or* **man–sized** \-ˌsīzd\ *adj* **1** : suitable for or requiring a man ⟨a ~ job⟩ **2** : LARGE-SCALE ⟨constructed a ~ model⟩
man·slaugh·ter \'man-ˌslȯt-ər\ *n* : the unlawful killing of a human being without express or implied malice
man·slay·er \-ˌslā-ər\ *n* : one who slays a man
man·sue·tude \'man(t)-swi-ˌt(y)üd, man-'sü-ə-\ *n* [ME, fr. L *mansuetudo*, fr. *mansuetus* tame, mild, fr. pp. of *mansuescere* to tame, fr. *manus* hand + *suescere* to accustom; akin to Gk *ēthos* custom — more at MANUAL, ETHICAL] : the quality or state of being gentle : MEEKNESS, TAMENESS
man·ta \'mant-ə\ *n* [Sp] **1** : a square piece of cloth or blanket used in southwestern U.S. and Latin America usu. as a cloak or shawl **2** [AmerSp, fr. Sp; fr. its being caught in traps resembling huge blankets] : DEVILFISH 1
manta ray *n* : DEVILFISH 1
man·teau \man-'tō, 'man-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. OF *mantel*] : a loose cloak, coat, or robe
man·tel \'mant-ᵊl\ *n* [MF, fr. OF, mantle] **1 a** : a beam, stone, or arch serving as a lintel to support the masonry above a fireplace **b** : the finish around a fireplace **2** : a shelf above a fireplace
man·telet \'mant-lət, -ᵊl-ət, ˌmant-ᵊl-'et\ *n* **1** : a very short cape or cloak **2** *or* **mant·let** \'mant-lət\ : a movable shelter formerly used by besiegers as a protection when attacking
man·tel·let·ta \ˌmant-ᵊl-'et-ə\ *n* [It] : a knee-length mantle formerly worn by a high prelate (as a cardinal) of the Roman Catholic Church
man·tel·piece \'mant-ᵊl-ˌpēs\ *n* **1** : a mantel with its side elements **2** : MANTEL 2
man·tel·shelf \-ˌshelf\ *n* : MANTEL 2
man·tic \'mant-ik\ *adj* [Gk *mantikos*, fr. *mantis*] : of or relating to the faculty of divination : PROPHETIC
man·ti·core \'mant-i-ˌkō(ə)r, -ˌkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. L *mantichora*, fr. Gk *mantichōras*] : a legendary animal with the head of a man, the body of a lion, and the tail of a dragon or scorpion
man·tid \'mant-əd\ *n* [NL *Mantidae*, group name, fr. *Mantis*, genus name] : MANTIS — **mantid** *adj*
man·til·la \man-'tē-(y)ə, -'til-ə\ *n* [Sp, dim. of *manta*] **1** : a light scarf worn over the head and shoulders esp. by Spanish and Latin-American women **2** : a short light cape or cloak
man·tis \'mant-əs\ *n, pl* **man·tis·es** *or* **man·tes** \'man-ˌtēz\ [NL, fr. Gk, lit., diviner, prophet; akin to Gk *mainesthai* to be mad — more at MANIA] : an insect (order Manteodea and esp. genus *Mantis*) that feeds on other insects and clasps its prey in forelimbs held up as if in prayer

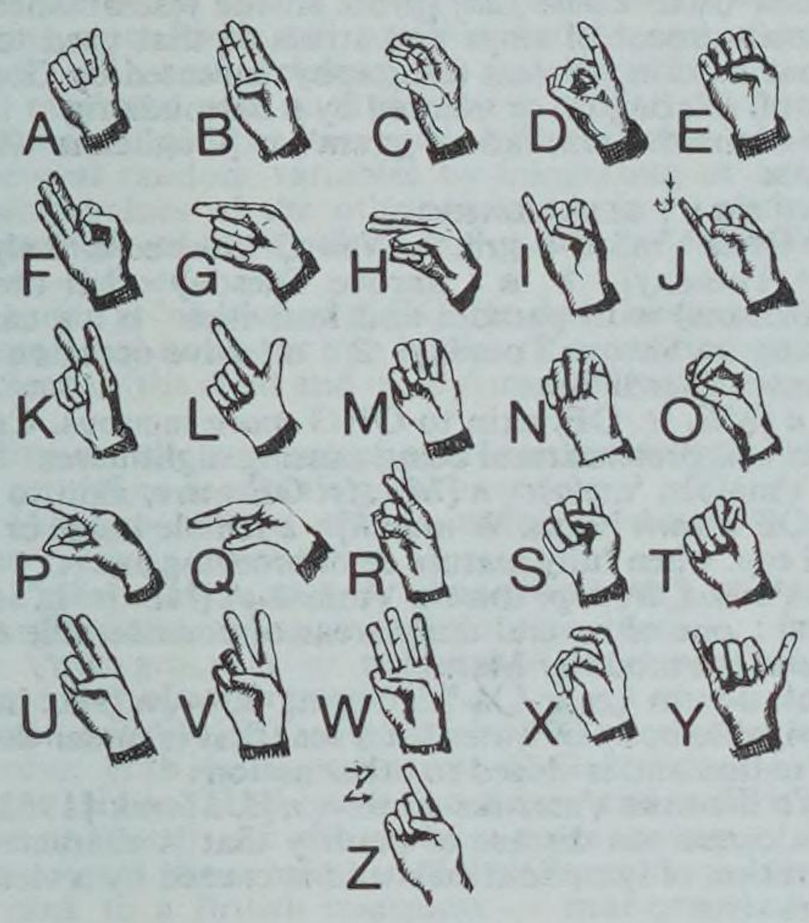

mantis

man·tis·sa \man-'tis-ə\ *n* [L *mantisa*, *mantissa* makeweight, fr. Etruscan] : the decimal part of a logarithm
¹man·tle \'mant-ᵊl\ *n* [ME *mantel*, fr. OF, fr. L *mantellum*] **1 a** : a loose sleeveless garment worn over other clothes : CLOAK **b** : a mantle regarded as a symbol of preeminence or authority ⟨invested his people with the ~ of universal champions of justice —Denis Goulet⟩ **2 a** : something that covers, enfolds, or envelops **b** (1) : a fold or lobe or pair of lobes of the body wall of a mollusk or brachiopod that lines the shell in shell-bearing forms and bears shell-secreting glands (2) : the soft external body wall that lines the test or shell of a tunicate or barnacle **c** : the outer wall and casing of a blast furnace above the hearth; *broadly* : an insulated support or casing in which something is heated **3** : the back, scapulars, and wings of a bird **4** : a lacy hood or sheath of some refractory material that gives light by incandescence when placed over a flame **5 a** : MANTLEROCK **b** : the part of the interior of a terrestrial planet and esp. the earth that lies beneath the lithosphere and above the central core **6** : MANTEL
²mantle *vb* **man·tled; man·tling** \'mant-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* : to cover with or as if with a mantle : CLOAK ~ *vi* **1** : to become covered with a coating **2** ; to spread over a surface **3** : BLUSH ⟨her rich face *mantling* with emotion —Benjamin Disraeli⟩
man·tle·rock \'mant-ᵊl-ˌräk\ *n* : unconsolidated residual or transported material that overlies the earth's solid rock
man–to–man \ˌman-tə-'man\ *adj* **1** : characterized by frankness and honesty ⟨a ~ talk⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or being a system of defense (as in football or basketball) in which each defensive player guards a specified opponent
Man·toux test \ˌman-ˌtü-, ˌmäⁿ-\ *n* [Charles *Mantoux* †1947 F physician] : an intracutaneous test for hypersensitivity to tuberculin that indicates past or present infection with tubercle bacilli
man·tra \'man-trə\ *n* [Skt, sacred counsel, formula, fr. *manyate* he thinks; akin to L *mens* mind — more at MIND] : a mystical formula of invocation or incantation (as in Hinduism)
man·trap \'man-ˌtrap\ *n* : a trap for catching men : SNARE
man·tua \'manch-(ə-)wə, 'mant-ə-wə\ *n* [modif. of F *manteau*] : a usu. loose-fitting gown worn esp. in the 17th and 18th centuries
Manu \'man-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [Skt] : the progenitor of the human race and giver of the religious laws of Manu according to Hindu mythology
¹man·u·al \'man-yə(-wə)l\ *adj* [ME *manuel*, fr. MF, fr. L *manualis*, fr. *manus* hand; akin to OE *mund* hand, Gk *marē*] **1 a** : of, relating to, or involving the hands ⟨~ dexterity⟩ **b** : worked or

done by hand and not by machine ⟨a ~ choke⟩ ⟨~ computation⟩ ⟨~ indexing⟩ **2** : requiring or using physical skill and energy ⟨~ labor⟩ ⟨~ workers⟩ — **man·u·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²manual *n* **1** : a book that is conveniently handled; *esp* : HANDBOOK **2** : the prescribed movements in the handling of a weapon or other military item during a drill or ceremony ⟨the ~ of arms⟩ **3 a** : a keyboard for the hands; *specif* : one of the several keyboards of a pipe-organ console that controls a separate division of the instrument **b** : a device or apparatus intended for manual operation

manual alphabet *n* : an alphabet for deaf-mutes in which the letters are represented by finger positions



manual alphabet

manual training *n* : a course of training to develop skill in using the hands and to teach practical arts (as woodworking and metalworking)

ma·nu·bri·um \mə-'n(y)ü-brē-əm\ *n, pl* **-bria** \-brē-ə\ *also* **-bri·ums** [NL, fr. L, handle, fr. *manus*] : an anatomical process or part shaped like a handle: as **a** : the cephalic segment of the sternum of man and many other mammals **b** : the process that bears the mouth of a hydrozoan : HYPOSTOME

manuf *abbr* manufacture; manufacturing

man·u·fac·to·ry \ˌman-(y)ə-'fak-t(ə-)rē\ *n* : FACTORY 2a

¹man·u·fac·ture \ˌman-(y)ə-'fak-chər\ *n* [MF, fr. L *manu factus* made by hand] **1** : something made from raw materials **2 a** : the process of making wares by hand or by machinery esp. when carried on systematically with division of labor **b** : a productive industry using mechanical power and machinery **3** : the act or process of producing something

²manufacture *vb* **man·u·fac·tured; man·u·fac·tur·ing** \-'fak-chə-riŋ, -'fak-shriŋ\ *vt* **1** : to make into a product suitable for use **2 a** : to make from raw materials by hand or by machinery **b** : to produce according to an organized plan and with division of labor **3** : INVENT, FABRICATE **4** : to produce as if by manufacturing : CREATE ⟨writers who ~ stories for television⟩ ~ *vi* : to engage in manufacture ***syn*** see MAKE — **manufacturing** *n*

manufactured gas *n* : a combustible gaseous mixture made from coal, coke, or petroleum products

man·u·fac·tur·er \ˌman-(y)ə-'fak-chər-ər, -'fak-shrər\ *n* : one that manufactures; *esp* : an employer of workers in manufacturing

man·u·mis·sion \ˌman-yə-'mish-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *manumission-, manumissio,* fr. *manumissus,* pp. of *manumittere*] : the act or process of manumitting; *esp* : formal emancipation from slavery

man·u·mit \ˌman-yə-'mit\ *vt* **-mit·ted; -mit·ting** [ME *manumitten,* fr. MF *manumitter,* fr. L *manumittere,* fr. *manus* hand + *mittere* to let go, send — more at SMITE] : to release from slavery ***syn*** see FREE ***ant*** enslave

¹ma·nure \mə-'n(y)u̇(ə)r\ *vt* **ma·nured; ma·nur·ing** [ME *manouren,* fr. MF *manouvrer,* lit., to do work by hand, fr. L *manu operare*] **1** *obs* : CULTIVATE **2** : to enrich (land) by the application of manure — **ma·nur·er** *n*

²manure *n* : material that fertilizes land; *esp* : refuse of stables and barnyards consisting of livestock excreta with or without litter — **ma·nu·ri·al** \-'n(y)u̇r-ē-əl\ *adj*

ma·nus \'mā-nəs, 'mä-\ *n, pl* **ma·nus** \-nəs, -ˌnüs\ [NL, fr. L, hand] : the distal segment of the vertebrate forelimb including the carpus and forefoot or hand

¹manu·script \'man-yə-ˌskript\ *adj* [L *manu scriptus*] : written by hand or typed ⟨~ letters⟩

²manuscript *n* **1** : a written or typewritten composition or document as distinguished from a printed copy **2** : writing as opposed to print

¹man·ward \'man-wərd\ *adv* : toward man

²manward *adj* : directed toward man

man·wise \'man-ˌwīz\ *adv* : in the manner of men

¹Manx \'maŋ(k)s\ *adj* [alter. of earlier *Maniske,* fr. (assumed) ON *manskr,* fr. *Mana* Isle of Man] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Isle of Man, its people, or the Manx language

²Manx *n* **1** *pl in constr* : the people of the Isle of Man **2** : the Celtic language of the Manx people almost completely displaced by English

Manx cat *n* : a short-haired domestic cat with no external tail

¹many \'men-ē\ *adj* **more** \'mō(ə)r, 'mȯ(ə)r\; **most** \'mōst\ [ME, fr. OE *manig;* akin to OHG *manag* many, OSlav *mŭnogŭ* much] **1** : consisting of or amounting to a large but indefinite number ⟨worked for ~ years⟩ **2** : being one of a large but indefinite number ⟨~ a man⟩ ⟨~ another student⟩ — **as many** : the same in number ⟨saw three plays in *as many* days⟩

²many *pron, pl in constr* : a large number of persons or things ⟨~ of them⟩

³many *n, pl in constr* **1** : a large but indefinite number ⟨a good ~ of them⟩ **2** : the great majority of people ⟨the ~⟩

many·fold \ˌmen-ē-'fōld\ *adv* : by many times ⟨aid to education has increased ~⟩

many–sid·ed \ˌmen-ē-'sīd-əd\ *adj* **1** : having many sides or aspects **2** : having many interests or aptitudes ***syn*** see VERSATILE — **many–sid·ed·ness** *n*

many–val·ued \ˌmen-ē-'val-(ˌ)yüd, -yəd\ *adj* **1** : possessing more than the customary two truth-values of truth and falsehood **2** : MULTIPLE-VALUED

Man·za·nil·la \ˌman-zə-'nē-(y)ə, -'nil-ə\ *n* [Sp, dim. of *manzana* apple] : a pale dry Spanish sherry

man·za·ni·ta \ˌman-zə-'nēt-ə\ *n* [AmerSp, dim. of Sp *manzana* apple] : any of various western No. American evergreen shrubs (genus *Arctostaphylos*) of the heath family

MAO *abbr* monoamine oxidase

Mao·ism \'maù-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism developed in China chiefly by Mao Tse-tung — **Mao·ist** \'maù-əst\ *n or adj*

Mao·ri \'maù(ə)r-ē\ *n, pl* **Maori** *or* **Maoris** **1** : a member of a Polynesian people native to New Zealand **2** : the Austronesian language of the Maori

¹map \'map\ *n* [ML *mappa,* fr. L, napkin, towel] **1 a** : a representation usu. on a flat surface of the whole or a part of an area **b** : a representation of the celestial sphere or a part of it **2** : something that represents with a clarity suggestive of a map **3** : the arrangement of genes on a chromosome — called also *genetic map* **4** : FUNCTION 5a

²map *vb* **mapped; map·ping** *vt* **1 a** : to make a map of ⟨~ the surface of the moon⟩ **b** : to delineate as if on a map ⟨sorrow was *mapped* on her face⟩ **c** : to make a survey of for the purpose of making a map **d** : to assign to every element of (a mathematical set) an element of the same or another set **2** : to plan in detail — often used with *out* ⟨~ out a program⟩ ~ *vi, of a gene* : to be located ⟨a repressor ~*s* near the corresponding structural gene⟩ — **map·pa·ble** \'map-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **map·per** *n*

MApL *abbr* master of applied linguistics

ma·ple \'mā-pəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mapul-;* akin to ON *möpurr* maple] : any of a genus (*Acer* of the family Aceraceae, the maple family) of trees or shrubs with opposite leaves and a fruit of two united samaras; *also* : the hard light-colored close-grained wood of a maple used esp. for flooring and furniture

maple sugar *n* : sugar made by boiling maple syrup

maple syrup *n* : syrup made by concentrating the sap of maple trees and esp. the sugar maple

map·mak·er \'map-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one who makes maps : CARTOGRAPHER — **map·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*

map·ping \'map-iŋ\ *n* **1** : the act or process of making a map **2** : FUNCTION 5a ⟨a one-to-one continuous ~⟩



maple tree with *1* fruit and *2* leaf

ma·quette \ma-'ket\ *n* [F] : a usu. small preliminary model (as of a sculpture or a building)

ma·quil·lage \ˌmak-ē-'(y)äzh\ *n* [F] : MAKEUP 3

ma·quis \ma-'kē, mä-\ *n, pl* **ma·quis** \-'kē(z)\ [F] **1** : thick scrubby underbrush of Mediterranean shores and esp. of the island of Corsica; *also* : an area of such underbrush **2** *often cap* **a** : a guerrilla fighter in the French underground during World War II **b** : a band of maquis

¹mar \'mär\ *vt* **marred; mar·ring** [ME *marren,* fr. OE *mierran* to obstruct, waste; akin to OHG *merren* to obstruct] **1** : to detract from the perfection or wholeness of : SPOIL **2** *archaic* **a** : to inflict serious bodily harm on **b** : DESTROY ***syn*** see INJURE

²mar *n* : something that mars : BLEMISH

³mar *abbr* maritime

Mar *abbr* March

MAR *abbr* master of arts in religion

mar·a·bou *or* **mar·a·bout** \'mar-ə-ˌbü\ *n* [F *marabout,* lit., marabout] **1 a** : a large African stork (*Leptoptilos crumeniferus*) that has a distensible pouch of pink skin at the front of the neck and feeds esp. on refuse and carrion **b** : a soft feathery fluffy material prepared from the long coverts of marabous or usu. from turkey feathers and used esp. for trimming women's hats or clothes **2 a** : a thrown silk usu. dyed in the gum **b** : a fabric made of this silk

mar·a·bout \'mar-ə-bü\ *n, often cap* [F, fr. Pg *marabuto,* fr. Ar *murābiṭ*] : a dervish in Muslim Africa believed to have supernatural power

ma·ra·ca \mə-'räk-ə, -'rak-\ *n* [Pg *maracá*] : a dried gourd or a rattle like a gourd that contains dried seeds or pebbles and is used as a percussion instrument

mar·ag·ing steel \ˌmär-ˌā-jiŋ-\ *n* [*mar*tensite + *aging*] : a strong tough low-carbon martensitic steel which contains up to 25 percent nickel and in which hardening precipitates are formed by aging
mar·a·schi·no \ˌmar-ə-ˈskē-(ˌ)nō, -ˈshē-\ *n, pl* **-nos** *often cap* [It, fr. *marasca* bitter wild cherry] **1** : a sweet liqueur distilled from the fermented juice of a bitter wild cherry **2** : a usu. large cherry preserved in true or imitation maraschino
ma·ras·mus \mə-ˈraz-məs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *marasmos*, fr. *marainein* to waste away — more at SMART] : progressive emaciation esp. in the young associated usu. with faulty assimilation and utilization of food — **ma·ras·mic** \-ˈraz-mik\ *adj*
Ma·ra·tha \mə-ˈrät-ə\ *n* [Marathi *Marāṭhā* & Hindi *Marhaṭṭā*, fr. Skt *Mahārāṣṭra* Maharashtra] : a member of a people of the south central part of the subcontinent of India
Ma·ra·thi \mə-ˈrät-ē\ *n* [Marathi *marāṭhī*] : the chief Indic language of the state of Maharashtra in India
mar·a·thon \ˈmar-ə-ˌthän\ *n* [*Marathon*, Greece, site of a victory of Greeks over Persians in 490 B.C. the news of which was carried to Athens by a long-distance runner] **1** : a long-distance race: **a** : a footrace run on an open course usu. of 26 miles 385 yards **b** : a race other than a footrace marked esp. by great length **2 a** : an endurance contest ⟨a dance ~⟩ **b** : something (as an event or activity) characterized by great length or concentrated effort
ma·raud \mə-ˈrȯd\ *vb* [F *marauder*] *vi* : to roam about and raid in search of plunder ~ *vt* : RAID, PILLAGE — **ma·raud·er** *n*
mar·a·ve·di \ˌmar-ə-və-ˈdē\ *n* [Sp *maravedí*, fr. Ar *Murābiṭīn* 11th & 12th cent. Muslim dynasty in No. Africa & Spain] : a medieval Spanish copper coin unit worth $^1/_{34}$ real
¹mar·ble \ˈmär-bəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *marbre*, fr. L *marmor*, fr. Gk *marmaros*] **1 a** : limestone that is more or less crystallized by metamorphism, that ranges from granular to compact in texture, that is capable of taking a high polish, and that is used esp. in architecture and sculpture **b** : something (as a piece of sculpture) composed of or made from marble **c** : something suggesting marble (as in hardness, coldness, or smoothness) ⟨she has a heart of ~⟩ **2 a** : a little ball made of a hard substance (as glass) and used in various games **b** *pl but sing in constr* : any of several games played with these little balls with the object being to hit a mark or hole, hit another player's marble, or knock as many marbles as possible out of a ring **3** : MARBLING **4** *pl, slang* : elements of common sense; *esp* : SANITY ⟨persons who are born without all their ~*s* —Arthur Miller⟩
²marble *vt* **mar·bled; mar·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ : to give a veined or mottled appearance to ⟨~ the edges of a book⟩
³marble *adj* : resembling, composed of, or suggestive of marble ⟨~ floors⟩
marble cake *n* : a cake made with light and dark batter so as to have a mottled appearance
mar·bled \ˈmär-bəld\ *adj* **1** [¹*marble*] **a** : done in or covered with marble **b** : marked by an extensive use of marble as an architectural or decorative feature ⟨ancient ~ cities⟩ **2** [²*marble*] : marked by an intermixture of fat and lean ⟨a well-*marbled* cut of beef⟩
mar·ble·ize \ˈmär-bə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : MARBLE
mar·bling \-b(ə-)liŋ\ *n* **1** : coloration or markings resembling or suggestive of marble **2** : an intermixture of fat and lean in a cut of meat esp. when evenly distributed
mar·bly \-b(ə-)lē\ *adj* : resembling or suggestive of marble
marc \ˈmärk\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *marchier* to trample] **1** : the residue remaining after a fruit has been pressed; *broadly* : the organic residue from an extraction process ⟨the protein-rich cottonseed ~⟩ **2** : brandy made from the residue of grapes or apples after pressing
mar·ca·site \ˈmär-kə-ˌsīt, -ˌzīt; ˌmär-kə-ˈzēt\ *n* [ME *marchasite*, fr. ML *marcasita*, fr. Ar *marqashīthā*] **1 a** : crystallized iron pyrites **b** : a mineral of the same composition and appearance as iron pyrites but of different crystalline organization and lower specific gravity **2** : a piece of marcasite used for ornaments — **mar·ca·sit·i·cal** \ˌmär-kə-ˈsit-i-kəl, -ˈzit-\ *adj*
¹mar·cel \mär-ˈsel\ *n* [*Marcel* Grateau †1936 F hairdresser] : a deep soft wave made in the hair by the use of a heated curling iron
²marcel *vb* **mar·celled; mar·cel·ling** *vt* : to make a marcel in ~ *vi* : to make a marcel
¹march \ˈmärch\ *n* [ME *marche*, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *marha* boundary — more at MARK] : a border region : FRONTIER; *esp* : a district orig. set up to defend a boundary — usu. used in pl. ⟨the Welsh ~*es*⟩
²march *vi* : to have common borders or frontiers ⟨a region that ~*es* with Canada in the north and the Pacific in the west⟩
³march \ˈmärch, *imperatively often* ˈhärch *in the military*\ *vb* [MF *marchier* to trample, march, fr. OF, to trample, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *marcōn* to mark] *vi* **1** : to move along steadily usu. with a rhythmic stride and in step with others **2 a** : to move in a direct purposeful manner : PROCEED **b** : to make steady progress : ADVANCE ⟨time ~*es* on⟩ **3** : to stand in orderly array suggestive of marching ⟨pine trees ~*ing* up the mountainside⟩ ~ *vt* **1** : to cause to march ⟨~*ed* the children off to bed⟩ **2** : to cover by marching : TRAVERSE ⟨~*ed* 10 miles⟩
⁴march \ˈmärch\ *n* **1 a** (1) : the action of marching (2) : the distance covered within a specific period of time by marching (3) : a regular measured stride or rhythmic step used in marching **b** : forward movement : PROGRESS ⟨the ~ of a movie towards the climax⟩ **2** : a musical composition that is usu. in duple or quadruple time with a strongly accentuated beat and that is designed or suitable to accompany marching — **on the march** : moving steadily : ADVANCING
March \ˈmärch\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *martius*, fr. *martius* of Mars, fr. *Mart-, Mars*] : the 3d month of the Gregorian calendar
mär·chen \ˈme(ə)r-kən\ *n, pl* **märchen** [G] : TALE; *esp* : FOLKTALE
¹march·er \ˈmär-chər\ *n* : one who inhabits a border region
²marcher *n* : one that marches; *esp* : one that marches for a specific cause ⟨a peace ~⟩
mar·che·sa \mär-ˈkā-zə\ *n, pl* **-se** \-(ˌ)zā\ [It, fem. of *marchese*] : an Italian woman holding the rank of a marchese : MARCHIONESS
mar·che·se \-(ˌ)zā\ *n, pl* **-si** \-(ˌ)zē\ [It, fr. ML *marcensis*, fr. *marca* border region, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *marha*] : an Italian nobleman next in rank above a count : MARQUIS
mar·chio·ness \ˈmär-sh(ə-)nəs\ *n* [ML *marchionissa*, fr. *marchion-, marchio* marquess, fr. *marca*] **1** : the wife or widow of a marquess **2** : a woman who holds the rank of marquess in her own right
march·pane \ˈmärch-ˌpān\ *n* [It *marzapane*] : MARZIPAN
march–past \ˈmärch-ˌpast\ *n* : a filing by : PROCESSION
Mar·cion·ism \ˈmär-shə-ˌniz-əm, -s(h)ē-ə-\ *n* [*Marcion* 2d cent. A.D. Christian Gnostic] : the doctrinal system of a sect of the 2d and 3d centuries A.D. accepting some parts of the New Testament but denying Christ's corporality and humanity and condemning the Creator God of the Old Testament — **Mar·cion·ite** \-ˌnīt\ *n*
Mar·co·ni \mär-ˈkō-nē\ *adj* [prob. fr. the resemblance of the complex arrangement of stays and struts to that used to support the antennae used in wireless telegraphy, invented by Guglielmo Marconi] : of, relating to, or marked by a Bermuda rig
mar·co·ni·gram \mär-ˈkō-nē-ˌgram\ *n* [Guglielmo *Marconi*] : RADIOGRAM
Marconi rig *n* : BERMUDA RIG
Mar·di Gras \ˈmärd-ē-ˌgrä, *in New Orleans commonly* -ˌgrȯ\ *n* [F, lit., fat Tuesday] **1 a** : Shrove Tuesday often observed (as in New Orleans) with parades and festivities **b** : a carnival period climaxing on Shrove Tuesday **2** : a festive occasion resembling a pre-Lenten Mardi Gras
¹mare *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *mara* incubus, Croatian *mora*] *obs* : an evil preternatural being causing nightmares
²mare \ˈma(ə)r, ˈme(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mere;* akin to OHG *merha* mare, OE *mearh* horse, W *march*] : a female horse or other equine animal esp. when fully mature or of breeding age
³ma·re \ˈmär-(ˌ)ā\ *n, pl* **ma·ria** \ˈmär-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, sea — more at MARINE] : one of several dark areas of considerable extent on the surface of the moon or Mars
ma·re clau·sum \ˌmär-(ˌ)ā-ˈklaù-səm, -ˈklȯ-\ *n* [NL, lit., closed sea] : a navigable body of water (as a sea) that is under the jurisdiction of one nation and is closed to other nations
Mar·ek's disease \ˈmar-iks-, ˈmer-\ *n* [J. *Marek* †1952 G veterinarian] : a cancerous disease of poultry that is characterized esp. by proliferation of lymphoid cells and is caused by a virus resembling a herpes virus
ma·re li·be·rum \ˈmär-(ˌ)ā-ˈlē-bə-ˌrùm\ *n* [NL, lit., free sea] **1** : a navigable body of water (as a sea) that is open to all nations **2** : FREEDOM OF THE SEAS
ma·re no·strum \ˌmär-(ˌ)ā-ˈnō-strəm\ *n* [L, our sea] : a navigable body of water (as a sea) that belongs to a single nation or is mutually shared by two or more nations
mare's nest *n, pl* **mare's nests** *or* **mares' nests** **1** : a false discovery, illusion, or deliberate hoax **2** : a place, condition, or situation of great disorder or confusion ⟨a *mare's nest* of spurious ambiguities to bewilder the simpleminded —J. H. Sledd⟩
mare's tail *n, pl* **mare's tails** *or* **mares' tails** **1** : a cirrus cloud that has a long slender flowing appearance **2 a** : a common aquatic plant (*Hippuris vulgaris*) with elongated shoots clothed with dense whorls of subulate leaves **b** : HORSETAIL **c** : HORSEWEED 1
mar·gar·ic acid \mär-ˌgar-ik-\ *n* [F *margarique*, fr. *margarine*] : a crystalline synthetic fatty acid $C_{17}H_{34}O_2$ intermediate between palmitic acid and stearic acid
mar·ga·rine \ˈmärj-(ə-)rən, -ə-ˌrēn\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *margaron* pearl] : a food product made usu. from vegetable oils churned with ripened skim milk to a plastic consistency, often fortified with vitamins A and D, and used as a spread and a cooking fat
mar·ga·ri·ta \ˌmär-gə-ˈrēt-ə\ *n* [MexSp, prob. fr. the name *Margarita* Margaret] : a cocktail consisting of tequila, lime or lemon juice, and an orange-flavored liqueur
mar·ga·rite \ˈmär-gə-ˌrīt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *margarita*, fr. Gk *margaritēs*, fr. *margaron*] *archaic* : PEARL
mar·gay \ˈmär-ˌgā, mär-ˈ\ *n* [F, fr. Tupi *maracaja*] : a small American spotted cat (*Felis tigrina*) resembling the ocelot and ranging from southernmost Texas to Brazil


margay

marge \ˈmärj\ *n* [MF, fr. L *margo*] *archaic* : MARGIN
mar·gent \ˈmär-jənt\ *n, archaic* : MARGIN
¹mar·gin \ˈmär-jən\ *n* [ME, fr. L *margin-, margo* border — more at MARK] **1** : the part of a page or sheet outside the main body of printed or written matter **2** : the outside limit and adjoining surface of something : EDGE ⟨at the ~ of the woods⟩ **3 a** : a spare amount or measure or degree allowed or given for contingencies or special situations ⟨left no ~ for error in his calculations⟩ **b** (1) : a bare minimum below which or an extreme limit beyond which something becomes impossible or is no longer desirable ⟨a joke that was on the ~ of good taste⟩ (2) : the limit below which economic activity cannot be continued under normal conditions **4 a** : the difference which exists between net sales and the cost of merchandise sold and from which expenses are usu. met or profit derived **b** : the excess market value of collateral over the face of a loan **c** (1) : cash or collateral that is deposited by a client with a commodity or securities broker to protect the broker from loss on a contract (2) : the client's equity in securities bought with the aid of credit obtained specif. (as from a broker) for that purpose **d** : a range about a specified figure within which a purchase is to be made **5** : measure or degree of difference ⟨the bill passed by a one-vote ~⟩ ***syn*** see BORDER — **mar·gined** \-jənd\ *adj*
²margin *vt* **1** : to enter or summarize in the margin of (a page or sheet) **2 a** : to provide with an edging or border **b** : to form a margin to : BORDER **3 a** : to add margin to ⟨~ up an account in a falling market⟩ **b** (1) : to use as margin ⟨~ bonds to buy

stock〉 (2) : to provide margin for 〈~ a transaction〉 **c** : to buy (securities) on margin

mar·gin·al \'märj-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [ML *marginalis*, fr. L *margin-, margo*] **1** : written or printed in the margin of a page or sheet 〈~ notes〉 **2 a** : of, relating to, or situated at a margin or border 〈regards violence as a ~ rather than a central problem〉 **b** (1) : occupying the borderland of a relatively stable territorial or cultural area 〈~ tribes〉 (2) : characterized by the incorporation of habits and values from two divergent cultures and by incomplete assimilation in either 〈the ~ cultural habits of new immigrant groups〉 **3** : located at the fringe of consciousness 〈~ sensations〉 **4 a** : close to the lower limit of qualification, acceptability, or function 〈a semiliterate man of ~ ability〉 **b** (1) : having a character or capacity fitted to yield a supply of goods which when marketed at existing price levels will barely cover the cost of production 〈~ land〉 (2) : of, relating to, or derived from goods produced and marketed with such result 〈~ profits〉 **5** : relating to or being a function of a random variable that is obtained from a function of several random variables by integrating or summing over all possible values of the other variables 〈a ~ probability function〉 — **mar·gin·al·i·ty** \ˌmär-jə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n* — **mar·gin·al·ly** \'märj-nə-lē, -ən-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

mar·gi·na·lia \ˌmär-jə-'nā-lē-ə\ *n pl* [NL, fr. ML, neut. pl. of *marginalis*] **1** : marginal notes (as in a book) **2** : nonessential items 〈the ~ of a science〉 〈the meat and ~ of American politics —*Saturday Rev.*〉

marginal utility *n* : the amount of additional utility provided by an additional unit of an economic good or service

¹mar·gin·ate \'mär-jə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** : MARGIN 1, 2a — **mar·gin·ation** \ˌmär-jə-'nā-shən\ *n*

²mar·gin·ate \'mär-jə-nət, -ˌnāt\ *or* **mar·gin·at·ed** \-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* : having a margin distinct in appearance or structure

mar·gra·vate \'mär-grə-ˌvāt\ *or* **mar·gra·vi·ate** \mär-'grā-vē-ət, -ˌāt\ *n* : the territory of a margrave

mar·grave \'mär-ˌgrāv\ *n* [D *markgraaf*, fr. MD *marcgrave;* akin to OHG *marcgrāvo;* both fr. a prehistoric D-G compound whose constituents are akin to OHG *marha* boundary and to OHG *grāvo* count — more at MARK] **1** : the military governor esp. of a German border province **2** : a member of the German nobility corresponding in rank to a British marquess — **mar·gra·vi·al** \mär-'grā-vē-əl\ *adj*

mar·gra·vine \'mär-grə-ˌvēn, ˌmär-grə-'\ *n* : the wife of a margrave

mar·gue·rite \ˌmär-g(y)ə-'rēt\ *n* [F, fr. MF *margarite* pearl, daisy — more at MARGARITE] **1** : DAISY 1 **2** : any of various single-flowered chrysanthemums; *esp* : a chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum frutescens*) of the Canary islands **3** : any of several cultivated chamomiles (genus *Anthemis*)

ma·ri·a·chi \ˌmär-ē-'ä-chē\ *n* [MexSp] **1** : a Mexican street band; *also* : a musician belonging to such a band **2** : the music performed by a mariachi

Mar·i·an \'mer-ē-ən, 'mar-ē-, 'mā-rē-\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to Mary Tudor or her reign (1553-58) **2** : of or relating to the Virgin Mary

Mar·i·an·ist \-ə-nəst\ *n* : a member of the Roman Catholic Society of Mary of Paris founded by William Joseph Chaminade in France in 1817 and devoted esp. to education

Ma·ria The·re·sa dollar \mə-ˌrē-ə-tə-ˌrā-sə-, -ˌrā-zə-\ *n* : a silver coin with the image of Maria Theresa and the date 1780 used as a trade coin in the Middle East

mari·cul·ture \'mar-ə-ˌkəl-chər\ *n* [L *mare* sea + E *-culture* (as in *agriculture*)] : the cultivation of marine organisms by exploiting their natural environment

mari·gold \'mar-ə-ˌgōld, 'mer-\ *n* [ME, fr. *Mary*, mother of Jesus + ME *gold*] **1** : POT MARIGOLD **2** : any of a genus (*Tagetes*) of herbaceous composite plants with showy yellow or red and yellow flower heads

mar·i·jua·na *or* **mar·i·hua·na** \ˌmar-ə-'wän-ə *also* -'hwän-\ *n* [MexSp *mariguana, marihuana*] **1** : HEMP 1a, 1c **2** : the dried leaves and flowering tops of the pistillate hemp plant that yield cannabin and are sometimes smoked in cigarettes for their intoxicating effect — compare BHANG, CANNABIS, HASHISH

ma·rim·ba \mə-'rim-bə\ *n* [of African origin; akin to Kimbundu *marimba* xylophone] : a primitive xylophone of southern Africa and Central America with resonators beneath each bar; *also* : a modern improved form of this instrument

ma·ri·na \mə-'rē-nə\ *n* [It & Sp, seashore, fr. fem. of *marino*, adj., marine, fr. L *marinus*] : a dock or basin providing secure moorings for motorboats and yachts and often offering supply, repair, and other facilities

¹mar·i·nade \ˌmar-ə-'nād\ *vt* **-nad·ed; -nad·ing** [by alter.] : MARINATE

²marinade *n* : a savory usu. acidic sauce in which meat, fish, or a vegetable is soaked to enrich its flavor or to tenderize it

mar·i·nate \'mar-ə-ˌnāt\ *vt* **-nat·ed; -nat·ing** [prob. fr. It *marinato*, pp. of *marinare* to marinate, fr. *marino*] : to steep (meat, fish, or vegetables) in a marinade

¹ma·rine \mə-'rēn\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *marinus*, fr. *mare* sea; akin to OE *mere* sea, pool, OHG *meri* sea, OSlav *morje*] **1 a** : of or relating to the sea 〈 ~ life〉 **b** : of or relating to the navigation of the sea : NAUTICAL 〈a ~ chart〉 **c** : of or relating to the commerce of the sea : MARITIME 〈~ law〉 **d** : depicting the sea, seashore, or ships 〈a ~ painter〉 **2** : of or relating to marines 〈~ barracks〉

²marine *n* **1 a** : the mercantile and naval shipping of a country **b** : seagoing ships esp. in relation to nationality or class **2** : one of a class of soldiers serving on shipboard or in close association with a naval force; *specif* : a member of the U.S. Marine Corps **3** : an executive department (as in France) having charge of naval affairs **4** : a marine picture : SEASCAPE

marine architect *n* : NAVAL ARCHITECT — **marine architecture** *n*

marine glue *n* : a water-insoluble adhesive

mar·i·ner \'mar-ə-nər\ *n* : one who navigates or assists in navigating a ship : SEAMAN, SAILOR

mariner's compass *n* : a compass used in navigation that consists of parallel magnetic needles or bundles of needles permanently attached to a card marked to indicate direction and degrees of a circle

Mar·i·ol·a·try \ˌmer-ē-'äl-ə-trē, ˌmar-ē-, ˌmā-rē-\ *n* : excessive veneration of the Virgin Mary — **Mar·i·ol·a·ter** \-'äl-ət-ər\ *n*

Mar·i·ol·o·gy \-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* : study or doctrine relating to the Virgin Mary — **Mar·i·o·log·i·cal** \-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj*

mar·i·o·nette \ˌmar-ē-ə-'net, ˌmer-\ *n* [F *marionnette*, fr. MF *maryonete*, fr. *Marion*, dim. of *Marie* Mary] : a small-scale usu. wooden figure (as of a person or animal) with jointed limbs that is moved from above by manipulation of the attached strings or wires — called also *puppet*

mar·i·po·sa lily \ˌmar-ə-ˌpō-zə-, -sə-\ *n* [prob. fr. AmerSp *mariposa*, fr. Sp, butterfly] : any of a genus (*Calochortus*) of western No. American plants of the lily family usu. with showily blotched flowers — called also *mariposa tulip*

mar·ish \'mar-ish\ *n, archaic* : MARSH

Mar·ist \'mar-əst, 'mer-\ *n* [F *mariste*, fr. *Marie* Mary] : a member of the Roman Catholic Society of Mary founded by Jean Claude Colin in France in 1816 and devoted to education

mar·i·tal \'mar-ət-ᵊl, *Brit also* mə-'rīt-\ *adj* [L *maritalis*, fr. *maritus* married] **1** : of or relating to marriage or the married state 〈~ vows〉 **2** : of or relating to a husband and his role in marriage ***syn*** see MATRIMONIAL — **mar·i·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

mar·i·time \'mar-ə-ˌtīm\ *adj* [L *maritimus*, fr. *mare*] **1** : of or relating to navigation or commerce on the sea **2** : of, relating to, or bordering on the sea 〈a ~ province〉 **3** : having the characteristics of a mariner

mar·jo·ram \'märj-(ə-)rəm\ *n* [alter. of ME *majorane*, fr. MF, fr. ML *majorana*] : any of various usu. fragrant and aromatic mints (genera *Origanum* and *Majorana*) often used in cookery

¹mark \'märk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mearc* boundary, march, sign; akin to OHG *marha* boundary, L *margo*] **1** : a boundary land **2 a** (1) : a conspicuous object serving as a guide for travelers (2) : something (as a line, notch, or fixed object) designed to record position **b** : one of the bits of leather or colored bunting placed on a sounding line at intervals **c** : TARGET **d** : the starting line or position in a track event **e** (1) : GOAL, OBJECT (2) : an object of attack, ridicule, or abuse; *specif* : a victim of a swindle (3) : the point under discussion **f** : a standard of performance, quality, or condition : NORM 〈hadn't been feeling up to the ~ lately〉 **3 a** (1) : SIGN, INDICATION 〈gave her the necklace as a ~ of his esteem〉 (2) : an impression (as a scratch, scar, or stain) made on something (3) : a distinguishing trait or quality : CHARACTERISTIC 〈the ~*s* of an educated man〉 **b** : a symbol used for identification or indication of ownership **c** : a cross made in place of a signature **d** (1) : TRADEMARK (2) *cap* — used with a numeral to designate a particular model of a weapon or machine 〈*Mark* II〉 **e** : POSTMARK **f** : a symbol used by a teacher to represent his estimate of a student's work or conduct; *esp* : GRADE **g** : a figure registering a point or level reached or achieved 〈the halfway ~ in the first period of play〉; *esp* : RECORD **4 a** : ATTENTION, NOTICE 〈nothing worthy of ~〉 **b** : IMPORTANCE, DISTINCTION 〈stands out as a man of ~〉 **c** : a lasting or strong impression 〈worked at several jobs but didn't make much of a ~〉 **d** : an assessment of merits : RATING 〈got high ~*s* for honesty〉

²mark *vb* [ME *marken*, fr. OE *mearcian;* akin to OHG *marcōn* to determine the boundaries of, OE *mearc* boundary] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to fix or trace out the bounds or limits of (2) : to plot the course of : CHART **b** : to set apart by or as if by a line or boundary — usu. used with *off* **2 a** (1) : to designate as if by a mark 〈~*ed* for greatness〉 (2) : to make or leave a mark on (3) : to furnish with natural marks 〈wings ~*ed* with white〉 (4) : to label so as to indicate price or quality (5) : to make notations in or on **b** (1) : to make note of in writing : JOT 〈~*ing* the date in his journal〉 (2) : to indicate by a mark or symbol 〈~ an accent〉 (3) : REGISTER, RECORD (4) : to determine the value of by means of marks or symbols : GRADE 〈~ term papers〉 **c** (1) : CHARACTERIZE, DISTINGUISH 〈the flamboyance that ~*s* her stage appearance〉 (2) : SIGNALIZE 〈this year ~*s* the 50th anniversary of the organization〉 **3** : to take notice of : OBSERVE 〈~ my words〉 **4** : to pick up (one's golf ball) from a putting green and substitute a marker 〈picking up a penalty stroke for ~*ing* and cleaning her ball —Pat Ryan〉 ~ *vi* : to take careful notice — **mark time** **1** : to keep the time of a marching step by moving the feet alternately without advancing **2** : to function or operate in a listless or unproductive manner

³mark *n* [ME, fr. OE *marc*, prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *mörk* mark; akin to OE *mearc* sign] **1** : any of various old European units of weight used esp. for gold and silver; *esp* : a unit equal to about 8 ounces **2** : a unit of value: **a** : an old English unit equal to 13*s* 4*d* **b** : any one of various old Scandinavian or German units of value; *specif* : a unit and corresponding silver coin of the 16th century worth ½ taler **c** — see MONEY table **d** : MARKKA

Mark \'märk\ *n* [L *Marcus*] **1 a** : an early Jewish Christian traditionally identified as the writer of the Gospel of Mark — called also *John Mark* **b** : the second Gospel in the New Testament — see BIBLE table **2** : a king of Cornwall, uncle of Tristram, and husband of Isolde

mark·down \'märk-ˌdaůn\ *n* **1** : a lowering of price **2** : the amount by which an original selling price is reduced

mark down \(')märk-'daůn\ *vt* : to put a lower price on 〈*marked down* all the merchandise for the sale〉

marked \'märkt\ *adj* **1** : having an identifying mark 〈a ~ card〉 **2** : having a distinctive or emphasized character : NOTICEABLE 〈has a ~ drawl〉 **3 a** : enjoying fame or notoriety **b** : being an object of attack, suspicion, or vengeance 〈a ~ man〉 **4** : overtly

signaled by a linguistic feature ⟨with most English nouns the plural is the ~ number⟩ — **mark·ed·ly** \'mär-kəd-lē\ *adv*

mark·er \'mär-kər\ *n* **1** : one that marks **2** : something used for marking **3** : SCORE 7; *specif* : RUN **4** : GENETIC MARKER

¹mar·ket \'mär-kət\ *n* [ME, fr. ONF, fr. L *mercatus* trade, marketplace, fr. *mercatus*, pp. of *mercari* to trade, fr. *merc-*, *merx* merchandise; akin to Oscan *amiricadut* without remuneration] **1 a** (1) : a meeting together of people for the purpose of trade by private purchase and sale and usu. not by auction (2) : the people assembled at such a meeting **b** (1) : a public place where a market is held; *esp* : a place where provisions are sold at wholesale (2) : a retail establishment usu. of a specified kind ⟨a fish ~⟩ **2** *archaic* : the act or an instance of buying and selling **3** : the rate or price offered for a commodity or security **4 a** : a geographical area of demand for commodities ⟨the foreign ~⟩ **b** : the course of commercial activity by which the exchange of commodities is effected : extent of demand ⟨the ~ is dull⟩ **c** : an opportunity for selling ⟨a good ~ for used cars⟩ **d** : the area of economic activity in which buyers and sellers come together and the forces of supply and demand affect prices ⟨producing goods for ~ rather than for consumption⟩ — **in the market** : interested in buying ⟨*in the market* for a house⟩ — **on the market** : available for purchase ⟨a good selection of fresh produce *on the market*⟩; *also* : up for sale ⟨put his house *on the market*⟩

²market *vi* : to deal in a market ~ *vt* **1** : to expose for sale in a market **2** : SELL

mar·ket·able \'mär-kət-ə-bəl\ *adj* **1 a** : fit to be offered for sale in a market ⟨contaminated food that is not ~⟩ **b** : wanted by purchasers : SALABLE ⟨~ securities⟩ **2** : of or relating to buying or selling — **mar·ket·abil·i·ty** \ˌmär-kət-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

mar·ket·er \'mär-kət-ər\ *n* : one that deals in a market; *esp* : one that markets a specified commodity ⟨the company is a big gasoline ~⟩

market garden *n* : a plot in which vegetables are raised for market — **market gardener** *n* — **market gardening** *n*

mar·ket·ing *n* **1** : the act or process of selling or purchasing in a market **2** : an aggregate of functions involved in moving goods from producer to consumer

marketing research *n* : research conducted to establish the extent and location of the market for a product or to analyze the cost of products and processes as compared with that of alternative or competitive products or processes

market order *n* : an order to buy or sell securities or commodities immediately at the best price obtainable in the market

mar·ket·place \'mär-kət-ˌplās\ *n* **1 a** : an open square or place in a town where markets or public sales are held **b** : MARKET ⟨the ~ is the interpreter of supply and demand⟩ **2** : the world of trade or economic activity : the everyday world ⟨a conviction that religion belongs in the ~ —*Current Biog.*⟩ **3** : a sphere in which intangible values compete for acceptance ⟨the ~ of ideas⟩

market price *n* : a price actually given in current market dealings

market research *n* : the gathering of factual information as to consumer preferences for goods and services

market value *n* : a price at which both buyers and sellers are willing to do business

mark·ing *n* **1** : the act, process, or an instance of making or giving a mark **2 a** : a mark made **b** : arrangement, pattern, or disposition of marks

mark·ka \'mär-ˌkä\ *n, pl* **mark·kaa** \'mär-ˌkä\ *or* **markkas** \-ˌkäz\ [Finn, fr. Sw *mark*, a unit of value; akin to ON *mörk*] — see MONEY table

Mar·kov chain \ˌmär-ˌkȯf-, -ˌkȯv-\ *n* [A. A. *Markov* †1922 Russ mathematician] : a usu. discrete stochastic process (as a random walk) in which the probabilities of occurrence of various future states depend only on the present state of the system or on the immediately preceding state and not on the path by which the present state was achieved — called also *Markoff chain*

Mar·kov·ian \mär-'kō-vē-ən, -'kȯ-\ *or* **Mar·kov** \'mär-ˌkȯf, -ˌkȯv\ *also* **Mar·koff** \'mär-ˌkȯf\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling a Markov process or Markov chain esp. by having probabilities defined in terms of transition from the possible existing states to other states ⟨~ models⟩

Markov process *also* **Markoff process** *n* : a stochastic process (as Brownian movement) that resembles a Markov chain except that the states are continuous; *also* : MARKOV CHAIN

marks·man \'märk-smən\ *n* : one that shoots at a mark; *esp* : a person skillful or practiced at hitting a mark or target — **marksman·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

marks·wom·an \'märk-ˌswu̇m-ən\ *n* : a female marksman

mark·up \'mär-ˌkəp\ *n* **1** : a raise in the price of an article **2** : an amount added to the cost price to determine the selling price

mark up \(')mär-'kəp\ *vt* : to set a higher price on

¹marl \'mär(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *marle*, fr. ML *margila*, dim. of L *marga* marl, fr. Gaulish] : a loose or crumbling earthy deposit (as of sand, silt, or clay) that contains a substantial amount of calcium carbonate and is used esp. as a fertilizer for soils deficient in lime — **marly** \'mär-lē\ *adj*

²marl *vt* : to dress (land) with marl

³marl *vt* [D *marlen*, back-formation fr. *marling*] : to cover or fasten with marline

mar·lin \'mär-lən\ *n* [short for *marlinspike;* fr. the appearance of its beak] : any of several large oceanic sport fishes (genera *Makaira* and *Tetrapturus*) related to sailfishes and spearfishes

mar·line *also* **mar·lin** \'mär-lən\ *n* [D *marlijn*, alter. of *marling*, fr. *meren*, *marren* to tie, moor, fr. MD *meren*, *maren* — more at MOOR] : a small usu. tarred line of two strands twisted loosely left-handed that is used esp. for seizing and as a covering for wire rope

mar·line·spike *also* **mar·lin·spike** \'mär-lən-ˌspīk\ *n* : a tool (as of wood or iron) that tapers to a point and is used to separate strands of rope or wire (as in splicing)

marl·ite \'mär(ə)l-ˌīt\ *n* : a marl resistant to the action of air — **mar·lit·ic** \mär-'lit-ik\ *adj*

mar·ma·lade \'mär-mə-ˌlād\ *n* [Pg *marmelada* quince conserve, fr. *marmelo* quince, fr. L *melimelum*, a sweet apple, fr. Gk *melimēlon*, fr. *meli* honey + *mēlon* apple — more at MELLIFLUOUS] : a clear sweetened jelly in which pieces of fruit and fruit rind are suspended

mar·mo·re·al \mär-'mōr-ē-əl, -'mȯr-\ *or* **mar·mo·re·an** \-ē-ən\ *adj* [L *marmoreus*, fr. *marmor* marble, fr. Gk *marmaros*] : of, relating to, or resembling marble or a marble statue — **mar·mo·re·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

mar·mo·set \'mär-mə-ˌset, -ˌzet\ *n* [ME *marmusette*, fr. MF *marmoset* grotesque figure, fr. *marmouser* to mumble, of imit. origin] : any of numerous soft-furred So. and Central American monkeys (family Callithricidae) with claws instead of nails on all the digits except the great toe

mar·mot \'mär-mət\ *n* [F *marmotte*] : a stout-bodied short-legged burrowing rodent (genus *Marmota*) with coarse fur, a short bushy tail, and very small ears — compare WOODCHUCK

Mar·o·nite \'mar-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [ML *maronita*, fr. *Maron-*, *Maro* 5th cent. A.D. Syrian monk] : a member of a Uniate church chiefly in Lebanon having a Syriac liturgy and married clergy

¹ma·roon \mə-'rün\ *n* [modif. of AmerSp *cimarrón*, fr. *cimarrón* wild, savage] **1** *cap* : a fugitive Negro slave of the West Indies and Guiana in the 17th and 18th centuries; *also* : a descendant of such a slave **2** : a person who is marooned

²maroon *vt* **1** : to put ashore on a desolate island or coast and leave to one's fate **2** : to place or leave in isolation or without hope of ready escape

³maroon *n* [F *marron* Spanish chestnut] : a variable color averaging a dark red

mar·plot \'mär-ˌplät\ *n* : one who frustrates or ruins a plan or undertaking by his meddling

¹marque \'märk\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. OProv *marca*, fr. *marcar* to mark, seize as pledge, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *marcōn* to mark] **1** *obs* : REPRISAL, RETALIATION **2** : LETTERS OF MARQUE

²marque *n* [F, mark, brand, fr. MF, fr. *marquer* to mark, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *marcōn* to mark] : a brand or make of a product (as a sports car)

mar·quee \mär-'kē\ *n* [modif. of F *marquise*, lit., marchioness] **1** : a large tent set up for an outdoor party, reception, or exhibition **2** : a permanent canopy usu. of metal and glass projecting over an entrance (as of a hotel or theater)

Mar·que·san \mär-'kāz-ᵊn, -'kās-\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of the Marquesas islands **2** : the Austronesian language of the Marquesans — **Marquesan** *adj*

mar·quess \'mär-kwəs\ *or* **mar·quis** \'mär-kwəs, mär-'kē\ *n, pl* **mar·quess·es** *or* **mar·quis·es** \-kwə-səz\ *or* **mar·quis** \-'kē(z)\ [ME *marquis*, *markis*, fr. MF *marquis*, alter. of *marchis*, fr. *marche* march] **1** : a nobleman of hereditary rank in Europe and Japan **2** : a member of the British peerage ranking below a duke and above an earl — **mar·quess·ate** \'mär-kwə-sət\ *or* **mar·quis·ate** \'mär-kwə-zət, -sət\ *n*

mar·que·try *also* **mar·que·terie** \'mär-kə-trē\ *n* [MF *marqueterie*, fr. *marqueter* to checker, inlay, fr. *marque* mark] : decorative work in which elaborate patterns are formed by the insertion of pieces of material (as wood, shell, or ivory) into a wood veneer that is then applied to a surface (as of a piece of furniture)



1 marquetry

mar·quise \mär-'kēz\ *n, pl* **mar·quises** \-'kēz(-əz)\ [F, fem. of *marquis*] **1** : MARCHIONESS **2** : MARQUEE **3** : a gem or a ring setting or bezel usu. elliptical in shape but with pointed ends — see BRILLIANT illustration

mar·qui·sette \ˌmär-k(w)ə-'zet\ *n* [*marquise* + *-ette*] : a sheer meshed fabric used for clothing, curtains, and mosquito nets

mar·ram grass \'mar-əm-\ *n* [of Scand origin; akin to ON *maralmr*, a beach grass] : any of several beach grasses (genus *Ammophila* and esp. *A. arenaria*)

Mar·ra·no \mə-'rän-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [Sp, lit., pig] : a Christianized Jew or Moor of medieval Spain

mar·riage \'mar-ij\ *n* **1 a** : the state of being married **b** : the mutual relation of husband and wife : WEDLOCK **c** : the institution whereby men and women are joined in a special kind of social and legal dependence for the purpose of founding and maintaining a family **2** : an act of marrying or the rite by which the married status is effected; *esp* : the wedding ceremony and attendant festivities or formalities **3** : an intimate or close union ⟨the ~ of painting and poetry —J. T. Shawcross⟩ — **mar·riage·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj*

marriage of convenience : a marriage contracted for social, political, or economic advantage rather than for mutual affection

¹mar·ried \'mar-ēd\ *adj* **1 a** : being in the state of matrimony : WEDDED **b** : of or relating to marriage : CONNUBIAL **2** : UNITED, JOINED

²married *n, pl* **marrieds** *or* **married** : a married person ⟨young ~s are paid undue . . . attention —Paul Goodman⟩

mar·ron \ma-'rōⁿ\ *n* [F] **1** : a large Mediterranean chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) or its sweet edible nut — called also *Spanish chestnut* **2 mar·rons** \-'rōⁿ(z)\ *pl* : chestnuts preserved in vanilla-flavored syrup

Mar·ron \ma-'rōⁿ\ *n* [F, fr. AmerSp *cimarrón*] : MAROON 1

mar·rons gla·cés \ma-ˌrōⁿ-gla-'sā\ *n pl* [F, lit., glazed marrons] : MARRON 2

¹mar·row \'mar-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *marowe*, fr. OE *mearg;* akin to OHG *marag* marrow, Skt *majjan*] **1 a** : a soft highly vascular modified connective tissue that occupies the cavities and cancellous part of most bones **b** : the substance of the spinal cord **2 a** : the choicest of food **b** : the seat of animal vigor **c** : the inmost, best, or essential part : CORE ⟨personal liberty is the ~ of the American tradition —Clinton Rossiter⟩ **3** *chiefly Brit* : VEGETABLE MARROW — **mar·row·less** \-ō-ləs, -ə-ləs\ *adj* — **mar·rowy** \'mar-ə-wē\ *adj*

²marrow *n* [ME *marwe, marrow*] *chiefly Scot* : one of a pair
mar·row·bone \'mar-ə-ˌbōn, -ō-ˌbōn\ *n* **1** : a bone (as a shinbone) rich in marrow **2** *pl* : KNEES
mar·row·fat \-ō-ˌfat, -ə-ˌfat\ *n* : any of several wrinkled-seeded garden peas
¹mar·ry \'mar-ē *also* 'mer-\ *vb* **mar·ried; mar·ry·ing** [ME *marien*, fr. OF *marier*, fr. L *maritare*, fr. *maritus* married] *vt* **1 a** : to join as husband and wife according to law or custom ⟨were *married* yesterday⟩ **b** : to give in marriage ⟨*married* his daughter to his partner's son⟩ **c** : to take as spouse : WED ⟨*married* the girl next door⟩ **d** : to perform the ceremony of marriage for ⟨*married* the couple⟩ **e** : to obtain by marriage ⟨~ wealth⟩ **2** : to unite in close and usu. permanent relation ~ *vi* **1** : to take a spouse : WED **2** : to enter into a close or intimate union ⟨these wines ~ well⟩ — **marry into** : to become a member of by marriage ⟨*married into* a prominent family⟩
²marry *interj* [ME *marie*, fr. *Marie*, the Virgin Mary] *archaic* — used for emphasis and esp. to express amused or surprised agreement
Mars \'märz\ *n* [L *Mart-, Mars*] **1** : the Roman god of war — compare ARES **2** : the planet 4th in order from the sun and conspicuous for the redness of its light — see PLANET table
MARS *abbr* manned astronautical research station
marse \'märs\ *n* [by shortening and alter.] *South* : MASTER ⟨was called ~, approached with fear, and addressed hat in hand —A. W. Tourgee⟩
Mar·seilles \mär-'sā(ə)lz\ *n* [*Marseilles*, France] : a firm cotton fabric that is similar to piqué
marsh \'märsh\ *n, often attrib* [ME *mersh*, fr. OE *merisc, mersc*; akin to MD *mersch* marsh, OE *mere* sea, pool — more at MARINE] : a tract of soft wet land usu. characterized by monocotyledons (as grasses or cattails)
¹mar·shal *also* **mar·shall** \'mär-shəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *mareschal*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *marahscalc* marshal, fr. *marah* horse + *scalc* servant] **1 a** : a high official in the household of a medieval king, prince, or noble orig. having charge of the cavalry but later usu. in command of the military forces **b** : a person who arranges and directs the ceremonial aspects of a gathering **2 a** : FIELD MARSHAL **b** : a general officer of the highest military rank **3 a** : an officer having charge of prisoners **b** (1) : a ministerial officer appointed for a judicial district (as of the U.S.) to execute the process of the courts and perform various duties similar to those of a sheriff (2) : a city law officer entrusted with particular duties **c** : the administrative head of a city police department or fire department — **mar·shal·cy** \-sē\ *n* — **mar·shal·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
²marshal *vb* **mar·shaled** *or* **mar·shalled; mar·shal·ing** *or* **mar·shal·ling** \'märsh-(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* **1** : to place in proper rank or position ⟨~*ing* the troops⟩ **2** : to bring together and order in an appropriate or effective way ⟨~ arguments⟩ **3** : to lead ceremoniously or solicitously : USHER ⟨~*ing* her little group of children down the street⟩ ~ *vi* : to take form or order ⟨ideas ~*ing* neatly⟩
syn see ORDER
marshal of the Royal Air Force : the highest ranking officer in the British air force
marsh elder *n* : any of various coarse shrubby composite plants (genus *Iva*) of moist areas in eastern and central No. America
marsh gas *n* : METHANE
marsh hawk *n* : a widely distributed No. American hawk (*Circus cyaneus hudsonius*) with a conspicuous white patch on the rump
marsh hen *n* **1** : any of various American rails **2** : BITTERN
marsh·land \'märsh-ˌland\ *n* : a marshy district : MARSH
marsh·mal·low \'märsh-ˌmel-ō, -ˌmel-ə(-w), -ˌmal-\ *n* **1** : a pink-flowered European perennial herb (*Althaea officinalis*) of the mallow family that is naturalized in the eastern U.S. and has a mucilaginous root sometimes used in confectionery and in medicine **2** : a confection made from the root of the marshmallow or from corn syrup, sugar, albumen, and gelatin beaten to a light creamy consistency; *also* : a paste-like partially dried piece of marshmallow ⟨a bag of ~*s*⟩ — **marsh·mal·lowy** \-ˌmel-ə-wē, -ˌmal-\ *adj*
marsh marigold *n* : a swamp herb (*Caltha palustris*) of the buttercup family that occurs in Europe and No. America and has bright yellow flowers — called also *cowslip*
marshy \'mär-shē\ *adj* **marsh·i·er; -est** **1** : resembling or constituting a marsh : BOGGY ⟨~ ground⟩ **2** : relating to or occurring in marshes ⟨~ vegetation⟩ — **marsh·i·ness** *n*
¹mar·su·pi·al \mär-'sü-pē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or being a marsupial **2** : of, relating to, or forming a marsupium
²marsupial *n* [deriv. of NL *marsupium*] : any of an order (Marsupialia) of lowly mammals comprising kangaroos, wombats, bandicoots, opossums, and related animals that with few exceptions develop no placenta and have a pouch on the abdomen of the female containing the teats and serving to carry the young
mar·su·pi·um \mär-'sü-pē-əm\ *n, pl* **-pia** \-pē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, purse, pouch, fr. Gk *marsypion*] **1** : an abdominal pouch formed by a fold of the skin and enclosing the mammary glands of most marsupials **2** : any of several structures in various invertebrates (as a bryozoan or mollusk) for enclosing or carrying eggs or young
¹mart \'märt\ *n* [ME, fr. MD *marct, mart*, prob. fr. ONF *market*] **1** *archaic* : a coming together of people to buy and sell : ⁵FAIR 1 **2** *obs* : the activity of buying and selling; *also* : BARGAIN **3** : MARKET
²mart *vt, archaic* : to deal in : SELL
mar·tel·lo tower \mär-'tel-ō-\ *n, often cap M* [Cape *Mortella*, Corsica] : a circular masonry fort or blockhouse
mar·ten \'märt-ᵊn\ *n, pl* **marten** *or* **martens** [ME *martryn*, fr. MF *martrine* marten fur, fr. OF, fr. *martre* marten, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *mearth* marten] **1** : any of several semiarboreal slender-bodied carnivorous mammals (genus *Martes*) larger than the related weasels **2** : the fur or pelt of a marten



marten 1

mar·tens·ite \'märt-ᵊn-ˌzīt\ *n* [Adolf *Martens* †1914 G metallurgist] : the hard constituent of which quenched steel is chiefly composed — **mar·tens·it·ic** \ˌmart-ᵊn-'zit-ik, -'sit-\ *adj* — **mar·tens·it·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Mar·tha \'mär-thə\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk] : a sister of Lazarus and Mary and friend of Jesus
mar·tial \'mär-shəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *martialis* of Mars, fr. *Mart-, Mars*] **1** : of, relating to, or suited for war or a warrior **2** : relating to an army or to military life **3** : experienced in or inclined to war : WARLIKE — **mar·tial·ly** \-shə-lē\ *adv*
syn MARTIAL, WARLIKE, MILITARY *shared meaning element* : of or characteristic of war
martial law *n* **1** : the law applied in occupied territory by the military authority of the occupying power **2** : the law administered by military forces that is invoked by a government in an emergency when the civilian law enforcement agencies are unable to maintain public order and safety
mar·tian \'mär-shən\ *adj, often cap* : of or relating to the planet Mars or its hypothetical inhabitants — **martian** *n, often cap*
mar·tin \'märt-ᵊn\ *n* [MF, fr. St. *Martin*; prob. fr. the migration of martins around Martinmas] **1** : a small European swallow (*Delichon urbica*) with a forked tail, bluish black head and back, and white rump and underparts **2** : any of various swallows and flycatchers other than the martin
mar·ti·net \ˌmärt-ᵊn-'et\ *n* [Jean *Martinet*, 17th cent. F army officer] **1** : a strict disciplinarian **2** : one who stresses a rigid adherence to the details of forms and methods
mar·tin·gale \'märt-ᵊn-ˌgāl, -iŋ-\ *n* [MF] **1** : a device for steadying a horse's head or checking its upward movement that typically consists of a strap fastened to the girth, passing between the forelegs, and bifurcating to end in two rings through which the reins pass **2 a** : a lower stay of rope or chain for the jibboom or flying jibboom used to sustain the strain of the forestays and fastened to or rove through the dolphin striker **b** : DOLPHIN STRIKER **3** : any of several systems of betting in which a player increases his stake usu. by doubling each time he loses a bet
mar·ti·ni \mär-'tē-nē\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Martini*] : a cocktail made of gin and dry vermouth; *also* : one made with vodka instead of gin
Mar·tin Lu·ther King Day \ˌmärt-ᵊn-ˌlü-thər-'kiŋ-\ *n* : January 15 observed as a legal holiday by some states of the U.S.
Mar·tin·mas \'märt-ᵊn-məs, -ˌmas\ *n* [ME *martinmasse*, fr. St. *Martin* + ME *masse* mass] : November 11 celebrated as the feast of Saint Martin
mart·let \'märt-lət\ *n* [MF, prob. alter. of *martinet*, dim. of *martin*] : MARTIN 1
¹mar·tyr \'märt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. LL, fr. Gk *martyr-, martys*, lit., witness; akin to L *memor* mindful] **1** : one who voluntarily suffers death as the penalty of witnessing to and refusing to renounce his religion **2** : one who sacrifices his life or something of great value for the sake of principle **3** : VICTIM: *esp* : a great or constant sufferer ⟨a ~ to asthma all his life —A. J. Cronin⟩ — **mar·tyr·iza·tion** \ˌmärt-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **mar·tyr·ize** \'märt-əˌrīz\ *vt*
²martyr *vt* **1** : to put to death for adhering to a belief, faith, or profession **2** : to inflict agonizing pain on : TORTURE
mar·tyr·dom \'märt-ərd-əm\ *n* **1** : the suffering of death on account of adherence to a cause and esp. to one's religious faith **2** : AFFLICTION, TORTURE
mar·tyr·ol·o·gist \ˌmärt-ə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n* : a writer of or a specialist in martyrology
mar·tyr·ol·o·gy \-jē\ *n* **1** : a catalog of Roman Catholic martyrs and saints arranged by the dates of their feasts **2** : ecclesiastical history treating the lives and sufferings of martyrs
mar·tyry \'märt-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-tyr·ies** [LL *martyrium*, fr. LGk *martyrion*, fr. Gk *martyr-, martys*] : a shrine erected in honor of a martyr
¹mar·vel \'mär-vəl\ *n* [ME *mervel*, fr. OF *merveille*, fr. LL *mirabilia* marvels, fr. L, neut. pl. of *mirabilis* wonderful, fr. *mirari* to wonder — more at SMILE] **1** : something that causes wonder or astonishment **2** : intense surprise or interest : ASTONISHMENT
²marvel *vb* **mar·veled** *or* **mar·velled; mar·vel·ing** *or* **mar·vel·ling** \'märv-(ə-)liŋ\ *vi* : to become filled with surprise, wonder, or amazed curiosity ⟨~*ed* at the magician's skill⟩ ~ *vt* : to feel astonishment or perplexity at or about ⟨~*ed* that they had escaped⟩
mar·vel·ous *or* **mar·vel·lous** \'märv-(ə-)ləs\ *adj* **1** : causing wonder : ASTONISHING **2** : MIRACULOUS, SUPERNATURAL ⟨Gothic tales of the ~ and the bizarre⟩ **3** : of the highest kind or quality : notably superior ⟨has a ~ way with children⟩ — **mar·vel·ous·ly** *adv* — **mar·vel·ous·ness** *n*
Marx·ian \'märk-sē-ən *also* 'märk-shən\ *adj* [Karl *Marx*] : of, developed by, or influenced by the doctrines of Marx ⟨~ socialism⟩
Marx·ism \'märk-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : the political, economic, and social principles and policies advocated by Marx; *esp* : a theory and practice of socialism including the labor theory of value, dialectical materialism, the class struggle, and dictatorship of the proletariat until the establishment of a classless society — **Marx·ist** \-səst\ *n or adj*
Marx·ism–Le·nin·ism \'märk-ˌsiz-əm-'len-ə-ˌniz-əm, -'lān-\ *n* : a theory and practice of communism developed by Lenin from the doctrines of Marx — **Marx·ist–Len·in·ist** \'märk-səst-'len-ə-nəst\ *n or adj*
Mary \'me(ə)r-ē, 'ma(ə)r-ē, 'mā-rē\ *n* [LL *Maria*, fr. Gk *Mariam, Maria*, fr. Heb *Miryām*] **1** : the mother of Jesus **2** : a sister of Lazarus and Martha and a friend of Jesus

Mary Jane \-'jān\ *n* [by folk etymology (influenced by Sp *Juana* Jane)] *slang* : MARIJUANA
Mary·knoll·er \-,nō-lər\ *n* : a member of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America founded by T. F. Price and J. A. Walsh at Maryknoll, N.Y. in 1911
Mary Mag·da·lene \-'mag-də-,lēn, -,mag-də-'lē-nē\ *n* [LL *Magdalene*, fr. Gk *Magdalēnē*] : a woman who was healed of evil spirits by Jesus and who saw the risen Christ near his sepulcher
mar·zi·pan \'märt-sə-,pän, -,pan; 'mär-zə-,pan\ *n* [G, fr. It *marzapane*, a medieval coin, marzipan, fr. Ar *mawthabān*, a medieval coin] : a confection of crushed almonds or almond paste, sugar, and egg whites that is often shaped into various forms
Ma·sai \mä-'sī, 'mä-,\ *n, pl* **Masai** *or* **Masais** **1** : a member of a pastoral and hunting people of Kenya and Tanganyika **2** : a Nilotic language of the Masai people
masc *abbr* masculine
mas·cara \ma-'skar-ə\ *n* [It *maschera* mask] : a cosmetic for coloring the eyelashes and eyebrows
mas·con \'mas-,kän\ *n* [*mass* + *con*centration] : one of the concentrations of large mass under the surface of the moon in the maria held to cause perturbations of the paths of spacecraft orbiting the moon
mas·cot \'mas-,kät *also* -kət\ *n* [F *mascotte*, fr. Prov *mascoto*, fr. *masco* witch, fr. ML *masca*] : a person, animal, or object adopted by a group as a symbolic figure esp. to bring them good luck ⟨the team had a mountain lion as their ~⟩
[1]mas·cu·line \'mas-kyə-lən\ *adj* [ME *masculin*, fr. MF, fr. L *masculinus*, fr. *masculus*, n., male, dim. of *mas* male] **1 a** : MALE **b** : having qualities appropriate to a man **2** : of, relating to, or constituting the gender that ordinarily includes most words or grammatical forms referring to males **3 a** : having or occurring in a stressed final syllable ⟨~ rhyme⟩ **b** : having the final chord occurring on a strong beat ⟨~ cadence⟩ **4** : of or forming the formal, active, or generative principle of the cosmos — **mas·cu·line·ly** *adv* — **mas·cu·line·ness** \-lən-nəs\ *n* — **mas·cu·lin·i·ty** \,mas-kyə-'lin-ət-ē\ *n*
[2]masculine *n* **1** : a male person **2** : a noun, pronoun, adjective, or inflectional form or class of the masculine gender **3** : the masculine gender
mas·cu·lin·ize \'mas-kyə-lə-,nīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to give a preponderantly masculine character to; *esp* : to cause (a female) to take on male characteristics
ma·ser \'mā-zər\ *n* [*m*icrowave *a*mplification by *s*timulated *e*mission of *r*adiation] : a device that utilizes the natural oscillations of atoms or molecules between energy levels for generating electromagnetic radiation in the microwave region of the spectrum
[1]mash \'mash\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *māx-*; akin to MHG *meisch* mash] **1** : crushed malt or grain meal steeped and stirred in hot water to ferment (as for the production of beer or whiskey) **2** : a mixture of ground feeds for livestock **3** : a soft pulpy mass
[2]mash *vt* **1 a** : to reduce to a soft pulpy state by beating or pressure **b** : CRUSH, SMASH ⟨~ a finger⟩ **2** : to subject (as crushed malt) to the action of water with heating and stirring in preparing wort
[3]mash *vt* [prob. fr. [2]*mash*] : to flirt with or seek to gain the affection of
[4]mash *n* : CRUSH 3
MASH *abbr* mobile army surgical hospital
[1]mash·er \'mash-ər\ *n* : one that mashes ⟨a potato ~⟩
[2]masher *n* : a man who makes passes at women
[1]mask \'mask\ *n* [MF *masque*, fr. OIt *maschera*] **1 a** (1) : a cover or partial cover for the face used for disguise (2) : a person wearing a mask : MASKER **b** (1) : a figure of a head worn on the stage in antiquity to identify the character and project the voice (2) : a grotesque false face worn at carnivals or in rituals **c** : an often grotesque carved head or face used as an ornament (as on a keystone) **d** : a sculptured face or a copy of a face made by means of a mold **2 a** : something that serves to conceal or disguise : PRETENSE, CLOAK ⟨aware of the ~*s*, facades and defenses people erect to protect themselves —Kenneth Keniston⟩ **b** : something that conceals from view **c** : a translucent or opaque screen to cover part of the sensitive surface in taking or printing a photograph **3 a** : a protective covering for the face **b** : GAS MASK **c** : a device covering the mouth and nose to facilitate inhalation **d** : a comparable device to prevent exhalation of infective material **e** : a cosmetic preparation for the skin of the face that produces a tightening effect as it dries **4** : the head or face of an animal (as a fox or dog)


Ceylonese mask

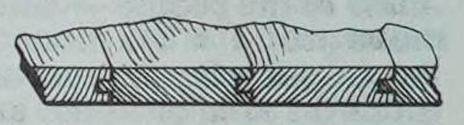
[2]mask *vi* **1** : to take part in a masquerade **2 a** : to assume a mask **b** : to disguise one's true character or intentions ~ *vt* **1** : to provide or conceal with a mask: as **a** : to conceal from view ⟨~ a gun battery⟩ **b** : to make indistinct or imperceptible ⟨~*s* undesirable flavors⟩ **c** : to cover up ⟨~*ed* his real purpose⟩ **2** : to cover for protection **3** : to modify the size or shape of (as a photograph) by means of an opaque border ***syn*** see DISGUISE — **mask·able** \'mas-kə-bəl\ *adj*
masked \'maskt\ *adj* **1** : marked by the use of masks ⟨a ~ ball⟩ **2** : failing to present or produce the usual symptoms : LATENT ⟨~ infection⟩ ⟨a ~ virus⟩
mask·er \'mas-kər\ *n* : a person who wears a mask; *esp* : a participant in a masquerade
mask·ing \'mas-kiŋ\ *n* : a piece of scenery used to conceal parts of a stage from the audience
mas·och·ism \'mas-ə-,kiz-əm, 'maz-\ *n* [ISV, fr. Leopold von Sacher-*Masoch* †1895 G novelist] **1** : a sexual perversion characterized by pleasure in being abused esp. by a love object — compare SADISM **2** : pleasure in being abused or dominated : a taste for suffering — **mas·och·ist** \-kəst\ *n* — **mas·och·is·tic** \,mas-ə-'kis-tik, ,maz-\ *adj* — **mas·och·is·ti·cal·ly** \,mas-ə-'kis-ti-k(ə-)lē, ,maz-\ *adv*
[1]ma·son \'mās-ᵊn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *maçon*] **1** : a skilled workman who builds by laying up units of substantial material (as stone or brick) **2** *cap* : FREEMASON
[2]mason *vt* **ma·soned; ma·son·ing** \'mās-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ **1** : to construct of or repair with masonry **2** : to build stonework or brickwork about, under, in, or over
Ma·son–Dix·on line \,mās-ᵊn-'dik-sən-\ *n* [Charles *Mason* and Jeremiah *Dixon*] : the southern boundary line of Pennsylvania; *also* : the boundary line between the northern and southern states — called also *Mason and Dixon's line*
Ma·son·ic \mə-'sän-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Freemasons or Freemasonry
Ma·son·ite \'mās-ᵊn-,īt\ *trademark* — used for fiberboard made from steam-exploded wood fiber
ma·son jar \,mās-ᵊn-\ *n* [John L. *Mason*, 19th cent. Am inventor] : a widemouthed jar used esp. for home canning
ma·son·ry \'mās-ᵊn-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1 a** : something constructed of materials used by masons **b** : the art, trade, or occupation of a mason **c** : work done by a mason **2** *cap* : FREEMASONRY
mason wasp *n* : any of various solitary wasps that construct nests of hardened mud
Ma·so·ra *or* **Ma·so·rah** \mə-'sōr-ə, -'sȯr-\ *n* [NHeb *mĕsōrāh*, fr. LHeb *māsōreth* tradition, fr. Heb, bond] : a body of notes on the textual traditions of the Hebrew Old Testament compiled by scribes during the 1st millennium of the Christian era
Mas·o·rete *or* **Mas·so·rete** \'mas-ə-,rēt\ *n* [MF *massoreth*, fr. L Heb *māsōreth*] : one of the scribes who compiled the Masorah — **Mas·o·ret·ic** \,mas-ə-'ret-ik\ *adj*
masque *also* **mask** \'mask\ *n* [MF *masque*, fr. OIt *maschera* mask] **1** : MASQUERADE **2** : a short allegorical dramatic entertainment of the 16th and 17th centuries performed by masked actors
masqu·er \'mas-kər\ *n* : MASKER
[1]mas·quer·ade \,mas-kə-'rād\ *n* [MF, fr. OIt dial. *mascarada*, fr. OIt *maschera*] **1 a** : a social gathering of persons wearing masks and often fantastic costumes **b** : a costume for wear at such a gathering **2** : an action or appearance that is mere disguise or outward show
[2]masquerade *vi* **-ad·ed; -ad·ing** **1 a** : to disguise oneself; *also* : to go about disguised **b** : to take part in a masquerade **2** : to assume the appearance of something that one is not — **mas·quer·ad·er** *n*
[1]mass \'mas\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mæsse*, modif. of (assumed) VL *messa*, lit., dismissal at the end of a religious service, fr. LL *missa*, fr. L, fem. of *missus*, pp. of *mittere* to send — more at SMITE] **1** *cap* : the liturgy of the Eucharist esp. in accordance with the traditional Latin rite **2** *often cap* : a celebration of the Eucharist ⟨Sunday ~*es* held at three different hours⟩ **3** : a musical setting for the ordinary of the Mass
[2]mass *n* [ME *masse*, fr. MF, fr. L *massa*, fr. Gk *maza*; akin to Gk *massein* to knead — more at MINGLE] **1 a** : a quantity or aggregate of matter usu. of considerable size **b** (1) : EXPANSE, BULK (2) : massive quality or effect ⟨impressed me with such ~ and such vividness —F. M. Ford⟩ (3) : the principal part or main body ⟨the great ~ of the continent is buried under an ice cap —Walter Sullivan⟩ (4) : AGGREGATE, WHOLE ⟨men in the ~⟩ **c** : the property of a body that is a measure of its inertia, that is commonly taken as a measure of the amount of material it contains and causes it to have weight in a gravitational field, and that along with length and time constitutes one of the fundamental quantities on which all physical measurements are based **2** : a large quantity, amount, or number ⟨a great ~ of material⟩ **3 a** : a large body of persons in a compact group : a body of persons regarded as an aggregate **b** : the body of people as contrasted with the elite — often used in pl. ⟨a better future for the underprivileged and disadvantaged ~*es* — C. A. Buss⟩ ***syn*** see BULK
[3]mass *vi* : to assemble in a mass ⟨three thousand students had ~*ed* in the plaza —A. E. Neville⟩ ~ *vt* : to form or collect into a mass
[4]mass *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to the mass of the people ⟨~ market⟩ ⟨~ education⟩; *also* : being one of or at one with the mass : AVERAGE, COMMONPLACE ⟨~ man⟩ **b** : participated in by or affecting a large number of individuals ⟨~ destruction⟩ ⟨~ demonstrations⟩ **c** : having a large-scale character : WHOLESALE ⟨~ production⟩ **2** : viewed as a whole : TOTAL ⟨the ~ effect of a design⟩
Mass *abbr* Massachusetts
mas·sa \'mas-ə\ *n, South* : MASTER ⟨this Louisiana sugar planter was called ~ by a hundred Negroes —Katharine L. Bates⟩
Mas·sa·chu·set \,mas-(ə-)'chü-sət, -zət\ *n, pl* **Massachuset** *or* **Massachusets** *also* **Massachusetts** [Massachuset *Massa-adchu=es-et*, a locality, lit., about the big hill] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of Massachusetts **2** : the Algonquian language of the Massachuset people
[1]mas·sa·cre \'mas-i-kər\ *vt* **mas·sa·cred; mas·sa·cring** \-k(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to kill by massacre : SLAUGHTER **2** : MANGLE ⟨words were misspelled and syntax *massacred* —Bice Clemow⟩ — **mas·sa·crer** \-kər-ər, -krər\ *n*
[2]massacre *n* [MF] **1** : the act or an instance of killing a number of usu. helpless or unresisting human beings under circumstances of atrocity or cruelty **2** : a cruel or wanton murder **3** : a wholesale slaughter of animals **4** : an act of complete destruction ⟨the author's ~ of traditional federalist presuppositions —R. G. McCloskey⟩
syn MASSACRE, SLAUGHTER, BUTCHERY, CARNAGE, POGROM *shared meaning element* : a great and usu. wanton or ruthless killing of human beings
[1]mas·sage \mə-'säzh, -'säj\ *n* [F, fr. *masser* to massage, fr. Ar *massa* to stroke] : manipulation of tissues (as by rubbing, stroking, kneading, or tapping) with the hand or an instrument for remedial or hygienic purposes

²massage *vt* **mas·saged; mas·sag·ing** : to subject to massage — **mas·sag·er** *n*
mas·sa·sau·ga \ˌmas-ə-'sȯ-gə\ *n* [*Missisauga* river, Ontario, Canada] : any of several small rattlesnakes (genus *Sistrurus*)
mass card *n* : a card notifying the recipient (as a bereaved family) that a mass is to be offered for the repose of the soul of a specified deceased person
mass communication *n* : communication (as magazines and television) directed to or reaching the mass of the people ⟨printed media of *mass communication* throughout the . . . world —*Brit. Book News*⟩
mass defect *n* : the difference between the mass of an isotope and its mass number
mas·sé \ma-'sā\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *masser* to make a massé shot, fr. *masse* sledgehammer, fr. MF *mace* mace] : a shot in billiards or pool made by hitting the cue ball vertically or nearly vertically on the side to drive it around one ball in order to strike another
mass–energy equation *n* : an equation for the interconversion of mass and energy: $E = MC^2$ where E is energy in ergs, M is mass in grams, and C is the velocity of light in centimeters per second
mas·se·ter \mə-'sēt-ər, ma-\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *masētēr*, fr. *masasthai* to chew] : a large muscle that raises the lower jaw and assists in mastication — **mas·se·ter·ic** \ˌmas-ə-'ter-ik\ *adj*
mas·seur \ma-'sər, mə-\ *n* [F, fr. *masser*] : a man who practices massage and physiotherapy
mas·seuse \-'sə(r)z, -'süz\ *n* [F, fem. of *masseur*] : a woman who practices massage and physiotherapy
mas·si·cot \'mas-ə-ˌkät, -ˌkō(t)\ *n* [ME *masticot*, fr. MF *massicot, masticot*, fr. OIt *massicotto* pottery glaze] : a yellow unfused lead monoxide PbO used esp. as a pigment
mas·sif \ma-'sēf\ *n* [F, fr. *massif*, adj.] **1** : a principal mountain mass **2** : a block of the earth's crust bounded by faults or flexures and displaced as a unit without internal change
mas·sive \'mas-iv\ *adj* [ME *massiffe*, fr. MF *massif*, fr. *masse* mass] **1** : forming or consisting of a large mass: **a** : BULKY **b** : WEIGHTY, HEAVY ⟨~ walls⟩ ⟨a ~ volume⟩ **c** : impressively large or ponderous **d** : having no regular form but not necessarily lacking crystalline structure ⟨~ sandstone⟩ **2 a** : large, solid, or heavy in structure ⟨~ jaw⟩ **b** : large in scope or degree ⟨the feeling of frustration, of being ineffectual, is ~ —David Halberstam⟩ **c** (1) : large in comparison to what is typical ⟨~ dose of penicillin⟩ (2) : being extensive and severe ⟨~ hemorrhage⟩ ⟨~ collapse of a lung⟩ (3) : imposing in excellence or grandeur : MONUMENTAL ⟨~ simplicity⟩ — **mas·sive·ly** *adv* — **mas·sive·ness** *n*
mass·less \'mas-ləs\ *adj* : having no mass ⟨a ~ particle⟩
mass medium *n, pl* **mass media** : a medium of communication (as newspapers, radio, or television) that is designed to reach the mass of the people — usu. used in pl.
mass noun *n* : a noun that characteristically denotes in many languages a homogeneous substance or a concept without subdivisions (as *sand* or *water*) and that in English is preceded in indefinite singular constructions by *some* rather than *a* or *an* — compare COUNT NOUN
mass number *n* : an integer that expresses the mass of an isotope and designates the number of nucleons in the nucleus
Mass of the Presanctified : a Roman Catholic service for Good Friday including communion with previously consecrated elements
Mass of the Resurrection : a mass for the dead in which the celebrant wears white vestments to symbolize the joyous resurrection of the dead
mass–pro·duce \ˌmas-prə-'d(y)üs\ *vt* [back-formation fr. *mass production*] : to produce in quantity usu. by machinery — **mass production** *n*
mass spectrograph *n* : an instrument that separates a stream of charged particles into a mass spectrum usu. with photographic recording of the data and that is used for measuring atomic masses and determining the relative abundance of isotopes in an element
mass spectrometer *n* : an instrument similar to a mass spectrograph but usu. adapted for the electrical measurement of the data for use esp. in determining abundance ratios of isotopes — **mass spectrometric** *adj* — **mass spectrometry** *n*
mass spectrum *n* : the spectrum of a stream of charged particles (as electrons or nuclear particles) dispersed according to their mass
massy \'mas-ē\ *adj* : MASSIVE
¹mast \'mast\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mæst;* akin to OHG *mast*, L *malus*] **1** : a long pole or spar rising from the keel or deck of a ship and supporting the yards, booms, and rigging **2** : a vertical or nearly vertical pole (as an upright post in various cranes) **3** : a disciplinary proceeding at which the commanding officer of a naval unit hears and disposes of cases against his enlisted men — called also *captain's mast* — **mast·ed** \'mas-təd\ *adj* — **before the mast** **1** : forward of the foremast **2** : as a common sailor
²mast *vt* : to furnish with a mast
³mast *n* [ME, fr. OE *mæst;* akin to OHG *mast* food, mast, OE *mete* food — more at MEAT] : nuts (as beechnuts and acorns) accumulated on the forest floor and often serving as food for animals (as hogs)
mast- *or* **masto-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *mastos* — more at MEAT] : breast : nipple : mammary gland ⟨*mast*itis⟩
mas·ta·ba \'mas-tə-bə\ *n* [Ar *maṣṭabah* stone bench] : an Egyptian tomb of the time of the Memphite dynasties that is oblong in shape with sloping sides and a flat roof
mast cell \'mast-\ *n* [part trans. of G *mast zelle*, fr. *mast* food, mast (fr. OHG) + *zelle* cell] : a large cell with numerous heparin-containing basophilic granules that occurs esp. in connective tissue
mas·tec·to·my \ma-'stek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** : excision or amputation of the breast
¹mas·ter \'mas-tər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *magister* & OF *maistre*, both fr. L *magister;* akin to L *magnus* great — more at MUCH] **1 a** (1) : a male teacher (2) : a person holding an academic degree higher than a bachelor's but lower than a doctor's **b** *often cap* : a revered religious leader **c** : a workman qualified to teach apprentices **d** (1) : an artist, performer, or player of consummate skill (2) : a great figure of the past (as in science or art) whose work serves as a model or ideal **2 a** : one having authority over another : RULER, GOVERNOR **b** : one that conquers or masters : VICTOR, SUPERIOR ⟨in this young, obscure challenger the champion found his ~⟩ **c** : a person licensed to command a merchant ship **d** (1) : one having control (2) : an owner esp. of a slave or animal **e** : EMPLOYER **f** (1) *dial* : HUSBAND (2) : the male head of a household **3 a** (1) *archaic* : MR. (2) : a youth or boy too young to be called *mister* — used as a title **b** : the eldest son of a Scottish viscount or baron **4 a** : a presiding officer in an institution or society (as a college) **b** : any of several officers of court appointed to assist (as by hearing and reporting) a judge **5 a** : a master mechanism or device **b** : an original from which copies can be made; *esp* : a master phonograph record
²master *vt* **mas·tered; mas·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to become master of : OVERCOME **2 a** : to become skilled or proficient in the use of ⟨~ a foreign language⟩ **b** : to gain a thorough understanding of ⟨could ~ any intricate detail of pertinent information — Robert White⟩
³master *adj* : being or relating to a master: as **a** : having chief authority : DOMINANT **b** : SKILLED, PROFICIENT ⟨a prosperous ~ builder —*Current Biog.*⟩ **c** : PRINCIPAL, PREDOMINANT **d** : SUPERLATIVE — often used in combination ⟨a *master*-liar⟩ **e** : being a device or mechanism that controls the operation of another mechanism or that establishes a standard (as a dimension or weight) **f** : being a master from which duplicates are made
master–at–arms *n, pl* **masters–at–arms** : a petty officer charged with maintaining discipline aboard ship
master bath *n* : a principal bathroom in a house usu. attached to or associated with the master bedroom
master bedroom *n* : a principal bedroom in a house; *esp* : one that is occupied by the head of the household
master chief petty officer *n* : an enlisted man in the navy or coast guard ranking above a senior chief petty officer
master chief petty officer of the coast guard : the ranking petty officer in the coast guard serving as adviser to the commandant
master chief petty officer of the navy : the ranking petty officer in the navy serving as adviser to the chief of naval operations
mas·ter·ful \'mas-tər-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : inclined and usu. competent (as by reason of vigor and insight) to play the master **b** : suggestive of a masterful nature ⟨his eyes were dark and ~⟩ **2** : having or reflecting the technical, artistic, or intellectual power and skill of a master ⟨~ drawings⟩ — **mas·ter·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mas·ter·ful·ness** *n*

syn MASTERFUL, DOMINEERING, IMPERIOUS, PEREMPTORY, IMPERATIVE *shared meaning element* : tending to impose one's will on another. MASTERFUL implies a strong virile personality and ability to deal authoritatively with affairs ⟨she was ever a *masterful* woman, better fitted to command than to obey —H. O. Taylor⟩ DOMINEERING suggests an overbearing or arbitrary manner and an obstinate determination to enforce one's will ⟨like *domineering* mothers, the states refuse cities the right to run their own lives — T. C. Desmond⟩ IMPERIOUS applies to one who by position or nature is fitted to command or, often, to one who assumes the manner of such a person; the term is likely to suggest arrogant assurance ⟨she is the cynical, *imperious* guide for the politician's early steps, seething with impotent and suppressed rage as she watches him grow out of her control —Alton Cook⟩ PEREMPTORY implies an abrupt dictatorial manner coupled with an unwillingness to brook disobedience or delay or to entertain objections however valid ⟨his *peremptory* command that she decide at once about his proposal —James Purdy⟩ IMPERATIVE implies peremptoriness arising more from the urgency of the situation than from an inherent will to dominate ⟨he heard her *imperative* voice at the telephone; he heard her summon the doctor —Ellen Glasgow⟩

master gunnery sergeant *n* : a noncommissioned officer in the marine corps ranking above a master sergeant
master key *n* : a key designed to open several different locks
mas·ter·ly \'mas-tər-lē\ *adj* : suitable to or resembling that of a master; *esp* : indicating thorough knowledge or superior skill and power ⟨~ performance⟩ — **mas·ter·li·ness** *n* — **masterly** *adv*
¹mas·ter·mind \'mas-tər-ˌmīnd, ˌmas-tər-'\ *n* : a person who supplies the directing or creative intelligence for a project
²mastermind *vt* : to be the mastermind of
master of arts *often cap M&A* **1** : the recipient of a master's degree that usu. signifies that the recipient has passed an integrated course of study in one or more of the humanities and sometimes has completed a thesis involving research or a creative project and that typically requires two years of work beyond a bachelor's degree **2** : the degree making one a master of arts — abbr. *M.A., A.M.*
master of ceremonies **1** : a person who determines the forms to be observed on a public occasion **2** : a person who acts as host at a formal event **3** : a person who acts as host for a program of entertainment (as on television)
master of science *often cap M&S* **1** : the recipient of a master's degree that usu. signifies that the recipient has passed an integrated course of study in one or more of the sciences and sometimes has completed a thesis involving research and that typically requires two years of work beyond a bachelor's degree **2** : the degree making one a master of science — abbr. *M.S., M.Sc.*
mas·ter·piece \'mas-tər-ˌpēs\ *n* **1** : a piece of work presented to a medieval guild as evidence of qualification for the rank of master **2** : a work done with extraordinary skill; *esp* : a supreme intellectual or artistic achievement ⟨the three motion pictures that most critics consider his ~*s* —*Current Biog.*⟩

master plan *n* : a plan giving overall guidance ⟨having an architect . . . create a *master plan* for the University's future —Samuel Coleman⟩ — **master-plan** *vb*
master point *n* : a point that is permanently credited to a player (as of bridge) for winning or placing high in a tournament and that forms the basis for national ranking
master race *n* : a people held to be racially preeminent and hence fitted to rule or enslave other peoples
master sergeant *n* : a noncommissioned officer ranking in the army above a sergeant first class and below a staff sergeant major, in the air force above a technical sergeant and below a senior master sergeant, and in the marine corps above a gunnery sergeant and below a master gunnery sergeant
mas·ter·ship \'mas-tər-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the authority or control of a master **2** : the status, office, or function of a master **3** : the proficiency of a master
mas·ter·sing·er \-ˌsiŋ-ər\ *n* : MEISTERSINGER
mas·ter·stroke \-ˌstrōk\ *n* : a masterly performance or move
mas·ter·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : MASTERPIECE
mas·tery \'mas-t(ə-)rē\ *n* [ME *maistrie*, fr. OF, fr. *maistre* master] **1 a** : the authority of a master : DOMINION **b** : the upper hand in a contest or competition : SUPERIORITY, ASCENDANCY ⟨a violent spirit in him was struggling for the ~ —Gilbert Parker⟩ **2 a** : possession or display of great skill or technique **b** : skill or knowledge that makes one master of a subject : COMMAND
mast·head \'mast-ˌhed\ *n* **1** : the top of a mast **2 a** : the printed matter in a newspaper or periodical that gives the title and pertinent details of ownership, advertising rates, and subscription rates **b** : the name of a newspaper displayed on the top of the first page
mas·tic \'mas-tik\ *n* [ME *mastik*, fr. L *mastiche*, fr. Gk *mastichē*; akin to Gk *mastichan*] **1** : an aromatic resinous exudate from mastic trees used chiefly in varnishes **2** : any of various pasty materials used as protective coatings or cements
mas·ti·cate \'mas-tə-ˌkāt\ *vb* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [LL *masticatus*, pp. of *masticare*, fr. Gk *mastichan* to gnash the teeth; akin to Gk *masasthai* to chew — more at MOUTH] *vt* **1** : to grind or crush (food) with or as if with the teeth in preparation for swallowing : CHEW **2** : to soften or reduce to pulp by crushing or kneading ~ *vi* : CHEW — **mas·ti·ca·tion** \ˌmas-tə-'kā-shən\ *n* — **mas·ti·ca·tor** \'mas-tə-ˌkāt-ər\ *n*
¹mas·ti·ca·to·ry \'mas-ti-kə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : used for or adapted to chewing ⟨~ limbs of an arthropod⟩ **2** : of, relating to, or involving the organs of mastication ⟨~ paralysis⟩
²masticatory *n, pl* **-ries** : a substance chewed to increase saliva
mastic tree *n* : a small southern European tree (*Pistacia lentiscus*) of the sumac family that yields mastic
mas·tiff \'mas-təf\ *n* [ME *mastif*, modif. of MF *mastin*, fr. (assumed) VL *mansuetinus*, fr. L *mansuetus* tame — more at MANSUETUDE] : a very large powerful deep-chested smooth-coated dog used chiefly as a watchdog and guard dog
mas·ti·goph·o·ran \ˌmas-tə-'gäf-ə-rən\ *n* [deriv. of Gk *mastig-, mastix* whip + *pherein* to carry — more at BEAR] : any of a class (Mastigophora) of protozoans comprising forms with flagella and including many often treated as algae — **mastigophoran** *adj*
mas·ti·tis \ma-'stīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-tit·i·des** \-'tit-ə-ˌdēz\ [NL] : inflammation of the breast or udder usu. caused by infection — **mas·tit·ic** \-'tit-ik\ *adj*
masto- — see MAST-
mast·odon \'mas-tə-ˌdän, -dən\ *n* [NL *mastodont-, mastodon*, fr. Gk *mast-* + *odont-, odōn, odous* tooth — more at TOOTH] **1** : any of numerous extinct mammals (esp. genus *Mammut*) that differ from the related mammoths and existing elephants chiefly in the form of the molar teeth **2** : something unusually large : GIANT ⟨military vehicles from little jeeps to six-wheel armored ~*s* —Gelett Burgess⟩ — **mast·odon·ic** \ˌmas-tə-'dän-ik\ *adj* — **mast·odont** \'mas-tə-ˌdänt\ *adj or n*
¹mas·toid \'mas-ˌtȯid\ *adj* [NL *mastoides* resembling a nipple, mastoid, fr. Gk *mastoeidēs*, fr. *mastos* breast — more at MEAT] **1** : being a process of the temporal bone behind the ear; *also* : being any of several bony elements that occupy a similar position in the skull of lower vertebrates **2** : of, relating to, or occurring in the region of the mastoid process
²mastoid *n* **1** : a mastoid bone or process **2 a** : MASTOIDITIS **b** : an operation for the relief of mastoiditis
mastoid cell *n* : one of the small cavities in the mastoid process that develop after birth and are filled with air
mas·toid·ec·to·my \ˌmas-ˌtȯid-'ek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [ISV] : surgical removal of the mastoid cells or of the mastoid process
mas·toid·itis \ˌmas-ˌtȯid-'īt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the mastoid and esp. of the mastoid cells
mas·tur·bate \'mas-tər-ˌbāt\ *vb* **-bat·ed; -bat·ing** [L *masturbatus*, pp. of *masturbari*] *vi* : to practice masturbation ~ *vt* : to practice masturbation on — **mas·tur·ba·tor** \-ˌbāt-ər\ *n*
mas·tur·ba·tion \ˌmas-tər-'bā-shən\ *n* : erotic stimulation of the genital organs commonly resulting in orgasm and achieved by manual or other bodily contact exclusive of sexual intercourse, by instrumental manipulation, occasionally by sexual fantasies, or by various combinations of these agencies
mas·tur·ba·tory \'mas-tər-bə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving masturbation ⟨~ fantasies⟩
¹mat \'mat\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *meatte*, fr. LL *matta*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *miṭṭāh* bed] **1 a** (1) : a piece of coarse, woven, plaited, or felted fabric used esp. as a floor covering or a support (2) : a piece of material placed at a door for wiping soiled shoe soles **b** : a decorative piece of material used under a small item (as a dish) esp. for support or protection **c** : a large thick pad or cushion used as a surface for wrestling, tumbling, and gymnastics **2** : something made up of many intertwined or tangled strands **3** : a large slab usu. of reinforced concrete used as the supporting base of a building
²mat *vb* **mat·ted; mat·ting** *vt* **1** : to provide with a mat or matting **2 a** : to form into a tangled mass **b** : to pack down so as to form a dense mass ~ *vi* : to become matted
³mat *or* **matt** *or* **matte** \'mat\ *vt* **mat·ted; mat·ting** **1** : to make (as a metal, glass, or color) mat **2** : to provide (a picture) with a mat
⁴mat *or* **matt** *or* **matte** *adj* [F, fr. OF, defeated, fr. L *mattus* drunk; akin to L *madēre* to be wet — more at MEAT] : lacking or deprived of luster or gloss: as **a** : having a usu. smooth even surface free from shine or highlights ⟨~ metals⟩ ⟨a ~ white face⟩ **b** *usu matte* : having a rough or granular surface ⟨a *matte* bacterial colony⟩
⁵mat *or* **matt** *or* **matte** *n* [F *mat* dull color, unpolished surface, fr. *mat*, adj.] **1** : a border going around a picture between picture and frame or serving as the frame **2** : a dead or dull finish or a roughened surface (as of gilt or paint)
⁶mat *n* : MATRIX 2a
MAT *abbr* master of arts in teaching
mat·a·dor \'mat-ə-ˌdȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Sp, fr. *matar* to kill] : a bullfighter who has the principal role and who kills the bull in a bullfight
¹match \'mach\ *n* [ME *macche*, fr. OE *mæcca*; akin to OE *macian* to make — more at MAKE] **1 a** : a person or thing equal or similar to another **b** : one able to cope with another **c** : an exact counterpart **2** : a pair suitably associated ⟨carpet and curtains are a ~⟩ **3 a** : a contest between two or more parties ⟨a golf ~⟩ ⟨a soccer ~⟩ **b** : a tennis contest completed when one player or side wins a specified number of sets **4 a** : a marriage union **b** : a prospective partner in marriage
²match *vt* **1 a** : to encounter successfully as an antagonist **b** (1) : to set in competition or opposition : PIT 2b ⟨~*ing* his strength against his enemy's⟩ (2) : to provide with a worthy competitor **c** : to set in comparison **2** : to join or give in marriage **3 a** (1) : to put in a set possessing equal or harmonizing attributes (2) : to cause to correspond : SUIT **b** (1) : to be the counterpart of; *also* : to compare favorably with ⟨no one can ~ him when it comes to working under pressure⟩ (2) : to harmonize with **c** : to provide with a counterpart **d** : to provide funds complementary to ⟨in some highway programs the federal government ~*es* state funds at a ratio of 9 to 1⟩ **4** : to fit together or make suitable for fitting together **5 a** : to flip or toss (coins) and compare exposed faces **b** : to toss coins with ~ *vi* : to be a counterpart — **match·er** *n*
syn MATCH, RIVAL, EQUAL, APPROACH, TOUCH *shared meaning element* : to come up to or close to the standard of something else
³match *n* [ME *macche*, fr. MF *meiche*] **1** : a chemically prepared wick or cord formerly used in firing firearms or powder **2** : a short slender piece of flammable material (as wood) tipped with a combustible mixture that bursts into flame when slightly heated through friction (as by being scratched against a rough surface)
match·able \'mach-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being matched
match·board \'mach-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : a board with a groove cut along one edge and a tongue along the other so as to fit snugly with the edges of similarly cut boards — called also *matched board*



matchboards

match·book \-ˌbu̇k\ *n* : a small folder containing rows of paper matches
match·less \-ləs\ *adj* : having no equal : PEERLESS — **match·less·ly** *adv*
match·lock \-ˌläk\ *n* **1** : a slow-burning cord lowered over a hole in the breech of a musket to ignite the charge **2** : a musket equipped with a matchlock
match·mak·er \-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one that arranges a match; *esp* : one who tries to bring two unmarried individuals together in an attempt to promote a marriage — **match·mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *n*
match play *n* : a golf competition in which the winner is the person or team winning the greater number of holes — compare STROKE PLAY
match point *n* : a situation (as in tennis) in which one player will win the game, set, and match by winning the next point; *also* : the point won
match·wood \'mach-ˌwu̇d\ *n* : small pieces of wood : SPLINTERS
¹mate \'māt\ *vt* **mated; mat·ing** [ME *maten*, fr. MF *mater*, fr. OF *mat*, n., checkmate, fr. Ar *māt* (in *shāh māt*)] : CHECKMATE 2
²mate *n* : CHECKMATE 1
³mate *n* [ME, prob. fr. MLG *māt*; akin to OE *gemetta* guest at one's table, *mete* food — more at MEAT] **1 a** (1) : ASSOCIATE, COMPANION (2) : an assistant to a more skilled workman : HELPER ⟨plumber's ~⟩ **b** *archaic* : MATCH, PEER **2** : a deck officer on a merchant ship ranking below the captain **3** : one of a pair: as **a** : either member of a married couple **b** : either member of a breeding pair of animals **c** : either of two matched objects ⟨a ~ to this glove⟩
⁴mate *vb* **mated; mat·ing** *vt* **1** *archaic* : EQUAL, MATCH **2** : to join or fit together : COUPLE **3 a** : to join together as mates **b** : to provide a mate for ~ *vi* **1** : to become mated ⟨gears that ~ well⟩ **2** : COPULATE
maté *or* **ma·te** \'mä-ˌtā\ *n* [F & AmerSp; F *maté*, fr. AmerSp *mate*, fr. Quechua] **1** : an aromatic beverage used chiefly in So. America **2** : a So. American holly (*Ilex paraguayensis*) whose leaves and shoots are used in making maté; *also* : these leaves and shoots
ma·te·lote \ˌmat-ᵊl-'ōt, mat-'lōt\ *n* [F] : a stew made usu. of fish in a seasoned wine sauce
ma·ter \'māt-ər\ *n* [L] *chiefly Brit* : MOTHER
ma·ter·fa·mil·i·as \ˌmāt-ər-fə-'mil-ē-əs, ˌmät-\ *n* [L, fr. *mater* + *familias*, archaic gen. of *familia* household — more at FAMILY] : a woman who is head of a household
¹ma·te·ri·al \mə-'tir-ē-əl\ *adj* [ME *materiel*, fr. MF & LL; MF, fr. LL *materialis*, fr. L *materia* matter — more at MATTER] **1 a** (1) : relating to, derived from, or consisting of matter; *esp* : PHYSICAL ⟨the ~ world⟩ (2) : BODILY ⟨~ needs⟩ **b** (1) : of or relating to matter rather than form ⟨~ cause⟩ (2) : of or relating to the subject matter of reasoning; *esp* : EMPIRICAL ⟨~ knowledge⟩ **2** : having real importance or great consequences ⟨facts ~ to the investigation⟩ **3 a** : being of a physical or worldly nature **b** : relating to or concerned with physical rather than spiritual or intellectual things ⟨~ progress⟩ **4** : of or relating to the production and dis-

tribution of economic goods and the social relationships of owners and laborers — **ma·te·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv* — **ma·te·ri·al·ness** *n*
syn **1** MATERIAL, PHYSICAL, CORPOREAL, PHENOMENAL, SENSIBLE, OBJECTIVE *shared meaning element* : of or belonging to actuality ***ant*** immaterial
2 see RELEVANT ***ant*** immaterial

²material *n* **1 a** (1) : the elements, constituents, or substances of which something is composed or can be made (2) : matter that has qualities which give it individuality and by which it may be categorized ⟨the table was covered with a film of sticky ~⟩ ⟨explosive ~*s*⟩ **b** : data that may be worked into a more finished form **c** : MATTER 3b **d** : CLOTH **2 a** : apparatus necessary for doing or making something ⟨writing ~*s*⟩ **b** : MATÉRIEL

ma·te·ri·al·ism \mə-ˈtir-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a theory that physical matter is the only or fundamental reality and that all being and processes and phenomena can be explained as manifestations or results of matter **b** : a doctrine that the only or the highest values or objectives lie in material well-being and in the furtherance of material progress **c** : a doctrine that economic or social change is materially caused — compare HISTORICAL MATERIALISM **2** : a preoccupation with or stress upon material rather than intellectual or spiritual things — **ma·te·ri·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj* — **ma·te·ri·al·is·tic** \-ˌtir-ē-ə-ˈlis-tik\ *adj* — **ma·te·ri·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ma·te·ri·al·i·ty \mə-ˌtir-ē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being material ⟨questioned the ~ of the evidence⟩ **2** : something that is material ⟨the former believes in visions, the latter in *materialities* —*Athenaeum*⟩

ma·te·ri·al·iza·tion \mə-ˌtir-ē-ə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* **1** : the action of materializing or becoming materialized **2** : something that has been materialized; *esp* : APPARITION

ma·te·ri·al·ize \mə-ˈtir-ē-ə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to make material : OBJECTIFY ⟨*materializing* an idea in words⟩ **b** : to cause to appear in bodily form ⟨~ the spirits of the dead⟩ **2** : to cause to be materialistic ~ *vi* **1** : to assume bodily form **2 a** : to come into existence **b** : to put in an appearance; *esp* : to appear suddenly — **ma·te·ri·al·iz·er** *n*

ma·te·ria med·i·ca \mə-ˌtir-ē-ə-ˈmed-i-kə\ *n* [NL, lit., medical matter] **1** : substances used in the composition of medical remedies : DRUGS, MEDICINE **2 a** : a branch of medical science that deals with the sources, nature, properties, and preparation of drugs **b** : a treatise on materia medica

ma·té·ri·el *or* **ma·te·ri·el** \mə-ˌtir-ē-ˈel\ *n* [F *matériel*, fr. *matériel*, adj.] : equipment, apparatus, and supplies used by an organization or institution

ma·ter·nal \mə-ˈtərn-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *maternel*, fr. L *maternus*, fr. *mater* mother — more at MOTHER] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a mother : MOTHERLY **2 a** : related through a mother ⟨his ~ aunt⟩ **b** : inherited or derived from the female parent ⟨~ genes⟩ — **ma·ter·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

¹ma·ter·ni·ty \mə-ˈtər-nət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being a mother : MOTHERHOOD **b** : the qualities of a mother : MOTHERLINESS **2** : a hospital facility designed for the care of women before and during childbirth and for the care of newborn babies

²maternity *adj* : designed for wear during pregnancy ⟨a ~ dress⟩

mat·ey \ˈmāt-ē\ *adj, chiefly Brit* : COMPANIONABLE

¹math \ˈmath\ *n* : MATHEMATICS

²math *abbr* mathematical; mathematician

math·e·mat·i·cal \ˌmath-ə-ˈmat-i-kəl\ *also* **math·e·mat·ic** \-ik\ *adj* [L *mathematicus*, fr. Gk *mathēmatikos*, fr. *mathēmat-, mathēma* mathematics, fr. *manthanein* to learn; akin to Goth *mundon* to pay attention, Skt *medhā* intelligence] **1** : of, relating to, or according with mathematics **2 a** : rigorously exact : PRECISE **b** : CERTAIN **3** : possible but highly improbable ⟨only a ~ chance⟩ — **math·e·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mathematical expectation *n* : EXPECTED VALUE

mathematical logic *n* : SYMBOLIC LOGIC

math·e·ma·ti·cian \ˌmath-(ə-)mə-ˈtish-ən\ *n* : a specialist or expert in mathematics

math·e·mat·ics \ˌmath-ə-ˈmat-iks\ *n pl but usu sing in constr* **1** : the science of numbers and their operations, interrelations, combinations, generalizations, and abstractions and of space configurations and their structure, measurement, transformations, and generalizations **2** : a branch of, operation in, or use of mathematics ⟨the ~ of physical chemistry⟩

math·e·ma·ti·za·tion \ˌmath-ə-mət-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* : reduction to mathematical form

maths \ˈmaths\ *n pl, chiefly Brit* : MATHEMATICS

mat·in \ˈmat-ᵊn\ *adj* : of or relating to matins or to early morning

mat·in·al \ˈmat-ᵊn-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to matins **2** : EARLY

mat·i·nee *or* **mat·i·née** \ˌmat-ᵊn-ˈā\ *n* [F *matinée*, lit., morning, fr. OF, fr. *matin* morning, fr. L *matutinum*, fr. neut. of *matutinus* of the morning, fr. *Matuta*, goddess of morning; akin to L *maturus* ripe — more at MATURE] : a musical or dramatic performance or social or public event held in the daytime and esp. the afternoon

mat·ins \ˈmat-ᵊnz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr, often cap* [ME *matines*, fr. OF, fr. LL *matutinae*, fr. L, fem. pl. of *matutinus*] **1** : the night office forming with lauds the first of the canonical hours **2** : MORNING PRAYER

matr- *or* **matri-** *or* **matro-** *comb form* [L *matr-, matri-*, fr. *matr-, mater*] : mother ⟨*matri*arch⟩ ⟨*matro*nymic⟩

ma·tri·arch \ˈmā-trē-ˌärk\ *n* : a woman who rules a family, group, or state; *specif* : a mother who is head and ruler of her family and descendants — **ma·tri·ar·chal** \ˌmā-trē-ˈär-kəl\ *adj*

ma·tri·ar·chate \ˈmā-trē-ˌär-kət, -ˌkāt\ *n* **1** : a family, group, or state governed by a matriarch **2** : a theoretical stage or state in primitive society in which matriarchs hold the chief authority

ma·tri·ar·chy \ˈmā-trē-ˌär-kē\ *n, pl* **-chies** **1** : MATRIARCHATE **2** : a system of social organization in which descent and inheritance are traced through the female line

matric *abbr* matriculated; matriculation

ma·tri·cide \ˈma-trə-ˌsīd, ˈmā-\ *n* **1** [L *matricidium*, fr. *matr-* + *-cidium* -cide] : murder of a mother by her son or daughter **2** [L *matricida*, fr. *matr-* + *-cida* -cide] : one that murders his mother — **ma·tri·cid·al** \ˌma-trə-ˈsīd-ᵊl, ˌmā-\ *adj*

ma·tric·u·late \mə-ˈtrik-yə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [ML *matriculatus*, pp. of *matriculare*, fr. LL *matricula* public roll, dim. of *matric-, matrix* list, fr. L, womb] *vt* : to enroll as a member of a body and esp. of a college or university ~ *vi* : to become matriculated — **ma·tric·u·lant** \-lənt\ *n* — **ma·tric·u·la·tion** \-ˌtrik-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*

ma·tri·lin·eal \ˌma-trə-ˈlin-ē-əl, ˌmā-\ *adj* : relating to, based on, or tracing descent through the maternal line ⟨~ society⟩ — **ma·tri·lin·eal·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

mat·ri·mo·nial \ˌma-trə-ˈmō-nē-əl, -nyəl\ *adj* : of or relating to marriage, the married state, or married persons — **mat·ri·mo·nial·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
syn MATRIMONIAL, MARITAL, CONJUGAL, CONNUBIAL, NUPTIAL *shared meaning element* : of, relating to, or characteristic of marriage

mat·ri·mo·ny \ˈma-trə-ˌmō-nē\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *matremoine* fr. L *matrimonium*, fr. *matr-, mater* mother, matron — more at MOTHER] : the union of man and woman as husband and wife : MARRIAGE

matrimony vine *n* : a shrub or vine (genus *Lycium*) of the nightshade family with often showy flowers and bright berries

ma·trix \ˈmā-triks\ *n, pl* **ma·tri·ces** \ˈmā-trə-ˌsēz, ˈma-\ *or* **ma·trix·es** \ˈmā-trik-səz\ [L, womb, fr. *matr-, mater*] **1** : something within which something else originates or develops **2 a** : a mold from which a relief surface (as a stereotype) is made by pouring or pressing **b** : DIE 4a(1) **c** : an engraved or inscribed die or stamp **d** : an electroformed impression of a phonograph record used for mass-producing duplicates of the original **3 a** : the natural material in which a fossil, metal, gem, crystal, or pebble is embedded **b** : material in which something is enclosed or embedded (as for protection or study) **4 a** : the intercellular substance in which tissue cells (as of connective tissue) are embedded **b** : the thickened epithelium at the base of a fingernail or toenail from which new nail substance develops **5 a** : a rectangular array of mathematical elements (as the coefficients of simultaneous linear equations) that can be combined to form sums and products with similar arrays having an appropriate number of rows and columns **b** : something resembling a mathematical matrix esp. in rectangular arrangement of elements into rows and columns

matrix sentence *n* : that one of a pair of transformationally joined sentences that maintains its essential external structure ⟨in "the book that I want is gone", "the book is gone" is a *matrix sentence*⟩

ma·tron \ˈmā-trən\ *n* [ME *matrone*, fr. MF, fr. L *matrona*, fr. *matr-, mater*] **1 a** : a married woman usu. marked by dignified maturity or social distinction **b** : a woman who supervises women or children (as in a school or police station) **c** : the chief officer in a women's organization **2** : a brood female

ma·tron·ize \-trə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to make matronly **2** : to superintend as a matron : CHAPERONE

ma·tron·ly \ˈmā-trən-lē\ *adj* : having the character of or suitable to a matron

matron of honor : a bride's principal married wedding attendant

mat·ro·nym·ic \ˌma-trə-ˈnim-ik\ *n* [*matr-* + *-onymic* (as in *patronymic*)] : a name derived from that of the mother or a maternal ancestor

matt *or* **matte** \ˈmat\ *var of* MAT

Matt *abbr* Matthew

matte \ˈmat\ *n* [F] : a crude mixture of sulfides formed in smelting sulfide ores of metals (as copper, lead, or nickel)

¹mat·ter \ˈmat-ər\ *n* [ME *matere*, fr. OF, fr. L *materia* matter, physical substance, fr. *mater*] **1 a** : a subject under consideration **b** : a subject of disagreement or litigation **c** *pl* : the events or circumstances of a particular situation **d** : the elements that constitute material for treatment in thought, discourse, or writing **e** : an element of a field of knowledge, inquiry, or specialization ⟨~*s* of faith⟩ **f** : something to be proved in law **g** *obs* : sensible or serious material as distinguished from nonsense or drollery **h** (1) *obs* : REASON, CAUSE (2) : a source esp. of feeling or emotion **i** : a condition affecting a person or thing usu. unfavorably ⟨what's the ~⟩ **2 a** : the substance of which a physical object is composed **b** : material substance that occupies space and has weight, that constitutes the observable universe, and that together with energy forms the basis of objective phenomena **c** : a material substance of a particular kind or for a particular purpose ⟨vegetable ~⟩ **d** (1) : material (as feces or urine) discharged from the living body (2) : material discharged by suppuration : PUS **3 a** : the indeterminate subject of reality; *esp* : the element in the universe that undergoes formation and alteration **b** : the formless substratum of all things which exists only potentially and upon which form acts to produce realities **4** : a more or less definite amount or quantity ⟨a ~ of 10 years⟩ **5 a** : something written or printed **b** (1) : set type (2) : text material esp. as distinguished from illustrations **6** : MAIL **7** *Christian Science* : the illusion that the objects perceived by the physical senses have the reality of substance — **for that matter** : so far as that is concerned — **no matter** : without regard to : irrespective of ⟨was calm *no matter* what the provocation⟩

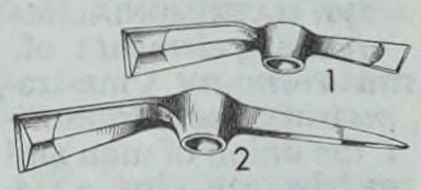
²matter *vi* **1** : to be of importance : SIGNIFY **2** : to form or discharge pus : SUPPURATE ⟨~*ing* wound⟩

matter of course : something that is to be expected as a natural or logical consequence

mat·ter–of–fact \ˌmat-ə-rə(v)-ˈfakt\ *adj* : adhering to or concerned with fact; *esp* : not fanciful or imaginative : PRACTICAL ***syn*** see PROSAIC — **mat·ter–of–fact·ly** \-ˈfak-(t)lē\ *adv* — **mat·ter–of–fact·ness** \-ˈfak(t)-nəs\ *n*

ə abut ᵊ kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart
aù out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life
j joke ŋ sing ō flow ȯ flaw ȯi coin th thin th this
ü loot u̇ foot y yet yü few yu̇ furious zh vision

mat·tery \'mat-ə-rē\ *adj* : producing or containing pus or material resembling pus ⟨eyes all ~⟩
Mat·the·an *or* **Mat·thae·an** \ma-'thē-ən, mə-\ *adj* [LL *Matthaeus*] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the evangelist Matthew or the gospel ascribed to him
Mat·thew \'math-(ˌ)yü *also* 'math-(ˌ)ü\ *n* [F *Mathieu*, fr. LL *Matthaeus*, fr. Gk *Matthaios*, fr. Heb *Mattithyāh*] **1** : an apostle traditionally identified as the author of the first Gospel in the New Testament **2** : the first Gospel in the New Testament — see BIBLE table
[1]mat·ting \'mat-iŋ\ *n* **1** : material for mats **2** : MATS
[2]matting *n* [fr. gerund of *[3]mat*] : a dull lusterless surface (as on gilding, metalwork, or satin)
mat·tins *often cap, chiefly Brit var of* MATINS
mat·tock \'mat-ək\ *n* [ME *mattok*, fr. OE *mattuc*] : a digging and grubbing implement with features of an adz, ax, and pick



mattocks: *1* cutter, *2* pick

mat·tress \'ma-trəs\ *n* [ME *materas*, fr. OF, fr. Ar *maṭraḥ* place where something is thrown] **1 a** : a fabric case filled with resilient material (as cotton, hair, feathers, foam rubber, or an arrangement of coiled springs) used either alone as a bed or on a bedstead **b** : an inflatable airtight sack for use as a mattress **2** : a mass of interwoven brush and poles to protect a bank from erosion; *also* : a similar mass serving as a foundation in soft ground
mat·u·rate \'mach-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** : MATURE
mat·u·ra·tion \ˌmach-ə-'rā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the process of becoming mature **b** : the emergence of personal and behavioral characteristics through growth processes **c** : the final stages of differentiation of cells, tissues, or organs **2 a** : the entire process by which diploid gonocytes are transformed into haploid gametes that includes both meiosis and physiological and structural changes fitting the gamete for its future role **b** : SPERMIOGENESIS 1 — **mat·u·ra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **ma·tur·a·tive** \mə-'t(y)ůr-ət-iv\ *adj*
[1]ma·ture \mə-'t(y)ů(ə)r *also* -'chů(ə)r\ *adj* **ma·tur·er; -est** [ME, fr. L *maturus* ripe; akin to L *mane* in the morning, *manus* good] **1** : based on slow careful consideration ⟨a ~ judgment⟩ **2 a** (1) : having completed natural growth and development : RIPE (2) : having undergone maturation **b** : having attained a final or desired state ⟨~ wine⟩ **3 a** : of or relating to a condition of full development **b** : characteristic of or suitable to a mature individual ⟨~ outlook⟩ **4** : due for payment ⟨a ~ loan⟩ **5 a** : well dissected by the erosion of running water so that slopes predominate greatly over flats **b** : belonging to the middle portion of a cycle of erosion — **ma·ture·ly** *adv* — **ma·ture·ness** *n*
syn MATURE, RIPE, ADULT, GROWN-UP *shared meaning element* : fully developed ***ant*** immature
[2]mature *vb* **ma·tured; ma·tur·ing** *vt* : to bring to maturity or completion ~ *vi* **1** : to become fully developed or ripe **2** : to become due
ma·tu·ri·ty \mə-'t(y)ůr-ət-ē *also* -'chůr-\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being mature; *esp* : full development **2** : termination of the period that an obligation has to run **3** : the second of the three principal stages in a cycle of geologic change (as erosion)
ma·tu·ti·nal \ˌmach-ů-'tīn-ᵊl; mə-'t(y)üt-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* [LL *matutinalis*, fr. L *matutinus* — more at MATINEE] : of, relating to, or occurring in the morning : EARLY — **ma·tu·ti·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
mat·zo \'mät-sə, -(ˌ)sō\ *n, pl* **mat·zoth** \-ˌsōt(h), -sōs\ *or* **mat·zos** \-səz, -səs, -ˌsōz\ [Yiddish *matse*, fr. Heb *maṣṣāh*] **1** : unleavened bread eaten at the Passover **2** : a wafer of matzo
matzo ball *n* : a small ball-shaped dumpling made from matzo meal
maud·lin \'mȯd-lən\ *adj* [alter. of Mary *Magdalene*; fr. the practice of depicting her as a weeping, penitent sinner] **1** : weakly and effusively sentimental **2** : drunk enough to be emotionally silly
mau·gre \ˌmȯ-gər\ *prep* [ME, fr. OF *maugré*, fr. *maugré* displeasure, fr. *mau, mal* evil + *gré* pleasure] *archaic* : in spite of
[1]maul \'mȯl\ *n* [ME *malle*, fr. OF *mail*, fr. L *malleus*; akin to L *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] : a heavy hammer often with a wooden head used esp. for driving wedges or piles
[2]maul *vt* **1** : BEAT, BRUISE **2** : to injure by beating : MANGLE **3** : to handle roughly — **maul·er** *n*
maul·stick \'mȯl-stik\ *n* [part trans. of D *maalstok*, fr. obs. D *malen* to paint + D *stok* stick] : a stick used by painters as a rest for the hand while working
maun \(')mȯn, (')män, mən\ *verbal auxiliary* [ME *man*, fr. ON] *chiefly Scot* : MUST
maund \'mȯnd\ *n* [Hindi *man*] : any of various Indian units of weight; *esp* : a unit equal to 82.28 pounds
maun·der \'mȯn-dər, 'män-\ *vi* **maun·dered; maun·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [prob. imit.] **1** *dial Brit* : GRUMBLE **2** : to wander slowly and idly **3** : to speak indistinctly or disconnectedly — **maun·der·er** \-dər-ər\ *n*
Maun·dy Thursday \ˌmȯn-dē-, ˌmän-\ *n* [ME *maunde* ceremony of washing the feet of the poor on Maundy Thursday, fr. OF *mandé*, fr. L *mandatum* command; fr. Jesus' words in John 13:34 — more at MANDATE] : the Thursday before Easter observed in commemoration of the institution of the Eucharist
mau·so·le·um \ˌmȯ-sə-'lē-əm, ˌmȯ-zə-\ *n, pl* **-leums** *or* **-lea** \-'lē-ə\ [L, fr. Gk *mausōleion*, fr. *Mausōlos* Mausolus †*ab* 353 B.C., ruler of Caria] **1** : a large tomb; *esp* : a usu. stone building with places for entombment of the dead above ground **2** : a large gloomy building or room
mauve \'mōv, 'mȯv\ *n* [F, mallow, fr. L *malva*] **1 a** : a moderate purple, violet, or lilac color **b** : a strong purple **2** : a dyestuff that produces a mauve color
ma·ven *or* **ma·vin** *or* **may·vin** \'mā-vən\ *n* [Yiddish *meyvn*, fr. LHeb *mēbhīn*] : one who is experienced or knowledgeable : EXPERT
mav·er·ick \'mav-(ə-)rik\ *n* [Samuel A. *Maverick* †1870 Am pioneer who did not brand his calves] **1** : an unbranded range animal; *esp* : a motherless calf **2** : an independent individual who refuses to conform with his group
ma·vis \'mā-vəs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *mauvis*] **1** : SONG THRUSH **2** : a European thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*) with spotted underparts that feeds on mistletoe berries — called also *mistle thrush*
ma·vour·neen *also* **ma·vour·nin** \mə-'vů(ə)r-ˌnēn\ *n* [IrGael *mo muirnīn*] *Irish* : my darling
maw \'mȯ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *maga*; akin to OHG *mago* stomach, Lith *makas* purse] **1** : the receptacle into which food is taken by swallowing: **a** : STOMACH **b** : CROP **2** : the throat, gullet, or jaws esp. of a voracious carnivore
mawk·ish \'mȯ-kish\ *adj* [ME *mawke* maggot, fr. ON *mathkr* — more at MAGGOT] **1** : having an insipid often unpleasant taste **2** : sickly or puerilely sentimental — **mawk·ish·ly** *adv* — **mawk·ish·ness** *n*
max *abbr* maximum
maxi \'mak-sē\ *n, pl* **max·is** [*maxi-*] **1** : a long skirt that usu. extends to the ankle **2** : a long coat that usu. extends to the ankle
maxi- *comb form* [*maximum*, after E *minimum: mini-*] **1** : extra long ⟨*maxi*-kilt⟩ **2** : extra large ⟨*maxi*-problems⟩
maxi·coat \'mak-sē-ˌkōt\ *n* : MAXI 2
max·il·la \mak-'sil-ə\ *n, pl* **max·il·lae** \-'sil-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ *or* **maxillas** [L, dim. of *mala* jaw] **1 a** : JAW 1a **b** (1) : an upper jaw esp. of man or other mammals in which the bony elements are closely fused (2) : either of two membrane bone elements of the upper jaw lying lateral to the premaxillae and in higher vertebrates and man bearing most of the teeth **2** : one of the first or second pair of mouthparts posterior to the mandibles in insects, myriopods, crustaceans, and closely related arthropods — **max·il·lary** \'mak-sə-ˌler-ē, *chiefly Brit* mak-'sil-ə-rē\ *adj or n*
max·il·li·ped \mak-'sil-ə-ˌped\ *also* **max·il·li·pede** \-ˌpēd\ *n* [ISV] : any of the crustacean appendages that comprise the first pair or first three pairs situated next behind the maxillae
max·il·lo- \mak-ˌsil-(ˌ)ō, ˌmak-sə-(ˌ)lō\ *comb form* [L *maxilla*] : maxillary and ⟨*maxillo*facial⟩
max·il·lo·fa·cial \-'fā-shəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or treating the maxilla and the face ⟨~ surgeons⟩
max·im \'mak-səm\ *n* [ME *maxime*, fr. MF, fr. ML *maxima*, fr. L, fem. of *maximus*, superl. of *magnus* great — more at MUCH] **1** : a general truth, fundamental principle, or rule of conduct **2** : a saying of proverbial nature
max·i·mal \'mak-s(ə-)məl\ *adj* **1** : most comprehensive : COMPLETE **2** : being an upper limit : HIGHEST — **max·i·mal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
max·i·mal·ist \-s(ə-)mə-ləst\ *n* : one who advocates immediate and direct action to secure the whole of a program; *specif* : a socialist advocating the immediate seizure of power by revolutionary means
maxi·min \'mak-sə-ˌmin\ *n* [*maxi*mum + *mini*mum] : the maximum of a set of minima; *esp* : the largest of a set of minimum possible gains each of which occurs in the least advantageous outcome of a strategy followed by a participant in a situation governed by the theory of games — compare MINIMAX
max·i·mize \'mak-sə-ˌmīz\ *vb* **-mized; -miz·ing** *vt* **1** : to increase to a maximum **2** : to assign maximum importance to **3** : to find a maximum value of ~ *vi* : to interpret something in the broadest sense — **max·i·mi·za·tion** \ˌmak-sə-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **max·i·miz·er** \'mak-sə-ˌmī-zər\ *n*
max·i·mum \'mak-s(ə-)məm\ *n, pl* **max·i·ma** \-sə-mə\ *or* **maximums** \-s(ə-)məmz\ [L, neut. of *maximus*] **1 a** : the greatest quantity or value attainable or attained **b** : the period of highest, greatest, or utmost development **2** : an upper limit allowed (as by a legal authority) or allowable (as by the circumstances of a particular case) **3** : the largest of a set of numbers; *specif* : the largest value assumed by a real-valued continuous function defined on a closed interval — **maximum** *adj*
maximum likelihood *n* : a statistical method for estimating population parameters (as the mean and variance) from sample data that selects as estimates those parameter values maximizing the probability of obtaining the observed data
maxi·skirt \'mak-sē-ˌskərt\ *n* : MAXI 1
ma·xixe \mə-'shēsh(-ə)\ *n, pl* **ma·xi·xes** \-'shē-shəz\ [Pg] : a ballroom dance of Brazilian origin that resembles the two-step
max·well \'mak-ˌswel, -swəl\ *n* [James Clerk *Maxwell*] : the cgs electromagnetic unit of magnetic flux equal to the flux per square centimeter of normal cross section in a region where the magnetic induction is one gauss
[1]may \(')mā\ *verbal auxiliary, past* **might** \(')mīt\; *pres sing & pl* **may** [ME (1st & 3d sing. pres. indic.), fr. OE *mæg*; akin to OHG *mag* (1st & 3d sing. pres. indic.) have power, am able (infin. *magan*), Gk *mēchos* means, expedient] **1** *archaic* : have the ability to : CAN **2 a** : have permission to ⟨you ~ go now⟩ : have liberty to — used nearly interchangeably with *can* **b** : be in some degree likely to ⟨you ~ be right⟩ **3** — used in auxiliary function to express a wish or desire esp. in prayer, imprecation, or benediction ⟨long ~ he reign⟩ **4** — used in auxiliary function expressing purpose or expectation ⟨I laugh that I ~ not weep⟩ or contingency ⟨he'll do his duty come what ~⟩ or concession ⟨he ~ be slow but he is thorough⟩ **5** : SHALL, MUST — used in law where the sense, purpose, or policy requires this interpretation
[2]may \'mā\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mæg* kinsman, kinswoman, maiden] *archaic* : MAIDEN
May \'mā\ *n* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF *mai*, fr. L *Maius*, fr. *Maia*, Roman goddess] **1** : the 5th month of the Gregorian calendar **2** *often not cap* : the early vigorous blooming part of human life : PRIME **3** : the festivities of May Day **4** *not cap* **a** : green or flowering branches used for May Day decorations **b** : a plant that yields may: as (1) : HAWTHORN (2) : a spring-flowering spirea
ma·ya \'mä-yə, 'mī-ə\ *n* [Skt *māyā*] : the sense-world of manifold phenomena held in Vedanta to conceal the unity of absolute being; *broadly* : ILLUSION
Ma·ya \'mī-ə\ *n, pl* **Maya** *or* **Mayas** [Sp] **1** : a member of a group of Indian peoples chiefly of Yucatán, British Honduras, Guatemala, and the state of Tabasco, Mexico, whose languages are Mayan **2 a** : a Mayan language of the ancient Maya peoples re-

corded in inscriptions **b** : YUCATEC; *esp* : the older form of that language known from documents of the Spanish period

Ma·yan \'mī-ən\ *n* **1** : an extensive language stock of Central America and Mexico **2** **a** : the peoples speaking Mayan languages **b** : a member of these peoples — **Mayan** *adj*

may·ap·ple \'mā-ˌap-əl\ *n* [*May*] : a No. American herb (*Podophyllum peltatum*) of the barberry family with a poisonous rootstock, one or two large-lobed peltate leaves, and a single large white flower followed by a yellow egg-shaped edible but often insipid fruit; *also* : its fruit



mayapple

may·be \'mā-bē, 'meb-ē\ *adv* : PERHAPS

May·day \mā-'dā, 'mā-ˌ\ [F *m'aider* help me] — an international radio-telephone signal word used as a distress call

May Day \'mā-ˌdā\ *n* : May 1 celebrated as a springtime festival and in some countries as Labor Day

may·est *or* **mayst** \'mā-əst, (')māst\ *archaic pres 2d sing of* MAY

may·flow·er \'mā-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : any of various spring-blooming plants; *esp* : ARBUTUS 2

may·fly \'mā-flī\ *n* : any of an order (Ephemeroptera) of insects with an aquatic nymph and a short-lived fragile adult having membranous wings and two or three long caudal styles — called also *ephemerid*

may·hap \'mā-ˌhap, mā-'\ *adv* [fr. the phrase *may hap*] : PERHAPS

may·hem \'mā-ˌhem, 'mā-əm\ *n* [ME *mayme*, fr. AF *mahaim*, fr. OF, loss of a limb, fr. *maynier* to maim] **1** **a** : willful and permanent deprivation of a bodily member resulting in the impairment of a person's fighting ability **b** : willful and permanent crippling, mutilation, or disfigurement of any part of the body **2** : needless or willful damage

may·ing \'mā-iŋ\ *n, often cap* : the celebrating of May Day

mayn't \'mā-ənt, (')mānt\ : may not

may·on·naise \'mā-ə-ˌnāz, ˌmā-ə-'\ *n* [F] : a dressing of raw eggs or egg yolks, vegetable oils, and vinegar or lemon juice

may·or \'mā-ər, 'me(-)ər, *esp before names* (ˌ)mer\ *n* [ME *maire*, fr. OF, fr. L *major* greater — more at MAJOR] : an official elected or appointed to act as chief executive or nominal head of a city or borough — **may·or·al** \'mā-ə-rəl, 'me-ə-\ *adj*

may·or·al·ty \'mā-ə-rəl-tē, 'me-; 'mer-əl-\ *n* [ME *mairaltee*, fr. MF *mairalté*, fr. OF, fr. *maire*] : the office or term of office of a mayor

may·or·ess \'mā-ə-rəs, 'me-\ *n* **1** : the wife of a mayor **2** : a woman holding the office of mayor

mayor's court *n* : a court in some cities that has jurisdiction over violations of city ordinances and petty criminal or civil matters and that is presided over by the mayor

may·pole \'mā-ˌpōl\ *n, often cap* : a tall flower-wreathed pole forming a center for May Day sports and dances

may·pop \'mā-ˌpäp\ *n* [modif. of *maracock* (in some Algonquian language of Virginia)] : a climbing perennial passionflower (*Passiflora incarnata*) of the southern U.S. with a large ovoid yellow edible but insipid berry; *also* : its fruit

May queen *n* : a girl chosen queen of a May Day festival

May·tide \'mā-ˌtīd\ *n* : the month of May

May·time \-ˌtīm\ *n* : MAYTIDE

ma·zae·di·um \mə-'zēd-ē-əm, ˌmaz-ə-'ēd-\ *n, pl* **-dia** [NL, fr. Gk *maza* lump, mass + L *aedes* temple, house — more at MASS, EDIFY] : a fruiting body (as of some lichens) consisting of a powdery mass of free ascospores interspersed with sterile elements and enclosed in a peridium

maz·ard \'maz-ərd\ *n* [obs. E *mazard* mazer, alter. of E *mazer*] *chiefly dial* : HEAD, FACE

¹maze \'māz\ *vt* **mazed; maz·ing** [ME *mazen*] **1** *chiefly dial* : STUPEFY, DAZE **2** : BEWILDER, PERPLEX

²maze *n* **1** **a** : a confusing intricate network of passages **b** : something intricately or confusingly elaborate or complicated ⟨a ~ of regulations⟩ **2** *chiefly dial* : a state of bewilderment

ma·zer \'mā-zər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *mazere*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *masar* gnarled excrescence on a tree] : a large drinking bowl orig. of a hard wood

ma·zur·ka \mə-'zər-kə, -'zu̇(ə)r-\ *also* **ma·zour·ka** \-'zu̇(ə)r-\ *n* [Pol, acc. of *mazurek*] **1** : a Polish folk dance in moderate triple measure **2** : music for the mazurka or in its rhythm usu. in moderate $^3/_4$ or $^3/_8$ time

mazy \'mā-zē\ *adj* : resembling a maze

maz·zard \'maz-ərd\ *n* [origin unknown] : SWEET CHERRY; *esp* : wild or seedling sweet cherry used as a rootstock for grafting

mb *abbr* millibar

MB *abbr* municipal borough

MBA *abbr* master of business administration

MBE *abbr* **1** master of business economics **2** master of business education **3** member of the Order of the British Empire

mbi·ra \em-'bir-ə\ *n* [of Bantu origin] : an African musical instrument that consists of a gourd resonator, a wooden box, and a varying number of tuned metal or wooden strips that vibrate when plucked with the thumb or fingers

MBS *abbr* Mutual Broadcasting System

mc *abbr* **1** megacycle **2** millicurie

¹MC \(')em-'sē\ *n* : MASTER OF CEREMONIES

²MC *abbr* member of Congress

MCAT *abbr* Medical College Admissions Test

mcf *abbr* thousand cubic feet

mcg *abbr* microgram

MCL *abbr* **1** Marine Corps League **2** master of civil law **3** master of comparative law

MCPO *abbr* master chief petty officer

MCS *abbr* **1** master of commercial science **2** master of computer science **3** missile control system

¹Md *abbr* Maryland

²Md *symbol* mendelevium

MD *abbr* **1** [NL *medicinae doctor*] doctor of medicine **2** [It *mano destra*] right hand **3** Maryland **4** medical department **5** months after date **6** muscular dystrophy

M–day \'em-ˌdā\ *n* [*mobilization day*] : a day on which a military mobilization is to begin

mdnt *abbr* midnight

MDS *abbr* master of dental surgery

mdse *abbr* merchandise

MDT *abbr* mountain daylight time

me \(')mē\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *mē*; akin to OHG *mīh* me, L *me*, Gk *me*, Skt *mā*] *objective case of* I

¹Me *abbr* Maine

²Me *symbol* methyl

ME *abbr* **1** Maine **2** mechanical engineer **3** medical examiner **4** Middle English

Mea *abbr* Meath

mea cul·pa \ˌmā-ä-'kul-pä\ *n* [L, through my fault] : a formal acknowledgement of personal fault or error

¹mead \'mēd\ *n* [ME *mede*, fr. OE *medu*; akin to OHG *metu* mead, Gk *methy* wine] : a fermented drink made of water and honey, malt, and yeast

²mead *n* [ME *mede*, fr. OE *mǣd*] *archaic* : MEADOW

mead·ow \'med-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n, often attrib* [ME *medwe*, fr. OE *mǣdwe*, oblique case form of *mǣd*; akin to OE *māwan* to mow — more at MOW] : land in or predominantly in grass; *esp* : a tract of moist low-lying usu. level grassland

meadow beauty *n* : any of a genus (*Rhexia*) of low perennial American herbs (family Melastomaceae, the meadow-beauty family) with showy cymose flowers

meadow fescue *n* : a tall vigorous perennial European fescue grass (*Festuca elatior*) with broad flat leaves widely cultivated for permanent pasture and hay

meadow grass *n* : any of various grasses (as of the genus *Poa*) that thrive in the presence of abundant moisture; *esp* : KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

mead·ow·land \'med-ō-ˌland, -ə-\ *n* : land that is or is used for meadow

mead·ow·lark \'med-ō-ˌlärk, -ə-\ *n* : any of several No. American songbirds (genus *Sturnella*) that are largely brown and buff above and have a yellow breast marked with a black crescent

meadow mouse *n* : any of various voles (esp. genus *Microtus*) that frequent open fields

meadow mushroom *n* : a common edible agaric (*Agaricus campestris*) that occurs naturally in moist open organically rich soil and is the cultivated edible mushroom of commerce

meadow nematode *n* : any of numerous plant-parasitic nematode worms (esp. genus *Pratylenchus*) that were formerly classified as a single variable species (*P. pratensis*) and that destructively invade the roots of plants

meadow rue *n* : any of a genus (*Thalictrum*) of plants of the buttercup family with leaves resembling those of rue

meadow saffron *n* : COLCHICUM 1

meadow spittlebug *n* : a No. American spittlebug (*Philaenus spumarius*) that does severe damage esp. to grasses

mead·ow·sweet \'med-ō-ˌswēt, -ə-\ *n* **1** : SPIREA 1; *esp* : a No. American native or naturalized spirea (as *Spiraea alba* or *S. tomentosa*) **2** : a plant of a genus (*Filipendula*) closely related to the spireas

mea·ger *or* **mea·gre** \'mē-gər\ *adj* [ME *megre*, fr. MF *maigre*, fr. L *macr-, macer* lean; akin to OE *mæger* lean, Gk *makros* long] **1** : having little flesh : THIN **2** **a** : lacking desirable qualities (as richness or strength) ⟨leading a ~ life⟩ **b** : deficient in quality and quantity ⟨a ~ diet⟩ — **mea·ger·ly** *adv* — **mea·ger·ness** *n*

syn MEAGER, SCANTY, SCANT, SKIMPY, EXIGUOUS, SPARE, SPARSE *shared meaning element* : falling short of what is normal, necessary, or desirable ***ant*** ample, copious

¹meal \'mē(ə)l\ *n* [ME *meel* appointed time, meal, fr. OE *mǣl*; akin to OHG *māl* time, L *metiri* to measure — more at MEASURE] **1** : the portion of food taken at one time to satisfy appetite **2** : an act or the time of eating a meal

²meal *n* [ME *mele*, fr. OE *melu*; akin to OHG *melo* meal, L *molere* to grind, Gk *mylē* mill] **1** : the usu. coarsely ground and unbolted seeds of a cereal grass or pulse; *esp* : CORNMEAL **2** : a product resembling seed meal esp. in particle size or texture

-meal \ˌmēl, 'mē(ə)l\ *adv comb form* [ME *-mele*, fr. OE *-mǣlum*, fr. *mǣlum*, dat. pl. of *mǣl*] : by a (specified) portion or measure at a time ⟨piece*meal*⟩

mea·lie \'mē-lē\ *n* [Afrik *mielie*] *So Afr* : INDIAN CORN; *also* : an ear of Indian corn

meal·time \'mē(ə)l-ˌtīm\ *n* : the usual time for serving a meal

meal·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* : the larva of various beetles (family Tenebrionidae) that infests and pollutes grain products but is often raised as food for insectivorous animals, for laboratory use, or as bait for fishing

mealy \'mē-lē\ *adj* **meal·i·er; -est** **1** : soft, dry, and friable **2** : containing meal : FARINACEOUS **3** **a** : covered with meal or with fine granules **b** : flecked with another color **c** : SPOTTY, UNEVEN **d** : PALLID, BLANCHED ⟨a ~ complexion⟩ **4** : MEALY-MOUTHED

mealy·bug \'mē-lē-ˌbəg\ *n* : any of numerous scale insects (family Pseudococcidae) that have a white powdery covering and are destructive pests esp. of fruit trees

mealy·mouthed \ˌmē-lē-ˈmau̇t͟hd, -ˈmau̇tht\ *adj* : not plain and straightforward : DEVIOUS ⟨a ~ orator⟩

¹mean \ˈmēn\ *adj* [ME *mene*, fr. *imene*, fr. OE *gemǣne;* akin to OHG *gimeini* common, L *communis* common, *munus* service, gift] **1** : lacking distinction or eminence : HUMBLE **2** : lacking in mental discrimination : DULL **3 a** : of poor shabby inferior quality or status ⟨~*er* quarters of the city⟩ **b** : worthy of little regard : CONTEMPTIBLE ⟨living in ~ circumstances⟩ **4** : lacking dignity or honor : BASE **5 a** : PENURIOUS, STINGY **b** : characterized by petty selfishness or malice **c** : causing trouble or bother : VEXATIOUS **d** : EXCELLENT, EFFECTIVE ⟨plays a ~ trumpet⟩ **6 a** : ASHAMED 1b **b** : being in low spirits or health : INDISPOSED — **mean·ness** \ˈmēn-nəs\ *n*

syn MEAN, IGNOBLE, ABJECT, SORDID *shared meaning element* : so low as to be out of accord with normal standards of human decency and dignity

²mean \ˈmēn\ *vb* **meant** \ˈment\; **mean·ing** \ˈmē-niŋ\ [ME *menen*, fr. OE *mǣnan;* akin to OHG *meinen* to have in mind, OSlav *mēniti* to mention] *vt* **1** : to have in the mind as a purpose : INTEND **2** : to serve or intend to convey, show, or indicate : SIGNIFY **3** : to direct to a particular individual ~ *vi* **1** : to have an intended purpose ⟨he ~*s* well⟩ **2** : to be of a specified degree of importance ⟨health ~*s* everything⟩ — **mean·er** \ˈmē-nər\ *n* — **mean business** : to be in earnest

³mean *n* [ME *mene*, fr. MF *meien*, fr. *meien*, adj.] **1 a** (1) : something intervening or intermediate (2) : a middle point between extremes **b** : a value that lies within a range of values and is computed according to a prescribed law: as (1) : ARITHMETIC MEAN (2) : EXPECTED VALUE **c** : the arithmetic mean of the two extremes of a range of values **d** : either of the middle two terms of a proportion **2** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : something useful or helpful to a desired end **3** *pl* : resources available for disposal; *esp* : material resources affording a secure life

syn **1** see AVERAGE ***ant*** extreme

2 MEAN (as MEANS), INSTRUMENT, AGENT, MEDIUM *shared meaning element* : something or someone necessary or useful in effecting an end

⁴mean *adj* [ME *mene*, fr. MF *meien*, fr. L *medianus* — more at MEDIAN] **1** : occupying a middle position : intermediate in space, order, time, kind, or degree **2** : occupying a position about midway between extremes: as **a** : being near the average **b** : of a moderate degree of excellence : MIDDLING **c** : being the mean of a set of values : AVERAGE ⟨~ temperature⟩ **3** : serving as a means : INTERMEDIARY

¹me·an·der \mē-ˈan-dər\ *n* [L *maeander*, fr. Gk *maiandros*, fr. *Maiandros* (now *Menderes*), river in Asia Minor] **1** : a turn or winding of a stream **2** : a winding path or course; *esp* : LABYRINTH — **me·an·drous** \-drəs\ *adj*

²meander *vi* **me·an·dered; me·an·der·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to follow a winding or intricate course **2** : to wander aimlessly or casually without urgent destination : RAMBLE

mean deviation *n* : the mean of the absolute values of the numerical differences between the numbers of a set (as statistical data) and their mean or median

mean distance *n* : the arithmetical mean of the maximum and minimum distances of a planet, satellite, or secondary star from its primary

mean·ing \ˈmē-niŋ\ *n* **1 a** : the thing one intends to convey esp. by language : PURPORT **b** : the thing that is conveyed esp. by language : IMPORT **2** : something meant or intended : AIM ⟨a mischievous ~ was apparent⟩ **3** : significant quality; *esp* : implication of a hidden or special significance ⟨a glance full of ~⟩ **4 a** : the logical connotation of a word or phrase **b** : the logical denotation or extension of a phrase — **meaning** *adj*

syn MEANING, SENSE, ACCEPTATION, SIGNIFICATION, SIGNIFICANCE, IMPORT *shared meaning element* : the idea that something conveys to the mind. MEANING is the general term, usable of anything admitting of interpretation ⟨I don't know the *meaning* of his conduct⟩ ⟨a dictionary gives the *meaning* of words⟩ SENSE denotes the or, more often, a particular meaning (as of a word or phrase) ⟨some words have many *senses*⟩ In more abstract use it refers to intelligibility in general ⟨speaks things . . . that carry but half *sense* —Shak.⟩ ACCEPTATION is used of a sense of a word or phrase as regularly understood and implies general acceptance ⟨the term . . . will be used in its common *acceptation* —H. O. Taylor⟩ *Signification* and *significance* are often used interchangeably, but distinctively SIGNIFICATION can apply to an established meaning of a term, symbol, or character with the implication that this meaning is uniquely the one called to mind by use of the term, symbol, or character in question ⟨the *signification* of the cross to Christians⟩ while SIGNIFICANCE can apply specifically to a covert as distinct from the ostensible meaning of something ⟨the mood was . . . , I thought, indicative of chinks in the saintly armor. Of course, I tend to see *significances* in everything —John Barth⟩ IMPORT usually imputes momentousness to the idea or impression conveyed by words ⟨spoke words in her ear that had an awful *import* to her —George Meredith⟩ ⟨disturbed by the *import* of his answer⟩

mean·ing·ful \-fəl\ *adj* **1 a** : having a meaning or purpose **b** : full of meaning : SIGNIFICANT ⟨a ~ life⟩ **2** : having an assigned function in a language system ⟨~ propositions⟩ — **mean·ing·fully** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mean·ing·ful·ness** *n*

mean·ing·less \ˈmē-niŋ-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no meaning **2** : having no assigned function in a language system ⟨a ~ metaphysical statement⟩ — **mean·ing·less·ly** *adv* — **mean·ing·less·ness** *n*

¹mean·ly \ˈmēn-lē\ *adv, obs* : fairly well : MODERATELY

²meanly *adv* : in a mean manner: as **a** : in a lowly manner : HUMBLY **b** : in an inferior manner : BADLY **c** : in a base or ungenerous manner

mean proportional *n* : GEOMETRIC MEAN; *esp* : the square root (as x) of the product of two numbers (as a and b) when expressed as the means of a proportion (as $\frac{a}{x} = \frac{x}{b}$

mean square *n* : the mean of the squares of a set of values

mean square deviation *n* **1** : VARIANCE 5 **2** : STANDARD DEVIATION

means test \ˈmēnz-\ *n* : an examination into the financial state of a person to determine his eligibility for public assistance

mean sun *n* : a fictitious sun used for timekeeping that moves uniformly along the celestial equator and maintains a constant rate of apparent motion

¹mean·time \ˈmēn-ˌtīm\ *n* : the intervening time

²meantime *adv* : MEANWHILE

mean time *n* : time that is based on the motion of the mean sun and that has the mean solar second as its unit — called also *mean solar time*

mean value theorem *n* : a theorem in calculus: if a function of one variable is continuous on a closed interval and differentiable on the interval minus its end points there is at least one point where the derivative of the function is equal to the slope of the line joining the end points of the curve representing the function on the interval

¹mean·while \ˈmēn-ˌhwīl, -ˌwīl\ *n* : MEANTIME

²meanwhile *adv* : during the intervening time

meas *abbr* measure

mea·sle \ˈmē-zəl\ *n* [sing. of *measles*] : a tapeworm cysticercus larva; *specf* : one found in the muscles of a domesticated mammal — **mea·sled** \-zəld\ *adj*

mea·sles \ˈmē-zəlz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [ME *meseles*, pl. of *mesel* measles, spot characteristic of measles; akin to MD *masel* spot characteristic of measles] **1 a** : an acute contagious viral disease marked by an eruption of distinct red circular spots **b** : any of various eruptive diseases (as German measles) **2** [ME *mesel* infested with tapeworms, lit., leprous, fr. OF, fr. ML *misellus* leper, fr. L, wretch, fr. *misellus*, dim. of *miser* miserable] : infestation with or disease caused by larval tapeworms in the muscles and tissues

mea·sly \ˈmēz-(ə-)lē\ *adj* **mea·sli·er; -est** **1** : infected with measles **2 a** : containing larval tapeworms **b** : TRICHINIZED **3** : contemptibly small

¹mea·sure \ˈmezh-ər, ˈmāzh-\ *n* [ME *mesure*, fr. OF, fr. L *mensura*, fr. *mensus*, pp. of *metiri* to measure; akin to OE *mǣth* measure, Gk *metron*] **1 a** (1) : an adequate or due portion (2) : a moderate degree; *also* : MODERATION, TEMPERANCE (3) : a fixed or suitable limit : BOUNDS **b** : the dimensions, capacity, or amount of something ascertained by measuring **c** (1) : a measured quantity (2) : AMOUNT, DEGREE **2 a** : an instrument or utensil for measuring **b** (1) : a standard or unit of measurement — see WEIGHT table (2) : a system of standard units of measure ⟨metric ~⟩ **3** : the act or process of measuring **4 a** (1) : MELODY, TUNE (2) : DANCE; *esp* : a slow and stately dance **b** : rhythmic structure or movement : CADENCE: as (1) : poetic rhythm measured by temporal quantity or accent; *specif* : METER (2) : musical time **c** (1) : a grouping of musical beats made by the regular recurrence of primary accents and located on the staff immediately following a vertical bar (2) : a metrical unit : FOOT **5** : an exact divisor of a number **6** : a basis or standard of comparison : CRITERION **7** : a step planned or taken as a means to an end; *specif* : a proposed legislative act

²measure *vb* **mea·sured; mea·sur·ing** \ˈmezh-(ə-)riŋ, ˈmāzh-\ *vt* **1 a** : to choose or control with cautious restraint : REGULATE ⟨~ his acts⟩ **b** : to regulate by a standard : GOVERN **2** : to allot or apportion in measured amounts ⟨~ out 3 cups⟩ **3** : to lay off by making measurements **4** : to ascertain the measurements of **5** : to estimate or appraise by a criterion ⟨~*s* his skill against his rival⟩ **6** *archaic* : to travel over : TRAVERSE **7** : to serve as a measure of ⟨a thermometer ~*s* temperature⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to take or make a measurement **2** : to have a specified measurement — **mea·sur·abil·i·ty** \ˌmezh-(ə-)rə-ˈbil-ət-ē, ˌmāzh-\ *n* — **mea·sur·able** \ˈmezh-(ə-)rə-bəl, ˈmāzh-\ *adj* — **mea·sur·ably** \-blē\ *adv* — **mea·sur·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*

mea·sured \ˈmezh-ərd, ˈmāzh-\ *adj* **1** : marked by due proportion **2 a** : marked by rhythm : regularly recurrent **b** : METRICAL **3** : DELIBERATE, CALCULATED — **mea·sured·ly** *adv*

mea·sure·less \-ər-ləs\ *adj* **1** : having no observable limit : IMMEASURABLE ⟨the ~ universe⟩ **2** : very great ⟨treated them with ~ contempt⟩

mea·sure·ment \ˈmezh-ər-mənt, ˈmāzh-\ *n* **1** : the act or process of measuring **2** : a figure, extent, or amount obtained by measuring : DIMENSION **3** : MEASURE 2b

measurement ton *n* : TON 2c

measure up *vi* **1** : to have necessary or fitting qualifications **2** : to be the equal (as in ability) — used with *to*

measuring worm *n* : LOOPER 1

meat \ˈmēt\ *n* [ME *mete*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *maz* food, L *madēre* to be wet, Gk *madaros* wet, *mastos* breast] **1 a** : FOOD; *esp* : solid food as distinguished from drink **b** : the edible part of something as distinguished from its covering (as a husk or shell) **2** : animal tissue used as food: **a** : FLESH 2b **b** : FLESH 1a; *specif* : flesh of domesticated animals **3** *archaic* : ¹MEAL 2; *esp* : DINNER **4** : the core of something : SUBSTANCE **5** : favorite pursuit or interest

meat·ball \-ˌbȯl\ *n* : a small ball of chopped or ground meat often mixed with bread crumbs and spices

meat by–product *n* : a usable product other than flesh obtained from slaughter animals

meat loaf *n* : a dish of seasoned meat and a binder (as egg or bread crumbs) baked in the form of a loaf

meat·man \ˈmēt-ˌman\ *n* : a vendor of meat : BUTCHER

meat type *n* : a type of hog esp. suitable for the production of pork without excessive early fattening — compare LARD TYPE

me·atus \mē-ˈāt-əs\ *n, pl* **me·atus·es** \-ə-səz\ *or* **me·atus** \-ˈāt-əs, -ˈā-ˌtüs\ [LL, fr. L, going, passage, fr. *meatus*, pp. of *meare* to go — more at PERMEATE] : a natural body passage

meaty \ˈmēt-ē\ *adj* **meat·i·er; -est** **1** : full of meat **2** : rich in matter for thought — **meat·i·ness** *n*

mec·a·myl·amine \ˌmek-ə-'mil-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [fr. *Mecamylamine*, a trademark] : a drug that in the hydrochloride $C_{11}H_{21}N{\cdot}HCl$ is used orally as a ganglionic blocking agent to effect a rapid lowering of severely elevated blood pressure

mec·ca \'mek-ə\ *n, often cap* [*Mecca*, Saudi Arabia, birthplace of Muhammad and holy city of Islam] : a place sought as a goal by numerous people

mech *abbr* mechanical; mechanics

mechan- *or* **mechano-** *comb form* [ME *mechan-*, fr. MF or L, fr. Gk *mēchan-*, fr. *mēchanē* machine — more at MACHINE] : machine ⟨*mechano*morphic⟩ : mechanical ⟨*mechan*ize⟩

[1]me·chan·ic \mi-'kan-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. MF *mechanique*, adj. & n., fr. L *mechanicus*, fr. Gk *mēchanikos*, fr. *mēchanē* machine — more at MACHINE] **1** : of or relating to manual work or skill **2** : suggestive of a machine esp. in routine or automatic performance

[2]mechanic *n* **1** : a manual worker : ARTISAN **2** : MACHINIST; *esp* : one who repairs machines

[1]me·chan·i·cal \mi-'kan-i-kəl\ *adj* **1 a** (1) : of or relating to machinery or tools ⟨~ applications of science⟩ ⟨a ~ genius⟩ ⟨~ aptitude⟩ (2) : produced or operated by a machine or tool ⟨~ power⟩ ⟨a ~ refrigerator⟩ ⟨a ~ saw⟩ **b** : of or relating to manual operations **2** : of or relating to artisans or machinists ⟨the ~ trades⟩ **3 a** : done as if by machine : seemingly uninfluenced by the mind or emotions : AUTOMATIC ⟨her singing was cold and ~⟩ **b** : of or relating to technicalities or petty matters **4 a** : relating to, governed by, or in accordance with the principles of mechanics ⟨~ work⟩ ⟨~ energy⟩ **b** : relating to the quantitative relations of force and matter ⟨~ pressure of wind on a tower⟩ **5** : caused by, resulting from, or relating to a process that involves a purely physical as opposed to a chemical change ⟨~ erosion of rock⟩ ***syn*** see SPONTANEOUS — **me·chan·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]mechanical *n* : a piece of finished copy consisting typically of type proofs and artwork positioned and mounted for photomechanical reproduction

mechanical advantage *n* : the advantage gained by the use of a mechanism in transmitting force; *specif* : the ratio of the force that performs the useful work of a machine to the force that is applied to the machine

mechanical drawing *n* **1** : drawing done with the aid of instruments **2** : a drawing made with instruments

mech·a·ni·cian \ˌmek-ə-'nish-ən\ *n* : MECHANIC, MACHINIST

me·chan·ics \mi-'kan-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : a branch of physical science that deals with energy and forces and their effect on bodies **2** : the practical application of mechanics to the design, construction, or operation of machines or tools **3** : mechanical or functional details

mech·a·nism \'mek-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : a piece of machinery **b** : a process or technique for achieving a result **2** : mechanical operation or action **3** : a doctrine that holds natural processes (as of life) to be mechanically determined and capable of complete explanation by the laws of physics and chemistry **4** : the fundamental physical or chemical processes involved in or responsible for an action, reaction, or other natural phenomenon (as organic evolution)

mech·a·nist \-nəst\ *n* **1** *archaic* : MECHANIC **2** : an adherent of the doctrine of mechanism

mech·a·nis·tic \ˌmek-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj* **1** : mechanically determined ⟨~ universe⟩ **2** : of or relating to the doctrine of mechanism **3** : MECHANICAL — **mech·a·nis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mech·a·nize \'mek-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1** : to make mechanical; *esp* : to make automatic or routine **2 a** : to equip with machinery esp. to replace human or animal labor **b** : to equip with armed and armored motor vehicles **c** : to provide with mechanical power **3** : to produce by or as if by machine — **mech·a·niz·able** \-ˌnī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **mech·a·ni·za·tion** \ˌmek-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **mech·a·niz·er** \'mek-ə-ˌnī-zər\ *n*

mech·a·no·chem·is·try \ˌmek-ə-nō-'kem-ə-strē\ *n* : chemistry that deals with the conversion of chemical energy into mechanical work (as in the contraction of a muscle) — **mech·a·no·chem·i·cal** \-'kem-i-kəl\ *adj*

mech·a·no·re·cep·tor \-ri-'sep-tər\ *n* : a neural end organ (as a tactile receptor) that responds to a mechanical stimulus (as a change in pressure or tension) — **mech·a·no·re·cep·tion** \-'sep-shən\ *n* — **mech·a·no·re·cep·tive** \-'sep-tiv\ *adj*

Mech·lin \'mek-lən\ *n* [*Mechlin*, Belgium] : a delicate bobbin lace used for dresses and millinery

me·co·ni·um \mi-'kō-nē-əm\ *n* [L, lit., poppy juice, fr. Gk *mēkōnion*, fr. *mēkōn* poppy; akin to OHG *mago* poppy] : a dark greenish mass that accumulates in the bowel during fetal life and is discharged shortly after birth

me·cop·ter·ous \mi-'käp-tə-rəs\ *adj* [NL *Mecoptera* group name, fr. *meco-* long (fr. Gk *mēkos* length) + Gk *pteron* wing; akin to Gk *makros* long — more at MEAGER, FEATHER] : of, relating to, or being any of an order (Mecoptera) of primitive carnivorous insects (as scorpion flies) usu. with membranous wings and a long beak with biting mouthparts at the tip

med *abbr* **1** medical; medicine **2** medieval **3** medium

MEd *abbr* master of education

med·al \'med-ᵊl\ *n* [MF *medaille*, fr. OIt *medaglia* coin worth half a denarius, medal, fr. (assumed) VL *medalis* half, fr. LL *medialis* middle, fr. L *medius* — more at MID] **1** : a metal disk bearing a religious emblem or picture **2** : a piece of metal often resembling a coin and having a stamped design that is issued to commemorate a person or event or awarded for excellence or achievement

Medal for Merit : a U.S. decoration awarded to civilians for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services

med·al·ist *or* **med·al·list** \'med-ᵊl-əst\ *n* **1** : a designer, engraver, or maker of medals **2** : a recipient of a medal as an award

me·dal·lic \mə-'dal-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or shown on a medal

me·dal·lion \mə-'dal-yən\ *n* [F *médaillon*, fr. It *medaglione*, aug. of *medaglia*] **1** : a large medal **2** : something resembling a large medal; *esp* : a tablet or panel in a wall or window bearing a figure in relief, a portrait, or an ornament

Medal of Freedom : a U.S. decoration awarded to civilians for meritorious achievement in any of various fields

Medal of Honor : a U.S. military decoration awarded in the name of the Congress for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in action with an enemy

medal play *n* : STROKE PLAY

med·dle \'med-ᵊl\ *vi* **med·dled; med·dling** \'med-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [ME *medlen*, fr. OF *mesler, medler*, fr. (assumed) VL *misculare*, fr. L *miscēre* to mix — more at MIX] : to interest oneself in what is not one's concern : interfere without right or propriety — **med·dler** \'med-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

syn MEDDLE, INTERFERE, INTERMEDDLE, TAMPER *shared meaning element* : to concern oneself with officiously, impertinently, or indiscreetly

med·dle·some \'med-ᵊl-səm\ *adj* : given to meddling ***syn*** see IMPERTINENT — **med·dle·some·ness** *n*

Mede \'mēd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *Medus*, fr. Gk *Mēdos*] : a native or inhabitant of ancient Media in Persia

Me·dea \mə-'dē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Mēdeia*] : an enchantress noted in Greek myth for helping Jason gain the Golden Fleece and for repeatedly resorting to murder to gain her ends

medi- *or* **medio-** *comb form* [L, fr. *medius*] : middle ⟨*medi*eval⟩

[1]me·dia \'mēd-ē-ə\ *n, pl* **me·di·ae** \-ē-ˌē\ **1** [LL, fr. L, fem. of *medius;* fr. the voiced stops' being regarded as intermediate between the tenues and the aspirates] : a voiced stop **2** [NL, fr. L, fem. of *medius*] : the middle coat of the wall of a blood or lymph vessel consisting chiefly of circular muscle fibers

[2]media *n, pl* **me·di·as** [pl. of *medium*] : MEDIUM 2b

me·di·ad \'mēd-ē-ˌad\ *adv* : toward the median line or plane of a body or part

me·di·al \'mēd-ē-əl\ *adj* **1 a** : being or occurring in the middle : MEDIAN **b** : extending toward the middle **2** : situated between the extremes of initial and final in a word or morpheme **3** : MEAN, AVERAGE — **medial** *n* — **me·di·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

[1]me·di·an \'mēd-ē-ən\ *n* **1** : a medial part (as a vein or nerve) **2 a** : a value in an ordered set of values below and above which there is an equal number of values or which is the arithmetic mean of the two middle values if there is no one middle number **b** : a vertical line that divides the histogram of a frequency distribution into two parts of equal area **c** : a value of a random variable for which all greater values make the distribution function greater than one half and all lesser values make it less than one half **3 a** : a line from a vertex of a triangle to the midpoint of the opposite side **b** : a line joining the midpoints of the nonparallel sides of a trapezoid ***syn*** see AVERAGE

[2]median *adj* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *medianus*, fr. *medius* middle — more at MID] **1** : being in the middle or in an intermediate position : MEDIAL **2** : relating to or constituting a statistical median **3** : lying in the plane dividing a bilateral animal into right and left halves **4** : produced without occlusion along the lengthwise middle line of the tongue — **me·di·an·ly** *adv*

median strip *n* : a paved or planted strip dividing a highway into lanes according to direction of travel

me·di·ant \'mēd-ē-ənt\ *n* [It *mediante*, fr. LL *mediant-, medians*, prp. of *mediare* to be in the middle] : the third tone of a diatonic scale midway between the tonic and the dominant

me·di·as·ti·num \ˌmēd-ē-ə-'stī-nəm\ *n, pl* **-na** \-nə\ [NL, fr. L, neut. of *mediastinus* medial, fr. *medius*] : the space in the chest between the pleural sacs of the lungs that contains all the viscera of the chest except the lungs and pleurae; *also* : this space with its contents — **me·di·as·ti·nal** \-'stīn-ᵊl\ *adj*

[1]me·di·ate \'mēd-ē-ət\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *mediatus* intermediate, fr. pp. of *mediare*] **1** : occupying a middle position **2 a** : acting through an intervening agency **b** : exhibiting indirect causation, connection, or relation — **me·di·a·cy** \-ē-ə-sē\ *n* — **me·di·ate·ly** *adv* — **me·di·ate·ness** *n*

[2]me·di·ate \'mēd-ē-ˌāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [ML *mediatus*, pp. of *mediare*, fr. LL, to be in the middle, fr. L *medius* middle — more at MID] *vi* **1** : to interpose between parties in order to reconcile them **2** : to reconcile differences ~ *vt* **1 a** : to effect by action as an intermediary **b** : to bring accord out of by action as an intermediary **2 a** : to act as intermediary agent in bringing, effecting, or communicating : CONVEY **b** : to transmit as intermediate mechanism or agency ***syn*** see INTERPOSE — **me·di·a·tive** \-ˌāt-iv\ *adj* — **me·di·a·to·ry** \-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

me·di·a·tion \ˌmēd-ē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of mediating; *esp* : intervention between conflicting parties to promote reconciliation, settlement, or compromise — **me·di·a·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

me·di·a·tor \'mēd-ē-ˌāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one that mediates; *esp* : one that mediates between parties at variance **2** : a mediating agent in a chemical or biological process

me·di·a·tress \'mēd-ē-ˌā-trəs\ *n* : a female mediator

me·di·a·trice \ˌmēd-ē-'ā-trəs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *mediatric-, mediatrix*, fem. of *mediator*, fr. *mediatus*, pp.] : MEDIATRESS

me·di·a·trix \-'ā-triks\ *n* [ME, fr. LL] : MEDIATRESS

[1]med·ic \'med-ik\ *n* [ME *medike*, fr. L *medica*, fr. Gk *mēdikē*, fr. fem. of *mēdikos* of Media, fr. *Mēdia* Media, ancient country in Asia] : any of a genus (*Medicago*) of leguminous herbs (as alfalfa)

[2]medic *n* [L *medicus*] : one engaged in medical work; *esp* : CORPSMAN

med·i·ca·ble \'med-i-kə-bəl\ *adj* : CURABLE, REMEDIABLE

med·ic·aid \'med-i-ˌkād\ *n, often cap* [*medic*al *aid*] : a program of medical aid designed for those unable to afford regular medical service and financed jointly by the state and federal governments

med·i·cal \'med-i-kəl\ *adj* [F or LL; F *médical*, fr. LL *medicalis*, fr. L *medicus* physician, fr. *mederi* to heal; akin to Av vī-*mad-* healer, L *meditari* to meditate] **1** : of, relating to, or concerned with physicians or the practice of medicine **2** : requiring or devoted to medical treatment — **med·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

medical examiner *n* : a public officer who makes postmortem examinations of bodies to find the cause of death

me·di·ca·ment \mi-'dik-ə-mənt, 'med-i-kə-\ *n* : a substance used in therapy — **me·di·ca·men·tous** \mi-ˌdik-ə-'ment-əs, ˌmed-i-kə-\ *adj*

medi·care \'med-i-ˌke(ə)r, -ˌka(ə)r\ *n, often cap* [blend of *medical* and *care*] : a government program of medical care esp. for the aged

med·i·cate \'med-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* **-cat·ed; -cat·ing** [L *medicatus*, pp. of *medicare* to heal, fr. *medicus*] **1** : to treat medicinally **2** : to impregnate with a medicinal substance ⟨~*ed* soap⟩

med·i·ca·tion \ˌmed-ə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act or process of medicating **2** : a medicinal substance : MEDICAMENT

me·dic·i·na·ble \mi-'dis-nə-bəl, -ᵊn-ə-; *archaic or Brit* 'med-sə-nə-\ *adj* : MEDICINAL

me·dic·i·nal \mə-'dis-nəl, -ᵊn-əl\ *adj* **1** : tending or used to cure disease or relieve pain **2** : SALUTARY — **medicinal** *n* — **me·dic·i·nal·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

medicinal leech *n* : a large European freshwater leech (*Hirudo medicinalis*) formerly used by physicians for bleeding patients

med·i·cine \'med-ə-sən, *Brit usu* 'med-sən\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *medicina*, fr. fem. of *medicinus* of a physician, fr. *medicus*] **1 a** : a substance or preparation used in treating disease **b** : something that affects well-being **2 a** : the science and art dealing with the maintenance of health and the prevention, alleviation, or cure of disease **b** : the branch of medicine concerned with the nonsurgical treatment of disease **3** : a substance (as a drug or potion) used to treat something other than disease **4** : an object held by the American Indians to give control over natural or magical forces; *also* : magical power or a magical rite — **medicine** *vt*

medicine ball *n* : a heavy stuffed leather-covered ball used for conditioning exercises

medicine dropper *n* : DROPPER 2

medicine man *n* : a priestly healer or sorcerer esp. among the American Indians : SHAMAN

medicine show *n* : a traveling show using entertainers to attract a crowd among which remedies or nostrums are sold

med·i·co \'med-i-ˌkō\ *n, pl* **-cos** [It *medico* or Sp *médico*, both fr. L *medicus*] : a medical practitioner : PHYSICIAN; *also* : a medical student

medico- *comb form* [NL, fr. L *medicus*] **1** : medical ⟨*medico*psychology⟩ **2** : medical and ⟨*medico*legal⟩

med·i·co·le·gal \ˌmed-i-kō-'lē-gəl\ *adj* [NL *medicolegalis*, fr. L *medicus* medical + *-o-* + *legalis* legal] : of or relating to both medicine and law

¹me·di·eval *or* **me·di·ae·val** \ˌmēd-ē-'ē-vəl, ˌmed-, ˌmid-; mē-'dē-vəl, med-'ē-, mid-'ē-\ *adj* [*medi-* + L *aevum* age — more at AYE] : of, relating to, or characteristic of the Middle Ages — **me·di·eval·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

²medieval *or* **mediaeval** *n* : a person of the Middle Ages

me·di·eval·ism \-ˌiz-əm\ *n* **1** : medieval quality, character, or state **2** : devotion to the institutions, arts, and practices of the Middle Ages

me·di·eval·ist \-'ēv-(ə-)ləst, -'dēv-\ *n* **1** : a specialist in medieval history and culture **2** : a connoisseur or devotee of medieval arts and culture

Medieval Latin *n* : the Latin used esp. for liturgical and literary purposes from the 7th to the 15th centuries inclusive

medio- — see MEDI-

me·di·o·cre \ˌmēd-ē-'ō-kər\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *mediocris*, lit., halfway up a mountain, fr. *medi-* + *ocris* stony mountain; akin to L *acer* sharp — more at EDGE] : of moderate or low quality : ORDINARY

me·di·oc·ri·ty \ˌmēd-ē-'äk-rət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being mediocre **b** : moderate ability or value **2** : a mediocre person

med·i·tate \'med-ə-ˌtāt\ *vb* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *meditatus*, pp. of *meditari* — more at METE] *vt* **1** : to focus one's thoughts on : reflect on or ponder over **2** : to plan or project in the mind : INTEND, PURPOSE ~ *vi* : to engage in contemplation or reflection ***syn*** see PONDER — **med·i·ta·tor** \-ˌtāt-ər\ *n*

med·i·ta·tion \ˌmed-ə-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : a discourse intended to express its author's reflections or to guide others in contemplation **2** : the act or process of meditating

med·i·ta·tive \'med-ə-ˌtāt-iv\ *adj* : disposed or given to meditation — **med·i·ta·tive·ly** *adv* — **med·i·ta·tive·ness** *n*

Med·i·ter·ra·nean \ˌmed-ə-tə-'rā-nē-ən, -nyən\ *adj* **1** *not cap* [L *mediterraneus*, fr. *medi-* + *terra* land — more at TERRACE] : enclosed or nearly enclosed with land **2** : of or relating to the Mediterranean sea **3** : of or relating to a group or physical type of the Caucasian race characterized by medium or short stature, slender build, dolichocephaly, and dark complexion

Mediterranean flour moth *n* : a small largely gray and black nearly cosmopolitan moth (*Anagasta kuehniella*) whose larva destroys processed grain products

Mediterranean fruit fly *n* : a widely distributed two-winged fly (*Ceratitis capitata*) with black and white markings whose larva lives and feeds in ripening fruit

¹me·di·um \'mēd-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **mediums** *or* **me·dia** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. neuter of *medius* middle — more at MID] **1 a** : something in a middle position **b** : a middle condition or degree : MEAN **2** : a means of effecting or conveying something: as **a** (1) : a substance regarded as the means of transmission of a force or effect (2) : a surrounding or enveloping substance **b** *pl usu media* (1) : a channel of communication (2) : a publication or broadcast that carries advertising (3) : a mode of artistic expression or communication **c** : GO-BETWEEN, INTERMEDIARY **d** *pl mediums* : an individual held to be a channel of communication between the earthly world and a world of spirits **e** : material or technical means of artistic expression **3 a** : a condition or environment in which something may function or flourish **b** *pl media* (1) : a nutrient system for the artificial cultivation of cells or organisms and esp. bacteria (2) : a fluid or solid in which organic structures are placed (as for preservation or mounting) **c** : a liquid with which pigment is mixed by a painter **4** : a size of paper usu. 23 x 18 inches ***syn*** see MEAN

²medium *adj* : intermediate in amount, quality, position, or degree

medium frequency *n* : a radio frequency between high frequency and low frequency — see RADIO FREQUENCY table

me·di·um·is·tic \ˌmēd-ē-ə-'mis-tik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the qualities of a spiritualistic medium

medium of exchange : something commonly accepted in exchange for goods and services and recognized as representing a standard of value

med·lar \'med-lər\ *n* [ME *medeler*, fr. MF *medlier*, fr. *medle* medlar fruit, fr. L *mespilum*, fr. Gk *mespilon*] : a small Eurasian tree (*Mespilus germanica*) of the rose family whose fruit resembles a crab apple and is used in preserves; *also* : its fruit

¹med·ley \'med-lē\ *n, pl* **medleys** [ME *medle*, fr. MF *medlee*, fr. fem. of *medlé*, pp. of *medler* to mix — more at MEDDLE] **1** *archaic* : MELEE **2** : MIXTURE; *esp* : HODGEPODGE **3** : a musical composition made up of a series of songs or short musical pieces

²medley *adj* : MIXED, MOTLEY

medley relay *n* : a relay race in swimming in which each member of a team uses a different stroke

me·dul·la \mə-'dəl-ə\ *n, pl* **-las** *or* **-lae** \-(ˌ)ē, -ˌī\ [L] **1** *pl medullae* **a** : MARROW 1 **b** : MEDULLA OBLONGATA **2 a** : the inner or deep part of an animal or plant structure ⟨the adrenal ~⟩ **b** : MEDULLARY SHEATH

medulla ob·lon·ga·ta \-ˌäb-ˌlȯŋ-'gät-ə\ *n, pl* **medulla oblongatas** *or* **medullae ob·lon·ga·tae** \-'gät-ē, -'gä-ˌtī\ [NL, lit., oblong medulla] : the somewhat pyramidal last part of the vertebrate brain continuous posteriorly with the spinal cord — see BRAIN illustration

med·ul·lary \'med-ᵊl-ˌer-ē, 'mej-ə-ˌler-; mə-'dəl-ə-rē\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a medulla and esp. the medulla oblongata **2** : of or relating to the pith of a plant

medullary ray *n* **1** : a primary tissue composed of radiating bands of parenchyma cells extending between the vascular bundles of herbaceous dicotyledonous stems and connecting the pith with the cortex **2** : VASCULAR RAY

medullary sheath *n* : the layer of myelin surrounding a medullated nerve fiber

med·ul·lat·ed \'med-ᵊl-ˌāt-əd, 'mej-ə-ˌlāt-\ *adj* **1** *of a nerve fiber* : having a medullary sheath **2** : having a medulla — used of fibers other than nerve fibers

me·du·sa \mi-'d(y)ü-sə, -zə\ *n* **1** *cap* [L, fr. Gk *Medousa*] : a Gorgon who could turn a beholder into stone by her glance **2** *pl* **me·du·sae** \-ˌsē, -ˌzē, -ˌsī, -ˌzī\ [NL, fr. L] : JELLYFISH; *esp* : a small hydrozoan jellyfish — **me·du·san** \-'d(y)üs-ᵊn, -'d(y)üz-\ *adj or n* — **me·du·soid** \-'d(y)ü-ˌsȯid, -ˌzȯid\ *adj or n*

meed \'mēd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mēd;* akin to OHG *miata* reward, Gk *misthos*] **1** *archaic* : an earned reward or wage **2** : a fitting return or recompense

meek \'mēk\ *adj* [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON *mjūkr* gentle; akin to L *mucus*] **1** : enduring injury with patience and without resentment : MILD **2** : deficient in spirit and courage : SUBMISSIVE **3** : not violent or strong : MODERATE ***syn*** see HUMBLE ***ant*** arrogant — **meek·ly** *adv* — **meek·ness** *n*

meer·schaum \'mi(ə)r-shəm, -ˌshȯm\ *n* [G, fr. *meer* sea + *schaum* foam] **1** : a fine light white clayey mineral that is a hydrous magnesium silicate $H_4Mg_2Si_3O_{10}$ found chiefly in Asia Minor and used esp. for tobacco pipes **2** : a tobacco pipe of meerschaum

¹meet \'mēt\ *vb* **met** \'met\; **meet·ing** [ME *meten*, fr. OE *mētan;* akin to OHG *muoz* meeting, Arm *matcim* I approach] *vt* **1 a** : to come into the presence of : FIND **b** : to approach from another direction **c** : to come into contact or conjunction with : JOIN **d** : to appear to the perception of **2** : to encounter as antagonist or foe : OPPOSE **3** : to enter into conference, argument, or personal dealings with **4** : to conform to esp. with exactitude and precision ⟨expand a concept to ~ new problems⟩ **5** : to pay fully : SETTLE **6** : to cope with : MATCH ⟨was able to ~ every social situation⟩ **7** : to provide for ⟨had enough money to ~ the needs of the moment⟩ **8** : to become acquainted with **9** : ENCOUNTER, EXPERIENCE **10** : to receive or greet in an official capacity ~ *vi* **1 a** : to come together from different directions **b** : to come together for a common purpose : ASSEMBLE **c** : to come together as contestants, opponents, or enemies **2** : to become joined into one : UNITE ***syn*** see SATISFY — **meet·er** *n* — **meet one halfway** : to make concessions to : compromise with

²meet *n* **1** : the act of assembling for a hunt or for competitive sports **2** : a competition in which individuals (as athletes) match skills

³meet *adj* [ME *mete*, fr. OE *gemǣte;* akin to OE *metan* to mete] : precisely adapted to a particular situation, need, or circumstance : very proper ***syn*** see FIT ***ant*** unmeet — **meet·ly** *adv*

meet·ing \'mēt-iŋ\ *n* **1** : an act or process of coming together: as **a** : an assembly for a common purpose (as worship) **b** : a session of horse or dog racing **2** : a permanent organizational unit of the Society of Friends **3** : INTERSECTION, JUNCTION

meet·ing·house \-ˌhaùs\ *n* : a building used for public assembly and esp. for Protestant worship

meeting of minds : AGREEMENT, CONCORD

meg *abbr* megohm

mega- *or* **meg-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *megas* large — more at MUCH] **1 a** : great : large ⟨*mega*spore⟩ **b** : having a (specified) part of large size ⟨*mega*cephalic⟩ **2** : million : multiplied by one million ⟨*meg*ohm⟩ ⟨*mega*cycle⟩

mega·bar \'meg-ə-ˌbär\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of pressure equal to 1,000,000 bars

mega·bit \-ˌbit\ *n* : 1,000,000 bits

mega·buck \-ˌbək\ *n* : 1,000,000 dollars

mega·cy·cle \-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* : 1,000,000 cycles; *esp* : MEGAHERTZ

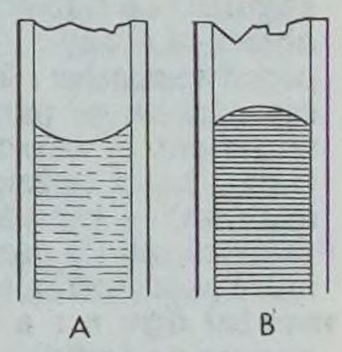
mega·death \-ˌdeth\ *n* : 1,000,000 deaths — used as a unit in reference to atomic warfare

meg·a·ga·mete \ˌmeg-ə-gə-'mēt, -'gam-ˌēt\ *n* : MACROGAMETE

mega·ga·me·to·phyte \-gə-'mēt-ə-ˌfīt\ *n* : the female gametophyte produced by a megaspore
mega·hertz \'meg-ə-ˌhərts, -ˌhe(ə)rts\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of frequency equal to 1,000,000 hertz — abbr. *MHz*
mega·kar·yo·cyte \ˌmeg-ə-'kar-ē-ō-ˌsīt\ *n* [*mega-* + *kary-* + *-cyte*] : a large cell that has a lobulate nucleus, is found esp. in the bone marrow, and is considered to be the source of blood platelets
megal- *or* **megalo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *megal-, megas* — more at MUCH] : large : of giant size ⟨*megalo*polis⟩ : grandiose ⟨*megalo*mania⟩
mega·lith \'meg-ə-ˌlith\ *n* : one of the huge undressed stones used in various prehistoric monuments — **mega·lith·ic** \ˌmeg-ə-'lith-ik\ *adj*
meg·a·lo·blast \'meg-ə-lō-ˌblast\ *n* : a large erythroblast that appears in the blood esp. in pernicious anemia — **meg·a·lo·blas·tic** \ˌmeg-ə-lō-'blas-tik\ *adj*
meg·a·lo·ma·nia \ˌmeg-ə-lō-'mā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL] **1** : a mania for great or grandiose performance **2** : a delusional mental disorder that is marked by infantile feelings of personal omnipotence and grandeur — **meg·a·lo·ma·ni·ac** \-'mā-nē-ˌak\ *adj or n* — **meg·a·lo·ma·ni·a·cal** \-mə-'nī-ə-kəl\ *or* **meg·a·lo·man·ic** \-'man-ik\ *adj* — **meg·a·lo·ma·ni·a·cal·ly** \-mə-'nī-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
meg·a·lop·o·lis \ˌmeg-ə-'läp-ə-ləs\ *n* **1** : a very large city **2** : a thickly populated region centering in a metropolis or embracing several metropolises — **meg·a·lop·o·lis·tic** \-ˌläp-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj* — **meg·a·lo·pol·i·tan** \-lō-'päl-ət-ᵊn\ *n or adj* — **meg·a·lo·pol·i·tan·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
meg·a·lop·ter·an \ˌmeg-ə-'läp-tə-rən\ *n* [NL *Megaloptera*, group name, fr. *megal-* + Gk *pteron* wing — more at FEATHER] : any of a small order (Megaloptera) of usu. large insects (as a dobsonfly) that are often classified as neuropterans, have wings with a folded anal area in the hind pair, and develop from aquatic predacious larvae (as a hellgrammite) — **meg·a·lop·ter·ous** \-tə-rəs\ *adj*
mega·par·sec \ˌmeg-ə-'pär-ˌsek\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of measure for distances in interstellar space equal to 1,000,000 parsecs
¹mega·phone \'meg-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* : a cone-shaped device used to intensify or direct the voice — **mega·phon·ic** \ˌmeg-ə-'fän-ik\ *adj*
²megaphone *vt* : to transmit or address through or as if through a megaphone ~ *vi* : to speak through or as if through a megaphone
me·gap·o·lis \mə-'gap-ə-ləs, me-\ *n* : MEGALOPOLIS — **meg·a·pol·i·tan** \ˌmeg-ə-'päl-ət-ᵊn\ *adj*
Me·gar·i·an \mə-'gar-ē-ən, me-\ *adj* : of or relating to a Socratic school of philosophy founded by Euclid of Megara and noted for its subtle attention to logic — **Megarian** *n*
Me·gar·ic \-'gar-ik\ *adj* : MEGARIAN — **Megaric** *n*
mega·scop·ic \ˌmeg-ə-'skäp-ik\ *adj* [*mega-* + *-scopic* (as in *microscopic*)] **1** : MACROSCOPIC 1 ⟨~ features of leaves⟩ **2** : based on or relating to observations made with the unaided eye — **mega·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mega·spo·ran·gi·um \ˌmeg-ə-spə-'ran-jē-əm\ *n* [NL] : a sporangium that develops only megaspores
mega·spore \'meg-ə-ˌspō(ə)r, -ˌspȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a spore in heterosporous plants that gives rise to female gametophytes and is generally larger than a microspore — **mega·spor·ic** \ˌmeg-ə-'spōr-ik, -'spȯr-\ *adj*
mega·spo·ro·gen·e·sis \ˌmeg-ə-ˌspōr-ə-'jen-ə-səs, -ˌspȯr-\ *n* [NL] : the formation and maturation of a megaspore
mega·spo·ro·phyll \ˌmeg-ə-'spōr-ə-ˌfil, -'spȯr-\ *n* : a sporophyll that develops only megasporangia
mega·ton \'meg-ə-ˌtən\ *n* : an explosive force equivalent to that of 1,000,000 tons of TNT
mega·watt \-ˌwät\ *n* [ISV] : 1,000,000 watts
me·gil·lah \mə-'gil-ə\ *n* [Yiddish, fr. Heb *mĕgillāh* scroll, volume (used esp. of the Book of Esther, read aloud at the Purim celebration)] *slang* : a long involved story or account
me·gilp \mə-'gilp\ *n* [origin unknown] : a gelatinous preparation commonly of linseed oil and mastic varnish that is used by artists as a vehicle for oil colors
meg·ohm \'meg-ˌōm\ *n* [ISV] : 1,000,000 ohms
¹me·grim \'mē-grəm\ *n* [ME *migreime*, fr. MF *migraine*] **1 a** : MIGRAINE **b** : VERTIGO, DIZZINESS **2 a** : FANCY, WHIM **b** *pl* : low spirits
²megrim *n* [origin unknown] : any of several small flatfishes; *esp* : a European flounder (*Arnoglossus laterna*)
Mei·ji \'mā-(ˌ)jē\ *n* [Jap, lit., enlightened rule] : the period of the reign (1868–1912) of Emperor Mutsuhito of Japan
mei·kle \'mē-kəl\ *var of* MICKLE
mei·ny *n, pl* **meinies** [ME *meynie* — more at MENIAL] **1** \'mā-nē\ *archaic* : RETINUE, COMPANY **2** \'men-yē\ *chiefly Scot* : MULTITUDE
mei·o·sis \mī-'ō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *meiōsis* diminution, fr. *meioun* to diminish, fr. *meiōn* less — more at MINOR] **1** : the representation of a thing as less than it actually is in order to compel greater esteem for it : UNDERSTATEMENT **2** : the cellular process that results in the number of chromosomes in gamete-producing cells being reduced to one half and that involves a reduction division in which one of each pair of homologous chromosomes passes to each daughter cell and a mitotic division — compare MITOSIS — **mei·ot·ic** \mī-'ät-ik\ *adj* — **mei·ot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
Meis·sen \'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* : a ceramic ware made at Meissen near Dresden; *esp* : a European porcelain developed under the patronage of the king of Saxony about 1715 and used for both ornamental and table wares — called also *Meissen china, Meissen ware*
Mei·ster·sing·er \'mī-stər-ˌsiŋ-ər, -ˌziŋ-\ *n, pl* **Meistersinger** *or* **Meistersingers** [G, fr. MHG, fr. *meister* master + *singer*] : a member of any of various German guilds formed chiefly in the 15th and 16th centuries by workingmen and craftsmen for the cultivation of poetry and music
mel·a·mine \'mel-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [G *melamin*] **1** : a white crystalline organic base $C_3H_6N_6$ with a high melting point that is used esp. in melamine resins **2** : a melamine resin or a plastic made from such a resin
melamine resin *n* : a thermosetting resin made from melamine and an aldehyde and used esp. in molded or laminated products, adhesives, and coatings
melan- *or* **melano-** *comb form* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. *melan-, melas* — more at MULLET] **1** : black : dark ⟨*melanic*⟩ ⟨*melanin*⟩ **2** : melanin ⟨*melanoid*⟩
mel·an·cho·lia \ˌmel-ən-'kō-lē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. LL, melancholy] : a mental condition characterized by extreme depression, bodily complaints, and often hallucinations and delusions; *esp* : a manic-depressive psychosis — **mel·an·cho·li·ac** \-lē-ˌak\ *n*
mel·an·chol·ic \ˌmel-ən-'käl-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or subject to melancholy : DEPRESSED **2** : of or relating to melancholia **3** : tending to depress the spirits : SADDENING — **melancholic** *n* — **mel·an·chol·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹mel·an·choly \'mel-ən-ˌkäl-ē\ *n, pl* **-chol·ies** [ME *malencolie*, fr. MF *melancolie*, fr. LL *melancholia*, fr. Gk, fr. *melan-* + *cholē* bile — more at GALL] **1 a** : an abnormal state attributed to an excess of black bile and characterized by irascibility or depression **b** : BLACK BILE **c** : MELANCHOLIA **2 a** : depression of spirits : DEJECTION **b** : a pensive mood
²melancholy *adj* **1 a** : depressed in spirits : DEJECTED, SAD **b** : PENSIVE **2 a** : suggestive or expressive of melancholy ⟨sang in a ~ voice⟩ **b** : causing or tending to cause sadness or depression of mind or spirit : DISMAL ⟨a ~ thought⟩
Mel·a·ne·sian \ˌmel-ə-'nē-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1** : a member of the dominant native group of Melanesia **2** : a language group consisting of the Austronesian languages of Melanesia — **Melanesian** *adj*
mé·lange \mā-'läⁿzh, -'länj\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *mesler, meler* to mix — more at MEDDLE] : a mixture often of incongruous elements
¹me·lan·ic \mə-'lan-ik\ *adj* **1** : MELANOTIC **2** : affected with or characterized by melanism
²melanic *n* : a melanic individual
mel·a·nin \'mel-ə-nən\ *n* : a dark brown or black animal or plant pigment
mel·a·nism \'mel-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : an increased amount of black or nearly black pigmentation (as of skin, feathers, or hair) of an individual or kind of organism **2** : intense pigmentation in man in skin, eyes, and hair — **mel·a·nist** \-nəst\ *n* — **mel·a·nis·tic** \ˌmel-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj*
mel·a·nite \'mel-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [G *melanit*, fr. *melan-*] : a black andradite garnet — **mel·a·nit·ic** \ˌmel-ə-'nit-ik\ *adj*
mel·a·nize \'mel-ə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-nized; -niz·ing** **1** : to convert into or infiltrate with melanin **2** : to make dark or black — **mel·a·ni·za·tion** \ˌmel-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n*
me·la·no·blast \mə-'lan-ə-ˌblast, 'mel-ə-nō-\ *n* [ISV] : a cell that is a precursor of a melanocyte or melanophore — **me·la·no·blas·tic** \mə-ˌlan-ə-'blas-tik, ˌmel-ə-nō-\ *adj*
me·la·no·blas·to·ma \mə-ˌlan-ə-blas-'tō-mə, ˌmel-ə-nō-\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a malignant tumor derived from melanoblasts
mel·a·noch·roi \ˌmel-ə-'näk-rə-ˌwī, -'näk-ˌrȯi\ *n pl* [NL, irreg. fr. *melan-* + Gk *ōchros* yellow, pale] : Caucasians having dark hair and pale complexion — **mel·a·no·chro·ic** \ˌmel-ə-nō-'krō-ik\ *adj*
me·la·no·cyte \mə-'lan-ə-ˌsīt, 'mel-ə-nō-\ *n* [ISV] : an epidermal cell that produces melanin
melanocyte–stimulating hormone *n* : a vertebrate hormone of the pituitary gland that darkens the skin by stimulating melanin dispersion in pigment-containing cells — called also *melanophore-stimulating hormone*
me·la·no·gen·e·sis \mə-ˌlan-ə-'jen-ə-səs, ˌmel-ə-nō-\ *n* [NL] : the formation of melanin
mel·a·noid \'mel-ə-ˌnȯid\ *n* [ISV] : a pigment (as one contributing esp. to the yellow color of the skin) that is a disintegration product of a melanin
mel·a·no·ma \ˌmel-ə-'nō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *also* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a usu. malignant tumor containing dark pigment
me·la·no·phore \mə-'lan-ə-ˌfō(ə)r, 'mel-ə-nə-, -ˌfȯ(ə)r\ *n* : a melanin-containing cell esp. of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles
mel·a·no·sis \ˌmel-ə-'nō-səs\ *n* [NL] : a condition characterized by abnormal deposition of melanins or sometimes other pigments in the tissues of the body
mel·a·not·ic \-'nät-ik\ *adj* : having or characterized by black pigmentation
mela·phyre \'mel-ə-ˌfī(ə)r\ *n* [F *mélaphyre*, fr. Gk *melas* black + F *-phyre* — more at MULLET] : a porphyritic igneous rock with dark-colored aphanitic groundmass and phenocrysts of various kinds
mel·a·to·nin \ˌmel-ə-'tō-nən\ *n* [prob. fr. *mela*nocyte + sero*tonin*] : a vertebrate hormone of the pineal gland that produces lightening of the skin by causing concentration of melanin in pigment-containing cells
mel·ba toast \ˌmel-bə-\ *n* [Nellie *Melba*] : very thin bread toasted till crisp
Mel·chite *or* **Mel·kite** \'mel-ˌkīt\ *n* [ML *Melchita*, fr. MGk *Melchitēs*, lit., royalist, fr. Syr *malkā* king] **1** : an Eastern Christian chiefly of Syria and Egypt adhering to Chalcedonian orthodoxy in preference to Monophysitism **2** : a member of a Uniate body derived from the Melchites
¹Mel·chiz·e·dek \mel-'kiz-ə-ˌdek\ *n* [Gk *Melchisedek*, fr. Heb *Malkī-ṣedheq*] : a priest-king of Jerusalem who prepared a ritual meal for Abraham and received tithes from him
²Melchizedek *adj* : of or relating to the higher order of the Mormon priesthood
¹meld \'meld\ *vb* [G *melden* to announce, fr. OHG *meldōn*; akin to OE *meldian* to announce, OSlav *moliti* to ask for] *vt* : to declare or announce (a card or combination of cards) for a score in a card game esp. by placing face up on the table ~ *vi* : to declare a card or combination of cards as a meld

²meld *n* : a card or combination of cards that is or can be melded in a card game
³meld *vb* [blend of *melt* and *weld*] : MERGE
me·lee \'mā-ˌlā, mā-'\ *n* [F *mêlée*, fr. OF *meslee*, fr. *mesler* to mix — more at MEDDLE] : a confused struggle; *esp* : a hand-to-hand fight among several people
mel·ic \'mel-ik\ *adj* [L *melicus*, fr. Gk *melikos*, fr. *melos* song — more at MELODY] : of or relating to song : LYRIC; *esp* : of or relating to Greek lyric poetry of the 7th and 6th centuries B.C.
mel·i·lot \'mel-ə-ˌlät\ *n* [ME *mellilot*, fr. MF *melilot*, fr. L *melilotos*, fr. Gk *melilōtos*, fr. *meli* honey + *lōtos* clover, lotus — more at MELLIFLUOUS] : SWEET CLOVER; *esp* : a yellow-flowered sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*)
me·lio·rate \'mēl-yə-ˌrāt, 'mē-lē-ə-\ *vb* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [LL *melioratus*, pp. of *meliorare*, fr. L *melior* better; akin to L *multus* much, Gk *mala* very] : AMELIORATE — **me·lio·ra·tion** \ˌmēl-yə-'rā-shən, ˌmē-lē-ə-\ *n* — **me·lio·ra·tive** \'mēl-yə-ˌrāt-iv, 'mē-lē-ə-\ *adj* — **me·lio·ra·tor** \-ˌrāt-ər\ *n*
me·lio·rism \'mēl-yə-ˌriz-əm, 'mē-lē-ə-\ *n* : the belief that the world tends to become better and that man can aid its betterment — **me·lio·rist** \-rəst\ *adj or n* — **me·lio·ris·tic** \ˌmēl-yə-'ris-tik, ˌmē-lē-ə-\ *adj*
me·lis·ma \mi-'liz-mə\ *n, pl* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk, song, melody, fr. *melizein* to sing, fr. *melos* song] **1** : a group of notes or tones sung on one syllable in plainsong **2** : melodic embellishment or ornamentation **3** : CADENZA — **mel·is·mat·ic** \ˌmel-əz-'mat-ik\ *adj*
mell \'mel\ *vb* [ME *mellen*, fr. MF *mesler*] *archaic* : MIX
mel·lif·er·ous \me-'lif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *mellifer*, fr. *mell-, mel* + *-fer* -ferous] : producing or yielding honey
mel·lif·lu·ent \me-'lif-lə-wənt\ *adj* [LL *mellifluent-, mellifluens*, fr. L *mell-, mel* + *fluent-, fluens*, prp. of *fluere*] : MELLIFLUOUS — **mel·lif·lu·ent·ly** *adv*
mel·lif·lu·ous \me-'lif-lə-wəs, mə-\ *adj* [LL *mellifluus*, fr. L *mell-, mel* honey + *fluere* to flow; akin to Goth *milith* honey, Gk *melit-, meli*] **1** : filled with something (as honey) that sweetens **2** : having a smooth rich flow ⟨a ~ voice⟩ — **mel·lif·lu·ous·ly** *adv* — **mel·lif·lu·ous·ness** *n*
mel·lo·phone \'mel-ə-ˌfōn\ *n* [¹*mellow* + *-phone*] : a circular valved brass instrument having a conical tube, a cup-shaped mouthpiece, and a range similar to that of the French horn
¹mel·low \'mel-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *adj* [ME *melowe*] **1 a** *of a fruit* : tender and sweet because of ripeness **b** *of a wine* : well aged and pleasingly mild **2 a** : made gentle by age or experience **b** : rich and full but free from garishness or stridency **c** : warmed and relaxed by liquor **d** : PLEASING, AGREEABLE ⟨in a ~ mood⟩ **3** *of soil* : having a soft and loamy consistency — **mel·low·ly** *adv* — **mel·low·ness** *n*
²mellow *vt* : to make mellow ~ *vi* : to become mellow
me·lo·de·on \mə-'lōd-ē-ən\ *n* [G *melodion*, fr. *melodie* melody, fr. OF] : a small reed organ in which a suction bellows draws air inward through the reeds
me·lod·ic \mə-'läd-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to melody : MELODIOUS — **me·lod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
me·lo·di·ous \mə-'lōd-ē-əs\ *adj* **1** : having a pleasing melody **2** : of, relating to, or producing melody — **me·lo·di·ous·ly** *adv* — **me·lo·di·ous·ness** *n*
mel·o·dist \'mel-əd-əst\ *n* **1** : SINGER **2** : a composer of melodies
mel·o·dize \'mel-ə-ˌdīz\ *vb* **-dized; -diz·ing** *vt* : to make melodious : set to melody ~ *vi* : to compose a melody — **mel·o·diz·er** *n*
melo·dra·ma \'mel-ə-ˌdräm-ə, -ˌdram-\ *n* [modif. of F *mélodrame*, fr. Gk *melos* + F *drame* drama, fr. LL *drama*] **1 a** : a work (as a movie or play) characterized by extravagant theatricality and by the predominance of plot and physical action over characterization **b** : the genre of dramatic literature constituted by such works **2** : melodramatic events or behavior — **melo·dra·ma·tist** \ˌmel-ə-'dram-ət-əst, -'dräm-\ *n*
melo·dra·mat·ic \ˌmel-ə-drə-'mat-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of melodrama **2** : appealing to the emotions : SENSATIONAL — **melo·dra·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
melo·dra·mat·ics \-iks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : melodramatic conduct or writing
melo·dra·ma·tize \ˌmel-ə-'dram-ə-ˌtīz, -'dräm-\ *vt* **1** : to make melodramatic ⟨~ a situation⟩ **2** : to make a melodrama of (as a novel) — **melo·dra·ma·ti·za·tion** \-ˌdram-ət-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌdräm-\ *n*
mel·o·dy \'mel-əd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [ME *melodie*, fr. OF, fr. LL *melodia*, fr. Gk *melōidia* chanting, music, fr. *melos* limb, musical phrase, song + *aeidein* to sing; akin to Bret *mell* joint — more at ODE] **1** : a sweet or agreeable succession or arrangement of sounds : TUNEFULNESS **2 a** : a rhythmic succession of single tones organized as an aesthetic whole **b** : a musical line as it appears on the staff when viewed horizontally **c** : the chief part in a harmonic composition
mel·on \'mel-ən\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *melon-, melo*, short for L *melopepon-, melopepo*, fr. Gk *mēlopepōn*, fr. *mēlon* apple + *pepōn*, an edible gourd — more at PUMPKIN] **1** : any of various gourds (as a muskmelon or watermelon) usu. eaten raw as fruits **2** : something rounded like a melon; *also* : a protruding abdomen **3 a** : a surplus of profits available for distribution to stockholders **b** : a financial windfall
Mel·pom·e·ne \mel-'päm-ə-(ˌ)nē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Melpomenē*] : the Greek Muse of tragedy
¹melt \'melt\ *vb* [ME *melten*, fr. OE *meltan*; akin to L *mollis* soft, *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] *vi* **1** : to become altered from a solid to a liquid state usu. by heat **2 a** : DISSOLVE, DISINTEGRATE ⟨the sugar ~*ed* in the coffee⟩ **b** : to disappear as if by dissolving ⟨her anger ~*ed* at his kind words⟩ **3** *obs* : to become subdued or crushed **4** : to become mild, tender, or gentle **5** : to lose distinct outline : BLEND ~ *vt* **1** : to reduce from a solid to a liquid state usu. by heat **2** : to cause to disappear or disperse **3** : to make tender or gentle : SOFTEN — **melt·abil·i·ty** \ˌmel-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **melt·able** \'mel-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **melt·er** *n*
²melt *n* **1 a** : material in the molten state **b** : the mass melted at a single operation or the quantity melted during a specified period **2 a** : the action or process of melting or the period during which it occurs ⟨roads softened during the spring ~⟩ **b** : the condition of being melted
³melt *n* [ME *milte*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *miltzi* spleen] : SPLEEN; *esp* : spleen of slaughtered animals for use as feed or food
melt·down \'melt-ˌdaůn\ *n* : the melting of the core of a nuclear reactor
melt·ing·ly \'mel-tiŋ-lē\ *adv* : in a melting manner : DELICATELY, TENDERLY ⟨luscious background music, ~ played —E. T. Canby⟩
melting point *n* : the temperature at which a solid melts
melting pot *n* **1** : a vessel for melting something : CRUCIBLE **2 a** : a place where racial amalgamation and social and cultural assimilation are going on ⟨long cherished the myth of the public school as the *melting pot* —M. R. Berube⟩ **b** : the population of such a place **3** : a process of blending that often results in invigoration or novelty
mel·ton \'melt-ᵊn\ *n* [*Melton* Mowbray, England] : a heavy smooth woolen fabric with short nap
melt·wa·ter \'melt-ˌwȯt-ər, -ˌwät-\ *n* : water derived from the melting of ice and snow
¹mem \'mem\ *n* [Heb *mēm*, lit., water] : the 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table
²mem *abbr* **1** member **2** memoir **3** memorial
mem·ber \'mem-bər\ *n* [ME *membre*, fr. OF, fr. L *membrum*; akin to Goth *mimz* flesh, Gk *mēros* thigh, *mēninx* membrane] **1** : a body part or organ: as **a** : LIMB **b** : PENIS **c** : a unit of structure in a plant body **2** : one of the individuals composing a group **3** : a person baptized or enrolled in a church **4** : a constituent part of a whole: as **a** : a syntactic or rhythmic unit of a sentence : CLAUSE **b** : one of the propositions of a syllogism **c** : one of the elements of a mathematical set **d** : one of the components of a logical class **e** : either of the equated elements in a mathematical equation ***syn*** see PART
member bank *n* : a bank having membership in the Federal Reserve System
mem·bered \'mem-bərd\ *adj* : made up of or divided into members
mem·ber·ship \'mem-bər-ˌship\ *n* **1** : the state or status of being a member **2** : the body of members ⟨an organization with a large ~⟩ **3** : the relation between an element of a set or class and the set or class — compare INCLUSION 3
mem·brane \'mem-ˌbrān\ *n* [L *membrana* skin, parchment, fr. *membrum*] **1** : a thin soft pliable sheet or layer esp. of animal or plant origin **2** : a piece of parchment forming part of a roll — **mem·bran·al** \mem-'brān-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mem·braned** \'mem-ˌbrānd\ *adj*
membrane bone *n* : a bone that ossifies directly in connective tissue without previous existence as cartilage
mem·bra·nous \'mem-brə-nəs\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or resembling membrane **2** : thin, pliable, and often somewhat transparent ⟨~ leaves⟩ **3** : characterized or accompanied by the formation of a usu. abnormal membrane or membranous layer ⟨~ croup⟩ — **mem·bra·nous·ly** *adv*
membranous labyrinth *n* : the sensory structures of the inner ear
me·men·to \mi-'ment-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-tos** *or* **-toes** [ME, fr. L, remember, imper. of *meminisse* to remember; akin to L *ment-, mens* mind] : something that serves to warn or remind; *also* : SOUVENIR
me·men·to mo·ri \mi-ˌment-ō-'mōr-ē, -'mȯr-ē\ *n, pl* **memento mori** [L, remember that you must die] **1** : a reminder of mortality; *esp* : DEATH'S HEAD **2** : a reminder of man's failures or mistakes
Mem·non \'mem-ˌnän\ *n* [Gk *Memnōn*] : an Ethiopian king slain by Achilles at a late stage of the Trojan War
memo \'mem-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **mem·os** : MEMORANDUM
mem·oir \'mem-ˌwär, -ˌwȯ(ə)r\ *n* [F *mémoire*, lit., memory, fr. L *memoria*] **1** : an official note or report : MEMORANDUM **2 a** : a narrative composed from personal experience **b** : AUTOBIOGRAPHY — usu. used in pl. **c** : BIOGRAPHY **3 a** : an account of something noteworthy : REPORT **b** *pl* : the record of the proceedings of a learned society
mem·o·ra·bil·ia \ˌmem-ə-rə-'bil-ē-ə, -'bil-yə\ *n pl* [L, fr. neut. pl. of *memorabilis*] : things that are remarkable and worthy of remembrance; *also* : records of such things
mem·o·ra·bil·i·ty \-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being memorable **2** : the quality or state of being rememberable
mem·o·ra·ble \'mem-(ə-)rə-bəl, 'mem-ər-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *memorabilis*, fr. *memorare* to remind, mention, fr. *memor* mindful] : worth remembering : NOTABLE ***syn*** see NOTEWORTHY — **mem·o·ra·ble·ness** *n* — **mem·o·ra·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
mem·o·ran·dum \ˌmem-ə-'ran-dəm\ *n, pl* **-dums** *or* **-da** \-də\ [ME, fr. L, neut. of *memorandus* to be remembered, gerundive of *memorare*] **1** : an informal record; *also* : a written reminder **2** : an informal written note of a transaction or proposed instrument **3 a** : an informal diplomatic communication **b** : a usu. brief communication written for interoffice circulation **c** : a communication that contains directive, advisory, or informative matter
¹me·mo·ri·al \mə-'mōr-ē-əl, -'mȯr-\ *adj* **1** : serving to preserve remembrance : COMMEMORATIVE **2** : of or relating to memory — **me·mo·ri·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*
²memorial *n* **1** : something that keeps remembrance alive: as **a** : MONUMENT **b** : something (as a speech or ceremony) that commemorates **c** : KEEPSAKE, MEMENTO **2 a** : RECORD, MEMOIR ⟨language and literature . . . the ~*s* of another age —J. H. Fisher⟩ **b** : MEMORANDUM, NOTE; *specif* : a legal abstract **c** : a statement of facts addressed to a government and often accompanied by a petition or remonstrance
Memorial Day *n* **1** : May 30 formerly observed as a legal holiday in most states of the U.S. in remembrance of war dead **2** : the last Monday in May observed as a legal holiday in most states of the U.S. **3** : CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY
me·mo·ri·al·ist \mə-'mōr-ē-ə-ləst, -'mȯr-\ *n* **1** : a person who writes or signs a memorial **2** : a person who writes a memoir
me·mo·ri·al·ize \-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to address or petition by a memorial **2** : COMMEMORATE
memorial park *n* : CEMETERY

me·mo·ri·ter \mə-'mȯr-ə-,te(ə)r, -'mär-\ *adj* [L, fr. *memor*] : marked by emphasis on memorization
mem·o·rize \'mem-ə-,rīz\ *vt* **-rized; -riz·ing** : to commit to memory : learn by heart — **mem·o·riz·able** \-,rī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **mem·o·ri·za·tion** \,mem-(ə-)rə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **mem·o·riz·er** *n*
mem·o·ry \'mem-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [ME *memorie*, fr. MF *memoire*, fr. L *memoria*, fr. *memor* mindful; akin to OE *mimorian* to remember, L *mora* delay, Gk *mermēra* care, Skt *smarati* he remembers] **1 a** : the power or process of reproducing or recalling what has been learned and retained esp. through associative mechanisms **b** : the store of things learned and retained from an organism's activity or experience as evidenced by modification of structure or behavior or by recall and recognition **2 a** : commemorative remembrance ⟨erected a statue in ~ of the hero⟩ **b** : the fact or condition of being remembered ⟨days of recent ~⟩ **3 a** : a particular act of recall or recollection **b** : an image or impression of one that is remembered **c** : the time within which past events can be or are remembered ⟨within the ~ of living men⟩ **4 a** : a device in which information esp. for a computer can be inserted and stored and from which it may be extracted when wanted **b** : capacity for storing information ⟨a computer with 16K words of ~⟩ **5** : a capacity for showing effects as the result of past treatment or for returning to a former condition — used esp. of a material (as metal or plastic)
syn MEMORY, REMEMBRANCE, RECOLLECTION, REMINISCENCE *shared meaning element* : the capacity for or act or action of remembering or something remembered ***ant*** oblivion
memory trace *n* : an alteration that is held to take place within the central nervous system and to constitute the physical basis of learning — called also *engram*
mem·sa·hib \'mem-,sä-,(h)ib, -,säb\ *n* [Hindi *memṣāḥib*, fr. E *ma'am* + Hindi *ṣāḥib* sahib] : a white foreign woman of high social status living in India; *esp* : the wife of a British official
men *pl of* MAN
men- *or* **meno-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *mēn* month — more at MOON] : menstruation ⟨*men*orrhagia⟩
¹men·ace \'men-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *minacia*, fr. *minac-, minax* threatening, fr. *minari* to threaten — more at MOUNT] **1** : a show of intention to inflict harm : THREAT **2 a** : one that represents a threat : DANGER **b** : a person who causes annoyance
²menace *vb* **men·aced; men·ac·ing** *vt* **1** : to make a show of intention to harm **2** : to represent or pose a threat to : ENDANGER ~ *vi* : to act in a threatening manner ***syn*** see THREATEN — **men·ac·ing·ly** \-ə-siŋ-lē\ *adv*
me·nad *var of* MAENAD
men·a·di·one \,men-ə-'dī-,ōn, -dī-'\ *n* [*me*thyl + *na*phthoquinone + *di-* + ket*one*] : a yellow crystalline compound $C_{11}H_8O_2$ with the biological activity of natural vitamin K
mé·nage \mā-'näzh\ *n* [F, fr. OF *mesnage* dwelling, fr. (assumed) VL *mansionaticum*, fr. L *mansion-, mansio* mansion] : a domestic establishment : HOUSEHOLD; *also* : HOUSEKEEPING
mé·nage à trois \-ä-'trwä\ *n* [F, lit., household for three] : a relationship in which three persons (as a married pair and the lover of one of the pair) live together
me·nag·er·ie \mə-'naj-(ə-)rē *also* -'nazh-\ *n* [F *ménagerie*, fr. MF, management of a household or farm, fr. *menage*] **1 a** : a place where animals are kept and trained esp. for exhibition **b** : a collection of wild or foreign animals kept esp. for exhibition **2** : a varied mixture ⟨a wonderful ~ of royal hangers-on —V. S. Pritchett⟩
men·ar·che \'men-,är-kē\ *n* [NL, fr. *men-* + Gk *archē* beginning] : the beginning of the menstrual function; *esp* : the first menstrual period of an individual — **men·ar·che·al** \,men-är-kē-əl\ *adj*
¹mend \'mend\ *vb* [ME *menden*, short for *amenden* — more at AMEND] *vt* **1** : to free from faults or defects: as **a** : to improve in manners or morals : REFORM **b** : to set right : CORRECT **c** : to put into good shape or working order again : patch up : REPAIR **d** : to restore to health : CURE **2** : to make amends or atonement for ⟨least said, soonest ~*ed*⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to improve morally : REFORM **2** : to become corrected or improved **3** : to improve in health; *also* : HEAL — **mend·able** \'men-də-bəl\ *adj* — **mend·er** *n*
syn MEND, REPAIR, PATCH, REBUILD *shared meaning element* : to put into good order something that is injured, damaged, or defective
²mend *n* **1** : an act of mending : REPAIR **2** : a mended place — **on the mend** : getting better : IMPROVING
men·da·cious \men-'dā-shəs\ *adj* [L *mendac-, mendax* — more at AMEND] : given to or characterized by deception or falsehood which often is not intended to genuinely mislead or delude ⟨spinning ~ tales of his adventures⟩ ***syn*** see DISHONEST ***ant*** veracious — **men·da·cious·ly** *adv* — **men·da·cious·ness** *n*
men·dac·i·ty \men-'das-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : the quality or state of being mendacious **2** : LIE
men·de·le·vi·um \,men-də-'lē-vē-əm, -'lā-\ *n* [NL, fr. Dmitri *Mendeleev*] : a radioactive element that is artificially produced — see ELEMENT table
Men·de·lian \men-'dē-lē-ən, -'dēl-yən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or according with Mendel's laws or Mendelism — **Mendelian** *n* — **Men·de·lian·ist** \-əst\ *n*
Mendelian factor *n* : GENE
Mendelian inheritance *n* : PARTICULATE INHERITANCE
Men·del·ism \'men-dᵊl-,iz-əm\ *n* : the principles or the operations of Mendel's laws; *also* : PARTICULATE INHERITANCE — **Men·del·ist** \-dᵊl-əst\ *adj or n*
Men·del's law \,men-dᵊlz-\ *n* [Gregor *Mendel*] **1** : a principle in genetics: hereditary units occur in pairs that separate during gamete formation so that every gamete receives but one member of a pair — called also *law of segregation* **2** : a principle in genetics limited and modified by the subsequent discovery of the phenomenon of linkage: the different pairs of hereditary units are distributed to the gametes independently of each other, the gametes combine at random, and the various combinations of hereditary pairs occur in the zygotes according to the laws of chance — called also *law of independent assortment* **3** : a principle in genetics proved subsequently to be subject to many limitations: because one of each pair of hereditary units dominates the other in expression, characters are inherited alternatively on an all or nothing basis — called also *law of dominance*
men·di·can·cy \'men-di-kən-sē\ *n* **1** : the condition of being a beggar **2** : the practice of begging
men·di·cant \'men-di-kənt\ *n* [L *mendicant-, mendicans*, prp. of *mendicare* to beg, fr. *mendicus* beggar — more at AMEND] **1** : BEGGAR 1 **2** *often cap* : a member of a religious order (as the Franciscans) combining monastic life and outside religious activity and orig. owning neither personal nor community property : FRIAR — **mendicant** *adj*
men·dic·i·ty \men-'dis-ət-ē\ *n* [ME *mendicite*, fr. MF *mendicité*, fr. L *mendicitat-, mendicitas*, fr. *mendicus*] : MENDICANCY
Men·e·la·us \,men-ᵊl-'ā-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Menelaos*] : a king of Sparta, brother of Agamemnon, and husband of the abducted Helen of Troy
men·folk \'men-,fōk\ *or* **men·folks** \-,fōks\ *n pl* **1** : men in general **2** : the men of a family or community
men·ha·den \men-'hād-ᵊn, mən-\ *n, pl* **-den** *also* **-dens** [of Algonquian origin; prob. akin to Narraganset *munnawhatteaûg* menhaden] : a marine fish (*Brevoortia tyrannus*) of the herring family abundant along the Atlantic coast of the U.S. where it is used for bait or converted into oil and fertilizer
men·hir \'men-,hi(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. Bret, fr. *men* stone + *hir* long] : a single upright rude monolith usu. of prehistoric origin
¹me·nial \'mē-nē-əl, -nyəl\ *adj* [ME *meynial*, fr. *meynie* household, retinue, fr. OF *mesnie*, fr. (assumed) VL *mansionata*, fr. L *mansion-, mansio* dwelling] **1** : of or relating to servants : LOWLY **2 a** : appropriate to a servant : HUMBLE, SERVILE ⟨answered in ~ tones⟩ **b** : lacking interest or dignity ⟨a ~ task⟩ ***syn*** see SUBSERVIENT — **me·nial·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
²menial *n* : a domestic servant or retainer
Mé·nière's disease \mən-'ye(ə)rz-\ *n* [Prosper *Ménière* †1862 F physician] : a disorder of the membranous labyrinth of the inner ear that is marked by recurrent attacks of dizziness, tinnitus, and deafness — called also *Ménière's syndrome*
mening- *or* **meningo-** *also* **meningi-** *comb form* [NL, fr. *mening-, meninx*] **1** : meninges ⟨*meningo*coccus⟩ ⟨*mening*itis⟩ **2** : meninges and ⟨*meningo*encephalitis⟩
men·in·ge·al \,men-ən-'jē-əl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or affecting the meninges
meninges *pl of* MENINX
me·nin·gi·o·ma \mə-,nin-jē-'ō-mə\ *n, pl* **-o·mas** *or* **-o·ma·ta** \-'ō-mət-ə\ [NL] : a slow-growing encapsulated tumor arising from the meninges and often causing damage by pressing upon the brain and adjacent parts
men·in·gi·tis \,men-ən-'jīt-əs\ *n, pl* **-git·i·des** \-'jit-ə-,dēz\ [NL] **1** : inflammation of the meninges and esp. of the pia mater and the arachnoid **2** : a usu. bacterial disease in which inflammation of the meninges occurs — **men·in·git·ic** \-'jit-ik\ *adj*
me·nin·go·coc·cus \mə-,niŋ-gə-'käk-əs, -,nin-jə-\ *n, pl* **-coc·ci** \-'käk-,(s)ī, -(,)(s)ē\ [NL] : the bacterium (*Neisseria meningitidis*) that causes cerebrospinal meningitis — **me·nin·go·coc·cal** \-'käk-əl\ *also* **me·nin·go·coc·cic** \-'käk-(s)ik\ *adj*
me·nin·go·en·ceph·a·li·tis \-gō-ən-,sef-ə-'līt-əs\ *n, pl* **-lit·i·des** \-'lit-ə-,dēz\ [NL] : inflammation of the brain and meninges — **me·nin·go·en·ceph·a·lit·ic** \-'lit-ik\ *adj*
me·ninx \'mē-niŋ(k)s, 'men-iŋ(k)s\ *n, pl* **me·nin·ges** \mə-'nin-(,)jēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *mēning-, mēninx* membrane; akin to L *membrana* membrane] : any of the three membranes that envelop the brain and spinal cord
me·nis·cus \mə-'nis-kəs\ *n, pl* **me·nis·ci** \-'nis-,(k)ī, -,kē\ *also* **me·nis·cus·es** [NL, fr. Gk *mēniskos*, fr. dim. of *mēnē* moon, crescent — more at MOON] **1** : a crescent or crescent-shaped body **2** : a fibrous cartilage within a joint esp. of the knee **3** : a concavo-convex lens — see LENS illustration **4** : the curved upper surface of a liquid column that is concave when the containing walls are wetted by the liquid and convex when not



meniscus 4: *A* concave meniscus of water, *B* convex meniscus of mercury

Men·no·nite \'men-ə-,nīt\ *n* [G *Mennonit*, fr. *Menno* Simons †1561 Frisian religious reformer] : a member of any of various Protestant groups derived from the Anabaptist movement in Holland and characterized by congregational autonomy and rejection of military service
me·no mos·so \,mā-nō-'mȯ(s)-(,)sō\ *adv* [It] : less rapid — used as a direction in music
meno·pause \'men-ə-,pȯz\ *n* [F *ménopause*, fr. *méno-* men- + *pause*] : the period of natural cessation of menstruation occurring usu. between the ages of 45 and 50 — **meno·paus·al** \,men-ə-'pȯ-zəl\ *adj*
me·no·rah \mə-'nōr-ə, -'nȯr-\ *n* [Heb *mĕnōrāh* candlestick] : a candelabrum used in Jewish worship
men·or·rha·gia \,men-ə-'rā-j(ē-)ə, -'rā-zhə; -'räj-ə, -'räzh-\ *n* [NL] : abnormally profuse menstrual flow — **men·or·rhag·ic** \-'raj-ik\ *adj*
men·sal \'men(t)-səl\ *adj* [LL *mensalis*, fr. L *mensa* table] : of, relating to, or done at the table
¹mense \'men(t)s\ *n* [ME *menske*, fr. ON *mennska* humanity] *chiefly Scot* : PROPRIETY — **mense·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **mense·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

²mense *vt* **mensed; mens·ing** *chiefly Scot* : to do honor to : GRACE

men·ses \'men-ˌsēz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [L, lit., months, pl. of *mensis* month — more at MOON] : the menstruous flow

Men·she·vik \'men-chə-ˌvik, -ˌvēk\ *n, pl* **Mensheviks** *or* **Men·she·vi·ki** \ˌmen-chə-'vik-ē, -'vē-kē\ [Russ *men'shevik*, fr. *men'she* less; fr. their forming the minority group of the party] : a member of a wing of the Russian Social Democractic party before and during the Russian Revolution believing in the gradual achievement of socialism by parliamentary methods in opposition to the Bolsheviks — **Men·she·vism** \'men-chə-ˌviz-əm\ *n* — **Men·she·vist** \-vəst\ *n or adj*

mens rea \(')menz-'rē-ə\ *n* [NL, lit., guilty mind] : criminal intent

men's room *n* : a room equipped with lavatories, toilets, and usu. urinals for the use of men

men·stru·al \'men(t)-strə(-wə)l\ *adj* : of or relating to menstruation

men·stru·ate \'men(t)-strə-ˌwāt, 'men-ˌstrāt\ *vi* **-at·ed; -at·ing** [LL *menstruatus*, pp. of *menstruari*, fr. L *menstrua* menses, fr. neut. pl. of *menstruus* monthly, fr. *mensis*] : to undergo menstruation

men·stru·a·tion \ˌmen(t)-strə-'wā-shən, men-'strā-\ *n* : a discharging of blood, secretions, and tissue debris from the uterus that recurs in nonpregnant breeding-age primate females at approximately monthly intervals and that is considered to represent a readjustment of the uterus to the nonpregnant state following proliferative changes accompanying the preceding ovulation; *also* : PERIOD 6c

men·stru·ous \'men(t)-strə(-wə)s\ *adj* [L *menstruus*] : of, relating to, or undergoing menstruation

men·stru·um \'men(t)-strə(-wə)m\ *n, pl* **-stru·ums** *or* **-strua** \-str(ə-w)ə\ [ML, lit., menses, alter. of L *menstrua*] : a substance that dissolves a solid or holds it in suspension : SOLVENT

men·su·ra·ble \'men(t)s-(ə-)rə-bəl, 'mench-(ə-)rə-\ *adj* [LL *mensurabilis*, fr. *mensurare* to measure, fr. *mensura* measure — more at MEASURE] **1** : capable of being measured : MEASURABLE **2** : MENSURAL 1 — **men·su·ra·bil·i·ty** \ˌmen(t)s-(ə-)rə-'bil-ət-ē, ˌmench-(ə-)rə-\ *n* — **men·su·ra·ble·ness** \'men(t)s-(ə-)rə-bəl-nəs, 'mench-(ə-)rə-\ *n*

men·su·ral \'men(t)s-(ə-)rəl, 'mench-(ə-)rəl\ *adj* [LL *mensuralis* measurable, fr. L *mensura*] **1** : of, relating to, or being polyphonic music originating in the 13th century with each note having a definite and exact time value **2** : of or relating to measure

men·su·ra·tion \ˌmen(t)-sə-'rā-shən; ˌmen-chə-\ *n* **1** : the act of measuring : MEASUREMENT **2** : geometry applied to the computation of lengths, areas, or volumes from given dimensions or angles

mens·wear \'menz-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : clothing for men

-ment \mənt; *homographic verbs are* ˌment *also* mənt, *the latter less often before a syllable-increasing suffix*\ *n suffix* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *-mentum;* akin to L *-men*, suffix denoting concrete result, Gk *-mat-, -ma*] **1 a** : concrete result, object, or agent of a (specified) action ⟨embank*ment*⟩ ⟨entangle*ment*⟩ **b** : concrete means or instrument of a (specified) action ⟨entertain*ment*⟩ **2 a** : action : process ⟨encircle*ment*⟩ ⟨develop*ment*⟩ **b** : place of a (specified) action ⟨encamp*ment*⟩ **3** : state or condition resulting from (a specified action)

¹men·tal \'ment-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *mentalis*, fr. L *ment-, mens* mind — more at MIND] **1 a** : of or relating to the mind; *specif* : of or relating to the total emotional and intellectual response of an individual to his environment ⟨~ health⟩ **b** : of or relating to intellectual as contrasted with emotional activity **c** : of, relating to, or being intellectual as contrasted with overt physical activity **d** : occurring or experienced in the mind : INNER ⟨~ anguish⟩ **e** : relating to the mind, its activity, or its products as an object of study : IDEOLOGICAL **f** : relating to spirit or idea as opposed to matter **2 a** : of, relating to, or affected by a psychiatric disorder ⟨a ~ patient⟩ ⟨~ illness⟩ **b** : intended for the care or treatment of persons affected by psychiatric disorders ⟨~ hospitals⟩ **3** : of or relating to telepathic or mind-reading powers ⟨a ~ medium⟩ — **men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

²mental *adj* [L *mentum* chin; akin to L *mont-, mons* mountain — more at MOUNT] : of or relating to the chin : GENIAL

mental age *n* : a measure used in psychological testing that expresses an individual's mental attainment in terms of the number of years it takes an average child to reach the same level

mental deficiency *n* : failure in intellectual development that results in social incompetence and is considered to be the result of a defective central nervous system and to be incurable : FEEBLEMINDEDNESS

men·tal·ist \'ment-ᵊl-əst\ *n* : MIND READER

men·tal·i·ty \men-'tal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : mental power or capacity : INTELLIGENCE ⟨a man of high ~⟩ **2** : mode or way of thought : OUTLOOK ⟨a provincial ~⟩

men·ta·tion \men-'tā-shən\ *n* [L *ment-, mens* + E *-ation*] : mental activity

men·thol \'men-ˌthȯl, -ˌthōl\ *n* [G, deriv. of L *mentha* mint] : a crystalline alcohol $C_{10}H_{20}O$ that occurs esp. in mint oils and has the odor and cooling properties of peppermint

men·tho·lat·ed \'men(t)-thə-ˌlāt-əd\ *adj* : containing or impregnated with menthol ⟨a ~ salve⟩

¹men·tion \'men-chən\ *n* [ME *mencioun*, fr. OF *mention*, fr. L *mention-, mentio*, fr. *ment-, mens*] **1** : the act or an instance of citing or calling attention to someone or something esp. in a casual or incidental manner **2** : formal citation for outstanding achievement

²mention *vt* **men·tioned; men·tion·ing** \'mench-(ə-)niŋ\ : to make mention of : refer to; *also* : to cite for outstanding achievement — **men·tion·able** \'mench-(ə-)nə-bəl\ *adj* — **men·tion·er** \-(ə-)nər\ *n*

syn MENTION, NAME, INSTANCE, SPECIFY *shared meaning element* : to refer to someone or something in a clear unmistakable manner

men·tor \'men-ˌtȯ(ə)r, 'ment-ər\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Mentōr*] **1** *cap* : a friend of Odysseus entrusted with the education of Odysseus' son Telemachus **2 a** : a trusted counselor or guide **b** : TUTOR, COACH — **men·tor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

men·tum \'ment-əm\ *n, pl* **men·ta** \-ə\ [L — more at MENTAL] **1** : CHIN **2** : a median plate of the labium of an insect

menu \'men-(ˌ)yü, 'mān-\ *n, pl* **menus** [F, fr. *menu* small, detailed, fr. L *minutus* minute (adj.)] **1 a** : a list of the dishes that may be ordered (as in a restaurant) **b** : a list of the dishes that are to be served (as at a banquet) **2** : the dishes available for or served at a meal; *also* : the meal itself

me·ow \mē-'au̇\ *n* [imit.] **1** : the cry of a cat **2** : a spiteful or malicious remark — **meow** *vi*

me·per·i·dine \mə-'per-ə-ˌdēn\ *n* [*me*thyl + p*iperidine*] : a synthetic narcotic drug $C_{15}H_{21}NO_2$ used in the form of its hydrochloride as an analgesic, sedative, and antispasmodic

Meph·is·toph·e·les \ˌmef-ə-'stäf-ə-ˌlēz\ *n* [G] : a chief devil in the Faust legend — **Me·phis·to·phe·lian** \ˌmef-ə-stə-'fēl-yən, mə-ˌfis-tə-\ *or* **Me·phis·to·phe·lean** *same, or* ˌmef-ə-ˌstäf-ə-'lē-ən\ *adj*

me·phit·ic \mə-'fit-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or resembling mephitis : foul-smelling

me·phi·tis \mə-'fīt-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Oscan] : a noxious, pestilential, or foul exhalation from the earth; *also* : STENCH

mep·ro·bam·ate \ˌmep-rō-'bam-ˌāt\ *n* [*me*thyl + *pro*pyl + dicar*bamate*] : a bitter carbamate $C_9H_{18}N_2O_4$ used as a tranquilizer

mer *abbr* meridian

mer- *comb form* [ME, fr. *mere*, fr. OE] : sea ⟨*mer*maid⟩

mer·bro·min \ˌmər-'brō-mən\ *n* [*mer*curic acetate + di*brom-* + fluoresc*ein*] : a green crystalline mercurial compound $C_{20}H_8Br_2HgNa_2O_6$ used as a local antiseptic and germicide in the form of its red solution

mer·can·tile \'mər-kən-ˌtēl, -ˌtīl\ *adj* [F, fr. It, fr. *mercante* merchant, fr. L *mercant-, mercans*, fr. prp. of *mercari* to trade — more at MERCHANT] **1** : of or relating to merchants or trading **2** : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of mercantilism ⟨~ system⟩

mer·can·til·ism \-ˌtē-ˌliz-əm, -ˌtī-\ *n* **1** : the theory or practice of mercantile pursuits : COMMERCIALISM **2** : an economic system developing during the decay of feudalism to unify and increase the power and esp. the monetary wealth of a nation by a strict governmental regulation of the entire national economy usu. through policies designed to secure an accumulation of bullion, a favorable balance of trade, the development of agriculture and manufactures, and the establishment of foreign trading monopolies — **mer·can·til·ist** \-ləst\ *n or adj* — **mer·can·til·is·tic** \ˌmər-kən-ˌtē-'lis-tik, -ˌtī-\ *adj*

mercapt- *or* **mercapto-** *comb form* : derived from or related to a mercaptan ⟨*mercapto*purine⟩

mer·cap·tan \(ˌ)mər-'kap-ˌtan\ *n* [G, fr. Dan, fr. ML *mercurium captans*, lit., seizing mercury] : any of various compounds with the general formula RSH that are analogous to the alcohols and phenols but contain sulfur in place of oxygen and often have disagreeable odors

mer·cap·to·pu·rine \(ˌ)mər-ˌkap-tə-'pyu̇(ə)r-ˌēn\ *n* : an antimetabolite $C_5H_4N_4S$ that interferes esp. with the metabolism of purine bases and the biosynthesis of nucleic acids and that is sometimes useful in the treatment of acute leukemia

Mer·ca·tor projection \(ˌ)mər-ˌkāt-ər-\ *n* [Gerhardus *Mercator*] : a map projection in which the meridians are drawn parallel to each other and the parallels of latitudes are straight lines whose distance from each other increases with their distance from the equator

¹mer·ce·nary \'mərs-ᵊn-ˌer-ē\ *n, pl* **-nar·ies** [ME, fr. L *mercenarius*, fr. *merced-, merces* wages — more at MERCY] : one that serves merely for wages; *esp* : a soldier hired into foreign service

²mercenary *adj* **1** : serving merely for pay or sordid advantage : VENAL; *also* : GREEDY **2** : hired for service in the army of a foreign country — **mer·ce·nar·i·ly** \ˌmərs-ᵊn-'er-ə-lē\ *adv* — **mer·ce·nar·i·ness** \'mərs-ᵊn-ˌer-ē-nəs\ *n*

mer·cer \'mər-sər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *mercier* merchant, fr. *mers* merchandise, fr. L *merc-, merx* — more at MARKET] *Brit* : one who deals in textile fabrics

mer·cer·ize \'mər-sə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** [John *Mercer* †1866 E calico printer] : to give (as cotton yarn) luster, strength, and receptiveness to dyes by treatment under tension with caustic soda — **mer·cer·iza·tion** \ˌmərs-(ə-)rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

mer·cery \'mərs-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-cer·ies** *Brit* : a mercer's wares, shop, or occupation

¹mer·chan·dise \'mər-chən-ˌdīz, -ˌdīs\ *n* [ME *marchaundise*, fr. OF *marcheandise*, fr. *marcheant*] **1** : the commodities or goods that are bought and sold in business : WARES **2** *archaic* : the occupation of a merchant : TRADE

²mer·chan·dise \-ˌdīz\ *vb* **-dised; -dis·ing** *vi, archaic* : to carry on commerce : TRADE ~ *vt* **1** : to buy and sell in business **2** : to promote the sale of — **mer·chan·dis·er** *n*

mer·chan·dis·ing \-ˌdī-ziŋ\ *n* : sales promotion as a comprehensive function including market research, development of new products, coordination of manufacture and marketing, and effective advertising and selling

¹mer·chant \'mər-chənt\ *n* [ME *marchant*, fr. OF *marcheant*, fr. (assumed) VL *mercatant-, mercatans*, fr. prp. of *mercatare* to trade, fr. L *mercatus*, pp. of *mercari* — more at MARKET] **1** : a buyer and seller of commodities for profit : TRADER **2** : the operator of a retail business : STOREKEEPER — **merchant** *adj*

²merchant *vi, archaic* : to deal or trade as a merchant ~ *vt* : to deal or trade in

mer·chant·able \'mər-chənt-ə-bəl\ *adj* : of commercially acceptable quality : SALABLE — **mer·chant·abil·i·ty** \ˌmər-chənt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*

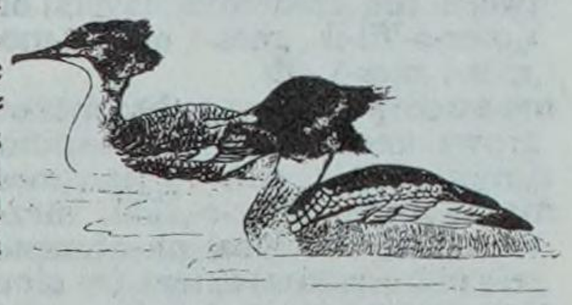
mer·chant·man \'mər-chənt-mən\ *n* **1** *archaic* : MERCHANT **2** : a ship used in commerce

merchant marine *n* **1** : the privately or publicly owned commercial ships of a nation **2** : the personnel of a merchant marine

merchant ship *n* : MERCHANTMAN 2

Mer·cian \'mər-sh(ē-)ən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Mercia **2** : the Old English dialect of Mercia — **Mercian** *adj*

mer·ci·ful \'mər-si-fəl\ *adj* : full of mercy : COMPASSIONATE — **mer·ci·ful·ly** \-f(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mer·ci·ful·ness** \-fəl-nəs\ *n*
mer·ci·less \'mər-si-ləs\ *adj* : having no mercy : PITILESS — **mer·ci·less·ly** *adv* — **mer·ci·less·ness** *n*
mercur- *or* **mercuro-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. *mercury*] : mercury ⟨*mercurous*⟩
mer·cu·rate \'mər-kyə-ˌrāt\ *vt* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** : to combine or treat with mercury or a mercury salt — **mer·cu·ra·tion** \ˌmər-kyə-'rā-shən\ *n*
1mer·cu·ri·al \(ˌ)mər-'kyůr-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or born under the planet Mercury **2** : having qualities of eloquence, ingenuity, or thievishness attributed to the god Mercury or to the influence of the planet Mercury **3** : characterized by rapid and unpredictable changeableness of mood **4** : of, relating to, containing, or caused by mercury ***syn*** see INCONSTANT ***ant*** saturnine — **mer·cu·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv* — **mer·cu·ri·al·ness** *n*
2mercurial *n* : a pharmaceutical or chemical containing mercury
mer·cu·ric \(ˌ)mər-'kyů(ə)r-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing mercury; *esp* : containing mercury with a valence of two
mercuric chloride *n* : a heavy crystalline poisonous compound $HgCl_2$ used as a disinfectant and fungicide and in photography — called also *corrosive sublimate*
Mer·cu·ro·chrome \(ˌ)mər-'kyůr-ə-ˌkrōm\ *trademark* — used for merbromin
mer·cu·rous \(ˌ)mər-'kyůr-əs, 'mər-kyə-rəs\ *adj* : of, relating to, or containing mercury; *esp* : containing mercury with a valence of one
mercurous chloride *n* : CALOMEL
mer·cu·ry \'mər-kyə-rē, -k(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [L *Mercurius*, Roman god and the planet] **1 a** *cap* : the Roman god of trade, commerce, gain, luck, travel, and good gifts and the messenger of the gods — compare HERMES **b** *often cap, archaic* : a bearer of messages or news or a conductor of travelers **2** [ME *mercurie*, fr. ML *mercurius*, fr. L, the god] **a** : a heavy silver-white poisonous metallic element that is liquid at ordinary temperatures and used esp. in scientific instruments — called also *quicksilver*; see ELEMENT table **b** : the mercury in a thermometer or barometer **3** *cap* : the planet nearest the sun — see PLANET table **4** : a poisonous European plant (*Mercurialis perennis*) of the spurge family
mercury chloride *n* : a chloride of mercury: as **a** : CALOMEL **b** : MERCURIC CHLORIDE
mercury–vapor lamp *n* : an electric lamp in which the discharge takes place through mercury vapor — called also *mercury lamp*
mer·cy \'mər-sē\ *n, pl* **mercies** [ME, fr. OF *merci*, fr. ML *merced-, merces*, fr. L, price paid, wages, fr. *merc-, merx* merchandise — more at MARKET] **1 a** : compassion or forbearance shown esp. to an offender or to one subject to one's power ⟨as God shows ~ to a sinner⟩ **b** : imprisonment rather than death imposed as penalty for first-degree murder **2 a** : a blessing that is an act of divine favor or compassion **b** : a fortunate circumstance ⟨it was a ~ they found her before she froze⟩ **3** : compassionate treatment of those in distress ⟨deaconesses who do works of ~ among the poor⟩ — **mercy** *adj*
syn MERCY, CHARITY, GRACE, CLEMENCY, LENITY *shared meaning element* : a showing or a disposition to show kindness or compassion. MERCY implies compassion that forbears punishing even when justice demands it or that extends help even to the lowliest or most undeserving ⟨earthly power doth then show likest God's when *mercy* seasons justice —Shak.⟩ CHARITY stresses benevolence and goodwill ⟨with malice toward none, with *charity* for all — Abraham Lincoln⟩ GRACE implies a benign attitude, especially toward dependents or inferiors, and a willingness to grant favors or make concessions ⟨God's *grace* was not an efficacious infusion of a power moving toward the perfection of man; it was the forgiveness of sins, needed newly in each moment —J. M. Gustafson⟩ CLEMENCY imputes mildness and mercy to one called upon to judge and punish ⟨saved from prison by executive *clemency*⟩ LENITY adds to *clemency* the notion of extreme, often undue lack of severity and may suggest weak softness more than manly compassion ⟨what makes robbers bold but too much *lenity*? —Shak.⟩
— **at the mercy of** : wholly in the power of : with no way to protect oneself against
mercy seat *n* **1** : the gold plate resting on the ancient Jewish ark according to the account in Exodus **2** : the throne of God
1mere \'mi(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. OE — more at MARINE] : a sheet of standing water : POOL
2mere *n* [ME, fr. OE *mǣre* — more at MUNITION] *archaic* : BOUNDARY, LANDMARK
3mere \'mi(ə)r\ *adj* **mer·est** [ME, fr. L *merus* pure, unmixed — more at MORN] **1** *obs* : ABSOLUTE, UNDIMINISHED **2** : exclusive of or considered apart from anything else : nothing more than : BARE **3** : having no admixture : PURE — **mere·ly** *adv*
-mere \ˌmi(ə)r\ *n comb form* [F *-mère*, fr. Gk *meros* part — more at MERIT] : part : segment ⟨arthro*mere*⟩
mer·e·tri·cious \ˌmer-ə-'trish-əs\ *adj* [L *meretricius*, fr. *meretric-, meretrix* prostitute, fr. *merērе* to earn — more at MERIT] **1** : of or relating to a prostitute **2 a** : tawdrily and falsely attractive ⟨~ glamour⟩ **b** : based on pretense or insincerity : SPECIOUS ⟨~ argument⟩ ***syn*** see GAUDY — **mer·e·tri·cious·ly** *adv* — **mer·e·tri·cious·ness** *n*
mer·gan·ser \(ˌ)mər-'gan(t)-sər\ *n* [NL, fr. L *mergus*, a waterfowl (fr. *mergere*) + *anser* goose — more at GOOSE] : any of various fish-eating diving ducks (esp. genus *Mergus*) with a slender bill hooked at the end and serrated along the margins and usu. a crested head


merganser

merge \'mərj\ *vb* **merged; merg·ing** [L *mergere*; akin to Skt *majjati* he dives] *vt* **1** *archaic* : to plunge or engulf in something : IMMERSE **2** : to cause to combine, unite, or coalesce **3** : to blend gradually by stages that blur the distinctness of ⟨as cultures are *merged* and traditions lost⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to become combined into one **2** : to blend or come together without abrupt change ⟨*merging* traffic⟩ ***syn*** see MIX — **mer·gence** \'mər-jən(t)s\ *n*
merg·er \'mər-jər\ *n* [*merge* + *-er* (as in *waiver*)] **1** *law* : the absorption of an estate, a contract, or an interest in another, of a minor offense in a greater, or of an obligation into a judgment **2** : absorption by a corporation of one or more others; *also* : any of various methods of combining two or more organizations (as business concerns)
me·rid·i·an \mə-'rid-ē-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *meridien*, fr. *meridien* of noon, fr. L *meridianus*, fr. *meridies* noon, south, irreg. fr. *medius* mid + *dies* day — more at MID, DEITY] **1** *archaic* : the hour of noon : MIDDAY **2** : a great circle of the celestial sphere passing through its poles and the zenith of a given place **3** : a high point **4 a** (1) : a great circle on the surface of the earth passing through the poles (2) : the half of such a circle included between the poles **b** : a representation of such a circle or half circle numbered for longitude on a map or globe — see LONGITUDE illustration **5** : a line or circle (as on a projection of a planet or a lens) comparable to a meridian of longitude — **meridian** *adj*
1me·rid·i·o·nal \mə-'rid-ē-ən-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *meridionel*, fr. LL *meridionalis*, irreg. fr. L *meridies* noon, south] **1** : of, relating to, or situated in the south : SOUTHERN **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of people living in the south esp. of France **3** : of or relating to a meridian — **me·rid·i·o·nal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
2meridional *n* : a native or inhabitant of southern Europe and esp. southern France
me·ringue \mə-'raŋ\ *n* [F] **1** : a dessert topping baked from a mixture of stiffly beaten egg whites and sugar **2** : a shell made of meringue and filled with fruit or ice cream
me·ri·no \mə-'rē-(ˌ)nō\ *n, pl* **-nos** [Sp] **1** : any of a breed of fine-wooled white sheep originating in Spain and producing a heavy fleece of exceptional quality **2** : a soft wool or wool and cotton clothing fabric resembling cashmere **3** : a fine wool and cotton yarn used for hosiery and knitwear — **merino** *adj*
Merion *abbr* Merionethshire
-m·er·ism \m-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *meros* part — more at MERIT] **1** : possession of (such) an arrangement of or relation among constituent chemical units ⟨tauto*merism*⟩ **2** : possession of (such or so many) parts ⟨penta*merism*⟩
mer·i·stem \'mer-ə-ˌstem\ *n* [Gk *meristos* divided (fr. *merizein* to divide, fr. *meros*) + E *-em* (as in *system*)] : a formative plant tissue usu. made up of small cells capable of dividing indefinitely and giving rise to similar cells or to cells that differentiate to produce the definitive tissues and organs — **mer·i·ste·mat·ic** \ˌmer-ə-stə-'mat-ik\ *adj* — **mer·i·ste·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
me·ris·tic \mə-'ris-tik\ *adj* [Gk *meristos*] **1** : SEGMENTAL **2** : involving modification in number or in geometrical relation of body parts ⟨~ variation in flower petals⟩ — **me·ris·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
1mer·it \'mer-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *merite*, fr. L *meritum*, fr. neut. of *meritus*, pp. of *merērе* to deserve, earn; akin to Gk *meros* part, L *memor* mindful — more at MEMORY] **1 a** *obs* : reward or punishment due **b** : the qualities or actions that constitute the basis of one's deserts **c** : a praiseworthy quality : VIRTUE **d** : character or conduct deserving reward, honor, or esteem **2** : spiritual credit held to be earned by performance of righteous acts and to ensure future benefits **3 a** *pl* : the intrinsic rights and wrongs of a legal case as determined by substance rather than form **b** : legal significance, standing, or importance
2merit *vt* : to be worthy of or entitled or liable to : EARN ~ *vi* **1** *obs* : to be entitled to reward or honor **2** : DESERVE
mer·i·toc·ra·cy \ˌmer-ə-'täk-rə-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** [1*merit* + *-o-* + *-cracy*] **1** : an educational system whereby the talented are chosen and moved ahead on the basis of their achievement (as in competitive examinations) **2** : leadership by the talented — **mer·it·ocrat·ic** \ˌmer-ət-ə-'krat-ik\ *adj*
mer·i·to·ri·ous \ˌmer-ə-'tōr-ē-əs, -'tȯr-\ *adj* : deserving of reward or honor — **mer·i·to·ri·ous·ly** *adv* — **mer·i·to·ri·ous·ness** *n*
merit system *n* : a system by which appointments and promotions in the civil service are based on competence rather than political favoritism
merl *or* **merle** \'mər(-ə)l\ *n* [MF *merle*, fr. L *merulus*; akin to OE *ōsle* blackbird, OHG *amsla*] : BLACKBIRD 1a
mer·lin \'mər-lən\ *n* [ME *meriloun*, fr. AF *merilun*, fr. OF *esmerillon*, aug. of *esmeril*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *smiril* merlin] **1** : a small European falcon (*Falco aesalon*) with pointed wings and prominently streaked underparts **2** : PIGEON HAWK 1
Mer·lin \'mər-lən\ *n* [ML *Merlinus*, fr. W *Myrddin*] : a wise man and sorcerer in Arthurian legend
mer·lon \'mər-lən\ *n* [F, fr. It *merlone*, aug. of *merlo* battlement, fr. ML *merulus*, fr. L, merl] : one of the solid intervals between crenels of a battlemented parapet — see BATTLEMENT illustration
mer·maid \'mər-ˌmād\ *n* : a fabled marine creature usu. represented with a woman's body to the hips and a fish's tail instead of legs
mer·man \-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : a fabled marine male creature usu. represented with a man's body to the hips and a fish's tail instead of legs
mero·blas·tic \ˌmer-ə-'blas-tik\ *adj* [Gk *meros* part + ISV *-blastic*] *of an egg* : undergoing incomplete cleavage as a result of the presence of an impeding mass of yolk material — compare HOLOBLASTIC — **mero·blas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mero·crine \'mer-ə-krən, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* [ISV fr. Gk *meros* + *krinein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] : producing a secretion

that is discharged without major damage to the secreting cells; *also* : produced by a merocrine gland

mero·mor·phic \ˌmer-ə-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* [Gk *meros* + E *-morphic*] : relating to or being functions of complex variables that are analytic in a region except for a finite number of points at which infinity is the limit

mero·my·o·sin \ˌmer-ə-'mī-ə-sən\ *n* [Gk *meros* + E *myosin*] : either of two structural subunits of myosin that are obtained esp. by tryptic digestion

-mer·ous \m-ə-rəs\ *adj comb form* [NL *-merus*, fr. Gk *-merēs*, fr. *meros* — more at MERIT] : having (such or so many) parts ⟨di*merous*⟩ ⟨poly*merous*⟩

Mer·o·vin·gian \ˌmer-ə-'vin-j(ē-)ən\ *adj* [F *mérovingien*, fr. ML *Merovingi* Merovingians, fr. *Merovaeus* Merowig †458 Frankish founder of the dynasty] : of or relating to the first Frankish dynasty reigning from about A.D. 500 to 751 — **Merovingian** *n*

mer·ri·ment \'mer-i-mənt\ *n* **1** : lighthearted gaiety or fun-making : HILARITY **2** : a gay celebration or party : FESTIVITY

mer·ry \'mer-ē\ *adj* **mer·ri·er; -est** [ME *mery*, fr. OE *myrge, merge*; akin to OHG *murg* short — more at BRIEF] **1** *archaic* : giving pleasure : DELIGHTFUL **2** : full of gaiety or high spirits : MIRTHFUL **3** : marked by festivity or gaiety **4** : BRISK, INTENSE ⟨a ~ pace⟩ — **mer·ri·ly** \'mer-ə-lē\ *adv* — **mer·ri·ness** \'mer-ē-nəs\ *n*

syn MERRY, BLITHE, JOCUND, JOVIAL, JOLLY *shared meaning element* : showing high spirits or lightheartedness

mer·ry–an·drew \ˌmer-ē-'an-(ˌ)drü\ *n, often cap M&A* [*merry* + *Andrew*, proper name] : one that clowns publicly : BUFFOON

merry–go–round \'mer-ē-gō-ˌraůnd, -gə-\ *n* **1** : an amusement park ride with seats often in the form of animals (as horses) revolving about a fixed center **2** : a busy rapid round : WHIRL

mer·ry·mak·er \'mer-ē-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : REVELER

mer·ry·mak·ing \-kiŋ\ *n* **1** : gay or festive activity : CONVIVIALITY **2** : a convivial occasion : FESTIVITY

mer·ry·thought \'mer-ē-ˌthȯt\ *n, chiefly Brit* : WISHBONE

Mer·thi·o·late \(ˌ)mər-'thī-ə-ˌlāt, -lət\ *trademark* — used for thimerosal

mes- *or* **meso-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *mesos* — more at MID] **1** : mid : in the middle ⟨*meso*carp⟩ **2** : intermediate (as in size or type) ⟨*meso*morph⟩ ⟨*meso*n⟩

me·sa \'mā-sə\ *n* [Sp, lit., table, fr. L *mensa*] : an isolated relatively flat-topped natural elevation usu. more extensive than a butte and less extensive than a plateau; *also* : a broad terrace with an abrupt slope on one side : BENCH

més·al·liance \ˌmā-ˌzal-'yäⁿs, ˌmā-zə-'lī-ən(t)s\ *n, pl* **més·al·liances** \-'yäⁿs(-əz), -'lī-ən-səz\ [F, fr. *més-* mis- + *alliance*] : a marriage with a person of inferior social position

mes·arch \'mez-ˌärk, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *adj* **1** : having metaxylem developed both internal and external to the protoxylem **2** : originating in a mesic habitat — used of an ecological succession

mes·cal \me-'skal, mə-\ *n* [Sp *mezcal, mescal*, fr. Nahuatl *mexcalli* mescal liquor] **1** : a small cactus (*Lophophora williamsii*) with rounded stems covered with jointed tubercles that are used as a stimulant and antispasmodic esp. among the Mexican Indians **2 a** : a usu. colorless Mexican liquor distilled esp. from the central leaves of maguey plants **b** : a plant from which mescal is produced; *esp* : MAGUEY



mescal 1

mescal button *n* : one of the dried discoid tops of the mescal

Mes·ca·le·ro \ˌmes-kə-'le(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **Mescalero** *or* **Mescaleros** [AmerSp, fr. *mezcal, mescal*] : a member of an Apache people of Texas and New Mexico

mes·ca·line \'mes-kə-lən, -ˌlēn\ *n* : a hallucinatory crystalline alkaloid $C_{11}H_{17}NO_3$ that is the chief active principle in mescal buttons

mesdames *pl of* MADAM *or of* MADAME *or of* MRS.

mesdemoiselles *pl of* MADEMOISELLE

me·seems \mi-'sēmz\ *vb impersonal, past* **me·seemed** \-'sēmd\ *archaic* : it seems to me

me·sem·bry·an·the·mum \mə-ˌzem-brē-'an(t)-thə-məm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *mesēmbria* midday (fr. *mes-* + *hēmera* day) + *anthemon* flower, fr. *anthos* — more at HEMERA, ANTHOLOGY] : any of a genus (*Mesembryanthemum*) of chiefly southern African fleshy-leaved herbs or subshrubs of the carpetweed family

mes·en·ceph·a·lon \ˌmez-ˌen-'sef-ə-ˌlän, ˌmez-ᵊn-, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-, -lən\ *n* [NL] : the middle division of the brain : MIDBRAIN — **mes·en·ce·phal·ic** \-ˌen(t)-sə-'fal-ik, -ᵊn-sə-\ *adj*

mes·en·chy·mal \mə-'zeŋ-kə-məl, -'seŋ-; ˌmez-ᵊn-'kī-məl, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj* [ISV] : of, resembling, or being mesenchyme

mes·en·chy·ma·tous \ˌmez-ᵊn-'kim-ət-əs, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-, -'kī-mət-\ *adj* [NL *mesenchymat-, mesenchyma* mesenchyme] : MESENCHYMAL

mes·en·chyme \'mez-ᵊn-ˌkīm, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* [G *mesenchym*, fr. *mes-* + NL *-enchyma*] : a loosely organized mesodermal connective tissue comprising all the mesoblast except the mesothelium and giving rise to such structures as connective tissues, blood, lymphatics, bone, and cartilage

mes·en·ter·on \(ˈ)mez-'ent-ə-ˌrän, (ˈ)mēz-, (ˈ)mēs-, (ˈ)mes-, -rən\ *n, pl* **-ter·a** \-ə-rə\ [NL] : the part of the alimentary canal that is developed from the archenteron and is lined with hypoblast

mes·en·tery \'mez-ᵊn-ˌter-ē, 'mes-\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** [NL *mesenterium*, fr. MF & Gk; MF *mesentere*, fr. Gk *mesenterion*, fr. *mes-* + *enteron* intestine — more at INTER-] **1 a** : one or more vertebrate membranes that consist of a double fold of the peritoneum and invest the intestines and their appendages and connect them with the dorsal wall of the abdominal cavity **b** : a fold of membrane comparable to a mesentery and supporting a viscus (as the heart) that is not a part of the digestive tract **2** : a support or partition in an invertebrate like the vertebrate mesentery — **mes·en·ter·ic** \ˌmez-ᵊn-'ter-ik, ˌmes-\ *adj*

¹mesh \'mesh\ *n* [prob. fr. obs. D *maesche*; akin to OHG *masca* mesh, Lith *mazgos* knot] **1** : one of the openings between the threads or cords of a net; *also* : one of the similar spaces in a network — often used to designate screen size as the number of openings per linear inch **2 a** : the fabric of a net **b** : a woven, knit, or knotted fabric of open texture with evenly spaced small holes **c** : an arrangement of interlocking metal links used esp. for jewelry **3 a** : an interlocking or intertwining arrangement or construction : NETWORK **b** : WEB, SNARE — usu. used in pl. **4** : working contact (as of the teeth of gears) ⟨in ~⟩ — **meshed** \'mesht\ *adj*

²mesh *vt* **1 a** : to catch in the openings of a net **b** : ENMESH, ENTANGLE **2 a** : to provide with a mesh **b** : to cause to resemble network **3 a** : to cause to engage **b** : to coordinate closely : INTERLOCK ~ *vi* **1** : to become entangled in or as if in meshes **2** : to be in or come into mesh — used esp. of gears **3** : to fit together properly : COORDINATE

mesh·work \'mesh-ˌwərk\ *n* : a system of meshes : NETWORK ⟨a vascular ~⟩

me·si·al \'mē-zē-əl, -sē-\ *adj* [*mes-* + *-ial*] : MIDDLE; *esp* : dividing an animal into right and left halves — **me·si·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

¹me·sic \'mez-ik, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *adj* [*mes-* + *-ic*] : characterized by, relating to, or requiring a moderate amount of moisture ⟨a ~ habitat⟩ ⟨a ~ plant⟩ — compare HYDRIC, XERIC — **me·si·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²mesic *adj* [*meson* + *-ic*] : of or relating to a meson

me·sio- \ˌmē-zē-ō, -sē-\ *comb form* : mesial and ⟨*mesio*distal⟩ ⟨*mesio*buccal⟩

me·sit·y·lene \mə-'sit-ᵊl-ˌēn\ *n* [*mesityl* (the radical C_3H_5)] : an oily hydrocarbon C_9H_{12} that is found in coal tar and petroleum or made synthetically and is a powerful solvent

mes·i·tyl oxide \ˌmes-ə-ˌtil-, -ət-ᵊl-\ *n* [*mesityl* (the radical C_3H_5)] : a fragrant liquid ketone $C_6H_{10}O$ used esp. as a solvent

mes·mer·ic \mez-'mer-ik *also* mes-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or induced by mesmerism **2** : IRRESISTIBLE, FASCINATING — **mes·mer·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mes·mer·ism \'mez-mə-ˌriz-əm *also* 'mes-\ *n* [F. A. *Mesmer*] **1** : hypnotic induction held to involve animal magnetism; *broadly* : HYPNOTISM **2** : hypnotic appeal — **mes·mer·ist** \-rəst\ *n*

mes·mer·ize \-mə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to subject to mesmerism : HYPNOTIZE **2** : SPELLBIND, FASCINATE — **mes·mer·iz·er** *n*

mesne \'mēn\ *adj* [AF, alter. of MF *meien* — more at MEAN] : MIDDLE, INTERVENING; *specif* : intermediate in time of occurrence or performance

mesne lord *n* : a feudal lord who holds land as tenant of a superior but is lord to his own tenant

me·so·blast \'mez-ə-ˌblast, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* : the embryonic cells that give rise to mesoderm; *broadly* : MESODERM — **me·so·blas·tic** \ˌmez-ə-'blas-tik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj*

me·so·carp \'mez-ə-ˌkärp, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* : the middle layer of a pericarp — see ENDOCARP illustration

me·so·derm \-ˌdərm\ *n* [ISV] : the middle of the three primary germ layers of an embryo that is the source of bone, muscle, connective tissue, inner layer of the skin, and other adult structures; *broadly* : tissue derived from this germ layer — **me·so·der·mal** \ˌmez-ə-'dər-məl, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *or* **me·so·der·mic** \-mik\ *adj*

me·so·glea *or* **me·so·gloea** \ˌmez-ə-'glē-ə, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *n* [NL, fr. *mes-* + LGk *gloia, glia* glue — more at CLAY] : a gelatinous substance between the endoderm and ectoderm of sponges or coelenterates — **me·so·gloe·al** \-'glē-əl\ *adj*

Me·so·lith·ic \-'lith-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to a transitional period of the Stone Age between the Paleolithic and the Neolithic

me·so·mere \'mez-ə-ˌmi(ə)r, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* **1** : a primitive segment of an embryo **2** : a blastomere of medium size

me·som·er·ism \mə-'säm-ə-ˌriz-əm, -'zäm-\ *n* [*mes-* + *-merism*] : RESONANCE 4

me·so·morph \'mez-ə-ˌmȯrf, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* [*meso*derm + *-morph*] : an intermediate or average type of human body; *also* : a mesomorphic body or person

me·so·mor·phic \ˌmez-ə-'mȯr-fik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj* [*meso*derm + *-morphic*; fr. the predominance in such types of structures developed from the mesoderm] **1** : of or relating to the component in W. H. Sheldon's classification of body types that measures esp. the degree of muscularity and bone development **2** : having a husky muscular body build — **me·so·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* — **me·so·mor·phy** \'mez-ə-ˌmȯr-fē, 'mes-\ *n*

me·son \'mez-ˌän, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* [ISV *mes-* + ²*-on*] : any of a group of unstable, strongly interacting nuclear particles that has a mass between that of an electron and a proton and that occurs in more than one variety — **me·son·ic** \me-'zän-ik, mē-, -'sän-\ *adj*

me·so·neph·ros \ˌmez-ə-'nef-rəs, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-, -ˌräs\ *n, pl* **-neph·roi** \-ˌrȯi\ [NL, fr. *mes-* + Gk *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS] : a member of the middle pair of the three pairs of embryonic renal organs of higher vertebrates — **me·so·neph·ric** \-rik\ *adj*

me·so·pause \'mez-ə-ˌpȯz, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* [*meso*sphere + *pause*] : the transition zone between the mesosphere and the exosphere

me·so·pe·lag·ic \ˌmez-ə-pə-'laj-ik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj* : of or relating to oceanic depths from about 600 feet to 3000 feet

me·so·phyll \'mez-ə-ˌfil, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* [NL *mesophyllum*, fr. *mes-* + Gk *phyllon* leaf — more at BLADE] : the parenchyma between the epidermal layers of a foliage leaf — **me·so·phyl·lic** \ˌmez-ə-'fil-ik, ˌmes-\ *adj* — **me·so·phyl·lous** \ˌmez-ə-'fil-əs, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj*

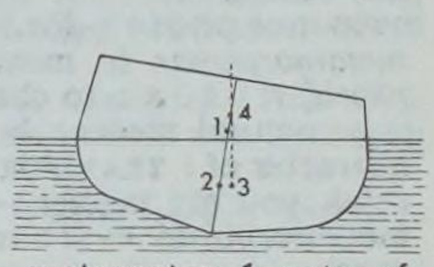
me·so·phyte \'mez-ə-ˌfīt, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *n* [ISV] : a plant that grows under medium conditions of moisture — **me·so·phyt·ic** \ˌmez-ə-'fit-ik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj*

me·so·scale \'mez-ə-ˌskāl, 'mēz-, 'mēs-, 'mes-\ *adj* : of or relating to a meteorological phenomenon approximately 1 to 100 kilometers in horizontal extent ⟨~ cloud pattern⟩ ⟨~ wind circulation⟩

me·so·some \-ˌsōm\ *n* [*mes-* + ³*-some*] : a cell organelle that appears in electron micrographs as an invagination of the plasma membrane and is a site of localization of respiratory enzymes

me·so·sphere \-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* : a layer of the atmosphere extending from the top of the stratosphere to an altitude of about 50 miles — **me·so·spher·ic** \ˌmez-ə-'sfi(ə)r-ik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-, -'sfer-\ *adj*

me·so·the·li·o·ma \ˌmez-ə-ˌthē-lē-ˈō-mə, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL] : a tumor derived from mesothelial tissue (as that lining the peritoneum or pleura)
me·so·the·li·um \-ˈthē-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. *mes-* + *epithelium*] : epithelium derived from mesoderm that lines the body cavity of a vertebrate embryo and gives rise to epithelia (as of the peritoneum, pericardium, and pleurae), striated and heart muscle, and several minor structures — **me·so·the·li·al** \-lē-əl\ *adj*
me·so·tho·rac·ic \-thə-ˈras-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the mesothorax
me·so·tho·rax \-ˈthō(ə)r-ˌaks, -ˈthȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [NL] : the middle of the three segments of the thorax of an insect — see INSECT illustration
me·so·tho·ri·um \-ˈthōr-ē-əm, -ˈthȯr-\ *n* [NL] : either of two radioactive products intermediate between thorium and radiothorium: **a** : an isotope of radium — called also *mesothorium 1* **b** : an isotope of actinium — called also *mesothorium 2*
me·so·tron \ˈmez-ə-ˌträn, ˈmēz-, ˈmēs-, ˈmes-\ *n* [*mes-* + elec*tron*] : MESON — **me·so·tron·ic** \ˌmez-ə-ˈträn-ik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-\ *adj*
me·so·tro·phic \ˌmez-ə-ˈtrō-fik, ˌmēz-, ˌmēs-, ˌmes-, -ˈträf-ik\ *adj, of a body of water* : having a moderate amount of dissolved nutrients — compare EUTROPHIC, OLIGOTROPHIC
Me·so·zo·ic \-ˈzō-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being an era of geological history including the interval between the Permian and the Tertiary and marked by the dinosaurs, marine and flying reptiles, ganoid fishes, cycads, and evergreen trees; *also* : relating to the system of rocks formed in this era — see GEOLOGIC TIME table — **Mesozoic** *n*
mes·quite \mə-ˈskēt, me-\ *n* [Sp, fr. Nahuatl *mizquitl*] : a spiny deep-rooted leguminous tree or shrub (*Prosopis fuliflora*) that forms extensive thickets in the southwestern U.S. and Mexico, bears pods rich in sugar, and is important as a livestock feed
[1]mess \ˈmes\ *n* [ME *mes*, fr. OF, fr. LL *missus* course at a meal, fr. *missus*, pp. of *mittere* to put, fr. L, to send — more at SMITE] **1** : a quantity of food: **a** *archaic* : food set on a table at one time **b** : a prepared dish of soft food; *also* : a mixture of ingredients cooked or eaten together **c** : enough food of a specified kind for a dish or a meal ⟨picked a ~ of peas for dinner⟩ **2 a** : a group of persons who regularly take their meals together; *also* : a meal so taken **b** : a place where meals are regularly served to a group : MESS HALL **3 a** : a confused, dirty, or offensive state or condition : JUMBLE ⟨the whole house is a ~⟩ **b** : a disordered situation, state, or condition resulting from misunderstanding, blundering, or misconduct ⟨got himself into a real ~⟩
[2]mess *vt* **1 a** : to assign to a mess **b** : to supply with meals **2 a** : to make dirty or untidy : DISARRANGE ⟨warned not to ~ up his room⟩ **b** : to mix up : BUNGLE ⟨she really ~*ed* up her life⟩ **3** : to interfere with ⟨magnetic storms that ~ up communications — *Time*⟩ **4** : to rough up : MANHANDLE ⟨~ him up good so he won't double-cross us again⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to prepare food for and serve messes **2** : to take meals with a mess **3** : to make a mess **4 a** : PUTTER, TRIFLE ⟨small boys and girls who like to ~ around with paints⟩ **b** : to handle or play with something esp. carelessly ⟨told the child not to ~ with his father's camera⟩ **c** : INTERFERE, MEDDLE ⟨~*ing* in other people's affairs⟩ **5** : to become confused or make an error ⟨got another chance and didn't want to ~ up again⟩
[1]mes·sage \ˈmes-ij\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *missaticum*, fr. L *missus*, pp. of *mittere*] **1** : a communication in writing, in speech, or by signals **2** : a messenger's errand or function **3** : an underlying theme or idea
[2]message *vt* **mes·saged; mes·sag·ing** **1** : to send as a message or by messenger **2** : to order or instruct by message ~ *vi* : to communicate by message
mes·sa·line \ˌmes-ə-ˈlēn\ *n* [F] : a soft lightweight silk dress fabric with a satin weave
mes·san \ˈmes-ᵊn\ *n* [ScGael *measan*] *chiefly Scot* : LAPDOG
mess around *vi* **1** : to waste time : DAWDLE, IDLE **2 a** : ASSOCIATE ⟨don't *mess around* with admirals much —K. M. Dodson⟩ **b** : FLIRT ⟨caught him *messing around* with my wife⟩
messeigneurs *pl of* MONSEIGNEUR
mes·sen·ger \ˈmes-ᵊn-jər\ *n* [ME *messangere*, fr. OF *messagier*, fr. *message*] **1** : one who bears a message or does an errand: as **a** *archaic* : FORERUNNER, HERALD **b** : a dispatch bearer in government or military service **c** : an employee who carries messages **2** : a light line used in hauling a heavier line (as between ships)
messenger RNA *n* : an RNA that carries the code for a particular protein from the nuclear DNA to the ribosome and acts as a template for the formation of that protein — compare TRANSFER RNA
mess hall *n* **1** : a dining hall in which mess is served **2** : a building (as in an army camp) that serves chiefly as a dining hall
mes·si·ah \mə-ˈsī-ə\ *n* [Heb *māshīaḥ* & Aram *mĕshīḥā*, lit., anointed] **1** *cap* **a** : the expected king and deliverer of the Jews **b** : JESUS 1 **2** : a professed or accepted leader of some hope or cause — **mes·si·ah·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
mes·si·an·ic \ˌmes-ē-ˈan-ik\ *adj* [(assumed) NL *messianicus*, fr. LL *Messias* + L *-anicus* (as in *romanicus* Romanic)] **1** : of or relating to a messiah **2** : marked by mystical idealism in behalf of a cherished cause ⟨a ~ sense of historic mission —Edmond Taylor⟩
mes·si·a·nism \ˈmes-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm; mə-ˈsī-ə-, me-\ *n* **1** : belief in a messiah **2** : belief in the absolute rightness of a cause
Mes·si·as \mə-ˈsī-əs\ *n* [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. Aram *mĕshiḥā*] : MESSIAH 1
messieurs *pl of* MONSIEUR
mess jacket *n* : a short fitted man's jacket reaching to the waist and worn esp. as part of a dress uniform
mess kit *n* : a compact kit of nested cooking and eating utensils for use by soldiers and campers
mess·mate \ˈmes-ˌmāt\ *n* : a member of a mess (as on a ship)
Messrs. \ˌmes-ərz\ *pl of* MR. ⟨~ Jones, Brown, and Robinson⟩
mes·suage \ˈmes-wij\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, prob. alter. of OF *mesnage* — more at MENAGE] : a dwelling house with the adjacent buildings and curtilage and the adjoining lands used in connection with the household
messy \ˈmes-ē\ *adj* **mess·i·er; -est** **1** : marked by confusion, disorder, or dirt : UNTIDY ⟨a ~ room⟩ **2** : lacking neatness or precision : CARELESS, SLOVENLY ⟨~ thinking⟩ **3** : unpleasantly or tryingly difficult of execution or settlement ⟨~ lawsuits⟩ — **mess·i·ly** \ˈmes-ə-lē\ *adv* — **mess·i·ness** \ˈmes-ē-nəs\ *n*
mes·ti·za \me-ˈstē-zə\ *n* [Sp, fem. of *mestizo*] : a female mestizo
mes·ti·zo \-(ˌ)zō\ *n, pl* **-zos** [Sp, fr. *mestizo* mixed, fr. LL *mixticius*, fr. L *mixtus*, pp. of *miscēre* to mix — more at MIX] : a person of mixed blood; *specif* : a person of mixed European and American Indian ancestry
mes·tra·nol \ˈmes-trə-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* [*meth-* + *estr*ogen + pregn*ane* ($C_{21}H_{36}$) + *-ol*] : a synthetic estrogen $C_{21}H_{26}O_2$ used in oral contraceptives
[1]met *past of* MEET
[2]met *abbr* **1** meteorological; meteorology **2** metropolitan
meta- *or* **met-** *prefix* [NL & ML, fr. L or Gk; L, change, fr. Gk, among, with, after, change, fr. *meta* among, with, after; akin to OE *mid, mith* with, OHG *mit*] **1 a** : occurring later than or in succession to : after ⟨*met*estrus⟩ **b** : situated behind or beyond ⟨*met*encephalon⟩ ⟨*meta*carpus⟩ **c** : later or more highly organized or specialized form of ⟨*meta*xylem⟩ **2** : change : transformation **3** : more comprehensive : transcending ⟨*meta*psychology⟩ — used with the name of a discipline to designate a new but related discipline designed to deal critically with the original one ⟨*meta*mathematics⟩ **4 a** : isomeric with or otherwise closely related to ⟨*met*aldehyde⟩ **b** : involving substitution at or characterized by two positions in the benzene ring that are separated by one carbon atom **c** : derived from by loss of water ⟨*meta*phosphoric acid⟩
met·a·bol·ic \ˌmet-ə-ˈbäl-ik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or based on metabolism — **met·a·bol·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
me·tab·o·lism \mə-ˈtab-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *metabolē* change, fr. *metaballein* to change, fr. *meta-* + *ballein* to throw — more at DEVIL] **1 a** : the sum of the processes in the building up and destruction of protoplasm; *specif* : the chemical changes in living cells by which energy is provided for vital processes and activities and new material is assimilated to repair the waste **b** : the sum of the processes by which a particular substance is handled in the living body **c** : the sum of the metabolic activities taking place in a particular environment ⟨the ~ of a lake⟩ **2** : METAMORPHOSIS 2 — usu used in combination ⟨holo*metabolism*⟩
me·tab·o·lite \-ˌlīt\ *n* **1** : a product of metabolism **2** : a substance essential to the metabolism of a particular organism or to a particular metabolic process
me·tab·o·lize \-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lized; -liz·ing** *vt* : to subject to metabolism ~ *vi* : to perform metabolism
[1]meta·car·pal \ˌmet-ə-ˈkär-pəl\ *adj* : of or relating to the metacarpus
[2]metacarpal *n* : a metacarpal bone
meta·car·pus \ˌmet-ə-ˈkär-pəs\ *n* [NL] : the part of the hand or forefoot between the carpus and the phalanges that typically contains five more or less elongated bones when all the digits are present
meta·cen·ter \ˈmet-ə-ˌsent-ər\ *n* [F *métacentre*, fr. *méta-* meta- + *centre* center] : the point of intersection of the vertical through the center of buoyancy of a floating body with the vertical through the new center of buoyancy when the body is displaced



metacenter: *1* center of gravity, *2* center of buoyancy, *3* new center of buoyancy when floating body is displaced, *4* point of intersection

meta·cen·tric \ˌmet-ə-ˈsen-trik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a metacenter **2** : having two equal arms because of the median position of the centromere ⟨a ~ chromosome⟩ — **metacentric** *n*
meta·cer·car·ia \ˌmet-ə-(ˌ)sər-ˈkar-ē-ə, -ˈker-\ *n* [NL] : a tailless encysted late larva of a digenetic trematode that is usu. the form which is infective for the definitive host — **meta·cer·car·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
meta·chro·mat·ic \-krō-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* **1** : staining or characterized by staining in a different color or shade from what is typical ⟨~ granules in a bacterium⟩ **2** : having the capacity to stain different elements of a cell or tissue in different colors or shades ⟨~ stains⟩
meta·eth·ics \ˌmet-ə-ˈeth-iks\ *n pl but usu sing in constr* : the study of the meanings of ethical terms, the nature of ethical judgments, and the types of ethical arguments — **meta·eth·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
meta·gal·axy \-ˈgal-ək-sē\ *n* [ISV] : the entire system of galaxies : UNIVERSE — **meta·ga·lac·tic** \-gə-ˈlak-tik\ *adj*
meta·gen·e·sis \-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : ALTERNATION OF GENERATIONS; *esp* : regular alteration of a sexual and an asexual generation — **meta·ge·net·ic** \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* — **meta·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[1]met·al \ˈmet-ᵊl\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *metallum* mine, metal, fr. Gk *metallon*] **1** : any of various opaque, fusible, ductile, and typically lustrous substances that are good conductors of electricity and heat, form cations by loss of electrons, and yield basic oxides and hydroxides; *esp* : one that is a chemical element as distinguished from an alloy **2 a** : METTLE 2a **b** : the material or substance out of which a person or thing is made **3** : glass in its molten state **4 a** : printing type metal **b** : set type matter
[2]metal *vt* **-aled** *or* **-alled; -al·ing** *or* **-al·ling** : to cover or furnish with metal
[3]metal *or* **metall** *abbr* metallurgical; metallurgy
meta·lan·guage \ˈmet-ə-ˌlaŋ-gwij\ *n* : a language used to talk about another language
me·tal·lic \mə-ˈtal-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or being a metal **b** : made of or containing a metal **c** : having properties of a metal **2** : yielding metal **3** : resembling metal: as **a** : having iridescent

and reflective properties ⟨~ blond hair⟩ **b** : having an acrid quality ⟨the tea has a ~ taste⟩ **4** : having a harsh resonance : GRATING ⟨a ~ voice⟩ — **me·tal·li·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

met·al·lif·er·ous \ˌmet-ᵊl-ˈif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* [L *metallifer*, fr. *metallum* + *-fer* -ferous] : yielding or containing metal

met·al·lize *also* **met·al·ize** \ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **met·al·lized** *also* **met·al·ized; met·al·liz·ing** *also* **met·al·iz·ing** : to treat or combine with a metal — **met·al·li·za·tion** \ˌmet-ᵊl-ə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

met·al·log·ra·phy \ˌmet-ᵊl-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n* [F *métallographie*, fr. L *metallum* + F *-graphie* -graphy] : a study of the structure of metals esp. with the microscope — **met·al·log·ra·pher** \ˌmet-ᵊl-ˈäg-rə-fər\ *n* — **me·tal·lo·graph·ic** \mə-ˌtal-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **me·tal·lo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-ˈgraf-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹met·al·loid \ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌȯid\ *n* [L *metallum*] **1** : a nonmetal that can combine with a metal to form an alloy **2** : an element intermediate in properties between the typical metals and nonmetals

²metalloid *also* **met·al·loi·dal** \ˌmet-ᵊl-ˈȯid-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : resembling a metal **2** : of, relating to, or being a metalloid

met·al·lur·gy \ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌər-jē, *esp Brit* mə-ˈtal-ər-\ *n* [NL *metallurgia*, fr. Gk *metallon* + NL *-urgia* -urgy] : the science and technology of metals — **met·al·lur·gi·cal** \ˌmet-ᵊl-ˈər-ji-kəl\ *adj* — **met·al·lur·gi·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **met·al·lur·gist** \ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌər-jəst, *esp Brit* mə-ˈtal-ər-\ *n*

met·al·mark \ˈmet-ᵊl-ˌmärk\ *n* : any of a family (Riodinidae) of small or medium-sized usu. brightly colored butterflies that have metallic coloration on the wings

met·al·ware \-ˌwa(ə)r, -ˌwe(ə)r\ *n* : ware made of metal; *esp* : metal utensils for household use

met·al·work \-ˌwərk\ *n* : the product of metalworking — **met·al·work·er** \-ˌwər-kər\ *n*

met·al·work·ing \-ˌwər-kiŋ\ *n* : the act or process of shaping things out of metal

meta·math·e·mat·ics \ˈmet-ə-ˌmath-ə-ˈmat-iks\ *n pl but usu sing in constr* : the philosophy of mathematics; *esp* : the logical syntax of mathematics — **meta·math·e·mat·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*

meta·mere \ˈmet-ə-ˌmi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : any of a linear series of primitively similar segments into which the body of a higher invertebrate or vertebrate is divisible — **meta·mer·ic** \ˌmet-ə-ˈmer-ik, -ˈmi(ə)r-\ *adj* — **meta·mer·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

me·tam·er·ism \mə-ˈtam-ə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* : the condition of having or the stage of evolutionary development characterized by a body made up of metameres

meta·mor·phic \ˌmet-ə-ˈmȯr-fik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to metamorphosis **2** *of a rock* : of, relating to, or produced by metamorphism — **meta·mor·phi·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

meta·mor·phism \-ˈmȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n* : a change in the constitution of rock; *specif* : a pronounced change effected by pressure, heat, and water that results in a more compact and more highly crystalline condition

meta·mor·phose \-ˌfōz, -ˌfōs\ *vb* **-phosed; -phos·ing** [prob. fr. MF *metamorphoser*, fr. *metamorphose* metamorphosis, fr. L *metamorphosis*] *vt* **1 a** : to change into a different physical form esp. by supernatural means **b** : to change strikingly the appearance or character of : TRANSFORM ⟨you are so *metamorphosed* I can hardly think you my master —Shak.⟩ **2** : to cause (rock) to undergo metamorphism ~ *vi* : to undergo metamorphosis ***syn*** see TRANSFORM

meta·mor·pho·sis \ˌmet-ə-ˈmȯr-fə-səs\ *n, pl* **-pho·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk *metamorphōsis*, fr. *metamorphoun* to transform, fr. *meta-* + *morphē* form] **1 a** : change of physical form, structure, or substance esp. by supernatural means **b** : a striking alteration in appearance, character, or circumstances **2** : a marked and more or less abrupt change in the form or structure of an animal (as a butterfly or a frog) occurring subsequent to birth or hatching

meta·neph·ros \-ˈnef-rəs, -ˌräs\ *n, pl* **-roi** \-ˌrȯi\ [NL, fr. *meta-* + Gk *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS] : a member of the posterior pair of the three pairs of embryonic renal organs of higher vertebrates that persists as a definitive kidney — **meta·neph·ric** \-rik\ *adj*

metaph *abbr* metaphysics

meta·phase \ˈmet-ə-ˌfāz\ *n* [ISV] : the stage of mitosis and meiosis in which the chromosomes become arranged in the equatorial plane of the spindle

metaphase plate *n* : the equatorial plane of the spindle with the chromosomes as oriented therein during metaphase

met·a·phor \ˈmet-ə-ˌfȯ(ə)r *also* -fər\ *n* [MF or L; MF, *metaphore*, fr. L *metaphora*, fr. Gk, fr. *metapherein* to transfer, fr. *meta-* + *pherein* to bear — more at BEAR] **1** : a figure of speech in which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness or analogy between them (as in *the ship plows the sea*) ⟨using ~, we say that computers have senses and a memory —William Jovanovich⟩; *broadly* : figurative language — compare SIMILE **2** : an object, activity, or idea treated as a metaphor — **met·a·phor·ic** \ˌmet-ə-ˈfȯr-ik, -ˈfär-\ *or* **met·a·phor·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **met·a·phor·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

meta·phos·phate \ˌmet-ə-ˈfäs-ˌfāt\ *n* [ISV] : a salt or ester of a metaphosphoric acid

meta·phos·pho·ric acid \-ˌfäs-ˌfȯr-ik-, -ˌfär-; -ˌfäs-f(ə-)rik-\ *n* : a glassy solid acid HPO_3 or $(HPO_3)_n$ formed by heating orthophosphoric acid

meta·phys·ic \ˌmet-ə-ˈfiz-ik\ *n* [ME *metaphesyk*, fr. ML *Metaphysica*] **1 a** : METAPHYSICS **b** : a particular system of metaphysics **2** : the system of principles underlying a particular study or subject — **metaphysic** *adj*

meta·phys·i·cal \ˌmet-ə-ˈfiz-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to metaphysics **2 a** : of or relating to the transcendent or supersensible **b** : SUPERNATURAL **3** : highly abstract or abstruse **4** *often cap* : of or relating to poetry esp. of the early 17th century that is marked by elaborate subtleties of thought and expression — **meta·phys·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

Metaphysical *n* : a metaphysical poet of the 17th century

meta·phy·si·cian \ˌmet-ə-fə-ˈzish-ən\ *n* : a student of or specialist in metaphysics

meta·phys·ics \ˌmet-ə-ˈfiz-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [ML *Metaphysica*, title of Aristotle's treatise on the subject, fr. Gk (*ta*) *meta (ta) physika*, lit., the (works) after the physical (works); fr. its position in his collected works] **1 a** (1) : a division of philosophy that includes ontology and cosmology (2) : philosophy made up of ontology and epistemology (3) : ONTOLOGY **b** : the more abstruse philosophical sciences **2** : METAPHYSIC 2

meta·pla·sia \ˌmet-ə-ˈplā-zh(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] **1** : transformation of one tissue into another **2** : abnormal replacement of cells of one type by cells of another — **meta·plas·tic** \-ˈplas-tik\ *adj*

meta·plasm \ˈmet-ə-ˌplaz-əm\ *n* **1** [L *metaplasmus*, lit., transformation, fr. Gk *metaplasmos*, fr. *metaplassein* to remold, fr. *meta-* + *plassein* to mold — more at PLASTER] : alteration of regular structure usu. by transposition of the letters or syllables of a word or of the words in a sentence **2** [ISV] : material consisting of lifeless derivatives of protoplasm — **meta·plas·mic** \ˌmet-ə-ˈplaz-mik\ *adj*

meta·pro·tein \ˌmet-ə-ˈprō-ˌtēn, -ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n* : any of various products derived from proteins through the action of acids or alkalies by which the solubility and sometimes the composition of the proteins is changed

meta·psy·chol·o·gy \-sī-ˈkäl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a theory that aims to supplement the facts and empirical laws of psychology by speculations on the connection of mental and physical processes or on the place of mind in the universe — **meta·psy·cho·log·i·cal** \-ˌsī-kə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj*

meta·se·quoia \-si-ˈkwȯi-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *meta-* + *Sequoia*] : any of a genus (*Metasequoia*) of fossil and living deciduous coniferous trees of the pine family that have leaves, buds, and branches arranged oppositely and flat leaves resembling needles

meta·so·ma·tism \ˌmet-ə-ˈsō-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* [*meta-* + Gk *sōmat-*, *sōma* body — more at SOMAT-] : metamorphism that involves changes in the chemical composition as well as in the texture of rock — **meta·so·mat·ic** \-sō-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* — **meta·so·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

meta·sta·ble \ˌmet-ə-ˈstā-bəl\ *adj* [ISV] : having or characterized by only a slight margin of stability ⟨a ~ compound⟩ — **meta·sta·bil·i·ty** \-stə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n* — **meta·sta·bly** \-ˈstā-b(ə-)lē\ *adv*

me·tas·ta·sis \mə-ˈtas-tə-səs\ *n, pl* **-ta·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. LL, transition, fr. Gk, fr. *methistanai* to change, fr. *meta-* + *histanai* to set — more at STAND] : change of position, state, or form: as **a** : transfer of a disease-producing agency from the site of disease to another part of the body **b** : a secondary metastatic growth of a malignant tumor — **met·a·stat·ic** \ˌmet-ə-ˈstat-ik\ *adj* — **met·a·stat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

me·tas·ta·size \mə-ˈtas-tə-ˌsīz\ *vi* **-sized; -siz·ing** : to spread by metastasis

¹meta·tar·sal \ˌmet-ə-ˈtär-səl\ *adj* : of or relating to the metatarsus — **meta·tar·sal·ly** \-sə-lē\ *adv*

²metatarsal *n* : a metatarsal bone

meta·tar·sus \ˌmet-ə-ˈtär-səs\ *n* [NL] : the part of the foot in man or of the hind foot in quadrupeds between the tarsus and phalanges

me·ta·te \mə-ˈtät-ē\ *n* [Sp, fr. Nahuatl *metatl*] : a stone with a concave upper surface used as the nether millstone for grinding grains and esp. maize

me·tath·e·sis \mə-ˈtath-ə-səs\ *n, pl* **-e·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [Gk, fr. *metatithenai* to transpose, fr. *meta-* + *tithenai* to place — more at DO] : a change of place or condition: as **a** : transposition of two phonemes in a word (as in Old English *bridd*, Modern English *bird*) **b** : a chemical reaction in which different kinds of molecules exchange parts to form other kinds of molecules — called also *double decomposition* — **met·a·thet·i·cal** \ˌmet-ə-ˈthet-i-kəl\ *or* **met·a·thet·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **met·a·thet·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

meta·tho·rac·ic \ˌmet-ə-thə-ˈras-ik\ *adj* : of or relating to the metathorax

meta·tho·rax \-ˈthō(ə)r-ˌaks, -ˈthȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [NL] : the posterior segment of the thorax of an insect — see INSECT illustration

meta·xy·lem \-ˈzī-ləm, -ˌlem\ *n* : the part of the primary xylem that differentiates after the protoxylem and that is distinguished typically by broader tracheids and vessels with pitted or reticulate walls

meta·zo·al \ˌmet-ə-ˈzō-əl\ *adj* [NL *Metazoa*] : of or relating to the metazoans

meta·zo·an \-ˈzō-ən\ *n* [NL *Metazoa*, group name, fr. *meta-* + *-zoa*] : any of a group (*Metazoa*) that comprises all animals having the body composed of cells differentiated into tissues and organs and usu. a digestive cavity lined with specialized cells — **metazoan** *adj*

¹mete \ˈmēt\ *vt* **met·ed; met·ing** [ME *meten*, fr. OE *metan*; akin to OHG *mezzan* to measure, L *modus* measure, *meditari* to meditate] **1** *archaic* : MEASURE **2** : to assign by measure : ALLOT — usu. used with *out* ⟨~ out punishment⟩

²mete *n* [AF, fr. L *meta*] : BOUNDARY ⟨~s and bounds⟩

me·tem·psy·cho·sis \mə-ˌtem(p)-si-ˈkō-səs, ˌmet-əm-ˌsī-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *metempsychōsis*, fr. *metempsychousthai* to undergo metempsychosis, fr. *meta-* + *empsychos* animate, fr. *en-* + *psychē* soul — more at PSYCHE] : the passing of the soul at death into another body either human or animal

met·en·ceph·a·lon \ˌmet-ˌen-ˈsef-ə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [NL] **1** : the anterior segment of the rhombencephalon **2** : the cerebellum and pons that evolve from this segment — **met·en·ce·phal·ic** \-ˌen(t)-sə-ˈfal-ik\ *adj*

me·te·or \ˈmēt-ē-ər, -ē-ˌȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *meteore*, fr. ML *meteorum*, fr. Gk *meteōron* phenomenon in the sky, fr. neut. of *meteōros* high in air, fr. *meta-* + *-eōros* (akin to Gk *aeirein* to lift)] **1** : a phenomenon or appearance in the atmosphere (as lightning, a rainbow, or a snowfall) **2 a** : one of the small particles of matter in the solar system observable directly only when it falls into the earth's atmosphere where friction may cause its temporary incandescence **b** : the streak of light produced by the passage of a meteor

me·te·or·ic \ˌmēt-ē-ˈȯr-ik, -ˈär-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or derived from the earth's atmosphere **2 a** : of or relating to a metor **b** : resembling a meteor in speed or in sudden and temporary brilliance ⟨a ~ rise to fame⟩ — **me·te·or·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

me·te·or·ite \'mēt-ē-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* : a meteor that reaches the surface of the earth without being completely vaporized — **me·te·or·it·ic** \ˌmēt-ē-ə-'rit-ik\ *or* **me·te·or·it·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
me·te·or·it·ics \ˌmēt-ē-ə-'rit-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a science that deals with meteors
me·te·or·o·graph \-'ȯr-ə-ˌgraf, -'är-\ *n* : an apparatus for recording automatically and simultaneously several meteorologic elements — **me·te·or·o·graph·ic** \-ˌȯr-ə-'graf-ik, -ˌär-\ *adj*
me·te·or·oid \'mēt-ē-ə-ˌrȯid\ *n* **1** : a meteor revolving around the sun **2** : a meteor particle itself without relation to the phenomena it produces when entering the earth's atmosphere — **me·te·or·oi·dal** \ˌmēt-ē-ə-'rȯid-ᵊl\ *adj*
meteorol *abbr* meteorological; meteorology
me·te·o·rol·o·gy \ˌmēt-ē-ə-'räl-ə-jē\ *n* [F or Gk; F *météorologie*, fr. MF, fr. Gk *meteōrologia*, fr. *meteōron* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a science that deals with the atmosphere and its phenomena and esp. with weather and weather forecasting **2** : the atmospheric phenomena and weather of a region — **me·te·o·ro·log·ic** \-rə-'läj-ik\ *or* **me·te·o·ro·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **me·te·o·ro·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **me·te·o·rol·o·gist** \-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n*
meteor shower *n* : the phenomenon observed when members of a group of meteors encounter the earth's atmosphere and their luminous paths appear to diverge from a single point
me·te·pa \mə-'tē-pə, me-\ *n* [*me*thyl + *tepa*] : an insect chemosterilant that is a methyl derivative of tepa
¹me·ter \'mēt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OE & MF; OE *mēter*, fr. L *metrum*, fr. Gk *metron* measure, meter; MF *metre*, fr. OF, fr. L *metrum* — more at MEASURE] **1 a** : systematically arranged and measured rhythm in verse: (1) : rhythm that continuously repeats a single basic pattern ⟨iambic ~⟩ (2) : rhythm characterized by regular recurrence of a systematic arrangement of basic patterns in larger figures ⟨ballad ~⟩ **b** : a measure or unit of metrical verse — usu. used in combination and pronounced \m-ət-ər\ ⟨penta*meter*⟩; compare FOOT 4 **c** : a fixed metrical pattern : verse form **2** : the basic recurrent rhythmical pattern of note values, accents, and beats per measure in music
²met·er \'mēt-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. *meten* to mete] : one that measures; *esp* : an official measurer of commodities
³me·ter \'mēt-ər\ *n* [F *mètre*, fr. Gk *metron* measure] : the basic metric unit of length — see METRIC SYSTEM table
⁴me·ter \'mēt-ər\ *n* [*-meter*] **1** : an instrument for measuring and sometimes recording the amount of something ⟨a gas ~⟩ **2** : a philatelic cover bearing an impression of a postage meter
⁵me·ter *vt* **1** : to measure by means of a meter **2** : to supply in a measured or regulated amount **3** : to print postal indicia on by means of a postage meter
-me·ter \m-ət-ər, *in some words* ˌmēt-\ *n comb form* [F *-mètre*, fr. Gk *metron* measure] : instrument or means for measuring ⟨baro*meter*⟩
meter–kilogram–second *adj* : of, relating to, or being a system of units based on the meter as the unit of length, the kilogram as the unit of mass, and the mean solar second as the unit of time — abbr. *mks*
meter maid *n* : a female member of a police department who is assigned to write tickets for parking violations
met·es·trus \(')met-'es-trəs\ *n* [NL] : the period of regression that follows estrus
meth- *or* **metho-** *comb form* [ISV, fr. *methyl*] : methyl ⟨*meth*acrylic⟩
meth·ac·ry·late \(')meth-'ak-rə-ˌlāt\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a salt or ester of methacrylic acid **2** : an acrylic resin or plastic made from a derivative of methacrylic acid
meth·acryl·ic acid \ˌmeth-ə-ˌkril-ik-\ *n* [ISV] : an acid $C_4H_6O_2$ used esp. in making acrylic resins or plastics
meth·a·done \'meth-ə-ˌdōn\ *or* **meth·a·don** \-ˌdän\ *n* [6-di*methyl*a*mino*-4, 4-*di*phenyl-3-heptan*one*] : a synthetic addictive narcotic drug $C_{21}H_{27}NO$ used esp. in the form of its hydrochloride for the relief of pain and as a substitute narcotic in the treatment of heroin addiction
meth·am·phet·amine \ˌmeth-am-'fet-ə-ˌmēn, ˌmeth-əm-, -mən\ *n* [*meth-* + *amphetamine*] : an amine $C_{10}H_{15}N$ used in the form of its crystalline hydrochloride as a stimulant for the central nervous system and in the treatment of obesity
meth·ane \'meth -ˌān\ *n* [ISV] : a colorless odorless flammable gaseous hydrocarbon CH_4 that is a product of decomposition of organic matter in marshes and mines or of the carbonization of coal and is used as a fuel and as a raw material in chemical synthesis
methane series *n* : a homologous series of saturated open-chain hydrocarbons C_nH_{2n+2} of which methane is the first and lowest member
meth·a·nol \'meth-ə-ˌnȯl, -ˌnōl\ *n* [ISV] : a light volatile flammable poisonous liquid alcohol CH_4O formed in the destructive distillation of wood or made synthetically and used esp. as a solvent, antifreeze, or denaturant for ethyl alcohol and in the synthesis of other chemicals
Meth·e·drine \'meth-ə-ˌdrēn, -drən\ *trademark* — used for methamphetamine
me·theg·lin \mə-'theg-lən\ *n* [W *meddyglyn*] : a beverage usu. made of fermented honey and water : MEAD
met·he·mo·glo·bin \(')met-'hē-mə-ˌglō-bən\ *n* [ISV] : a soluble brown crystalline basic blood pigment that differs from hemoglobin in containing ferric iron and in being unable to combine reversibly with molecular oxygen
me·the·na·mine \mə-'thē-nə-ˌmēn, -mən\ *n* [*methene* (methylene) + *amine*] : HEXAMETHYLENETETRAMINE
meth·i·cil·lin \ˌmeth-ə-'sil-ən\ *n* [*meth-* + pen*icillin*] : a synthetic penicillin that is esp. effective against penicillinase-producing staphylococci
me·thinks \mi-'thiŋ(k)s\ *vb impersonal, past* **me·thought** \-'thȯt\ [ME *me thinketh*, fr. OE *mē thincth*, fr. *mē* (dat. of *ic* I) + *thincth* seems, fr. *thyncan* to seem — more at I, THINK] *archaic* : it seems to me
me·thi·o·nine \mə-'thī-ə-ˌnēn\ *n* [ISV, fr. *me*thyl + *thion-* + *-ine*] : a crystalline sulfur-containing essential amino acid $C_5H_{11}NO_2S$

meth·od \'meth-əd\ *n* [MF or L; MF *methode*, fr. L *methodus*, fr. Gk *methodos*, fr. *meta-* + *hodos* way — more at CEDE] **1** : a procedure or process for attaining an object: as **a** (1) : a systematic procedure, technique, or mode of inquiry employed by or proper to a particular discipline or art (2) : a systematic plan followed in presenting material for instruction **b** (1) : a way, technique, or process of or for doing something (2) : a body of skills or techniques **2** : a discipline that deals with the principles and techniques of scientific inquiry **3 a** : orderly arrangement, development, or classification : PLAN **b** : the habitual practice of orderliness and regularity **4** *cap* : a dramatic technique by which an actor seeks to gain complete identification with the inner personality of the character being portrayed — usu. used with *the*
syn METHOD, MODE, MANNER, WAY, FASHION, SYSTEM *shared meaning element* : the means or procedures used in attaining an end
me·thod·i·cal \mə-'thäd-i-kəl\ *or* **me·thod·ic** \-ik\ *adj* **1** : arranged, characterized by, or performed with method or order ⟨a ~ treatment of the subject⟩ **2** : habitually proceeding according to method : SYSTEMATIC ⟨~ in his daily routine⟩ — **me·thod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **me·thod·i·cal·ness** \-i-kəl-nəs\ *n*
meth·od·ism \'meth-ə-ˌdiz-əm\ *n* **1** *cap* **a** : the doctrines and practice of Methodists **b** : the Methodist churches **2** : methodical procedure
meth·od·ist \-əd-əst\ *n* **1** : a person devoted to or laying great stress on method **2** *cap* : a member of one of the denominations deriving from the Wesleyan revival in the Church of England, having Arminian doctrine and in the U.S. modified episcopal polity, and stressing personal and social morality — **methodist** *adj* — **meth·od·is·tic** \ˌmeth-ə-'dis-tik\ *adj*
meth·od·ize \'meth-ə-ˌdīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to reduce to method : SYSTEMATIZE ***syn*** see ORDER
meth·od·olog·i·cal \ˌmeth-əd-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* : of or relating to method or methodology — **meth·od·olog·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
meth·od·ol·o·gist \-ə-'däl-ə-jəst\ *n* : a student of methodology
meth·od·ol·o·gy \ˌmeth-ə-'däl-ə-jē\ *n, pl* **-gies** [NL *methodologia*, fr. L *methodus* + *-logia* -logy] **1** : a body of methods, rules, and postulates employed by a discipline : a particular procedure or set of procedures **2** : the analysis of the principles or procedures of inquiry in a particular field
meth·o·trex·ate \ˌmeth-ə-'trek-ˌsāt\ *n* [*meth-* + *-trexate*, of unknown origin] : a toxic anticancer drug $C_{20}H_{22}N_8O_5$ that is an analogue of folic acid and an antimetabolite
me·thoxy·chlor \me-'thäk-si-ˌklō(ə)r, -ˌklȯ(ə)r\ *n* [*meth-* + *oxy-* + tri*chlor*ethane] : a chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide $C_{16}Cl_3H_{15}O_2$
me·thoxy·flu·rane \me-ˌthäk-sē-'flu̇(ə)r-ˌān\ *n* [*meth-* + *oxy-* + *fluor* + eth*ane*] : a nonexplosive gaseous general anesthetic $C_3H_4Cl_2F_2O$ related to chloroform
Me·thu·se·lah \mə-'th(y)üz-(ə-)lə\ *n* [Heb *Mĕthūshā'ēl*] **1** : an ancestor of Noah held to have lived 969 years **2** : an oversize wine bottle holding about 208 ounces
meth·yl \'meth-əl\ *n* [ISV, back-formation fr. *methylene*] : an alkyl radical CH_3 derived from methane by removal of one hydrogen atom — **me·thyl·ic** \mə-'thil-ik\ *adj*
methyl acetate *n* : a flammable fragrant liquid $C_3H_6O_2$ used esp. as a solvent and paint remover
meth·yl·al \'meth-ə-ˌlal\ *n* [ISV] : a volatile flammable liquid $C_3H_8O_2$ of pleasant ethereal odor used esp. as a solvent, in perfumery, and in making adhesives
methyl alcohol *n* : METHANOL
me·thyl·amine \ˌmeth-ə-lə-'mēn, -'lam-ən; mə-'thil-ə-ˌmēn\ *n* [ISV] : a flammable explosive gas CH_5N with a strong ammoniacal odor used esp. in organic synthesis (as of dyes and insecticides)
meth·yl·ase \'meth-ə-ˌlās, -ˌlāz\ *n* : an enzyme that catalyzes methylation (as of RNA or DNA)
meth·yl·ate \'meth-ə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** **1** : to impregnate or mix with methanol **2** : to introduce the methyl group into — **meth·yl·ation** \ˌmeth-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* — **meth·yl·ator** \'meth-ə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n*
methyl bromide *n* : a poisonous gaseous compound CH_3Br used chiefly as a fumigant against rodents, worms, and insects
meth·yl·cho·lan·threne \ˌmeth-əl-kə-'lan-ˌthrēn\ *n* [*methyl* + *cholic* acid + *anthracene*] : a potent carcinogenic hydrocarbon $C_{21}H_{16}$
meth·yl·do·pa \ˌmeth-əl-'dō-pə\ *n* : a drug $C_{10}H_{13}NO_4$ used to lower blood pressure
meth·y·lene \'meth-ə-ˌlēn, -lən\ *n* [F *méthylène*, fr. Gk *methy* wine + *hylē* wood — more at MEAD] : a bivalent hydrocarbon radical CH_2 derived from methane by removal of two hydrogen atoms
methylene blue *n* : a basic thiazine dye $C_{16}H_{18}ClN_3S{\cdot}3H_2O$ used esp. as a biological stain, an antidote in cyanide poisoning, and an oxidation-reduction indicator
methylene chloride *n* : a nonflammable liquid CH_2Cl_2 used esp. as a solvent, paint remover, and refrigerant
methyl methacrylate *n* : a volatile flammable liquid $C_5H_8O_2$ that polymerizes readily and is used esp. as a monomer for resins
meth·yl·naph·tha·lene \ˌmeth-əl-'naf-thə-ˌlēn, -'nap-\ *n* : either of two isomeric hydrocarbons $C_{11}H_{10}$; *esp* : an oily liquid used in determining cetane numbers
methyl parathion *n* : a potent synthetic organophosphate insecticide $C_8H_{10}NO_5PS$ that is more toxic than parathion
meth·yl·phe·ni·date \ˌmeth-əl-'fen-ə-ˌdāt, -'fē-nə-\ *n* [*methyl* + *phenyl* + piper*idine* + acet*ate*] : a mild stimulant $C_{14}H_{19}NO_2$ of the central nervous system used in the form of the hydrochloride to treat narcolepsy and hyperkinetic behavior disorders in children

meth·y·ser·gide \ˌmeth-ə-ˈsər-ˌjīd\ *n* [*methyl* + ly*sergic* acid + am*ide*] : a drug $C_{21}H_{27}N_3O_2$ used in the form of its maleate in the treatment and prevention of vascular headache

me·tic·u·lous \mə-ˈtik-yə-ləs\ *adj* [L *meticulosus* timid, fr. *metus* fear] : marked by extreme or excessive care in the consideration or treatment of details *syn* see CAREFUL — **me·tic·u·los·i·ty** \-ˌtik-yə-ˈläs-ət-ē\ *n* — **me·tic·u·lous·ly** \-ˈtik-yə-lə-slē\ *adv* — **me·tic·u·lous·ness** \-lə-snəs\ *n*

mé·tier \ˈme-ˌtyā, me-ˈ\ *n* [F, fr. (assumed) VL *misterium*, alter. of L *ministerium* work, ministry] **1** : VOCATION, TRADE **2** : an area of activity in which one is expert or successful : FORTE

mé·tis \mā-ˈtē(s)\ *n, pl* **mé·tis** \-ˈtē(s), -ˈtēz\ [F, fr. LL *mixticius* mixed — more at MESTIZO] : one of mixed blood: **a** : HALF-BREED **b** : a crossbred animal

METO *abbr* Middle East Treaty Organization

Me·tol \ˈmē-ˌtȯl, -ˌtōl\ *trademark* — used for a photographic developer

met·onym \ˈmet-ə-ˌnim\ *n* [back-formation fr. *metonymy*] : a word used in metonymy

met·onym·ic \ˌmet-ə-ˈnim-ik\ *or* **met·onym·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or used in metonymy — **met·onym·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

me·ton·y·my \mə-ˈtän-ə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [L *metonymia*, fr. Gk *metōnymia*, fr. *meta-* + *-ōnymia* -onymy] : a figure of speech consisting of the use of the name of one thing for that of another of which it is an attribute or with which it is associated (as in "lands belonging to the *crown*")

me–too \ˈmē-ˈtü\ *adj* : marked by similarity to or acceptance of the successful or persuasive policies or practices of a rival or opponent — **me–too·er** \-ər\ *n* — **me–too·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

met·o·pe \ˈmet-ə-(ˌ)pē\ *n* [Gk *metopē*, fr. *meta-* + *opē* opening; akin to Gk *ōps* eye, face — more at EYE] : the space between two triglyphs of a Doric frieze often adorned with carved work

met·o·pon \ˈmet-ə-ˌpän\ *n* [*meth*yldihydro*morphinone*] : a narcotic drug $C_{18}H_{21}NO_3$ that is derived from morphine and is used in the form of the hydrochloride to relieve pain

metr- *or* **metro-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *mētr-*, fr. *mētra*, fr. *mētr-*, *mētēr* mother — more at MOTHER] : uterus ⟨*metr*itis⟩ ⟨*metror*rhagia⟩

me·tre \ˈmēt-ər\ *chiefly Brit var of* METER

¹met·ric \ˈme-trik\ *n* **1** *pl* : a part of prosody that deals with metrical structure **2** : a standard of measurement ⟨no ~ exists that can be applied directly to happiness —*Scientific Monthly*⟩ **3** : a mathematical function that associates with each pair of elements of a set a real nonnegative number constituting their distance and satisfying the conditions that the number is zero only if the two elements are identical, the number is the same regardless of the order in which the two elements are taken, and the number associated with one pair of elements plus that associated with one member of the pair and a third element is equal to or greater than the number associated with the other member of the pair and the third element

²metric *or* **met·ri·cal** \ˈme-tri-kəl\ *adj* **1** : based on the meter as a standard of measurement ⟨the ~ system⟩ **2** : of or relating to the metric system ⟨a ~ study⟩ — **met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

-met·ric \ˈme-trik\ *or* **-met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj comb form* **1** : of, employing, or obtained by (such) a meter ⟨galvano*metric*⟩ **2** : of or relating to (such) an art, process, or science of measuring ⟨chrono*metric*⟩ ⟨gravi*metrical*⟩

met·ri·cal \ˈme-tri-kəl\ *or* **met·ric** \-trik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or composed in meter **2** : of or relating to measurement — **met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

met·ri·ca·tion \ˌme-tri-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of metricizing; *specif* : conversion of an existent system of units into the metric system

metric hundredweight *n* : a unit of weight equal to 50 kilograms

met·ri·cize \ˈme-trə-ˌsīz\ *vt* **-cized; -cizing** : to change into or express in the metric system

metric space *n* : a mathematical set for which a metric is defined for any pair of elements

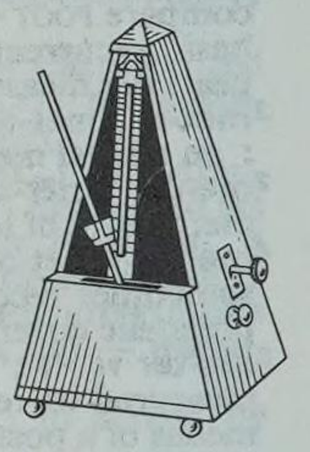
metric system *n* : a decimal system of weights and measures based on the meter and on the kilogram

metric ton *n* — see METRIC SYSTEM table

me·trist \ˈme-trəst, ˈmē-\ *n* **1** : a maker of verses **2** : one skillful in handling meter **3** : a student of meter or metrics

met·ro \ˈme-(ˌ)trō, mā-ˈ\ *n, pl* **metros** [F *métro*, short for (*chemin de fer*) *métropolitain* metropolitan railroad] : a subway system in a French-speaking city

me·trol·o·gy \me-ˈträl-ə-jē\ *n* [F *métrologie*, fr. Gk *metrologia* theory of ratios, fr. *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] **1** : the science of weights and measures or of measurement **2** : a system of weights and measures — **met·ro·log·i·cal** \ˌme-trə-ˈläj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **met·ro·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **me·trol·o·gist** \me-ˈträl-ə-jəst\ *n*



metronome

met·ro·ni·da·zole \ˌme-trə-ˈnīd-ə-ˌzōl\ *n* [*meth*yl + *-tron-* (prob. fr. *nitro*) + im*ide* + *azole*] : a drug $C_6H_9N_3O_3$ used in treating vaginal trichomoniasis

met·ro·nome \ˈme-trə-ˌnōm\ *n* [Gk *metron* + *-nomos* controlling, fr. *nomos* law — more at NIMBLE] : an instrument designed to mark exact time by a regularly repeated tick

met·ro·nom·ic \ˌme-trə-ˈnäm-ik\ *also* **met·ro·nom·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* : mechanically regular in action or tempo — **met·ro·nom·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

METRIC SYSTEM[1]

LENGTH

unit	abbreviation	number of meters	approximate U.S. equivalent
myriameter	mym	10,000	6.2 miles
kilometer	km	1,000	0.62 mile
hectometer	hm	100	109.36 yards
dekameter	dam	10	32.81 feet
meter	m	1	39.37 inches
decimeter	dm	0.1	3.94 inches
centimeter	cm	0.01	0.39 inch
millimeter	mm	0.001	0.04 inch

AREA

unit	abbreviation	number of square meters	approximate U.S. equivalent
square kilometer	sq km *or* km^2	1,000,000	0.3861 square mile
hectare	ha	10,000	2.47 acres
are	a	100	119.60 square yards
centare	ca	1	10.76 square feet
square centimeter	sq cm *or* cm^2	0.0001	0.155 square inch

VOLUME

unit	abbreviation	number of cubic meters	approximate U.S. equivalent
dekastere	das	10	13.10 cubic yards
stere	s	1	1.31 cubic yards
decistere	ds	0.10	3.53 cubic feet
cubic centimeter	cu cm *or* cm^3 *also* cc	0.000001	0.061 cubic inch

CAPACITY

unit	abbreviation	number of liters	approximate U.S. equivalent		
			cubic	*dry*	*liquid*
kiloliter	kl	1,000	1.31 cubic yards		
hectoliter	hl	100	3.53 cubic feet	2.84 bushels	
dekaliter	dal	10	0.35 cubic foot	1.14 pecks	2.64 gallons
liter	l	1	61.02 cubic inches	0.908 quart	1.057 quarts
deciliter	dl	0.10	6.1 cubic inches	0.18 pint	0.21 pint
centiliter	cl	0.01	0.6 cubic inch		0.338 fluidounc
milliliter	ml	0.001	0.06 cubic inch		0.27 fluidram

MASS AND WEIGHT

unit	abbreviation	number of grams	approximate U.S. equivalent
metric ton	MT *or* t	1,000,000	1.1 tons
quintal	q	100,000	220.46 pounds
kilogram	kg	1,000	2.2046 pounds
hectogram	hg	100	3.527 ounces
dekagram	dag	10	0.353 ounce
gram	g *or* gm	1	0.035 ounce
decigram	dg	0.10	1.543 grains
centigram	cg	0.01	0.154 grain
milligram	mg	0.001	0.015 grain

[1] For metric equivalents of U.S. units see Weights and Measures table

me·trop·o·lis \mə-'träp-(ə-)ləs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *mētropolis*, fr. *mētr-*, *mētēr* mother + *polis* city — more at MOTHER, POLICE] **1** : the mother city or state of a colony (as of ancient Greece) **2** : the chief or capital city of a country, state, or region **3 a** : a city regarded as a center of a specified activity ⟨a great business ~⟩ **b** : a large important city ⟨the world's great ~*es* —P. E. James⟩

1met·ro·pol·i·tan \ˌme-trə-'päl-ət-ᵊn\ *n* **1** : the primate of an ecclesiastical province **2** : one who lives in a metropolis or displays metropolitan manners or customs

2metropolitan *adj* [LL *metropolitanus* of the see of a metropolitan, fr. *metropolita*, n., metropolitan, fr. LGk *mētropolitēs*, fr. *mētropolis* see of a metropolitan, fr. Gk, capital] **1** : of or constituting a metropolitan or his see **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a metropolis **3** : of, relating to, or constituting a mother country

me·tror·rha·gia \ˌmē-trə-'rā-j(ē-)ə, -'rā-zhə; -'räj-ə, -'räzh-\ *n* [NL] : profuse bleeding from the uterus esp. between menstrual periods — **me·tror·rhag·ic** \-'raj-ik\ *adj*

-m·e·try \m-ə-trē\ *n comb form* [ME *-metrie*, fr. MF, fr. L *-metria*, fr. Gk, fr. *metrein* to measure, fr. *metron* — more at MEASURE] : art, process, or science of measuring (something specified) ⟨chrono*metry*⟩ ⟨photo*metry*⟩

met·tle \'met-ᵊl\ *n* [alter. of *metal*] **1** : quality of temperament or disposition ⟨gentlemen of brave ~ —Shak.⟩ **2 a** : vigor and strength of spirit or temperament ⟨suspected to have more tongue in his head than ~ in his bosom —Sir Walter Scott⟩ **b** : staying quality : STAMINA ⟨trucks had proved their ~ in army transport — *Pioneer & Pacemaker*⟩ ***syn*** see COURAGE — **met·tled** \-ᵊld\ *adj* — **on one's mettle** : aroused to do one's best

met·tle·some \'met-ᵊl-səm\ *adj* : full of mettle : SPIRITED

MeV *abbr* million electron volts

1mew \'myü\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mǣw*; akin to ON *mār* gull] : GULL; *esp* : the common European gull (*Larus canus*)

2mew *vb* [ME *mewen*, of imit. origin] *vi* : to utter a mew or similar sound ⟨gulls ~*ed* over the bay⟩ ~ *vt* : to utter by mewing : MEOW

3mew *n* : MEOW

4mew *n* [ME *mewe*, fr. MF *mue*, fr. *muer* to molt, fr. L *mutare* to change — more at MISS] **1** *archaic* : a cage for hawks esp. while molting **2** : a place for hiding or retirement **3** *pl but sing or pl in constr, chiefly Brit* **a** (1) : stables usu. with living quarters built around a court (2) : living quarters adapted from such stables **b** : back street : ALLEY

5mew *vt* : to shut up : CONFINE — often used with *up*

mewl \'myü(ə)l\ *vi* [imit.] : to cry weakly : WHIMPER

Mex *abbr* Mexican; Mexico

Mex·i·can \'mek-si-kən\ *n* **1 a** : a native or inhabitant of Mexico **b** : a person of Mexican descent **c** *Southwest* : a person of mixed Spanish and Indian descent **2** : NAHUATL 2 — **Mexican** *adj*

Mexican bean beetle *n* : a spotted ladybug (*Epilachna varivestis*) that feeds on the leaves of beans

Mexican fruit fly *n* : a small fly (*Anastrepha ludens*, family Trypetidae) whose maggot feeds in and damages various fruits (as citruses and mangoes)

Mexican hairless *n* : any of a breed of small nearly hairless dogs

Mexican Spanish *n* : the Spanish used in Mexico

me·ze·re·on \mə-'zir-ē-ən\ *n* [ME *mizerion*, fr. ML *mezereon*, fr. Ar *māzariyūn*, fr. Per] : a small European shrub (*Daphne mezereum* of the family Thymelaeaceae, the mezereon family) with fragrant lilac purple flowers and an acrid bark used in medicine

me·zu·zah *or* **me·zu·za** \mə-'zůz-ə\ *n* [Heb *mĕzūzāh* doorpost] : a small parchment scroll inscribed with Deut 6:4–9 and 11:13–21 and the name Shaddai and placed in a case fixed to the doorpost by some Jewish families as a sign and reminder of their faith

mez·za·nine \'mez-ᵊn-ˌēn, ˌmez-ᵊn-'\ *n* [F, fr. It *mezzanino*, fr. *mezzano* middle, fr. L *medianus* middle, median] **1** : a low-ceilinged story between two main stories of a building; *esp* : an intermediate story that projects in the form of a balcony **2 a** : the lowest balcony in a theater **b** : the first few rows of such a balcony

mez·za vo·ce \ˌmet-sä-'vō-(ˌ)chā, ˌmed-zä-\ *adv or adj* [It, half voice] : with medium or half volume of tone — used as a direction in music

mez·zo \'met-(ˌ)sō, 'med-(ˌ)zō\ *n, pl* **mezzos** : MEZZO-SOPRANO

mez·zo for·te \ˌmet-(ˌ)sō-'fȯr-ˌtā, ˌmed-(ˌ)zō-, -'fȯrt-ē\ *adj or adv* [It] : moderately loud — used as a direction in music

mez·zo pia·no \-pē-'än-(ˌ)ō\ *adj or adv* [It] : moderately soft — used as a direction in music

mez·zo–re·lie·vo \-ri-'lē-(ˌ)vō, -rēl-'yā-(ˌ)vō\ *n, pl* **mezzo–relievos** [It *mezzorilievo*, fr. *mezzo* middle, moderate, half + *rilievo* relief] : sculptural relief intermediate between bas-relief and high relief

mez·zo–so·pra·no \-sə-'pran-(ˌ)ō, -'prän-\ *n* [It *mezzosoprano*, fr. *mezzo* + *soprano*] **1** : a woman's voice of a full deep quality between that of the soprano and contralto **2** : a singer having a mezzo-soprano voice

mez·zo·tint \'met-sō-ˌtint, 'med-zō-\ *n* [modif. of It *mezzatinta*, fr. *mezza* (fem. of *mezzo*) + *tinta* tint] **1** : a manner of engraving on copper or steel by scraping or burnishing a roughened surface to produce light and shade **2** : an engraving produced by mezzotint

mf *abbr* millifarad

MF *abbr* **1** master of forestry **2** medium frequency **3** mezzo forte **4** microfiche

MFA *abbr* master of fine arts

mfd *abbr* manufactured

mfg *abbr* manufacturing

MFH *abbr* master of foxhounds

MFN *abbr* most favored nation

mfr *abbr* manufacture; manufacturer

MFS *abbr* master of foreign study

mg *abbr* milligram

Mg *symbol* magnesium

MG *abbr* **1** machine gun **2** major general **3** military government

mgal *abbr* milligal

MGB *abbr* [Russ *Ministerstvo Gosudarstvennoi Bezopasnosti*] Ministry of State Security

mgd *abbr* million gallons per day

mgr *abbr* **1** manager **2** monseigneur **3** monsignor

mgt *abbr* management

MGy Sgt *abbr* master gunnery sergeant

mh *abbr* millihenry

MH *abbr* **1** master of humanities **2** medal of honor **3** mobile home

MHD *abbr* magnetohydrodynamic; magnetohydrodynamics

mhg *abbr* mahogany

MHL *abbr* master of Hebrew literature

mho \'mō\ *n, pl* **mhos** [backward spelling of *ohm*] : the practical unit of conductance equal to the reciprocal of the ohm

MHW *abbr* mean high water

MHz *abbr* megahertz

1mi \'mē\ *n* [ML, fr. the syllable sung to this note in a medieval hymn to St. John the Baptist] : the 3d tone of the diatonic scale in solmization

2mi *abbr* **1** mile; mileage **2** mill

MI *abbr* **1** Michigan **2** military intelligence

mi- *or* **mio-** *comb form* [prob. fr. NL *meio-*, fr. Gk, fr. *meiōn* — more at MINOR] : less ⟨*Mio*cene⟩

MIA *abbr* missing in action

Mi·ami \mī-'am-ē, -'am-ə\ *n, pl* **Mi·ami** *or* **Mi·am·is** : a member of an Amerindian people orig. of Wisconsin and Indiana

mi·aow \mē-'aů\ *var of* MEOW

mi·as·ma \mī-'az-mə, mē-\ *n, pl* **-mas** *also* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk, defilement, fr. *miainein* to pollute] **1** : a vaporous exhalation formerly believed to cause disease; *broadly* : a heavy vaporous emanation or atmosphere ⟨a ~ of tobacco smoke⟩ **2** : a pervasive influence or atmosphere that tends to deplete or corrupt ⟨freed from the ~ of poverty —Sir Arthur Bryant⟩ — **mi·as·mal** \-məl\ *adj* — **mi·as·mat·ic** \ˌmī-əz-'mat-ik\ *adj* — **mi·as·mic** \mī-'az-mik, mē-\ *adj*

Mic *abbr* Micah

mi·ca \'mī-kə\ *n* [NL, fr. L, grain, crumb; akin to Gk *mikros* small] : any of various colored or transparent mineral silicates crystallizing in monoclinic forms that readily separate into very thin leaves — **mi·ca·ceous** \mī-'kā-shəs\ *adj*

Mi·cah \'mī-kə\ *n* [Heb *Mīkhāh*, short for *Mīkhāyāh*] **1** : a Hebrew prophet of the 8th century B.C. **2** : a prophetic book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see BIBLE table

mice *pl of* MOUSE

mi·celle \mī-'sel\ *n* [NL *micella*, fr. L *mica*] : a unit of structure built up from polymeric molecules or ions: as **a** : an ordered region in a fiber (as of cellulose or rayon) **b** : a molecular aggregate that constitutes a colloidal particle — **mi·cel·lar** \-'sel-ər\ *adj*

Mich *abbr* Michigan

Mi·chael \'mī-kəl\ *n* [Heb *Mīkhā'ēl*] : one of the four archangels named in Hebrew tradition

Mi·chae·lis constant \mī-ˌkā-ləs-, mə-\ *n* [Leonor *Michaelis* †1949 Am biochemist] : a constant that is a measure of the kinetics of an enzyme reaction and that is equivalent to the concentration of substrate at which the reaction takes place at one half its maximum velocity

Mich·ael·mas \'mik-əl-məs\ *n* [ME *mychelmesse*, fr. OE *Michaeles mæsse* Michael's mass] : September 29 celebrated as the feast of St. Michael the Archangel

Michaelmas daisy *n* : a wild aster; *esp* : one blooming about Michaelmas

Mi·che·as \'mī-kē-əs, mī-'\ *n* [LL *Michaeas*, fr. Gk *Michaias*, fr. Heb *Mīkhāyāh*] : MICAH

mick \'mik\ *n* [*Mick*, nickname for *Michael*, common Irish given name] : IRISHMAN — often taken to be offensive

Mick·ey Finn \ˌmik-ē-'fin\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Mickey Finn*] : a drink of liquor doctored with a purgative or a drug

Mickey Mouse \'mik-ē-'maůs\ *adj* [*Mickey Mouse*, cartoon character created by Walt Disney] : lacking importance : INSIGNIFICANT, PETTY ⟨*Mickey Mouse* courses, where you don't work too hard — Willie Cager⟩

mick·le \'mik-əl\ *adj* [ME *mikel*, fr. OE *micel* — more at MUCH] *chiefly Scot* : GREAT, MUCH — **mickle** *adv, chiefly Scot*

Mic·mac \'mik-ˌmak\ *n, pl* **Micmac** *or* **Micmacs** [Micmac *Migmac*, lit., allies] **1** : a member of an Amerindian people of eastern Canada **2** : the Algonquian language of the Micmac people

MICR *abbr* magnetic ink character recognition

micr- *or* **micro-** *comb form* [ME *micro-*, fr. L, fr. Gk *mikr-*, *mikro-*, fr. *mikros*, *smikros* small, short; akin to OE *smēalīc* careful, exquisite] **1 a** : small : minute ⟨*micro*film⟩ **b** : used for or involving minute quantities or variations ⟨*micro*barograph⟩ **c** : minutely ⟨*micro*level⟩ **2** : one millionth part of a (specified) unit ⟨*micro*gram⟩ ⟨*micro*hm⟩ **3 a** : using microscopy ⟨*micro*dissection⟩ : used in microscopy **b** : revealed by or having the structure discernible only by microscopical examination ⟨*micro*organism⟩ **4** : abnormally small ⟨*micro*cyte⟩ **5** : of or relating to a small area ⟨*micro*climate⟩ **6** : employed in or connected with microphotographing or microfilming ⟨*micro*copy⟩

mi·cro \'mī-(ˌ)krō\ *adj* [*micr-*] : very small; *esp* : MICROSCOPIC

mi·cro·anal·y·sis \ˌmī-krō-ə-'nal-ə-səs\ *n* : chemical analysis on a small or minute scale that usu. requires special, very sensitive, or small-scale apparatus — **mi·cro·an·a·lyst** \-'an-ᵊl-əst\ *n* — **mi·cro·an·a·lyt·ic** \-ˌan-ᵊl-'it-ik\ *or* **mi·cro·an·a·lyt·i·cal** \-'it-i-kəl\ *adj*

mi·cro·anat·o·my \-ə-'nat-ə-mē\ *n* : HISTOLOGY — **mi·cro·an·a·tom·i·cal** \-ˌan-ə-'täm-i-kəl\ *adj*

mi·cro·baro·graph \ˌmī-krō-'bar-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : a barograph for recording small and rapid changes

mi·crobe \'mī-ˌkrōb\ *n* [ISV *micr-* + Gk *bios* life — more at QUICK] : MICROORGANISM, GERM — **mi·cro·bi·al** \mī-'krō-bē-əl\ *also* **mi·cro·bic** \-bik\ *adj*
mi·cro·beam \'mī-krō-ˌbēm\ *n* : a beam of radiation of small cross section ⟨a focused laser ~⟩ ⟨a ~ of electrons⟩
mi·cro·bi·ol·o·gy \ˌmī-krō-bī-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [ISV] : a branch of biology dealing esp. with microscopic forms of life — **mi·cro·bi·o·log·i·cal** \'mī-krō-ˌbī-ə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **mi·cro·bi·o·log·ic** \-'läj-ik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·bi·o·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mi·cro·bi·ol·o·gist** \ˌmī-krō-bī-'äl-ə-jəst\ *n*
mi·cro·bus \'mī-krō-ˌbəs\ *n* : a station wagon shaped like a bus
mi·cro·cap·sule \-ˌkap-səl, -(ˌ)sül\ *n* : a tiny capsule containing material (as an adhesive or a medicine) that is released when the capsule is broken, melted, or dissolved
Mi·cro·card \-ˌkärd\ *trademark* — used for a card bearing microcopies of printed matter
[1]mi·cro·ce·phal·ic \ˌmī-krō-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj* : having a small head; *specif* : having an abnormally small head
[2]microcephalic *n* : an individual with an abnormally small head
mi·cro·ceph·a·ly \-'sef-ə-lē\ *n* [NL *microcephalia*, fr. *microcephalus* microcephalic, fr. *micr-* + Gk *kephalē* head — more at CEPHALIC] : a condition of abnormal smallness of the head usu. associated with mental defects
mi·cro·cir·cuit \'mī-krō-ˌsər-kət\ *n* : a compact electronic circuit : INTEGRATED CIRCUIT — **mi·cro·cir·cuit·ry** \-kə-trē\ *n*
mi·cro·cir·cu·la·tion \'mī-krō-ˌsər-kyə-'lā-shən\ *n* : the part of the circulatory system made up of very fine channels (as capillaries and venules) — **mi·cro·cir·cu·la·to·ry** \ˌmī-krō-'sər-kyə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*
mi·cro·cli·mate \'mī-krō-ˌklī-mət\ *n* [ISV] : the essentially uniform local climate of a usu. small site or habitat — **mi·cro·cli·mat·ic** \ˌmī-krō-klī-'mat-ik\ *adj*
mi·cro·cli·ma·tol·o·gy \'mī-krō-ˌklī-mə-'täl-ə-jē\ *n* : the study of microclimates : climatology of restricted areas — **mi·cro·cli·ma·to·log·i·cal** \-mət-ᵊl-'äj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·cli·ma·tol·o·gist** \-mə-'täl-ə-jəst\ *n*
mi·cro·cline \'mī-krō-ˌklīn\ *n* [G *mikroklin*, fr. *mikr-* micr- + Gk *klinein* to lean — more at LEAN] : a triclinic white to pale yellow, red, or green mineral $KAlSi_3O_8$ of the feldspar group that is like orthoclase in composition
mi·cro·coc·cus \ˌmī-krō-'käk-əs\ *n, pl* **-coc·ci** \-'käk-ˌ(s)ī, -'käk-(ˌ)(s)ē\ [NL, genus name] : a small spherical bacterium; *esp* : one of a genus (*Micrococcus*) in which growth forms irregular groups — **mi·cro·coc·cal** \-'käk-əl\ *adj*
mi·cro·code \'mī-krə-ˌkōd\ *n* : code used in microprogramming
[1]mi·cro·copy \'mī-krō-ˌkäp-ē\ *n* [ISV] : a photographic copy in which graphic matter is reduced in size (as on microfilm)
[2]microcopy *vt* : to prepare a microcopy of ~ *vi* : to make microcopies
mi·cro·cosm \'mī-krə-ˌkäz-əm\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *microcosmus*, modif. of Gk *mikros kosmos*] **1** : a little world; *esp* : man or human nature that is an epitome of the world or the universe **2** : a community or other unity that is an epitome of a larger unity ⟨the boardinghouse was a ~ of a larger world —Van Wyck Brooks⟩ — **mi·cro·cos·mic** \ˌmī-krə-'käz-mik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·cos·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
microcosmic salt *n* : a white crystalline salt $NaNH_5PO_4{\cdot}4H_2O$ used as a flux in testing for metallic oxides and salts
mi·cro·crys·tal \'mī-krō-ˌkris-tᵊl\ *n* : a crystal visible only under the microscope — **mi·cro·crys·tal·line** \ˌmī-krō-'kris-tə-lən *also* -ˌlīn *or* -ˌlēn\ *adj* — **mi·cro·crys·tal·lin·i·ty** \-ˌkris-tə-'lin-ət-ē\ *n*
mi·cro·cul·ture \'mī-krō-ˌkəl-chər\ *n* **1** : the culture of a small group of human beings with limited perspective **2** : a microscopic culture of cells or organisms — **mi·cro·cul·tur·al** \ˌmī-krō-'kəlch-(ə-)rəl\ *adj*
mi·cro·cyte \'mī-krə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a small red blood cell present esp. in some anemias — **mi·cro·cyt·ic** \ˌmī-krə-'sit-ik\ *adj*
mi·cro·den·si·tom·e·ter \'mī-krō-ˌden(t)-sə-'täm-ət-ər\ *n* : a densitometer for measuring the densities of very small areas of a photographic film or plate (as for detecting invisible spectrographic lines) — **mi·cro·den·si·to·met·ric** \-sət-ə-'me-trik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·den·si·tom·e·try** \-sə-'täm-ə-trē\ *n*
mi·cro·dis·sec·tion \ˌmī-krō-dis-'ek-shən, -dī-'sek-\ *n* : dissection under the microscope; *specif* : dissection of cells and tissues by means of fine needles that are precisely manipulated by levers
mi·cro·eco·nom·ics \-ˌek-ə-'näm-iks, -ˌē-kə-\ *n pl but usu sing in constr* : a study of economics in terms of individual areas of activity (as a firm, household, or prices) — compare MACROECONOMICS — **mi·cro·eco·nom·ic** \-'näm-ik\ *adj*
mi·cro·elec·trode \ˌmī-krō-i-'lek-ˌtrōd\ *n* : a minute electrode; *esp* : one that is inserted in a living biological cell or tissue in studying its electrical characteristics
mi·cro·elec·tron·ics \'mī-krō-i-ˌlek-'trän-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a branch of electronics that deals with the miniaturization of electronic circuits and components — **mi·cro·elec·tron·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·elec·tron·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mi·cro·elec·tro·pho·re·sis \-ˌlek-trə-fə-'rē-səs\ *n* [NL] : electrophoresis in which the movement of single particles is observed in a microscope; *also* : electrophoresis in which micromethods are used — **mi·cro·elec·tro·pho·ret·ic** \-'ret-ik\ *or* **mi·cro·elec·tro·pho·ret·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·elec·tro·pho·ret·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mi·cro·el·e·ment \ˌmī-krō-'el-ə-mənt\ *n* : TRACE ELEMENT
mi·cro·en·cap·su·late \-in-'kap-sə-ˌlāt\ *vt* : to enclose in a microcapsule ⟨*microencapsulated* aspirin⟩ — **mi·cro·en·cap·su·la·tion** \-in-ˌkap-sə-'lā-shən\ *n*
mi·cro·en·vi·ron·ment \-in-'vī-rən-mənt, -'vī(-ə)rn-\ *n* : MICROHABITAT — **mi·cro·en·vi·ron·men·tal** \-ˌvī-rən-'ment-ᵊl\ *adj*
mi·cro·evo·lu·tion \'mī-krō-ˌev-ə-'lü-shən *also* -ˌē-və-\ *n* : evolutionary change resulting from selective accumulation of minute variations — **mi·cro·evo·lu·tion·ary** \-shə-ˌner-ē\ *adj*
mi·cro·fau·na \ˌmī-krō-'fȯn-ə, -'fän-\ *n* [NL] **1** : a small or strictly localized fauna (as of a microhabitat) **2** : minute animals; *esp* : those invisible to the naked eye ⟨the soil ~⟩ — **mi·cro·fau·nal** \-'fȯn-ᵊl, -'fän-\ *adj*
mi·cro·fi·bril \-'fīb-rəl, -'fib-\ *n* : a fine fibril; *esp* : one of the submicroscopic elongated bundles of cellulose of a plant cell wall — **mi·cro·fi·bril·lar** \-rə-lər\ *adj*
mi·cro·fiche \'mī-krō-ˌfēsh, -ˌfish\ *n, pl* **-fiche** *or* **-fiches** \-ˌfēsh(-əz), -ˌfish(-əz)\ [F, fr. *micr-* + *fiche* peg, tag, slide, fr. OF, fr. *ficher* to stick in — more at FICHU] : a sheet of microfilm containing rows of microimages of pages of printed matter
mi·cro·fi·lar·ia \ˌmī-krō-fə-'lar-ē-ə, -'ler-\ *n* [NL] : a minute larval filaria — **mi·cro·fi·lar·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
[1]mi·cro·film \'mī-krə-ˌfilm\ *n* [ISV] : a film bearing a photographic record on a reduced scale of printed or other graphic matter
[2]microfilm *vt* : to reproduce on microfilm ⟨~ a report⟩ ~ *vi* : to make microfilms — **mi·cro·film·able** \-ˌfil-mə-bəl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·film·er** *n*
mi·cro·flo·ra \ˌmī-krə-'flōr-ə, -'flȯr-\ *n* [NL] **1** : a small or strictly localized flora (as of a microhabitat) **2** : minute plants; *esp* : those invisible to the naked eye — **mi·cro·flo·ral** \-əl\ *adj*
mi·cro·form \'mī-krə-ˌfȯrm\ *n* [*micr-* + *form*] **1** : a process for reproducing printed matter in a much reduced size ⟨documents in ~⟩ **2 a** : matter reproduced by microform **b** : MICROCOPY
mi·cro·fos·sil \ˌmī-krō-'fäs-əl\ *n* : a fossil that can be studied only microscopically and that may be either a fragment of a larger organism or an entire minute organism
mi·cro·fun·gus \-'fəŋ-gəs\ *n* [NL] : a fungus (as a mold) with a microscopic fruiting body — **mi·cro·fun·gal** \-gəl\ *adj*
mi·cro·ga·mete \ˌmī-krō-gə-'mēt, -'gam-ˌēt\ *n* [ISV] : the smaller and usu. male gamete of a heterogamous organism
mi·cro·ga·me·to·cyte \-gə-'mēt-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a gametocyte producing microgametes
mi·cro·gauss \'mī-krō-ˌgaůs\ *n* [ISV] : one millionth of a gauss
mi·cro·gram \'mī-krə-ˌgram\ *n* [ISV] : one millionth of a gram
mi·cro·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] : a graphic reproduction of the image of an object formed by a microscope — **micrograph** *vt*
mi·cro·graph·ics \ˌmī-krə-'graf-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : the industry concerned with the manufacture and sale of graphic material in microform; *also* : the production of such material — **mi·cro·graph·ic** \-ik\ *adj*
mi·cro·groove \'mī-krō-ˌgrüv\ *n* : a narrow continuous V-shaped spiral track that has closely spaced turns and that is used on long-playing records
mi·cro·hab·i·tat \ˌmī-krō-'hab-ə-ˌtat\ *n* : a small usu. distinctly specialized and effectively isolated habitat (as a decaying stump or a pat of dung)
mi·cro·im·age \-'im-ij\ *n* : an image (as on a microfilm) that is greatly reduced in size
mi·cro·inch \-'inch\ *n* : one millionth of an inch
mi·cro·in·jec·tion \ˌmī-krō-in-'jek-shən\ *n* : injection under the microscope; *specif* : injection into tissues by means of a fine mechanically controlled capillary tube
mi·cro·in·struc·tion \-'strək-shən\ *n* : a computer instruction corresponding to a single machine operation
mi·cro·lep·i·dop·tera \'mī-krō-ˌlep-ə-'däp-tə-rə\ *n pl* [NL] : lepidopterous insects (as tortricids) that belong to families of minute or medium-sized moths — **mi·cro·lep·i·dop·ter·ous** \-tə-rəs\ *adj*
mi·cro·li·ter \ˌmī-krō-'lēt-ər\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of capacity equal to one millionth of a liter
mi·cro·lith \'mī-krə-ˌlith\ *n* [ISV] : a tiny blade tool esp. of the late Paleolithic usu. in the form of a geometrical figure (as a triangle) and often set in a bone or wooden haft
mi·cro·lith·ic \ˌmī-krə-'lith-ik\ *adj* **1** : being or resembling a microlith **2** : of or relating to the people who produced microliths
mi·cro·ma·nip·u·la·tion \'mī-krō-mə-ˌnip-yə-'lā-shən\ *n* : the technique or practice of microdissection and microinjection
mi·cro·ma·nip·u·la·tor \-'nip-yə-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* : an instrument for micromanipulation
mi·cro·mere \'mī-krō-ˌmi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a small blastomere — see BLASTULA illustration
mi·cro·me·te·or·ite \ˌmī-krō-'mēt-ē-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* **1** : a meteorite so small that it can pass through the earth's atmosphere without becoming intensely heated **2** : a very small particle in interplanetary space — **mi·cro·me·te·or·it·ic** \-ˌmēt-ē-ə-'rit-ik\ *adj*
mi·cro·me·te·or·oid \-'mēt-ē-ə-ˌrȯid\ *n* : MICROMETEORITE 2
mi·cro·me·te·o·rol·o·gy \-ˌmēt-ē-ə-'räl-ə-jē\ *n* : meteorology that deals with small-scale weather systems ranging up to several kilometers in diameter and confined to the lower troposphere — **mi·cro·me·te·o·ro·log·i·cal** \-ˌmēt-ē-ˌȯr-ə-'läj-i-kəl, -ˌär-ə-, -ə-rə-\ *adj* — **mi·cro·me·te·o·rol·o·gist** \-ˌmēt-ē-ə-'räl-ə-jəst\ *n*
[1]mi·crom·e·ter \mī-'kräm-ət-ər\ *n* [F *micromètre*, fr. *micr-* + *-mètre* -meter] : an instrument used with a telescope or microscope for measuring minute distances
[2]mi·cro·me·ter \'mī-krō-ˌmēt-ər\ *n* [ISV *micr-* + [3]*meter*] : a unit of length equal to one millionth of a meter — called also *micron*
mi·crom·e·ter caliper \mī-ˌkräm-ət-ər-\ *n* : a caliper having a spindle moved by a finely threaded screw for making precise measurements
mi·cro·meth·od \'mī-krō-ˌmeth-əd\ *n* : a method (as of microanalysis) that requires only very small quantities of material or that involves the use of the microscope
mi·crom·e·try \mī-'kräm-ə-trē\ *n* [ISV] : measurement with a micrometer
mi·cro·mi·cron \ˌmī-krō-'mī-ˌkrän\ *n* : one millionth of a micrometer
mi·cro·min·ia·ture \-'min-ē-ə-ˌchů(ə)r, -'min-i-ˌchů(ə)r, -'min-yə-, -chər, -ˌt(y)ů(ə)r\ *adj* **1** : MICROMINIATURIZED **2** : suitable for use with microminiaturized parts
mi·cro·min·ia·tur·iza·tion \-ˌmin-ē-ə-ˌchůr-ə-'zā-shən, -ˌmin-i-ˌchůr-, -ˌmin-yə-ˌchůr-, -chər-, -ˌt(y)ůr-\ *n* : the process of producing microminiaturized things
mi·cro·min·ia·tur·ized *adj* : reduced to or produced in a very small size and esp. in a size smaller than one considered miniature
mi·cro·mole \'mī-krə-ˌmōl\ *n* [ISV] : one millionth of a mole — **mi·cro·mo·lar** \ˌmī-krə-'mō-lər\ *adj*
mi·cro·mor·phol·o·gy \ˌmī-krə-mȯr-'fäl-ə-jē\ *n* **1** : MICROSTRUCTURE — used esp. with reference to soils **2** : minute morphologi-

cal detail esp. as determined by electron microscopy; *also* : the study of such detail — **mi·cro·mor·pho·log·ic** \-ˌmȯr-fə-ˈläj-ik\ *or* **mi·cro·mor·pho·log·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·mor·pho·log·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mi·cron \ˈmī-ˌkrän\ *n, pl* **microns** *also* **mi·cra** \-krə\ [NL, fr. Gk *mikron,* neut. of *mikros* small — more at MICR-] : ²MICROMETER

Mi·cro·ne·sian \ˌmī-krə-ˈnē-zhən, -shən\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of Micronesia **2** : a group of Austronesian languages spoken in the Micronesian islands — **Micronesian** *adj*

mi·cron·ize \ˈmī-krə-ˌnīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** [*micron*] : to pulverize esp. into particles a few micrometers in diameter

mi·cro·nu·cle·us \ˌmī-krō-ˈn(y)ü-klē-əs\ *n* [NL] : a minute nucleus; *specif* : one regarded as primarily concerned with reproductive and genetic functions in most ciliated protozoans

mi·cro·nu·tri·ent \-ˈn(y)ü-trē-ənt\ *n* **1** : TRACE ELEMENT **2** : an organic compound (as a vitamin) essential in minute amounts to the growth and welfare of an animal

mi·cro·or·gan·ism \-ˈȯr-gə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* [ISV] : an organism of microscopic or ultramicroscopic size

mi·cro·pa·le·on·tol·o·gy \-ˌpā-lē-ˌän-ˈtäl-ə-jē, -ən-, *esp Brit* -ˌpal-ē-\ *n* [ISV] : the study of microscopic fossils — **mi·cro·pa·le·on·to·log·i·cal** \-ˌänt-ᵊl-ˈäj-i-kəl\ *also* **mi·cro·pa·le·on·to·log·ic** \-ik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·pa·le·on·tol·o·gist** \-ˌän-ˈtäl-ə-jəst, -ən-\ *n*

mi·cro·par·a·site \ˌmī-krō-ˈpar-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* : a parasitic microorganism — **mi·cro·par·a·sit·ic** \-ˌpar-ə-ˈsit-ik\ *adj*

mi·cro·phage \ˈmī-krə-ˌfāj, -ˌfäzh\ *n* [ISV] : a small phagocyte

mi·cro·phone \ˈmī-krə-ˌfōn\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument whereby sound waves are caused to generate or modulate an electric current usu. for the purpose of transmitting or recording sound (as speech or music) — **mi·cro·phon·ic** \ˌmī-krə-ˈfän-ik\ *adj*

mi·cro·phon·ics \ˌmī-krə-ˈfän-iks\ *n pl* : noises in a loudspeaker resulting from mechanical movement of tubes or other parts

mi·cro·pho·to·graph \-ˈfōt-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a small photograph that is normally magnified for viewing : MICROCOPY **2** : PHOTOMICROGRAPH — **microphotograph** *vt* — **mi·cro·pho·tog·ra·pher** \-fə-ˈtäg-rə-fər\ *n* — **mi·cro·pho·to·graph·ic** \-ˌfōt-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·pho·tog·ra·phy** \-fə-ˈtäg-rə-fē\ *n*

mi·cro·pho·tom·e·ter \-fō-ˈtäm-ət-ər\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for measuring the amount of light transmitted or reflected by small areas or for measuring the relative densities of spectral lines on a photographic film or plate — **mi·cro·pho·to·met·ric** \-ˌfōt-ə-ˈme-trik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·pho·to·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mi·cro·pho·tom·e·try** \-fō-ˈtäm-ə-trē\ *n*

mi·cro·phyll \ˈmī-krə-ˌfil\ *n* [ISV] **1** : a small leaf **2** : a leaf (as of a club moss) that has single unbranched veins and no demonstrable leaf gap — **mi·cro·phyl·lous** \ˌmī-krə-ˈfil-əs\ *adj*

mi·cro·phys·ics \ˌmī-krō-ˈfiz-iks\ *n* : the physics of molecules, atoms, and elementary particles — **mi·cro·phys·i·cal** \-ˈfiz-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·phys·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mi·cro·pi·pette *or* **mi·cro·pi·pet** \-pī-ˈpet\ *n* **1** : a pipette for the measurement of minute volumes **2** : a small and extremely fine-pointed pipette used in making microinjections

mi·cro·plank·ton \-ˈplaŋ(k)-tən, -ˌtän\ *n* [ISV] : microscopic plankton

mi·cro·pop·u·la·tion \ˈmī-krō-ˌpäp-yə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* **1** : a population of microorganisms **2** : a population of organisms within a small area

mi·cro·pore \ˈmī-krə-ˌpō(ə)r, -ˌpȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : a very fine pore — **mi·cro·po·ros·i·ty** \-pə-ˈräs-ət-ē, -pōr-ˈäs-, -pȯ-ˈräs-\ *n* — **mi·cro·po·rous** \ˌmī-krə-ˈpōr-əs, -ˈpȯr-\ *adj*

mi·cro·print \ˈmī-krə-ˌprint\ *n* : a photographic or photomechanical copy of graphic matter in reduced size — **microprint** *vt*

mi·cro·probe \-ˌprōb\ *n* : a device for microanalysis that operates by exciting radiation in a minute area of material so that the composition may be determined from the emission spectrum

mi·cro·pro·gram \ˌmī-krə-ˈprō-ˌgram, -grəm\ *n* : a routine used in microprogramming

mi·cro·pro·gram·ming \-ˌgram-iŋ\ *n* : the use of routines stored in memory rather than specialized circuits to control a device (as a computer)

mi·cro·pro·jec·tor \ˌmī-krō-prə-ˈjek-tər\ *n* : a projector utilizing a compound microscope for projecting on a screen a greatly enlarged image of a microscopic object — **mi·cro·pro·jec·tion** \-ˈjek-shən\ *n*

mi·cro·pub·lish·ing \-ˈpəb-lish-iŋ\ *n* : publishing in microform — **mi·cro·pub·lish·er** \-lish-ər\ *n*

mi·cro·pul·sa·tion \-ˌpəl-ˈsā-shən\ *n* : a pulsation having a short period ⟨a ~ of the earth's magnetic field with a period in the range from a fraction of a second to several hundred seconds⟩

mi·cro·punc·ture \-ˈpəŋ(k)-chər\ *n* : an extremely small puncture ⟨a ~ of the nephron⟩

mi·cro·pyle \ˈmī-krə-ˌpīl\ *n* [ISV *micr-* + Gk *pylē* gate] **1** : a differentiated area of surface in an egg through which a sperm enters **2** : a minute opening in the integument of an ovule of a seed plant through which the pollen tube penetrates to the embryo sac — **mi·cro·py·lar** \ˌmī-krə-ˈpī-lər\ *adj*

mi·cro·ra·dio·graph \ˌmī-krō-ˈrād-ē-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : an X-ray photograph showing minute internal structure — **mi·cro·ra·dio·graph·ic** \-ˌrād-ē-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj* — **mi·cro·ra·di·og·ra·phy** \-ē-ˈäg-rə-fē\ *n*

mi·cro·read·er \ˈmī-krō-ˌrēd-ər\ *n* : an apparatus that gives an enlarged image of a microphotograph esp. for reading

mi·cro·re·pro·duc·tion \ˈmī-krō-ˌrē-prə-ˈdək-shən\ *n* : the reproduction of written or printed matter in microform; *also* : an item so reproduced

mi·cro·scale \ˈmī-krō-ˌskāl\ *n* : a very small scale ⟨a chemical produced on a ~⟩

mi·cro·scope \ˈmī-krə-ˌskōp\ *n* [NL *microscopium,* fr. *micr-* + *-scopium* -scope] **1** : an optical instrument consisting of a lens or combination of lenses for making enlarged images of minute objects; *esp* : COMPOUND MICROSCOPE **2** : an instrument using radiations other than light for making enlarged images of minute objects

mi·cro·scop·ic \ˌmī-krə-ˈskäp-ik\ *or* **mi·cro·scop·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or conducted with the microscope or microscopy **2** : resembling a microscope esp. in perception **3 a** : invisible or indistinguishable without the use of a microscope **b** : very small or fine or precise — **mi·cro·scop·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mi·cros·co·py \mī-ˈkräs-kə-pē\ *n* : the use of or investigation with the microscope — **mi·cros·co·pist** \-pəst\ *n*

mi·cro·sec·ond \ˌmī-krō-ˈsek-ənd, -ənt\ *n* [ISV] : one millionth of a second

mi·cro·seism \ˈmī-krə-ˌsī-zəm\ *n* [ISV] : a feeble rhythmically and persistently recurring earth tremor — **mi·cro·seis·mic** \ˌmī-krə-ˈsīz-mik, -ˈsīs-\ *adj* — **mi·cro·seis·mic·i·ty** \-sīz-ˈmis-ət-ē, -sīs-\ *n*

mi·cro·some \ˈmī-krə-ˌsōm\ *n* [G *mikrosom,* fr. *mikr-* micr- + *-som* -some] **1** : any of various minute structures of the cell esp. as observed at the limit of resolution of the light microscope **2** : a particle in a particulate fraction that is obtained by heavy centrifugation of broken cells and consists of various amounts of ribosomes, fragmented endoplasmic reticulum, and mitochondrial cristae — **mi·cro·som·al** \ˌmī-krə-ˈsō-məl\ *adj*

mi·cro·spec·tro·pho·tom·e·ter \ˌmī-krə-ˌspek-trə-fō-ˈtäm-ət-ər\ *n* : a spectrophotometer adapted to the examination of light transmitted by a very small specimen (as a single organic cell) — **mi·cro·spec·tro·pho·to·met·ric** \-ˌfōt-ə-ˈme-trik\ *also* **mi·cro·spec·tro·pho·to·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·spec·tro·pho·to·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mi·cro·spec·tro·pho·tom·e·try** \-fō-ˈtäm-ə-trē\ *n*

mi·cro·sphere \ˈmī-krə-ˌsfi(ə)r\ *n* : a minute sphere ⟨a glass ~ 30 microns in diameter⟩ — **mi·cro·spher·i·cal** \ˌmī-krə-ˈsfir-i-kəl, -ˈsfer-\ *adj*

mi·cro·spo·ran·gi·um \ˌmī-krō-spə-ˈran-jē-əm\ *n* [NL] : a sporangium that develops only microspores — **mi·cro·spo·ran·gi·ate** \-jē-ət\ *adj*

mi·cro·spore \ˈmī-krə-ˌspō(ə)r, -ˌspȯ(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : one of the spores in heterosporous plants that give rise to male gametophytes and are generally smaller than the megaspore — **mi·cro·spo·rous** \ˌmī-krə-ˈspōr-əs, -ˈspȯr-; mī-ˈkräs-pə-rəs\ *adj*

mi·cro·spo·rid·i·an \-spə-ˈrid-ē-ən\ *n* [NL, fr. *Microsporidia,* group name, fr. *micr-* + *sporidium* small spore, fr. *spor-* + *-idium*] : any of an order (Microsporidia) of sporozoan parasites of arthropods and fishes that typically invade and destroy host cells — **microsporidian** *adj*

mi·cro·spo·ro·cyte \-ˈspōr-ə-ˌsīt, -ˈspȯr-\ *n* : a microspore mother cell

mi·cro·spo·ro·gen·e·sis \ˌmī-krə-ˌspōr-ə-ˈjen-ə-səs, -ˌspȯr-\ *n* [NL] : the formation and maturation of microspores

mi·cro·spo·ro·phyll \-ˌfil\ *n* : a sporophyll that develops only microsporangia

mi·cro·state \ˈmī-krō-ˌstāt\ *n* : a nation that is extremely small in area and population and poor in resources

mi·cro·struc·ture \ˈmī-krō-ˌstrək-chər\ *n* [ISV] : the microscopic structure of a material (as a mineral or a biological cell) — **mi·cro·struc·tur·al** \ˌmī-krō-ˈstrək-chə-rəl, -ˈstrək-shrəl\ *adj*

mi·cro·sur·gery \ˌmī-krō-ˈsərj-(ə-)rē\ *n* : minute dissection or manipulation (as by a micromanipulator or laser beam) of living structures (as cells) for surgical or experimental purposes — **mi·cro·sur·gi·cal** \-ˈsər-ji-kəl\ *adj*

mi·cro·tech·nic \ˈmī-krō-ˌtek-nik, ˌmī-krō-tek-ˈnēk\ *or* **mi·cro·tech·nique** \ˌmī-krō-tek-ˈnēk\ *n* [ISV] : the art of handling and preparing material for microscopic observation and study

mi·cro·tome \ˈmī-krə-ˌtōm\ *n* [ISV] : an instrument for cutting sections (as of organic tissues) for microscopic examination

mi·cro·tone \ˈmī-krə-ˌtōn\ *n* : a musical interval smaller than a halftone — **mi·cro·ton·al** \ˌmī-krə-ˈtōn-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mi·cro·to·nal·i·ty** \-tō-ˈnal-ət-ē\ *n* — **mi·cro·ton·al·ly** \-ˈtōn-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

mi·cro·tu·bule \ˌmī-krō-ˈt(y)ü-(ˌ)byü(ə)l\ *n* : any of the minute cylindrical structures that are widely distributed in protoplasm and are made up of longitudinal fibrils — **mi·cro·tu·bu·lar** \-byə-lər\ *adj*

mi·cro·vil·lus \-ˈvil-əs\ *n* [NL] : a microscopic projection of a tissue, a cell, or a cell organelle; *esp* : one of the fingerlike outward projections of some cell surfaces — **mi·cro·vil·lar** \-ˈvil-ər\ *adj* — **mi·cro·vil·lous** \-ˈvil-əs\ *adj*

mi·cro·wave \ˈmī-krə-ˌwāv\ *n* : a comparatively short electromagnetic wave; *esp* : one between 100 centimeters and 1 centimeter in wavelength

microwave oven *n* : an oven in which food is cooked by the heat produced as a result of microwave penetration of the food

mic·tu·rate \ˈmik-chə-ˌrāt, ˈmik-tə-\ *vi* **-rat·ed; -rat·ing** [L *micturire,* fr. *mictus,* pp. of *mingere;* akin to OE *mīgan* to urinate, Gk *omeichein*] : URINATE — **mic·tu·ri·tion** \ˌmik-chə-ˈrish-ən, ˌmik-tə-\ *n*

¹mid \ˈmid\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *midde;* akin to OHG *mitti* middle, L *medius,* Gk *mesos*] **1** : being the part in the middle or midst ⟨in ~ ocean⟩ — often used in combination ⟨*mid*-August⟩ **2** : occupying a middle position ⟨the ~ finger⟩ **3** *of a vowel* : articulated with the arch of the tongue midway between its highest and its lowest elevation — **mid** *adv*

²mid \(ˌ)mid\ *prep* : AMID

³mid *abbr* middle

mid·air \ˈmid-ˈa(ə)r, -ˈe(ə)r\ *n* : a point or region in the air not immediately adjacent to the ground ⟨planes collided in ~⟩

Mi·das \ˈmīd-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : a legendary Phrygian king who for a time was given the power of turning to gold everything he touched

mid·brain \ˈmid-ˌbrān\ *n* : the middle division of the embryonic vertebrate brain; *also* : the parts of the definitive brain developed from this region — see BRAIN illustration

mid·day \'mid-ˌdā, -'dā\ *n* : the middle part of the day : NOON
mid·den \'mid-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *midding*, of Scand origin; akin to ON *myki* dung & ON *dyngja* manure pile — more at MUCUS, DUNG] **1** : DUNGHILL **2** : a refuse heap; *esp* : KITCHEN MIDDEN
¹mid·dle \'mid-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME *middel*, fr. OE; akin to L *medius*] **1** : equally distant from the extremes : MEDIAL, CENTRAL ⟨the ~ house in the row⟩ **2** : being at neither extreme : INTERMEDIATE **3** *cap* **a** : constituting a division intermediate between those prior and later or upper and lower ⟨*Middle* Paleozoic⟩ **b** : constituting a period of a language or literature intermediate between one called *Old* and one called *New* or *Modern* ⟨*Middle* Dutch⟩ **4** *of a verb form or voice* : typically asserting that a person or thing both performs and is affected by the action represented
²middle *n* **1** : a middle part, point, or position **2** : the central portion of the human body : WAIST **3** : the position of being among or in the midst of something **4** : something intermediate between extremes : MEAN **5** : the center of an offensive or defensive formation; *esp* : the area between the second baseman and the shortstop
middle age *n* : the period of life from about 40 to about 60 — **middle-aged** \ˌmid-ᵊl-'ājd\ *adj*
Middle Ages *n pl* : the period of European history from about A.D. 500 to about 1500
Middle America *n* **1** : the region of the western hemisphere including Mexico, Central America, often the West Indies, and sometimes Colombia and Venezuela **2** : the midwestern section of the U.S. **3** : the middle-class segment of the U.S. population; *esp* : the traditional or conservative element of the middle class — **Middle American** *n*
mid·dle·brow \'mid-ᵊl-ˌbraù\ *n* : a person who is moderately but not highly cultivated — **middlebrow** *adj*
mid·dle·bust·er \-ˌbəs-tər\ *n* : LISTER 1
middle C *n* : the note designated by the first ledger line below the treble staff and the first above the bass staff
middle-class *adj* : of or relating to the middle class; *esp* : characterized by a high material standard of living, sexual morality, and respect for property
middle class *n* : a class occupying a position between the upper class and the lower class; *esp* : a fluid heterogeneous socioeconomic grouping composed principally of business and professional people, bureaucrats, and some farmers and skilled workers sharing common social characteristics and values
middle distance *n* **1** : a part of a pictorial representation or scene between the foreground and the background **2** : any footrace distance from 400 meters or 440 yards to 1500 meters or one mile
middle ear *n* : a small membrane-lined cavity that is separated from the outer ear by the eardrum and that transmits sound waves from the eardrum to the partition between the middle and inner ears through a chain of tiny bones
Middle English *n* : the English in manuscripts of the 12th to 15th centuries — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
middle finger *n* : the midmost of the five digits of the hand
Middle French *n* : the French in manuscripts of the 14th to 16th centuries — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
middle game *n* : the middle phase of a board game; *specif* : the part of a chess game after the pieces have been developed when players attempt to gain and exploit positional and material superiority — compare END GAME, OPENING
Middle Greek *n* : the Greek language used in the 7th to 15th centuries
middle ground *n* **1** : MIDDLE DISTANCE 1 **2** : a standpoint midway between extremes
Middle High German *n* : the High German in use from about 1100 to 1500 — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
Middle Irish *n* : the Irish in use between the 11th and 15th centuries — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
middle lamella *n* : a layer of pectinous intercellular material that as seen by conventional staining and microscopic techniques lies between the walls of adjacent plant cells
Middle Low German *n* : the Low German in use from about 1100 to 1500 — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
mid·dle·man \'mid-ᵊl-ˌman\ *n* : an intermediary or agent between two parties; *esp* : a dealer or agent intermediate between the producer of goods and the retailer or consumer
middle name *n* : a name between one's first name and surname
middle-of-the-road *adj* : standing for or following a course of action midway between extremes; *esp* : being neither liberal nor conservative in politics — **mid·dle-of-the-road·er** \-'rōd-ər\ *n* — **mid·dle-of-the-road·ism** \-'rōd-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
middle of the road : a course of action or a standpoint midway between extremes
mid·dler \'mid-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n* : one belonging to an intermediate group, division, or class: as **a** : a student in the second year class of a theological seminary having a three-year program **b** : a student in the second or third year class in some private secondary schools having a four-year course **c** : a student in a division in some private schools that corresponds approximately to junior high school
middle school *n* : a school usu. including grades 5–8
Middle Scots *n* : the Scots language in use between the latter half of the 15th and the early decades of the 17th centuries
middle term *n* : the term of a syllogism that occurs in both premises
mid·dle·weight \'mid-ᵊl-ˌwāt\ *n* : one of average weight; *specif* : a boxer who weighs more than 147 but not more than 160 pounds
Middle Welsh *n* : the Welsh in use from about 1150 to 1500 — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table
¹mid·dling \'mid-liŋ, -lən\ *adj* **1** : of middle, medium, or moderate size, degree, or quality **2** : MEDIOCRE, SECOND-RATE — **mid·dling** *adv* — **mid·dling·ly** \-liŋ-lē, -lən-\ *adv*
²middling *n* **1** : any of various commodities of intermediate size, quality, or position **2** *pl but sing or pl in constr* : a granular product of grain milling; *esp* : a wheat milling by-product used in animal feeds
mid·dor·sal \(ˈ)mid-'dȯr-səl\ *adj* : situated in the middle part or median line of the back
Middx *abbr* Middlesex
mid·dy \'mid-ē\ *n, pl* **middies** [by shortening & alter.] **1** : MIDSHIPMAN **2** : a loosely fitting blouse with a sailor collar worn by women and children
mid·field \'mid-ˌfēld, (ˈ)mid-'\ *n* **1** : the middle portion of a field; *esp* : the portion of a playing field (as in football) that is midway between goals **2** : the players on a team (as in lacrosse) that normally play in midfield
mid·field·er \-ər\ *n* : a member of a midfield (as in lacrosse)
Mid·gard \'mid-ˌgärd\ *n* [ON *mithgarthr*] : the abode of human beings in Norse mythology
midge \'mij\ *n* [ME *migge*, fr. OE *mycg*; akin to OHG *mucka* midge, Gk *myia* fly, L *musca*] : a tiny two-winged fly (as a chironomid)
midg·et \'mij-ət\ *n* [*midge*] **1** : a very small person; *specif* : a person of unusually small size who is physically well-proportioned **2** : something (as an animal) much smaller than usual **3** : a front-engine, single-seat, open-wheel racing car smaller and of less engine displacement than standard cars of the type — **midget** *adj*
mid·gut \'mid-ˌgət\ *n* : the middle part of an alimentary canal
midi \'mid-ē\ *n* [¹*mid* + *-i* (as in *mini*)] : a dress, skirt, or coat that usu. extends to the mid-calf
Mid·i·an·ite \'mid-ē-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [*Midian*, son of Abraham] : a member of an ancient northern Arabian people
MidL *abbr* Midlothian
mid·land \'mid-lənd, -ˌland\ *n* **1** : the interior or central region of a country **2** *cap* **a** : the dialect of English spoken in the midland counties of England **b** : the dialect of English spoken in parts of New Jersey and Delaware, northern Maryland, central and southern Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, the Appalachian Mountain area, West Virginia, Kentucky, and most of Tennessee — **midland** *adj, often cap*
mid·line \-ˌlīn, -'līn\ *n* : a median line; *esp* : the median line or median plane of the body or some part of the body
mid·most \-ˌmōst\ *adj* **1** : being in or near the exact middle **2** : most intimate : INNERMOST — **midmost** *adv or n*
midn *abbr* midshipman
mid·night \'mid-ˌnīt\ *n* **1** : the middle of the night; *specif* : 12 o'clock at night **2** : deep or extended darkness or gloom — **midnight** *adj* — **mid·night·ly** *adv or adj*
midnight sun *n* : the sun above the horizon at midnight in the arctic or antarctic summer
mid·point \'mid-ˌpȯint, -'pȯint\ *n* : a point at or near the center or middle
mid·rash \'mid-ˌräsh\ *n, pl* **mid·rash·im** \mid-'räsh-əm\ [Heb *midhrāsh* exposition, explanation] **1** : a haggadic or halakic exposition of the underlying significance of a Bible text **2** : a collection of midrashim **3** *cap* : the midrashic literature written during the first Christian millennium — **mid·rash·ic** \mid-'räsh-ik\ *adj, often cap*
mid·rib \'mid-ˌrib\ *n* : the central vein of a leaf
mid·riff \'mid-ˌrif\ *n* [ME *midrif*, fr. OE *midhrif*, fr. *midde* mid + *hrif* belly; akin to OHG *href* body, L *corpus*] **1** : DIAPHRAGM 1 **2** : the mid-region of the human torso **3** **a** : a section of a woman's garment that covers the midriff **b** : a woman's garment that exposes the midriff
mid·sec·tion \'mid-ˌsek-shən\ *n* : a section midway between the extremes; *esp* : MIDRIFF 2
mid·ship·man \'mid-ˌship-mən, (ˈ)mid-'\ *n* : one in training for a naval commission; *esp* : a student in a naval academy
mid·ships \'mid-ˌships\ *adv* : AMIDSHIPS
midst \'midst, 'mitst\ *n* [ME *middest*, alter. of *middes*, back-formation fr. *amiddes* amid] **1** : the interior or central part or point : MIDDLE, INTERIOR ⟨in the ~ of the forest⟩ **2** : a position of proximity to the members of a group or company ⟨a visitor in our ~⟩ **3** : the condition of being surrounded or beset ⟨in the ~ of his troubles⟩ **4** : a period of time about the middle of a continuing act or condition ⟨in the ~ of a long reign⟩ — **midst** *prep*
mid·stream \'mid-'strēm, -ˌstrēm\ *n* **1** : the portion of a stream away from both sides ⟨keep the boat in ~⟩ **2** : the portion of a course away from both the beginning and the end ⟨in the ~ of his career —Arthur Berger⟩
mid·sum·mer \'mid-'səm-ər, -ˌsəm-\ *n* **1** : the middle of summer **2** : the summer solstice
Midsummer Day *n* : June 24 celebrated as the feast of the nativity of John the Baptist
mid·town \'mid-ˌtaùn, -'taùn\ *n* : a central section of a city; *esp* : one situated between sections conventionally called *downtown* and *uptown* — **midtown** *adj*
¹mid·way \'mid-ˌwā, -'wā\ *adv* : in the middle of the way or distance : HALFWAY
²mid·way \-ˌwā\ *n* [*Midway* (*Plaisance*), Chicago, site of the amusement section of the Columbian Exposition 1893] : an avenue at a fair, carnival, or amusement park for concessions and amusements
mid·week \-ˌwēk\ *n* : the middle of the week — **midweek** *adj* — **mid·week·ly** \-ˌwē-klē, -'wē-\ *adj or adv*
¹mid·wife \'mid-ˌwīf\ *n* [ME *midwif*, fr. *mid* with (fr. OE) + *wif* woman] **1** : a woman who assists other women in childbirth **2** : one that helps to produce or bring forth something
²midwife *vt* **mid·wifed** \-ˌwīft\ *or* **mid·wived** \-ˌwīvd\; **mid·wif·ing** *or* **mid·wiv·ing** : to assist in producing, bringing forth, or bringing about
mid·wife·ry \ˌmid-'wif-(ə-)rē, 'mid-ˌwīf-\ *n* **1** : the art or act of assisting at childbirth; *also* : OBSTETRICS **2** : the art, act, or process of producing, bringing forth, or bringing about
mid·win·ter \'mid-'wint-ər, -ˌwint-\ *n* **1** : the middle of winter **2** : the winter solstice
mid·year \-ˌyi(ə)r\ *n* **1** **a** : the middle or middle portion of a calendar year **b** : the middle of an academic year **2** **a** : a midyear examination **b** *pl* : the set of examinations at midyear; *also* : the period of midyear examinations — **midyear** *adj*

mien \'mēn\ *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. ¹*demean*] **1** : air or bearing esp. as expressive of mood or personality : DEMEANOR ⟨beneath that ~ of a commercial traveller who has been everywhere . . . he was very nervous —Arnold Bennett⟩ **2** : APPEARANCE, ASPECT ⟨the inherent dangers of government encroachment . . . presented such a distasteful ~ —H. W. Baldwin⟩ ***syn*** see BEARING

¹miff \'mif\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a fit of ill humor **2** : a trivial quarrel

²miff *vt* : to put into an ill humor : OFFEND

¹might \(')mīt\ [ME, fr. OE *meahte, mihte;* akin to OHG *mahta, mohta* could] *past of* MAY — used in auxiliary function to express permission, liberty, probability, possibility in the past ⟨the king ~ do nothing without parliament's consent⟩ or a present condition contrary to fact ⟨if he were older he ~ understand⟩ or less probability or possibility than *may* ⟨~ get there before it rains⟩ or as a polite alternative to *may* ⟨~ I ask who is calling⟩ or to *ought* or *should* ⟨you ~ at least apologize⟩

²might \'mīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *miht;* akin to OHG *maht* might, *magan* to be able — more at MAY] **1 a** : the power, authority, or resources wielded (as by an individual or group) ⟨the growing ~ of the middle class⟩ **b** (1) : bodily strength (2) : the power, energy, or intensity of which one is capable ⟨striving with ~ and main⟩ **2** *dial* : a great deal

might·i·ly \'mīt-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* **1** : in a mighty manner : VIGOROUSLY **2** : very much

might·i·ness \'mīt-ē-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being mighty : POWER

mightn't \'mīt-ᵊnt\ : might not

¹mighty \'mīt-ē\ *adj* **might·i·er; -est** **1** : possessing might : POWERFUL **2** : accomplished or characterized by might ⟨a ~ thrust⟩ **3** : great or imposing in size or extent : EXTRAORDINARY

²mighty *adv* : to a great degree : EXTREMELY, VERY ⟨a ~ big man⟩

mignon *n* : FILET MIGNON

mi·gnon·ette \ˌmin-yə-'net\ *n* [F *mignonette,* fr. obs. F, fem. of *mignonnet* dainty, fr. MF, fr. *mignon* darling] : any of a genus (*Reseda* of the family Resedaceae, the mignonette family) of herbs; *esp* : a garden annual (*R. odorata*) bearing racemes of fragrant greenish yellow flowers

mi·graine \'mī-ˌgrān\ *n* [F, fr. LL *hemicrania* pain in one side of the head, fr. Gk *hēmikrania,* fr. *hēmi-* hemi- + *kranion* cranium] : a condition marked by recurrent severe headache often with nausea and vomiting — **mi·grain·ous** \-grā-nəs\ *adj*

mi·grant \'mī-grənt\ *n* : one that migrates: as **a** : a person who moves regularly in order to find work esp. in harvesting crops **b** : an animal that shifts from one habitat to another — **migrant** *adj*

mi·grate \'mī-ˌgrāt, mī-'\ *vi* **mi·grat·ed; mi·grat·ing** [L *migratus,* pp. of *migrare;* akin to Gk *ameibein* to change] **1** : to move from one country, place, or locality to another **2** : to pass usu. periodically from one region or climate to another for feeding or breeding **3** : to change position in an organism or substance ⟨filarial worms ~ within the human body⟩ — **mi·gra·tion** \mī-'grā-shən\ *n* — **mi·gra·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mi·gra·tor** \'mī-ˌgrāt-ər, mī-'\ *n*

mi·gra·to·ry \'mī-grə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characterized by migration **2** : WANDERING, ROVING

mi·ka·do \mə-'käd-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-dos** [Jap] : an emperor of Japan

mike \'mīk\ *n* [by shortening & alter.] : MICROPHONE

Mike \'mīk\ — a communications code word for the letter *m*

¹mil \'mil\ *n* [L *mille* thousand — more at MILE] **1** : a unit of length equal to $^1/_{1000}$ inch used esp. for the diameter of wire **2** : a unit of angular measurement equal to $^1/_{6400}$ of 360 degrees and used esp. in artillery **3** : THOUSAND ⟨found a salinity of 38.4 per ~⟩ **4** — see *pound* at MONEY table

²mil *abbr* military

mi·la·dy \mil-'ād-ē, *US also* mī-'lād-\ *n* [F, fr. E *my lady*] **1** : an Englishwoman of noble or gentle birth **2** : a woman of fashion

milch \'milk, 'milch, 'milks\ *adj* [ME *milche,* fr. OE *-milce;* akin to OE *melcan* to milk — more at EMULSION] : giving milk; *specif* : bred or suitable primarily for milk production ⟨~ cows⟩

mil·chig \'milk-ik\ *adj* [Yiddish, fr. *milch* milk, fr. MHG, fr. OHG *miluh* — more at MILK] : made of or derived from milk or dairy products

mild \'mī(ə)ld\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *milde;* akin to Gk *malthakos* soft, OE *melu* meal — more at MEAL] **1** : gentle in nature or behavior **2 a** : moderate in action or effect ⟨a ~ cigar⟩ **b** : not being or involving what is extreme ⟨an analysis under ~ conditions⟩ ⟨a ~ slope⟩ **3** : not severe : TEMPERATE ⟨a ~ climate⟩ ⟨~ symptoms of disease⟩ **4** : comparatively soft and easily worked : MALLEABLE ⟨~ steel⟩ ***syn*** see SOFT ***ant*** harsh, fierce — **mild·ly** \'mī(ə)l-(d)lē\ *adv* — **mild·ness** \'mī(ə)l(d)-nəs\ *n*

¹mil·dew \'mil-ˌd(y)ü\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *meledēaw;* akin to OHG *militou* honeydew] **1 a** : a superficial usu. whitish growth produced on organic matter or living plants by fungi (as of the families Erysiphaceae and Peronosporaceae) **b** : a fungus producing mildew **2** : a discoloration caused by fungi — **mil·dewy** \-ē\ *adj*

²mildew *vt* : to affect with or as if with mildew ~ *vi* : to become affected with mildew

mile \'mī(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mīl;* akin to OHG *mīla* mile; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *milia* miles, fr. *milia passuum,* lit., thousands of paces, fr. *milia,* pl. of *mille* thousand, perh. fr. a prehistoric compound whose constituents are akin to Gk *mia* (fem. of *heis* one) and to Gk *chilioi* thousand, Skt *sahasra* — more at SAME] **1** : any of various units of distance: as **a** : a unit equal to 5280 feet — see WEIGHT table **b** : NAUTICAL MILE **2** : a race of a mile **3** : a relatively great distance

mile·age \'mī-lij\ *n* **1** : an allowance for traveling expenses at a certain rate per mile **2** : aggregate length or distance in miles: as **a** : the total miles traveled in a day or other period of time **b** : the amount of service that something will yield esp. as expressed in terms of miles of travel **c** : the average number of miles a car will travel on a gallon of gas ⟨gets good ~⟩ **3** : USEFULNESS, PROFIT

mile·post \'mī(ə)l-ˌpōst\ *n* : a post indicating the distance in miles from or to a given point; *also* : a post placed a mile from a similar post

mil·er \'mī-lər\ *n* : a man or a horse that competes in mile races

-mil·er \'mī-lər\ *n comb form* **1** : one that competes in a race of a specified number of miles ⟨he was the best quarter-*miler* in our school⟩ **2** : one that is a specified number of miles in length ⟨the ski run was a two-*miler*⟩

mi·les glo·ri·o·sus \'mē-ˌlās-ˌglōr-ə-'ō-səs, -ˌglȯr-\ *n, pl* **mi·li·tes glo·ri·o·si** \'mē-lə-ˌtās-ˌglōr-ē-'ō-(ˌ)sē, -ˌglȯr-\ [L] : a boastful soldier; *esp* : a stock character of this type in comedy

mi·le·si·mo \mi-'les-ə-ˌmō, -'lās-\ *n, pl* **-mos** [Sp, fr. *milésimo* one thousandth] — see *escudo* at MONEY table

mile·stone \'mī(ə)l-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : a stone serving as a milepost **2** : a significant point in development

mil·foil \'mil-ˌfȯil\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *millefolium,* fr. *mille* + *folium* leaf — more at BLADE] **1** : YARROW **2** : WATER MILFOIL

mil·i·ar·ia \ˌmil-ē-'ar-ē-ə, -'er-\ *n* [NL, fr. L, fem. of *miliarius*] : an inflammatory disorder of the skin characterized by redness, eruption, burning or itching, and excessive sweating; *esp* : PRICKLY HEAT — **mil·i·ar·i·al** \-əl\ *adj*

mil·i·ary \'mil-ē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* [L *miliarius* of millet, fr. *milium* millet — more at MILLET] : having or made up of many small projections or lesions ⟨~ tubercles⟩

mi·lieu \mēl-'yə(r), -'yü; mē-lyœ̄\ *n, pl* **milieus** *or* **mi·lieux** \-'yə(r)(z), -'yüz, -lyœ̄(z)\ [F, fr. OF, midst, fr. *mi* middle (fr. L *medius*) + *lieu* place, fr. L *locus*] : ENVIRONMENT, SETTING ⟨three studies of women, each from a different ~ —Edmund Wilson⟩

mil·i·tan·cy \'mil-ə-tən-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being militant

mil·i·tant \-tənt\ *adj* **1** : engaged in warfare or combat : FIGHTING **2** : aggressively active (as in a cause) : COMBATIVE ⟨~ conservationists⟩ ⟨a ~ attitude⟩ ***syn*** see AGGRESSIVE — **militant** *n* — **mil·i·tant·ly** *adv* — **mil·i·tant·ness** *n*

mil·i·tar·i·ly \ˌmil-ə-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* **1** : in a military manner **2** : from a military standpoint

mil·i·ta·rism \'mil-ə-tə-ˌriz-əm\ *n* **1 a** : predominance of the military class or its ideals **b** : exaltation of military virtues and ideals **2** : a policy of aggressive military preparedness — **mil·i·ta·rist** \-rəst\ *n* — **mil·i·ta·ris·tic** \ˌmil-ə-tə-'ris-tik\ *adj* — **mil·i·ta·ris·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mil·i·ta·rize \'mil-ə-tə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-rized; -riz·ing** **1** : to equip with military forces and defenses **2** : to give a military character to **3** : to adapt for military use — **mil·i·ta·ri·za·tion** \ˌmil-ə-t(ə-)rə-'zā-shən\ *n*

¹mil·i·tary \'mil-ə-ˌter-ē\ *adj* [MF *militaire,* fr. L *militaris,* fr. *milit-, miles*] **1 a** : of or relating to soldiers, arms, or war **b** : of or relating to armed forces; *esp* : of or relating to ground or sometimes ground and air forces as opposed to naval forces **2 a** : performed or made by armed forces **b** : supported by armed force **3** : of or relating to the army ***syn*** see MARTIAL

²military *n, pl* **military** *also* **mil·i·tar·ies** **1** : ARMED FORCES **2** : military persons; *esp* : army officers

military police *n* : a branch of an army that exercises guard and police functions

military science *n* : the principles of military conflict

mil·i·tate \'mil-ə-ˌtāt\ *vi* **-tat·ed; -tat·ing** [L *militatus,* pp. of *militare* to engage in warfare, fr. *milit-, miles* soldier] : to have weight or effect ⟨his boyish appearance *militated* against his getting an early promotion⟩

mi·li·tia \mə-'lish-ə\ *n* [L, military service, fr. *milit-, miles*] **1** : a part of the organized armed forces of a country liable to call only in emergency **2** : the whole body of able-bodied male citizens declared by law as being subject to call to military service — **mi·li·tia·man** \-mən\ *n*

mil·i·um \'mil-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **mil·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. L, millet — more at MILLET] : a small whitish lump in the skin due to retention of secretion in an oil gland duct

¹milk \'milk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *meolc, milc;* akin to OHG *miluh* milk] **1 a** : a fluid secreted by the mammary glands of females for the nourishment of their young; *esp* : cow's milk used as a food by humans **b** : LACTATION ⟨cows in ~⟩ **2** : a liquid resembling milk in appearance: as **a** : the latex of a plant **b** : the juice of a coconut **c** : the contents of an unripe kernel of grain

²milk *vt* **1 a** (1) : to draw milk from the breasts or udder of (2) *obs* : SUCKLE 2 **b** : to draw (milk) from the breast or udder **c** : SUCKLE 1 — used of lower mammals **2** : to draw something from as if by milking: as **a** : to draw venom from (a snake) by inducing to bite **b** : to compel or persuade to yield profit or advantage illicitly or to an unreasonable degree : EXPLOIT ~ *vi* : to draw or yield milk — **milk·er** *n*

milk–and–wa·ter \ˌmil-kən-'(d)wȯt-ər, -'(d)wät-\ *adj* : WEAK, INSIPID

milk fever *n* **1** : a febrile disorder following parturition **2 a** : a disease of fresh cows, sheep, or goats that is caused by excessive drain on the body mineral reserves during the establishment of the milk flow **b** : ketosis of domestic animals

milk·fish \'milk-ˌfish\ *n* : a large active silvery herbivorous food fish (*Chanos chanos*) that is widely distributed in the warm parts of the Pacific and Indian oceans and is the sole living representative of its family (Chanidae)

milk glass *n* : an opaque and typically milk white glass used esp. for novelty and ornamental objects

milk leg *n* : a painful swelling of the leg at childbirth caused by inflammation and clotting in the veins

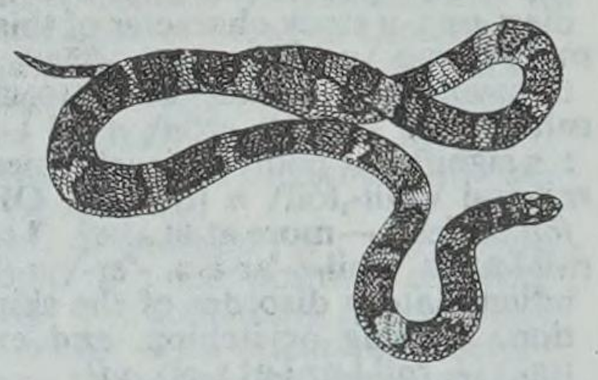
milk–liv·ered \'mil-'kliv-ərd\ *adj* : COWARDLY, TIMOROUS

milk·maid \'milk-ˌmād\ *n* : DAIRYMAID

milk·man \-ˌman, -mən\ *n* : a man who sells or delivers milk

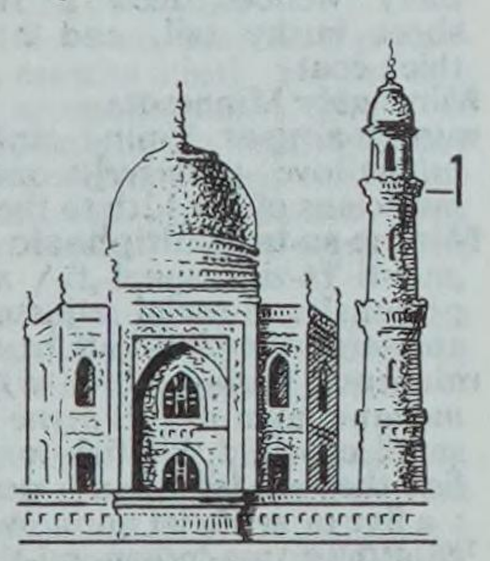
milk of magnesia : a milk-white suspension of magnesium hydroxide in water used as an antacid and laxative

milk punch *n* : a mixed drink of alcoholic liquor, milk, and sugar
milk shake *n* : a thoroughly shaken or blended drink made of milk, a flavoring syrup, and often ice cream
milk sickness *n* **1** : an acute disease characterized by weakness, vomiting, and constipation and caused by eating dairy products or meat from cattle poisoned by various plants **2** : TREMBLE 2
milk snake *n* : a common harmless grayish or tan snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*) with black-bordered brown blotches and an arrow-shaped occipital spot; *broadly* : KING SNAKE


milk snake

milk·sop \'milk-ˌsäp\ *n* : an unmanly man : MOLLYCODDLE
milk sugar *n* : LACTOSE
milk tooth *n* : a temporary deciduous tooth of a mammal; *esp* : one of man's set consisting of four incisors, two canines, and four molars in each jaw
milk vetch *n* [fr. the popular belief that it increases the milk yield of goats] : a perennial Old World leguminous herb (*Astragalus glycyphyllos*) that has sulfur yellow flowers in dense spikes; *also* : any of various related plants
milk·weed \'mil-ˌkwēd\ *n* : any of various plants that secrete latex; *esp* : any of a genus (*Asclepias* of the family Asclepiadaceae, the milkweed family) of erect perennial herbs with milky juice and umbellate flowers
milkweed bug *n* : a large black red-marked bug (*Oncopeltus fasciatus*) now cultured widely as a research organism
milk·wort \'mil-ˌkwərt, -ˌkwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : any of a genus (*Polygala* of the family Polygalaceae, the milkwort family) of herbs and shrubs that have many-colored often showy flowers with the three sometimes crested petals united below into a tube and an irregular calyx with two petaloid sepals
milky \'mil-kē\ *adj* **milk·i·er; -est** **1** : resembling milk in color or consistency **2** : MILD, TIMOROUS **3** **a** : consisting of, containing, or abounding in milk **b** : yielding milk; *specif* : having the characteristics of a good milk producer — **milk·i·ness** *n*
milky disease *n* : a destructive bacterial disease of Japanese beetle larvae and other scarabaeid grubs
Milky Way *n* **1** : a broad luminous irregular band of light that stretches completely around the celestial sphere and is caused by the light of myriads of faint stars **2** : MILKY WAY GALAXY **3** *not cap* : GALAXY
Milky Way galaxy *n* : the galaxy of which the sun and the solar system are a part and which contains the myriads of stars that comprise the Milky Way together with all the individual stars, clusters, and bright and dark nebulosities in the sky
¹mill \'mil\ *n* [ME *mille*, fr. OE *mylen;* akin to OHG *muli* mill; both fr. a prehistoric NGmc-WGmc word borrowed fr. LL *molina, molinum*, fr. fem. and neut. of *molinus* of a mill, of a millstone, fr. L *mola* mill, millstone; akin to L *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] **1** : a building provided with machinery for grinding grain into flour **2** **a** : a machine or apparatus (as a quern) for grinding grain **b** : a machine for crushing or comminuting **3** : a machine that manufactures by the continuous repetition of some simple action **4** : a building or collection of buildings with machinery for manufacturing **5** **a** : a machine for stamping coins **b** : a machine for expelling juice from vegetable tissues by pressure or grinding **c** : a machine for polishing **6** : MILLING MACHINE, MILLING CUTTER **7** **a** : a slow, laborious, or mechanical process or routine **b** : a place that processes people or things mechanically ⟨a diploma ~⟩ **8** *slang* : the engine of an automobile or boat
²mill *vt* **1** : to subject to an operation or process in a mill: as **a** : to grind into flour, meal, or powder **b** : to shape or dress by means of a rotary cutter **c** : to mix and condition (as rubber) by passing between rotating rolls **2** : to give a raised rim or a ridged or corrugated edge to (a coin) **3** : to cut grooves in the metal surface of (as a knob) ~ *vi* **1** : to hit out with the fists **2** : to move in a circle or in an eddying mass **3** : to undergo milling
³mill *n* [L *mille* thousand — more at MILE] : a money of account equal to $^1/_{10}$ cent
mill·age \'mil-ij\ *n* : a rate (as of taxation) expressed in mills per dollar
mill·board \'mil-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [alter. of *milled board*] : strong heavy firm paperboard suitable for lining book covers and for paneling in furniture
mill·dam \-ˌdam\ *n* : a dam to make a millpond; *also* : MILLPOND
mille \'mil\ *n* [L] : MIL 3
¹mil·le·nar·i·an \ˌmil-ə-'ner-ē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to 1000 years **2** : of or relating to belief in the millennium
²millenarian *n* : one that believes in a millennium
mil·le·nar·i·an·ism \-ē-ə-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : belief in the millennium of Christian prophecy **2** : belief in a coming ideal society and esp. one created by revolutionary action
¹mil·le·na·ry \'mil-ə-ˌner-ē, mə-'len-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [LL *millenarium*, fr. neut. of *millenarius* of a thousand, fr. L *milleni* one thousand each, fr. *mille*] **1** **a** : a group of 1000 units or things **b** : 1000 years : MILLENNIUM **2** : MILLENARIAN
²millenary *adj* [L *millenarius*] **1** : relating to or consisting of 1000 **2** : suggesting a millennium
mil·len·ni·al \mə-'len-ē-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to a millennium ⟨men seeking a ~ future⟩
mil·len·ni·al·ism \-ē-ə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : MILLENARIANISM
mil·len·ni·um \mə-'len-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-nia** \-ē-ə\ *or* **-niums** [NL, fr. L *mille* thousand + NL *-ennium* (as in *biennium*)] **1** **a** : a period of 1000 years **b** : a 1000th anniversary or its celebration **2** **a** : the thousand years mentioned in Revelation 20 during which holiness is to prevail and Christ is to reign on earth **b** : a period of great happiness or human perfection
mil·le·pore \'mil-ə-ˌpō(ə)r, -ˌpȯ(ə)r\ *n* [deriv. of L *mille* thousand + *porus* pore] : any of an order (Milleporina) of often large stony hydrozoan reef-building corals of encrusting, branching, or massive form that differ from the madrepores in passing through a free-swimming medusoid stage
mill·er \'mil-ər\ *n* **1** : one that operates a mill; *specif* : one that grinds grain into flour **2** : any of various moths having powdery wings **3** **a** : MILLING MACHINE **b** : a tool for use in a milling machine
mil·ler·ite \'mil-ə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *millerit*, fr. William H. *Miller* †1880 E mineralogist] : sulfide of nickel NiS usu. occurring as a mineral in capillary yellow crystals
miller's-thumb \ˌmil-ərz-'thəm\ *n* : any of several small freshwater spiny-finned sculpins (genus *Cottus*) of Europe and No. America
mil·les·i·mal \mə-'les-ə-məl\ *n* [L *millesimus*, adj., thousandth, fr. *mille*] : the quotient of a unit divided by 1000 : one of 1000 equal parts of anything — **millesimal** *adj* — **mil·les·i·mal·ly** \-ə-mə-lē\ *adv*
mil·let \'mil-ət\ *n* [ME *milet*, fr. MF, dim. of *mil*, fr. L *milium;* akin to Gk *melinē* millet] **1** : any of various small-seeded annual cereal and forage grasses: **a** : a grass (*Panicum miliaceum*) cultivated for its grain which is used for food **b** : any of several grasses related to common millet **2** : the seed of a millet
Mill Hill Father \ˌmil-ˌhil-\ *n* [*Mill Hill*, site of its college in Barnet, England] : a member of a Roman Catholic missionary order founded by Herbert Vaughan in 1866
milli- *comb form* [F, fr. L *milli-* thousand, fr. *mille* — more at MILE] : thousandth ⟨*milli*ampere⟩
mil·li·am·pere \ˌmil-ē-'am-ˌpi(ə)r\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of an ampere
mil·liard \'mil-ˌyärd, 'mil-ē-ˌärd\ *n* [F, fr. MF *miliart*, fr. *mili-*, (fr. *milion* million)] *Brit* : a thousand millions — see NUMBER table
mil·li·ary \'mil-ē-ˌer-ē\ *adj* [L *milliarius, miliarius* consisting of a thousand, one mile long, fr. *mille* thousand, mile] : marking the distance of a Roman mile
mil·li·bar \'mil-ə-ˌbär\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of atmospheric pressure equal to $^1/_{1000}$ bar or 1000 dynes per square centimeter
mil·li·cu·rie \ˌmil-ə-'kyu̇(ə)r-(ˌ)ē, -kyu̇-'rē\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a curie
mil·li·de·gree \-di-'grē\ *n* : one thousandth of a degree
mil·lieme \mē(l)-'yem\ *n, pl* **milliemes** \-'yem(z)\ [F *millième* thousandth, fr. MF, fr. *mille* thousand, fr. L] — see *pound* at MONEY table
mil·li·far·ad \ˌmil-ə-'far-ˌad, -əd\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a farad
mil·li·gal \'mil-ə-ˌgal\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of acceleration equivalent to $^1/_{1000}$ gal
mil·li·gram \-ˌgram\ *n* [F *milligramme*, fr. *milli-* + *gramme* gram] — see METRIC SYSTEM table
mil·li·hen·ry \-ˌhen-rē\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a henry
mil·li·lam·bert \-'lam-bərt\ *n* : one thousandth of a lambert
mil·li·li·ter \'mil-ə-ˌlēt-ər\ *n* [F *millilitre*, fr. *milli-* + *litre* liter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table
mil·lime \mə-'lēm\ *n* [modif. of Ar *mallim*, fr. F *millième*] — see *dinar* at MONEY table
mil·li·me·ter \'mil-ə-ˌmēt-ər\ *n* [F *millimètre*, fr. *milli-* + *mètre* meter] — see METRIC SYSTEM table
mil·li·mi·cro- \ˌmil-ə-'mī-krə, -krō\ *comb form* : billionth ⟨*millimicro*second⟩
mil·li·mi·cron \ˌmil-ə-'mī-ˌkrän\ *n* [ISV] : a unit of length equal to one thousandth of a micrometer
mil·li·mole \'mil-ə-ˌmōl\ *n* [ISV *milli-* + ⁵*mole*] : one thousandth of a gram molecule
mil·line \'mil-'līn\ *n* [blend of *million* and *line*] : a unit of space and circulation equivalent to one agate line appearing in one million copies of a publication
mil·li·ner \'mil-ə-nər\ *n* [irreg. fr. *Milan*, Italy; fr. the importation of women's finery from Italy in the 16th century] : one who designs, makes, trims, or sells women's hats
mil·li·nery \'mil-ə-ˌner-ē\ *n* **1** : women's apparel for the head **2** : the business or work of a milliner
mill·ing \'mil-iŋ\ *n* : a corrugated edge on a coin
milling cutter *n* : a rotary tool-steel cutter used in a milling machine for shaping and dressing metal surfaces
milling machine *n* : a machine tool on which work usu. of metal secured to a carriage is shaped by being fed against rotating milling cutters
mil·lion \'mil-yən\ *n, pl* **millions** *or* **million** [ME *milioun*, fr. MF *milion*, fr. OIt *milione*, aug. of *mille* thousand, fr. L — more at MILE] **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : a very large number ⟨~*s* of cars on the road⟩ **3** : the mass of common people ⟨someone who writes for the ~*s* —Bergen Evans⟩ — **million** *adj* — **mil·lionth** \-yən(t)th\ *adj or n*
mil·lion·aire \ˌmil-yə-'na(ə)r, -'ne(ə)r, -mil-yə-ˌ\ *n* [F *millionnaire*, fr. *million*, fr. MF *milion*] : one whose wealth is estimated at a million or more (as of dollars or pounds)
mil·lion·air·ess \-'ar-əs, -'er-, -ˌar-, -ˌer-\ *n* : a woman who is a millionaire or the wife of a millionaire
mil·li·pede \'mil-ə-ˌpēd\ *n* [L *millepeda* a small crawling animal, fr. *mille* thousand + *ped-, pes* foot — more at FOOT] : any of numerous myriopods (class Diplopoda) having usu. a cylindrical segmented body covered with hard integument, two pairs of legs on most apparent segments, and no poison fangs
mil·li·ra·di·an \ˌmil-ə-'rād-ē-ən\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a radian
mil·li·rem \'mil-ə-ˌrem\ *n* : one thousandth of a rem
mil·li·roent·gen \ˌmil-ə-'rent-gən, -'rənt-, -jən; -'ren-chən, -'rən-\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a roentgen
mil·li·sec·ond \'mil-ə-ˌsek-ənd, -ənt\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a second
mil·li·volt \-ˌvōlt\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a volt
mil·li·watt \-ˌwät\ *n* [ISV] : one thousandth of a watt
mill·pond \'mil-ˌpänd\ *n* : a pond produced by damming a stream to produce a head of water for operating a mill
mill·race \-ˌrās\ *n* : a canal in which water flows to and from a mill wheel; *also* : the current that drives the wheel

mill run *n* **1** : the salable lumber output of a sawmill **2** : the common run of an article passing through a mill
mill·stone \'mil-ˌstōn\ *n* **1** : either of two circular stones used for grinding (as grain) **2** **a** : something that grinds or crushes **b** : a heavy burden
mill·stream \-ˌstrēm\ *n* **1** : a stream whose flow is utilized to run a mill **2** : MILLRACE
mill wheel *n* : a waterwheel that drives a mill
mill·wright \'mil-ˌrīt\ *n* **1** : one whose occupation is planning and building mills or setting up their machinery **2** : one who maintains and cares for mechanical equipment (as of a mill or factory)
mi·lo \'mī-(ˌ)lō\ *n, pl* **milos** [Sotho *maili*] : a small usu. early and drought-resistant grain sorghum with compact bearded heads of large yellow or whitish seeds
mi·lord \mil-'ȯ(ə)r(d)\ *n* [F, fr. E *my lord*] : an Englishman of noble or gentle birth
mil·pa \'mil-pə\ *n* [MexSp, fr. Nahuatl] **1** **a** : a small field in Mexico or Central America that is cleared from the jungle, cropped for a few seasons, and abandoned for a fresh clearing **b** : a maize field in Mexico or Central America **2** : the maize plant
Milque·toast \'milk-ˌtōst\ *n* [Caspar *Milquetoast*, comic strip character created by H. T. Webster †1952 Am cartoonist] : a timid, meek, or unassertive person
mil·reis \mil-'rās(h)\ *n, pl* **mil·reis** \-'rās(h), -'rāz(h)\ [Pg *milréis*] **1** : a Portuguese unit of value equal before 1911 to 1000 reis **2** : the basic monetary unit of Brazil until 1942 **3** : a coin representing one milreis
milt \'milt\ *n* [prob. fr. MD *milte* milt of fish, spleen; akin to OE *milte* spleen — more at MELT] : the male reproductive glands of fishes when filled with secretion; *also* : the secretion itself — **milty** \-tē\ *adj*
milt·er \'mil-tər\ *n* : a male fish in breeding condition
mim \'mim\ *adj* [imit. of the act of pursing the lips] *dial* : affectedly shy or modest
¹mime \'mīm, 'mēm\ *n* [L *mimus*, fr. Gk *mimos*; akin to Gk *mimeisthai* to imitate] **1** **a** : an actor in a mime **b** : one that practices mime **2** : MIMIC **3** : an ancient dramatic entertainment representing scenes from life usu. in a ridiculous manner **4** **a** : the art of portraying a character or of narration by body movement **b** : a performance of mime
²mime *vb* **mimed; mim·ing** *vi* : to act a part with mimic gesture and action usu. without words ~ *vt* **1** : MIMIC **2** : to act out in the manner of a mime — **mim·er** *n*
mim·eo·graph \'mim-ē-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* [fr. *Mimeograph*, a trademark] : a duplicator for making many copies that utilizes a stencil through which ink is pressed — **mimeograph** *vt*
mi·me·sis \mə-'mē-səs, mī-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *mimēsis*, fr. *mimeisthai*] : IMITATION, MIMICRY
mi·met·ic \-'met-ik\ *adj* [LL *mimeticus*, fr. Gk *mimētikos*, fr. *mimeisthai*] **1** : IMITATIVE **2** : relating to, characterized by, or exhibiting mimicry ⟨~ coloring of a butterfly⟩ — **mi·met·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
¹mim·ic \'mim-ik\ *n* **1** : MIME 1 **2** : one that mimics
²mimic *adj* [L *mimicus*, fr. Gk *mimikos*, fr. *mimos* mime] **1** **a** : IMITATIVE **b** : IMITATION, MOCK ⟨a ~ battle⟩ **2** : of or relating to mime or mimicry — **mim·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj*
³mimic *vt* **mim·icked** \-ikt\; **mim·ick·ing** **1** : to imitate closely : APE **2** : to ridicule by imitation **3** : SIMULATE **4** : to resemble by biological mimicry ***syn*** see COPY
mim·ic·ry \'mim-i-krē\ *n, pl* **-ries** **1** **a** : an instance of mimicking **b** : the action, practice, or art of mimicking **2** : a superficial resemblance of one organism to another or to natural objects among which it lives that secures it a selective advantage (as protection from predation)
mi·mo·sa \mə-'mō-sə, mī-, -zə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L *mimus* mime] : any of a genus (*Mimosa*) of leguminous trees, shrubs, and herbs of tropical and warm regions with usu. bipinnate often prickly leaves and globular heads of small white or pink flowers
min *abbr* **1** minim **2** minimum **3** mining **4** minister **5** minor **6** minute
mi·na \'mī-nə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *mna*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb *māneh* mina] : an ancient unit of weight and value equal to $^1/_{60}$ talent
min·able *or* **mine·able** \'mī-nə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being mined
min·a·ret \ˌmin-ə-'ret, 'min-ə-ˌ\ *n* [F, fr. Turk *minare*, fr. Ar *manārah* lighthouse] : a slender lofty tower attached to a mosque and surrounded by one or more projecting balconies from which the summons to prayer is cried by the muezzin


1 minaret

mi·na·to·ry \'min-ə-ˌtōr-ē, 'mī-nə-, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [LL *minatorius*, fr. L *minatus*, pp. of *minari* to threaten — more at MOUNT] : having a menacing quality : THREATENING
¹mince \'min(t)s\ *vb* **minced; minc·ing** [ME *mincen*, fr. MF *mincer*, fr. (assumed) VL *minutiare*, fr. L *minutia* smallness — more at MINUTIA] *vt* **1** **a** : to cut or chop into very small pieces **b** : to subdivide minutely; *esp* : to damage by cutting up **2** : to utter or pronounce with affectation **3** **a** *archaic* : to diminish the force of : MINIMIZE **b** : to restrain (words) within the bounds of decorum ~ *vi* : to walk with short steps in a prim affected manner — **minc·er** *n*
²mince *n* : small chopped bits (as of food); *specif* : MINCEMEAT
mince·meat \'min(t)-ˌsmēt\ *n* **1** : minced meat **2** : a finely chopped mixture (as of raisins, apples, and spices) with or without meat
mince pie *n* : a pie filled with mincemeat
minc·ing \'min(t)-siŋ\ *adj* : affectedly dainty or delicate — **minc·ing·ly** \-siŋ-lē\ *adv*

¹mind \'mīnd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *gemynd*; akin to OHG *gimunt* memory; both fr. a prehistoric EGmc-WGmc compound whose first constituent is represented by OE *ge-* (perfective prefix) and whose second constituent is akin to L *ment-*, *mens* mind, *monēre* to remind, warn, Gk *menos* spirit, *mnasthai*, *mimnēskesthai* to remember — more at CO-] **1** : RECOLLECTION, MEMORY ⟨keep that in ~⟩ ⟨time out of ~⟩ **2** **a** : the element or complex of elements in an individual that feels, perceives, thinks, wills, and esp. reasons **b** : the conscious mental events and capabilities in an organism **c** : the organized conscious and unconscious adaptive mental activity of an organism **3** : INTENTION, DESIRE ⟨she changed her ~⟩ **4** : the normal or healthy condition of the mental faculties **5** : OPINION, VIEW **6** : DISPOSITION, MOOD **7** **a** : a person or group embodying mental qualities ⟨the public ~⟩ **b** : intellectual ability **8** *cap, Christian Science* : GOD 1b **9** : a conscious substratum or factor in the universe
²mind *vt* **1** *chiefly dial* : REMIND **2** *chiefly dial* : REMEMBER **3** : to attend to closely **4** **a** : to become aware of : NOTICE **b** *chiefly dial* : INTEND, PURPOSE **5** **a** : to give heed to attentively in order to obey **b** : to follow the orders or instructions of **6** **a** : to be concerned about **b** : DISLIKE ⟨I don't ~ going⟩ **7** **a** : to be careful : SEE ⟨~ you finish it⟩ **b** : to be cautious about ⟨~ the broken rung⟩ **8** : to give protective care to : TEND ~ *vi* **1** : to be attentive or wary **2** : to become concerned : CARE **3** : to pay obedient heed or attention ***syn*** see OBEY, TEND — **mind·er** *n*
mind–blow·ing \'mīn(d)-ˌblō-iŋ\ *adj* **1** : PSYCHEDELIC 1a **2** : mentally or emotionally overwhelming — **mind·blow·er** \-ˌblō(-ə)r\ *n*
mind·ed \'mīn-dəd\ *adj* **1** : having a mind esp. of a specified kind — usu. used in combination ⟨narrow-*minded*⟩ **2** : INCLINED, DISPOSED — **mind·ed·ness** \-dəd-nəs\ *n*
mind–ex·pand·ing \'mīn-dik-ˌspan-diŋ\ *adj* : PSYCHEDELIC 1a
mind·ful \'mīn(d)-fəl\ *adj* **1** : bearing in mind : AWARE **2** : inclined to be aware — **mind·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mind·ful·ness** *n*
mind·less \'mīn-(d)ləs\ *adj* **1** : destitute of mind or consciousness; *esp* : UNINTELLIGENT **2** : INATTENTIVE, HEEDLESS — **mind·less·ly** *adv* — **mind·less·ness** *n*
mind reader *n* : one that professes or is held to be able to perceive another's thought without normal means of communication — **mind reading** *n*
mind–set \'mīn(d)-ˌset\ *n* **1** : a mental inclination, tendency, or habit **2** : a fixed state of mind
mind's eye *n* : the mental faculty of conceiving imaginary or recollected scenes
¹mine \(')mīn\ *adj* [ME *min* — more at MY] *archaic* : MY — used before a word beginning with a vowel or *h* ⟨this treasure in ~ arms —Shak.⟩ or sometimes as a modifier of a preceding noun
²mine \'mīn\ *pron, sing or pl in constr* : that which belongs to me — used without a following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to the adjective *my*
³mine \'mīn\ *n* [ME, fr. MF] **1** **a** : a pit or excavation in the earth from which mineral substances are taken **b** : an ore deposit **2** : a subterranean passage under an enemy position **3** : an encased explosive designed to destroy enemy personnel, vehicles, or ships **4** : a rich source of supply **5** : a pyrotechnic piece comprising various small fireworks that are scattered into the air with a loud report
⁴mine \'mīn\ *vb* **mined; min·ing** *vi* : to dig a mine ~ *vt* **1** **a** : to dig under to gain access or cause the collapse of (an enemy position) **b** : UNDERMINE **2** : to get (as ore) from the earth **3** : to burrow beneath the surface of ⟨larva that ~s leaves⟩ **4** : to place military mines in, on, or under ⟨~ a harbor⟩ **5** **a** : to dig into for ore or metal **b** : to process for obtaining a natural constituent ⟨~ the air for nitrogen⟩ **c** : to seek valuable material in — **min·er** *n*
mine·lay·er \'mīn-ˌlā-ər, -ˌle(-ə)r\ *n* : a naval vessel for laying underwater mines
¹min·er·al \'min(-ə)-rəl\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *minerale*, fr. neut. of *meneralis*] **1** **a** : a solid homogeneous crystalline chemical element or compound that results from the inorganic processes of nature; *broadly* : any of various naturally occurring homogeneous substances (as stone, coal, salt, sulfur, sand, petroleum, water, or natural gas) obtained for man's use usu. from the ground **b** : a synthetic substance having the chemical composition and crystalline form and properties of a naturally occurring mineral **2** *obs* : MINE **3** : something neither animal nor vegetable **4** : ORE **5** : an inorganic substance (as in the ash of calcined tissue) **6** *pl, Brit* : MINERAL WATER
²mineral *adj* [ME, fr. ML *mineralis*, fr. *minera* mine, ore, fr. OF *miniere*, fr. *mine*] **1** : of or relating to minerals; *also* : INORGANIC **2** : impregnated with mineral substances
min·er·al·ize \'min-(ə-)rə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** **1** : to transform (a metal) into an ore **2** **a** : to impregnate or supply with minerals or an inorganic compound **b** : to convert into mineral or inorganic form **3** : PETRIFY — **min·er·al·iz·able** \-rə-ˌlī-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **min·er·al·iza·tion** \ˌmin(-ə)-rə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **min·er·al·iz·er** \'min(-ə)-rə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*
mineral kingdom *n* : the one of the three basic groups of natural objects that includes inorganic objects — compare ANIMAL KINGDOM, PLANT KINGDOM
min·er·al·o·gy \ˌmin-ə-'räl-ə-jē, -'ral-\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *mineralogia*, irreg. fr. ML *minerale* + L *-logia* -logy] **1** : a science dealing with minerals, their crystallography, physical and chemical properties, classification, and the ways of distinguishing them **2** : the materials of mineralogy **3** : a treatise on mineralogy — **min·er·al·og·i·cal** \ˌmin(-ə)-rə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **min·er·al·o·gist** \ˌmin-ə-'räl-ə-jəst, -'ral-\ *n*

mineral oil *n* : an oil of mineral origin; *esp* : a refined petroleum oil used as a laxative
mineral spirits *n pl but sing or pl in constr* : a petroleum distillate that is used esp. as a paint or varnish thinner
mineral water *n* : water naturally or artificially impregnated with mineral salts or gases (as carbon dioxide)
mineral wax *n* : a wax of mineral origin; *esp* : OZOKERITE
mineral wool *n* : any of various lightweight vitreous fibrous materials used esp. in heat and sound insulation
Mi·ner·va \mə-ˈnər-və\ *n* [L] : the Roman goddess of wisdom — compare ATHENE
min·e·stro·ne \ˌmin-ə-ˈstrō-nē, -ˈstrōn\ *n* [It, aug. of *minestra*, fr. *minestrare* to serve, dish up, fr. L *ministrare*, fr. *minister* servant — more at MINISTER] : a rich thick vegetable soup usu. with dried beans and pasta (as macaroni or vermicelli)
mine·sweep·er \ˈmīn-ˌswē-pər\ *n* : a warship designed for removing or neutralizing mines by dragging — **mine·sweep·ing** \-piŋ\ *n*
Ming \ˈmiŋ\ *n* [Chin (Pek) *ming*[2] luminous] : a Chinese dynasty dated 1368–1644 and marked by restoration of earlier traditions and in the arts by perfection of established techniques
min·gle \ˈmiŋ-gəl\ *vb* **min·gled; min·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *menglen*, freq. of *mengen* to mix, fr. OE *mengan*; akin to MHG *mengen* to mix, Gk *massein* to knead] *vt* **1** : to bring or mix together or with something else usu. without fundamental loss of identity : INTERMIX **2** : to prepare by mixing : CONCOCT ~ *vi* : to become mingled ***syn*** see MIX
ming tree \ˈmiŋ-\ *n* [perh. fr. *Ming*] **1 a** : a dwarfed evergreen conifer grown in a container or pot **b** : BONSAI **2** : an artificial plant made by attaching flattened pads of alpine buckwheat (*Eriogonum ovalifolium*) left natural gray or colored to one or more twiggy branches usu. of manzanita


ming tree 1a

min·gy \ˈmin-jē\ *adv* **min·gi·er; -est** [perh. blend of [1]*mean* and *stingy*] : MEAN, STINGY
mini \ˈmin-ē\ *n, pl* **min·is** [*mini-*] : something small of its kind: as **a** : MINICAR **b** : MINISKIRT — **mini** *adj*
mini- *comb form* [*miniature*] : miniature : of small dimensions
[1]min·ia·ture \ˈmin-ē-ə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, ˈmin-i-ˌchu̇(ə)r, ˈmin-yə-, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [It *miniatura* art of illuminating a manuscript, fr. ML, fr. L *miniatus*, pp. of *miniare* to color with minium, fr. *minium*] **1 a** : a copy on a much reduced scale **b** : something small of its kind **2** : a painting in an illuminated book or manuscript **3** : the art of painting miniatures **4** : a very small portrait or other painting (as on ivory or metal) — **min·ia·tur·ist** \-ˌchu̇r-əst, -chər-, -ˌt(y)u̇r-\ *n* — **min·ia·tur·is·tic** \ˌmin-ē-ə-chə-ˈris-tik, ˌmin-i-, ˌmin-yə-, -ˌtyu̇-\ *adj*
[2]miniature *adj* **1** : being or represented on a small scale **2** : of or relating to still photography using film 35 mm. wide or smaller ***syn*** see SMALL
miniature golf *n* : a novelty golf game played with a putter on a miniature course having tunnels, bridges, sharp corners, and obstacles
miniature pinscher *n* : a toy dog that suggests a small Doberman pinscher and measures 10 to 12½ inches in height at the withers
miniature schnauzer *n* : a schnauzer of a breed that is 12 to 14 inches in height and is classified as a terrier
min·ia·tur·ize \ˈmin-ē-ə-ˌchə-ˌrīz, ˈmin-i-, ˈmin-yə-, -ˌtyu̇-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to design or construct in small size — **min·ia·tur·iza·tion** \ˌmin-ē-ə-ˌchu̇r-ə-ˈzā-shən, ˌmin-i-, ˌmin-yə-, -chər-, -ˌtyu̇r-\ *n*
mini·bike \ˈmin-i-ˌbīk\ *n* : a small one-passenger motorcycle having a low frame and elevated handlebars
mini·bus \-ˌbəs\ *n* : a small bus for comparatively short trips
mini·car \-ˌkär\ *n* : a very small automobile; *esp* : SUBCOMPACT
mini·com·put·er \ˌmin-i-kəm-ˈpyüt-ər\ *n* : a small and relatively inexpensive computer
min·ié ball \ˈmin-ē-ˌbȯl, ˌmin-ē-ˌā-ˈbȯl\ *n* [Claude Étienne *Minié* †1879 F army officer] : a rifle bullet with a conical head used in the middle of the 19th century
min·i·fy \ˈmin-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [L *minimus* smallest + E *-fy*] : LESSEN
min·i·kin \ˈmin-i-kən\ *n* [obs. D *minneken* darling] *archaic* : a small or dainty creature — **minikin** *adj*
min·im \ˈmin-əm\ *n* [L *minimus* least] **1** : HALF NOTE **2** : something very minute **3** — see WEIGHT table — **minim** *adj*
min·i·mal \ˈmin-ə-məl\ *adj* **1** : relating to or being a minimum : constituting the least possible **2** *often cap* : of, relating to, or being minimal art — **min·i·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*
minimal art *n* : abstract art and esp. sculpture consisting primarily of simple geometric forms executed in an impersonal style
min·i·mal·ism \ˈmin-ə-mə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : MINIMAL ART
min·i·mal·ist \-ləst\ *n* **1** : one who favors restricting the functions and powers of a political organization or the achievement of a set of goals to a minimum **2** : a minimal artist
mini·max \ˈmin-i-ˌmaks\ *n* [*mini*mum + *max*imum] : the minimum of a set of maxima; *esp* : the smallest of a set of maximum possible losses each of which occurs in the most unfavorable outcome of a strategy followed by a participant in a situation governed by the theory of games — compare MAXIMIN
min·i·mize \ˈmin-ə-ˌmīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** **1** : to reduce to a minimum **2** : to estimate at a minimum often as a measure of disparagement or self-defense ⟨the habit of *minimizing* losses in our own forces while maximizing those of the enemy⟩ ***syn*** see DECRY ***ant*** maximize — **min·i·mi·za·tion** \ˌmin-ə-mə-ˈzā-shən\ *n* — **min·i·miz·er** \ˈmin-ə-ˌmī-zər\ *n*
min·i·mum \ˈmin-ə-məm\ *n, pl* **-i·ma** \-ə-mə\ *or* **-i·mums** [L, neuter of *minimus* smallest; akin to L *minor* smaller] **1** : the least quantity assignable, admissible, or possible **2** : the least of a set of numbers; *specif* : the smallest value assumed by a continuous function defined on a closed interval **3 a** : the lowest degree or amount of variation reached or recorded **b** : the lowest speed allowed on a highway **4** : the time of least brightness or the magnitude at this time — used of a variable star — **mini·mum** *adj*
minimum wage *n* **1** : LIVING WAGE **2** : the lowest wage paid or permitted to be paid; *specif* : a wage fixed by legal authority or by contract as the least that may be paid either to employed persons generally or to a particular category of employed persons
min·ing \ˈmī-niŋ\ *n* : the process or business of working mines
min·ion \ˈmin-yən\ *n* [MF *mignon* darling] **1** : a servile dependent **2** : one highly favored : IDOL **3** : a subordinate official
min·is·cule \ˈmin-əs-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *var of* MINUSCULE
mini·skirt \ˈmin-i-ˌskərt\ *n* : a woman's short skirt with the hemline several inches above the knee
mini·state \-ˌstāt\ *n* : a small independent nation
[1]min·is·ter \ˈmin-ə-stər\ *n* [ME *ministre*, fr. OF, fr. L *minister* servant; akin to L *minor*] **1** : AGENT **2 a** : one officiating or assisting the officiant in church worship **b** : a clergyman esp. of a Protestant communion **3 a** : the superior of one of several religious orders — called also *minister-general* **b** : the assistant to the rector or the bursar of a Jesuit house **4** : a high officer of state entrusted with the management of a division of governmental activities **5 a** : a diplomatic representative (as an ambassador) accredited to the court or seat of government of a foreign state **b** : a diplomatic representative ranking below an ambassador
[2]minister *vi* **min·is·tered; min·is·ter·ing** \-st(ə-)riŋ\ **1** : to perform the functions of a minister of religion **2** : to give aid or service ⟨~ to the sick⟩
min·is·te·ri·al \ˌmin-ə-ˈstir-ē-əl\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to a minister or the ministry **2 a** : being or having the characteristics of an act or duty prescribed by law as part of the duties of an administrative office **b** : relating to or being an act done after ascertaining the existence of a specified state of facts in obedience to a legal order without exercise of personal judgment or discretion **3** : acting or active as an agent : INSTRUMENTAL — **min·is·te·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
minister plenipotentiary *n, pl* **ministers plenipotentiary** : a diplomatic agent ranking below an ambassador but possessing full power and authority
minister resident *n, pl* **ministers resident** : a diplomatic agent resident at a foreign court or seat of government and ranking below a minister plenipotentiary
[1]min·is·trant \ˈmin-ə-strənt\ *adj, archaic* : performing service in attendance on someone
[2]ministrant *n* : one that ministers
min·is·tra·tion \ˌmin-ə-ˈstrā-shən\ *n* : the act or process of ministering
min·is·try \ˈmin-ə-strē\ *n, pl* **-tries** **1** : MINISTRATION **2** : the office, duties, or functions of a minister **3** : the body of ministers of religion : CLERGY **4** : AGENCY 2, INSTRUMENTALITY **5** : the period of service or office of a minister or ministry **6** *often cap* **a** : the body of ministers governing a nation or state from which a smaller cabinet is sometimes selected **b** : the group of ministers constituting a cabinet **7 a** : a government department presided over by a minister **b** : the building in which the business of a ministry is transacted
mini·track \ˈmin-i-ˌtrak\ *n* : an electronic system for tracking an earth satellite by radio waves transmitted from it to a chain of ground stations
min·i·um \ˈmin-ē-əm\ *n* [ME, fr. L, cinnabar, red lead, of Iberian origin; akin to Basque *armineá* cinnabar] : RED LEAD
min·i·ver \ˈmin-ə-vər\ *n* [ME *meniver*, fr. OF *menu vair* small vair] : a white fur worn orig. by medieval nobles and used chiefly for robes of state
mink \ˈmiŋk\ *n, pl* **mink** *or* **minks** [ME] **1** : soft fur or pelt of the mink varying in color from white to dark brown **2** : any of several slender-bodied semiaquatic carnivorous mammals (genus *Mustela*) that resemble and are closely related to the weasels and have partially webbed feet, a rather short bushy tail, and a soft thick coat


mink 2

Minn *abbr* Minnesota
min·ne·sing·er \ˈmin-i-ˌsiŋ-ər, ˈmin-ə-ˌziŋ-\ *n* [G, fr. MHG, fr. *minne* love + *singer*] : one of a class of German lyric poets and musicians of the 12th to the 14th centuries
Min·ne·so·ta Multiphasic Personality Inventory \ˌmin-ə-ˈsōt-ə-ˌməl-ti-ˈfā-zik-, -ˌməl-ˌtī-\ *n* [University of *Minnesota*] : a test of personal and social adjustment based on a complex scaling of the answers to an elaborate true or false test
min·now \ˈmin-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n, pl* **minnows** *also* **minnow** [ME *menawe*; akin to OE *myne* minnow, Russ *men'* eelpout] **1 a** : a small cyprinid, killifish, or topminnow **b** : any of various small fish that are less than a designated size and are not game fish **2** : a live or artificial minnow used as bait
[1]Mi·no·an \mə-ˈnō-ən, mī-\ *adj* [L *minous* of Minos, fr. Gk *minōios*, fr. *Minōs* Minos] : of or relating to a Bronze Age culture of Crete (3000 B.C.–1100 B.C.)
[2]Minoan *n* : a native or inhabitant of ancient Crete
[1]mi·nor \ˈmī-nər\ *adj* [ME, fr. L, smaller, inferior; akin to OHG *minniro* smaller, L *minuere* to lessen, Gk *meiōn* less] **1** : inferior in importance, size, or degree : comparatively unimportant **2** : not having reached majority **3 a** : having the third, sixth, and sometimes the seventh degrees lowered a semitone ⟨~ scale⟩ **b** : based on a minor scale ⟨~ key⟩ **c** : less by a semitone than the corresponding major interval ⟨~ third⟩ **d** : containing a minor third ⟨~ triad⟩ **4** : not serious or involving risk to life ⟨~ illness⟩ **5** : of or relating to an academic subject requiring fewer courses than a major

²minor *n* **1 :** a person who has not attained majority **2 :** a minor musical interval, scale, key, or mode **3 a :** a minor academic subject **b :** a student taking a specified minor **4 :** a determinant or matrix obtained from a given determinant or matrix by eliminating the row and column in which a given element lies **5** *pl* **:** minor league baseball
³minor *vi* **:** to take courses in a minor subject
minor axis *n* **:** the chord of an ellipse passing through the center and perpendicular to the major axis
mi·nor·ca \mə-'nȯr-kə\ *n* [*Minorca*, one of the Balearic islands] **:** any of a breed of domestic fowls that resemble leghorns but are larger
minor element *n* **:** TRACE ELEMENT
Mi·nor·ite \'mī-nə-ˌrīt\ *n* [fr. *Friar Minor* (Franciscan)] **:** FRANCISCAN
mi·nor·i·ty \mə-'nȯr-ət-ē, mī-, -'när-\ *n, pl* **-ties** *often attrib* **1 a :** the period before attainment of majority **b :** the state of being a legal minor **2 :** the smaller in number of two groups constituting a whole; *specif* **:** a group having less than the number of votes necessary for control **3 :** a part of a population differing from others in some characteristics and often subjected to differential treatment
minority leader *n* **:** the leader of the minority party in a legislative body
minor league *n* **:** a league of professional clubs in a sport other than the recognized major leagues
minor order *n* **:** one of the Roman Catholic or Eastern clerical orders that are lower in rank and less sacred in character than major orders — usu. used in pl.
minor party *n* **:** a political party whose electoral strength is so small as to prevent its gaining control of a government except in rare and exceptional circumstances
minor penalty *n* **:** a two-minute suspension of a player in ice hockey with no substitute allowed
minor planet *n* **:** ASTEROID
minor premise *n* **:** the premise of a syllogism that contains the minor term
minor seminary *n* **:** a Roman Catholic seminary giving all or part of high school and junior college training with emphasis on preparing candidates for a major seminary
minor suit *n* **:** either of two bridge suits of inferior scoring value: **a :** DIAMONDS **b :** CLUBS
minor term *n* **:** the term of a syllogism that forms the subject of the conclusion
Mi·nos \'mī-nəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Minōs*] **:** a son of Zeus and Europa and king of Crete who for his just rule was made supreme judge in the underworld after his death
Mi·no·taur \'min-ə-ˌtȯ(ə)r, 'mī-nə-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *Minotaurus*, fr. Gk *Minōtauros*, fr. *Minōs* + *tauros* a bull] **:** a monster shaped half like a man and half like a bull, confined in the labyrinth built by Daedalus for Minos, and given a periodical tribute of youths and maidens as food until slain by Theseus
min·ster \'min(t)-stər\ *n* [ME, monastery, church attached to a monastery, fr. OE *mynster*, fr. LL *monasterium* monastery] **:** a large or important church often having cathedral status
min·strel \'min(t)-strəl\ *n* [ME *menestrel*, fr. OF, official, servant, minstrel, fr. LL *ministerialis* imperial household officer, fr. L *ministerium* service, fr. *minister* servant — more at MINISTER] **1 :** one of a class of medieval musical entertainers; *esp* **:** a singer of verses to the accompaniment of a harp **2 a :** MUSICIAN **b :** POET **3 a :** one of a troupe of performers typically giving a program of Negro melodies, jokes, and impersonations and usu. blacked in imitation of Negroes **b :** a performance by a troupe of minstrels
min·strel·sy \-sē\ *n* [ME *minstralcie*, fr. MF *menestralsie*, fr. *menestrel*] **1 :** the singing and playing of a minstrel **2 :** a body of minstrels **3 :** a group of songs or verse
¹mint \'mint\ *n* [ME *mynt* coin, money, fr. OE *mynet*; akin to OHG *munizza* coin; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. L *moneta* mint, coin, fr. *Moneta*, epithet of Juno; fr. the fact that the Romans coined money in the temple of Juno Moneta] **1 :** a place where coins, medals, or tokens are made **2 :** a place where something is manufactured **3 :** a vast sum or amount
²mint *vt* **1 :** to make (as coins) out of metal **:** COIN **2 :** FABRICATE, INVENT — **mint·er** *n*
³mint *adj* **:** unmarred as if fresh from a mint ⟨~ coins⟩
⁴mint *n* [ME *minte*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *minza*; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound borrowed fr. L *mentha* mint] **1 :** any of a family (Labiatae, the mint family) of aromatic plants with a 4-lobed ovary which produces four 1-seeded nutlets in fruit; *esp* **:** any of a genus (*Mentha*) of mints which have white or pink verticillate flowers with a nearly regular corolla and four equal stamens and some of which are used in flavoring and cookery **2 :** a confection flavored with mint
mint·age \'mint-ij\ *n* **1 :** the action or process of minting coins **2 :** an impression placed upon a coin **3 :** coins produced by minting or in a single period of minting **4 :** the cost of minting
mint julep *n* **:** JULEP 2
min·u·end \'min-yə-ˌwend\ *n* [L *minuendum*, neut. of *minuendus*, gerundive of *minuere* to lessen — more at MINOR] **:** a number from which the subtrahend is to be subtracted
min·u·et \ˌmin-yə-'wet\ *n* [F *menuet*, fr. obs. F, tiny, fr. OF, fr. *menu* small, fr. L *minutus*] **1 :** a slow graceful dance in ¾ time characterized by forward balancing, bowing, and toe pointing **2 :** music for or in the rhythm of a minuet
¹mi·nus \'mī-nəs\ *prep* [ME, fr. L *minus*, adv., less, fr. neut. of *minor* smaller — more at MINOR] **1 :** diminished by **:** LESS ⟨seven ~ four is three⟩ **2 :** deprived of **:** WITHOUT ⟨~ his hat⟩
²minus *n* **1 :** a negative quantity **2 :** DEFICIENCY, DEFECT
³minus *adj* **1 :** algebraically negative ⟨a ~ quantity⟩ **2 :** having negative qualities **3 :** relating to or being a particular one of the two mating types that are required for successful fertilization in sexual reproduction in some lower plants (as a fungus)
¹mi·nus·cule \'min-əs-ˌkyü(ə)l, min-'əs-, 'min-yəs-, mī-'nəs-\ *n* [F, fr. L *minusculus* rather small, dim. of *minor* smaller] **1 a :** one of several ancient and medieval writing styles developed from cursive and having simplified and small forms **b :** a letter in this style **2 :** a lowercase letter
²minuscule *adj* **1 :** written in or in the size or style of minuscules **2 :** very small
minus sign *n* **:** a sign − used in mathematics to indicate subtraction (as in 8 − 6 = 2) or a negative quantity (as in −10°)
¹min·ute \'min-ət\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *minuta*, fr. L *minutus* small, fr. pp. of *minuere* to lessen — more at MINOR] **1 :** the 60th part of an hour of time or of a degree **2 :** the distance one can traverse in a minute **3 :** a short space of time **:** MOMENT **4 a :** MEMORANDUM, DRAFT **b** *pl* **:** the official record of the proceedings of a meeting
²minute *vt* **min·ut·ed; min·ut·ing :** to make notes or a brief summary of
³mi·nute \mī-'n(y)üt, mə-\ *adj* **mi·nut·er; -est** [L *minutus*] **1 :** very small **:** INFINITESIMAL **2 :** of small importance **:** TRIFLING **3 :** marked by close attention to details ***syn*** see SMALL, CIRCUMSTANTIAL — **mi·nute·ness** *n*
minute hand *n* **:** the long hand that marks the minutes on the face of a watch or clock
¹mi·nute·ly \mī-'n(y)üt-lē, mə-\ *adv* **1 :** into very small pieces **2 :** in a minute manner or degree
²min·ute·ly \'min-ət-lē\ *adj, archaic* **:** minute by minute
min·ute·man \'min-ət-ˌman\ *n* **:** a member of a group of armed men pledged to take the field at a minute's notice during and immediately before the American Revolution
minute steak \ˌmin-ət-\ *n* **:** a small thin steak that can be quickly cooked
mi·nu·tia \mə-'n(y)ü-sh(ē-)ə, mī-\ *n, pl* **-ti·ae** \-shē-ˌē, -ˌī\ [L *minutiae* trifles, details, fr. pl. of *minutia* smallness, fr. *minutus*] **:** a minute or minor detail — usu. used in pl.
minx \'miŋ(k)s\ *n* [origin unknown] **1 :** a pert girl **2** *obs* **:** a wanton woman
MIO *abbr* minimum identifiable odor
mio- — see MI-
Mio·cene \'mī-ə-ˌsēn\ *adj* **:** of, relating to, or being an epoch of the Tertiary between the Pliocene and the Oligocene or the corresponding system of rocks — **Miocene** *n*
mi·o·sis \mī-'ō-səs, mē-\ *n, pl* **mi·o·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *myein* to be closed (of the eyes) + NL *-osis*] **:** excessive smallness or contraction of the pupil of the eye
¹mi·ot·ic \-'ät-ik\ *adj* **:** relating to or characterized by miosis
²miotic *n* **:** an agent that causes miosis
mi·que·let \ˌmik-ə-'let, ˌmēk-\ *n* [Sp *miquelete*] **:** a Spanish or French irregular soldier during the Peninsular War
mir \'mi(ə)r\ *n* [Russ] **:** a village community in czarist Russia characterized by joint ownership of the land and cultivation by individual families
mi·ra·bi·le dic·tu \mə-ˌräb-ə-lē-'dik-(ˌ)tü\ [L] **:** wonderful to relate
mi·ra·cid·i·um \ˌmir-ə-'sid-ē-əm, ˌmī-rə-\ *n, pl* **-cid·ia** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *meirak-, meirax* youth, stripling + NL *-idium*] **:** the free-swimming ciliated first larva of a digenetic trematode that seeks out and penetrates a suitable snail intermediate host in which it develops into a sporocyst — **mi·ra·cid·i·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*
mir·a·cle \'mir-i-kəl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *miraculum*, fr. *mirari* to wonder at — more at SMILE] **1 :** an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs **2 :** an extremely outstanding or unusual event, thing, or accomplishment **3** *Christian Science* **:** a divinely natural occurrence that must be learned humanly
miracle fruit *n* **:** a small shrubby tropical African tree (*Synsepalum dulcificum* of the family Sapotaceae) whose fruit contains a glycoprotein that when applied to the tongue causes sour substances to taste sweet; *also* **:** its fruit
miracle play *n* **:** a medieval dramatic representation of episodes from the life of a miracle-working saint or martyr
mi·rac·u·lous \mə-'rak-yə-ləs\ *adj* [MF *miraculeux*, fr. ML *miraculosus*, fr. L *miraculum*] **1 :** of the nature of a miracle **:** SUPERNATURAL ⟨a ~ event⟩ **2 :** suggesting a miracle **:** MARVELOUS ⟨gave proof of a ~ memory —*Time*⟩ **3 :** working or able to work miracles ⟨~ power⟩ — **mi·rac·u·lous·ly** *adv* — **mi·rac·u·lous·ness** *n*
mir·a·dor \'mir-ə-ˌdȯ(ə)r, ˌmir-ə-'\ *n* [Sp, fr. Catal, fr. *mirar* to look at, fr. L *mirari*] **:** a turret, window, or balcony designed to command an extensive outlook
mi·rage \mə-'räzh\ *n* [F, fr. *mirer* to look at, fr. L *mirari*] **1 :** an optical effect that is sometimes seen at sea, in the desert, or over a hot pavement, that may have the appearance of a pool of water or a mirror in which distant objects are seen inverted, and that is caused by the bending or reflection of rays of light by a layer of heated air of varying density **2 :** something illusory and unattainable like a mirage ***syn*** see DELUSION
¹mire \'mī(ə)r\ *n* [ME, fr. ON *mȳrr*; akin to OE *mōs* marsh — more at MOSS] **1 :** wet spongy earth **:** MARSH, BOG **2 :** heavy often deep mud or slush — **miry** \'mī(ə)r-ē\ *adj*
²mire *vb* **mired; mir·ing** *vt* **1 a :** to cause to stick fast in or as if in mire **b :** to hamper or hold back as if by mire **:** ENTANGLE **2 :** to cover or soil with mire ~ *vi* **:** to stick or sink in mire
mi·rex \'mī-ˌreks\ *n* [origin unknown] **:** a chlorinated-hydrocarbon insecticide $C_{10}Cl_{12}$ used esp. against ants
mirk, mirky *var of* MURK, MURKY
¹mir·ror \'mir-ər\ *n* [ME *mirour*, fr. OF, fr. *mirer* to look at, fr. L *mirari* to wonder at — more at SMILE] **1 :** a polished or smooth surface (as of glass) that forms images by reflection **2 a :** some-

thing that gives a true representation **b** : an exemplary model — **mir·ror·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²mirror *vt* : to reflect in or as if in a mirror

mirror image *n* : something that has its parts reversely arranged in comparison with another similar thing or that is reversed with reference to an intervening axis or plane

mirth \ˈmərth\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *myrgth*, fr. *myrge* merry — more at MERRY] : gladness or gaiety as shown by or accompanied with laughter — **mirth·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **mirth·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mirth·ful·ness** *n* — **mirth·less** \-ləs\ *adj*

syn MIRTH, GLEE, JOLLITY, HILARITY *shared meaning element* : a mood or temper characterized by joy and high spirits and usually manifested in laughter and merrymaking

MIRV *n* [*m*ultiple *i*ndependently targeted *r*eentry *v*ehicle] : a missile with two or more warheads designed to reenter the atmosphere on the way to separate enemy targets; *also* : any of the warheads of such a missile

¹mis- *prefix* [partly fr. ME, fr. OE; partly fr. ME *mes-*, *mis-*, fr. OF *mes-*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *mis-*; akin to OE *missan* to miss] **1 a** : badly : wrongly ⟨*mis*judge⟩ **b** : unfavorably ⟨*mis*esteem⟩ **c** : in a suspicious manner ⟨*mis*doubt⟩ **2** : bad : wrong ⟨*mis*deed⟩ **3** : opposite or lack of ⟨*mis*trust⟩ **4** : not ⟨*mis*know⟩

²mis- *or* **miso-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *misein* to hate] : hatred ⟨*miso*gamy⟩

mis·ad·ven·ture \ˌmis-əd-ˈven-chər\ *n* [ME *mesaventure*, fr. OF, fr. *mesavenir* to chance badly, fr. *mis-* + *avenir* to chance, happen, fr. L *advenire* — more at ADVENTURE] : MISFORTUNE, MISHAP

mis·aligned \ˌmis-ə-ˈlīnd\ *adj* : not properly aligned — **mis·align·ment** \-ˈlīn-mənt\ *n*

mis·al·li·ance \ˌmis-ə-ˈlī-ən(t)s\ *n* [modif. of F *mésalliance*] **1** : an improper alliance **2 a** : MÉSALLIANCE **b** : a marriage between persons unsuited to each other

mis·al·lo·ca·tion \(ˌ)mis-ˌal-ə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : faulty or improper allocation ⟨dangerous ~ of our intellectual resources —K. E. Boulding⟩

mis·an·thrope \ˈmis-ᵊn-ˌthrōp\ *n* [Gk *misanthrōpos* hating mankind, fr. *mis-* + *anthrōpos* man] : one who hates or distrusts mankind

mis·an·throp·ic \ˌmis-ᵊn-ˈthräp-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a misanthrope **2** : marked by a hatred or contempt for mankind ***syn*** see CYNICAL ***ant*** philanthropic — **mis·an·throp·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mis·an·thro·py \mis-ˈan(t)-thrə-pē\ *n* : a hatred or distrust of mankind

mis·ap·pli·ca·tion \(ˌ)mis-ˌap-lə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of misapplying

mis·ap·ply \ˌmis-ə-ˈplī\ *vt* : to apply wrongly

mis·ap·pre·hend \(ˌ)mis-ˌap-ri-ˈhend\ *vt* : to apprehend wrongly : MISUNDERSTAND — **mis·ap·pre·hen·sion** \-ˈhen-chən\ *n*

mis·ap·pro·pri·ate \ˌmis-ə-ˈprō-prē-ˌāt\ *vt* : to appropriate wrongly (as by theft or embezzlement) — **mis·ap·pro·pri·a·tion** \-ˌprō-prē-ˈā-shən\ *n*

mis·be·come \ˌmis-bi-ˈkəm\ *vt* : to be inappropriate or unbecoming to

mis·be·got·ten \-ˈgät-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : unlawfully conceived : ILLEGITIMATE ⟨a ~ child⟩ **2 a** : having a disreputable or improper origin : ill-conceived ⟨antiquated and ~ tax laws —R. M. Blough⟩ **b** : CONTEMPTIBLE, DEFORMED ⟨a ~ scoundrel⟩

mis·be·have \ˌmis-bi-ˈhāv\ *vi* : to behave improperly — **mis·be·hav·er** *n* — **mis·be·hav·ior** \-ˈhā-vyər\ *n*

mis·be·lief \ˌmis-bə-ˈlēf\ *n* : erroneous or false belief

mis·be·lieve \-ˈlēv\ *vi, obs* : to hold a false or unorthodox belief

mis·be·liev·er \-ˈlē-vər\ *n* : HERETIC, INFIDEL

mis·brand \(ˈ)mis-ˈbrand\ *vt* : to brand falsely or in a misleading way; *also* : to label in violation of statutory requirements

misc *abbr* miscellaneous

mis·cal·cu·late \(ˈ)mis-ˈkal-kyə-ˌlāt\ *vt* : to calculate wrongly ~ *vi* : to make a mistake in calculation — **mis·cal·cu·la·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌkal-kyə-ˈlā-shən\ *n*

mis·call \(ˈ)mis-ˈkȯl\ *vt* : to call by a wrong name : MISNAME

mis·car·riage \mis-ˈkar-ij\ *n* **1** : corrupt or incompetent management; *esp* : a failure in the administration of justice **2** : expulsion of a human fetus before it is viable and esp. between the 12th and 28th weeks of gestation

mis·car·ry \(ˈ)mis-ˈkar-ē\ *vi* **1** *obs* : to come to harm **2** : to suffer miscarriage of a fetus **3** : to fail of the intended purpose : go wrong or amiss ⟨the plan *miscarried*⟩

mis·cast \(ˈ)mis-ˈkast\ *vt* **-cast; -cast·ing** : to cast in an unsuitable role ⟨life had ~ her in the role of wife and mother —Edna Ferber⟩

mis·ce·ge·na·tion \(ˌ)mis-ˌej-ə-ˈnā-shən, ˌmis-i-jə-ˈnā-\ *n* [L *miscēre* to mix + *genus* race — more at MIX, KIN] : a mixture of races; *esp* : marriage or cohabitation between a white person and a member of another race — **mis·ce·ge·na·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj*

mis·cel·la·nea \ˌmis-ə-ˈlā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n pl* [L, fr. neut. pl. of *miscellaneus*] : a collection of miscellaneous objects or writings

mis·cel·la·neous \ˌmis-ə-ˈlā-nē-əs, -nyəs\ *adj* [L *miscellaneus*, fr. *miscellus* mixed, prob. fr. *miscēre*] **1** : consisting of diverse things or members : HETEROGENEOUS **2 a** : having various traits **b** : dealing with or interested in diverse subjects ⟨as a writer I was too ~ —George Santayana⟩ — **mis·cel·la·neous·ly** *adv* — **mis·cel·la·neous·ness** *n*

mis·cel·la·nist \ˈmis-ə-ˌlā-nəst, *chiefly Brit* mis-ˈel-ə-nist\ *n* : a writer of miscellanies

mis·cel·la·ny \-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [prob. modif. of F *miscellanées*, pl., fr. L *miscellanea*] **1** : a mixture of various things **2 a** *pl* : separate writings collected in one volume **b** : a collection of writings on various subjects

mis·chance \(ˈ)mis(h)-ˈchan(t)s\ *n* [ME *mischaunce*, fr. OF *meschance*, fr. *mis-* + *chance*] **1** : bad luck **2** : a piece of bad luck : MISHAP ***syn*** see MISFORTUNE

mis·chief \ˈmis(h)-chəf\ *n* [ME *meschief*, fr. OF, calamity, fr. *mes-* + *chief* head, end — more at CHIEF] **1** : a specific injury or damage attributed to a particular agent **2** : a cause or source of harm, evil, or irritation; *esp* : a person who causes mischief **3 a** : action that annoys or irritates **b** : the quality or state of being mischievous : MISCHIEVOUSNESS ⟨had ~ in his eyes⟩

mis·chie·vous \ˈmis(h)-chə-vəs\ *adj* **1** : HARMFUL, INJURIOUS ⟨~ gossip⟩ **2 a** : able or tending to cause annoyance, trouble, or minor injury **b** : irresponsibly playful ⟨~ behavior⟩ — **mis·chie·vous·ly** *adv* — **mis·chie·vous·ness** *n*

misch metal \ˈmish-\ *n* [G *mischmetall*, fr. *mischen* to mix + *metall* metal] : a complex alloy of rare earth metals used esp. in tracer bullets and as a flint in lighters

mis·ci·ble \ˈmis-ə-bəl\ *adj* [ML *miscibilis*, fr. L *miscēre* to mix — more at MIX] : capable of being mixed; *specif* : capable of mixing in any ratio without separation of two phases ⟨~ liquids⟩ — **mis·ci·bil·i·ty** \ˌmis-ə-ˈbil-ət-ē\ *n*

mis·clas·si·fy \(ˈ)mis-ˈklas-ə-ˌfī\ *vt* : to classify wrongly — **mis·clas·si·fi·ca·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌklas-ə-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*

mis·com·mu·ni·ca·tion \ˌmis-kə-ˌmyü-nə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* : failure to communicate clearly

mis·con·ceive \ˌmis-kən-ˈsēv\ *vt* : to interpret incorrectly : MISUNDERSTAND — **mis·con·ceiv·er** *n* — **mis·con·cep·tion** \-ˈsep-shən\ *n*

mis·con·duct \(ˈ)mis-ˈkän-(ˌ)dəkt\ *n* **1** : mismanagement esp. of governmental or military responsibilities **2** : intentional wrongdoing; *specif* : deliberate violation of a law or standard esp. by a government official : MALFEASANCE **3 a** : improper behavior **b** : ADULTERY — **mis·con·duct** \ˌmis-kən-ˈdəkt\ *vt*

mis·con·struc·tion \ˌmis-kən-ˈstrək-shən\ *n* : the act, the process, or an instance of misconstruing

mis·con·strue \ˌmis-kən-ˈstrü\ *vt* : to construe wrongly : MISINTERPRET

mis·count \(ˈ)mis-ˈkau̇nt\ *vb* [ME *misconten*, fr. MF *mesconter*, fr. *mes-* + *conter* to count] *vt* : to count wrongly : MISCALCULATE ~ *vi* : to make a wrong count — **miscount** \(ˈ)mis-ˈkau̇nt, ˈmis-ˌ\ *n*

¹mis·cre·ant \ˈmis-krē-ənt\ *adj* [ME *miscreaunt*, fr. MF *mescreant*, prp. of *mescroire* to disbelieve, fr. *mes-* ¹mis- + *croire* to believe, fr. L *credere* — more at CREED] **1** : UNBELIEVING, HERETICAL **2** : DEPRAVED, VILLAINOUS

²miscreant *n* **1** : INFIDEL, HERETIC **2** : one who behaves criminally or viciously

mis·cre·ate \ˌmis-krē-ˈāt\ *vt* : to create badly or wrongly — **mis·cre·ate** \ˈmis-krē-ət, ˌmis-krē-ˈāt\ *adj* — **mis·cre·ation** \ˌmis-krē-ˈā-shən\ *n*

¹mis·cue \(ˈ)mis-ˈkyü\ *n* **1** : a faulty stroke in billiards in which the cue slips **2** : MISTAKE, SLIP

²miscue *vi* **1** : to make a miscue **2 a** : to miss a stage cue **b** : to answer a wrong cue

mis·deal \(ˈ)mis-ˈdē(ə)l\ *vi* : to deal cards incorrectly ~ *vt* : to deal incorrectly — **misdeal** *n*

mis·deed \(ˈ)mis-ˈdēd\ *n* : a wrong deed : OFFENSE

mis·deem \-ˈdēm\ *vt* : MISJUDGE

mis·de·mean·ant \ˌmis-di-ˈmē-nənt\ *n* : a person convicted of a misdemeanor

mis·de·mean·or \ˌmis-di-ˈmē-nər\ *n* **1** : a crime less serious than a felony **2** : MISDEED

mis·de·scribe \ˌmis-di-ˈskrīb\ *vt* : to describe wrongly — **mis·de·scrip·tion** \-ˈskrip-shən\ *n*

mis·di·ag·nose \(ˈ)mis-ˈdī-ig-ˌnōs, -ˌnōz\ *vt* : to diagnose incorrectly

mis·di·ag·no·sis \(ˌ)mis-ˌdī-ig-ˈnō-səs\ *n* : an incorrect diagnosis

mis·di·rect \ˌmis-də-ˈrekt, -(ˌ)dī-\ *vt* : to give a wrong direction to

mis·di·rec·tion \-ˈrek-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or an instance of misdirecting **b** : the state of being misdirected **2** : a wrong direction

mis·do \(ˈ)mis-ˈdü\ *vt* **-did** \-ˈdid\; **-done** \-ˈdən\; **-do·ing** \-ˈdü-iŋ\; **-does** \-ˈdəz\ : to do wrongly or improperly — **mis·do·er** *n* — **mis·do·ing** *n*

mis·doubt \(ˈ)mis-ˈdau̇t\ *vt* **1** : to doubt the reality or truth of **2** : SUSPECT, FEAR — **misdoubt** *n*

mis·ed·u·cate \(ˈ)mis-ˈej-ə-ˌkāt\ *vt* : to educate wrongly — **mis·ed·u·ca·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌej-ə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*

mise-en-scène \ˌmē-ˌzäⁿ-ˈsen, -ˈsān\ *n, pl* **mise-en-scènes** \-ˈsen(z), -ˈsān(z)\ [F *mise en scène*] **1 a** : the arrangement of actors and scenery on a stage for a theatrical production **b** : stage setting **2 a** : the physical setting of an action **b** : ENVIRONMENT, MILIEU

mi·ser \ˈmī-zər\ *n* [L *miser* miserable] : a mean grasping person; *esp* : one who lives miserably in order to hoard his wealth

mis·er·a·ble \ˈmiz-ər-bəl, ˈmiz-(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *miserabilis* wretched, pitiable, fr. *miserari* to pity, fr. *miser*] **1 a** : wretchedly inadequate or meager ⟨a ~ hovel⟩ **b** : causing extreme discomfort or unhappiness ⟨a ~ situation⟩ **2** : being in a pitiable state of distress or unhappiness (as from want or shame) ⟨~ refugees⟩ **3** : being likely to discredit or shame ⟨his ~ neglect of his wife⟩ ⟨it was ~ of you to make fun of him⟩ — **miserable** *n* — **mis·er·a·ble·ness** *n* — **mis·er·a·bly** \-blē\ *adv*

syn MISERABLE, WRETCHED *shared meaning element* : deplorably or distressingly bad or mean. MISERABLE implies a state of suffering that may arise from extreme distress of body or mind or in pitiable poverty or degradation ⟨a *miserable* creature of a crazed aspect . . . shattered and made drunk by horror —Charles Dickens⟩ In reference to things, *miserable*, often used hyperbolically, suggests such meanness or inferiority or unpleasantness as must inflict misery on a person affected or arouse utter dislike or disgust in an observer ⟨worked for a *miserable* wage⟩ ⟨the squalor of mean and *miserable* streets —Laurence Binyon⟩ WRETCHED is likely to stress the unhappiness of a person exposed to a grave distress (as want, grief, oppression, pain, or anxiety) ⟨the *wretched* wife of the innocent man thus doomed to die —Charles Dickens⟩ Applied to things, *wretched* stresses extreme or deplorable badness ⟨a *wretched* French cabaret, smelling vilely —George Meredith⟩ ***ant*** comfortable

mi·se·re·re \ˌmiz-ə-ˈri(ə)r-ē, -ˈre(ə)r-; ˌmē-zə-ˈrā-(ˌ)rā\ *n* [L, be merciful, fr. *misereri* to be merciful, fr. *miser* wretched; fr. the first word of the Psalm] **1** *cap* : the 50th Psalm in the Vulgate **2** : MISERICORD **3** : a vocal complaint or lament

mi·seri·cord *or* **mi·seri·corde** \mə-'zer-ə-ˌkȯ(ə)rd, -'ser-\ *n* [ML *misericordia* seat in church, fr. L, mercy, fr. *misericord-, misericors* merciful, fr. *misereri* + *cord-, cor* heart — more at HEART] : a small projection on the bottom of a hinged church seat that gives support to a standing worshiper when the seat is turned up
mi·ser·ly \'mī-zər-lē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a miser; *esp* : marked by sordid grasping meanness and penuriousness *syn* see STINGY — **mi·ser·li·ness** *n*
mis·ery \'miz-(ə-)rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : a state of suffering and want that is the result of poverty or affliction **2** : a circumstance, thing, or place that causes suffering or discomfort **3** : a state of great unhappiness and emotional distress *syn* see DISTRESS
mis·es·teem \ˌmis-ə-'stēm\ *vt* : to esteem wrongly; *esp* : to hold in too little regard
mis·es·ti·mate \(ˈ)mis-'es-tə-ˌmāt\ *vt* : to estimate wrongly — **mis·es·ti·ma·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌes-tə-'mā-shən\ *n*
mis·fea·sance \mis-'fēz-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* [MF *mesfaisance*, fr. *mesfaire* to do wrong, fr. *mes-* ¹mis- + *faire* to make, do, fr. L *facere* — more at DO] : TRESPASS; *specif* : the performance of a lawful action in an illegal or improper manner — **mis·fea·sor** \-'fē-zər, -ˌzȯ(ə)r\ *n*
mis·file \(ˈ)mis-'fī(ə)l\ *vt* : to file in an inappropriate place
¹mis·fire \(ˈ)mis-'fī(ə)r\ *vi* **1** : to have the explosive or propulsive charge fail to ignite at the proper time ⟨the engine *misfired*⟩ **2** : to fail to fire ⟨the gun *misfired*⟩ **3** : to miss an intended effect or objective
²mis·fire \(ˈ)mis-'fī(ə)r, 'mis-ˌ\ *n* **1** : a failure to fire **2** : something that misfires
mis·fit \'mis-ˌfit, (ˈ)mis-'fit\ *n* **1** : something that fits badly **2** : a person poorly adjusted to his environment ⟨social ~*s*⟩
mis·for·tune \(ˈ)mis-'fȯr-chən\ *n* **1 a** : an event or conjunction of events that causes an unfortunate or distressing result : bad fortune ⟨by ~ he fell into bad company⟩ ⟨had the ~ to break his leg⟩ **b** : the ensuing unhappy situation ⟨always ready to help people in ~⟩ **2** : a distressing or unfortunate incident or event ⟨~*s* never come singly⟩
syn MISFORTUNE, MISCHANCE, MISHAP, ADVERSITY *shared meaning element* : adverse fortune or an instance of this *ant* happiness, prosperity
mis·give \(ˈ)mis-'giv\ *vb* **-gave** \-'gāv\; **-giv·en** \-'giv-ən\; **-giv·ing** *vt* : to suggest doubt or fear to ~ *vi* : to be fearful or apprehensive
mis·giv·ing \-'giv-iŋ\ *n* : a feeling of doubt or suspicion esp. concerning a future event
mis·gov·ern \(ˈ)mis-'gəv-ərn\ *vt* : to govern badly — **mis·gov·ern·ment** \-'gəv-ər(n)-mənt, -'gəv-ᵊm-ənt\ *n*
mis·guid·ance \(ˈ)mis-'gīd-ᵊn(t)s\ *n* : MISDIRECTION
mis·guide \-'gīd\ *vt* : to lead astray : MISDIRECT ⟨well-meaning but *misguided* benefactors⟩ — **mis·guid·ed·ly** *adv* — **mis·guid·ed·ness** *n* — **mis·guid·er** *n*
mis·han·dle \-'han-dᵊl\ *vt* **1** : to treat roughly : MALTREAT **2** : to manage wrongly or ignorantly
mi·shan·ter \mish-'änt-ər\ *n* [ME *misaunter*, alter. of *mesaventure*] *chiefly Scot* : MISADVENTURE
mis·hap \'mis-ˌhap, mis-'\ *n* **1** : bad luck : MISFORTUNE **2** : an unfortunate accident *syn* see MISFORTUNE
mis·hear \(ˈ)mis-'hi(ə)r\ *vt* : to hear wrongly ~ *vi* : to misunderstand what is heard
mis·hit \(ˈ)mis-'hit\ *vt* **-hit; -hit·ting** : to hit in a faulty manner — **mis·hit** \(ˈ)mis-'hit, 'mis-ˌ\ *n*
mish·mash \'mish-ˌmäsh, -ˌmash\ *n* [partly fr. MHG *misch-masch*, redupl. of *mischen* to mix; partly fr. Yiddish *mishmash*, fr. MHG *mischmasch*] : HODGEPODGE, JUMBLE ⟨a ~ of proprietaries, toiletries, cosmetics, and confections —*Forbes*⟩
Mish·mi \'mish-mē\ *n* : a Tibeto-Burman language of northeastern India
Mish·nah *or* **Mish·na** \'mish-nə\ *n* [Heb *mishnāh* instruction, oral law] : the collection of mostly halakic Jewish traditions compiled about A.D. 200 and made the basic part of the Talmud — **Mish·na·ic** \mish-'nā-ik\ *adj*
mis·iden·ti·fy \ˌmis-ī-'dent-ə-ˌfī, ˌmis-ə-\ *vt* : to identify wrongly — **mis·iden·ti·fi·ca·tion** \-ˌdent-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
mis·im·pres·sion \ˌmis-im-'presh-ən\ *n* : a mistaken impression
mis·in·form \ˌmis-ᵊn-'fȯ(ə)rm\ *vt* : to give untrue or misleading information to — **mis·in·for·ma·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌin-fər-'mā-shən\ *n*
mis·in·ter·pret \ˌmis-ᵊn-'tər-prət, *rapid* -pət\ *vt* **1** : to understand wrongly **2** : to explain wrongly — **mis·in·ter·pre·ta·tion** \-ˌtər-prə-'tā-shən, *rapid* -pə-\ *n*
mis·join·der \(ˈ)mis-'jȯin-dər\ *n* : an improper union of parties or of causes of action in a single legal proceeding
mis·judge \(ˈ)mis-'jəj\ *vt* **1** : to estimate wrongly **2** : to have an unjust opinion of ~ *vi* : to be mistaken in judgment — **mis·judg·ment** \-'jəj-mənt\ *n*
Mi·ski·to \mis-'kēt-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **Miskito** *or* **Miskitos** **1** : a member of a people of the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua and Honduras **2** : a language of the Miskito people
mis·know \-'nō\ *vt* : MISUNDERSTAND — **mis·know·l·edge** \-'näl-ij\ *n*
mis·la·bel \-'lā-bəl\ *vt* : to label incorrectly or falsely
mis·lay \(ˈ)mis-'lā\ *vt* **-laid** \-'lād\; **-lay·ing** : to put in an unremembered place : LOSE
mis·lead \(ˈ)mis-'lēd\ *vt* **-led** \-'led\; **-lead·ing** : to lead in a wrong direction or into a mistaken action or belief often by deliberate deceit *syn* see DECEIVE — **mis·lead·er** *n* — **mis·lead·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
mis·leared \-'li(ə)rd, -'le(ə)rd\ *adj* [¹*mis-* + *lear* (to learn)] *chiefly Scot* : UNMANNERLY, ILL-BRED
mis·like \-'līk\ *vt* **1** *archaic* : DISPLEASE **2** : DISLIKE — **mislike** *n*
mis·man·age \(ˈ)mis-'man-ij\ *vt* : to manage wrongly or incompetently — **mis·man·age·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
mis·mar·riage \-'mar-ij\ *n* : an unsuitable marriage
mis·match \(ˈ)mis-'mach\ *vt* : to match wrongly or unsuitably — **mis·match** \(ˈ)mis-'mach, 'mis-ˌ\ *n*
mis·mate \(ˈ)mis-'māt\ *vt* : to mate unsuitably
mis·name \-'nām\ *vt* : to name incorrectly : MISCALL
mis·no·mer \(ˈ)mis-'nō-mər\ *n* [ME *misnoumer*, fr. MF *mesnommer* to misname, fr. *mes-* ¹mis- + *nommer* to name, fr. L *nominare* — more at NOMINATE] **1** : the misnaming of a person in a legal instrument **2 a** : a use of a wrong name **b** : a wrong name or designation — **mis·no·mered** \-mərd\ *adj*
mi·so \'mē-(ˌ)sō\ *n* [Jap] : a food paste that is used esp. in preparing soups and that is made by grinding a mixture of steamed rice, cooked soybeans, and salt and fermenting it in brine
miso- — see MIS-
mi·sog·a·mist \mə-'säg-ə-məst\ *n* [*misogamy*] : one who hates marriage — **mi·sog·a·my** \-ə-mē\ *n*
miso·gy·nic \ˌmis-ə-'jin-ik, -'gīn-\ *adj* [*misogyny*, fr. Gk *misogynia*, fr. *mis-* + *gynē* woman — more at QUEEN] : having or showing a hatred and distrust of women *syn* see CYNICAL — **mi·sog·y·nist** \mə-'säj-ə-nəst\ *n* — **mi·sog·y·nis·tic** \mə-ˌsäj-ə-'nis-tik\ *adj* — **mi·sog·y·ny** \mə-'säj-ə-nē\ *n*
mi·sol·o·gy \mə-'säl-ə-jē\ *n* [Gk *misologia*, fr. *mis-* + *-logia* -logy] : a hatred of argument, reasoning, or enlightenment
miso·ne·ism \ˌmis-ə-'nē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [It *misoneismo*, fr. *mis-* + Gk *neos* new + It *-ismo* -ism — more at NEW] : a hatred, fear, or intolerance of innovation or change
mis·ori·ent \(ˈ)mis-'ōr-ē-ˌent, -'ȯr-\ *vt* : to orient improperly or incorrectly — **mis·ori·en·ta·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌōr-ē-ən-'tā-shən, -ˌȯr-, -ˌen-\ *n*
mis·per·ceive \ˌmis-pər-'sēv\ *vt* : to perceive incorrectly or falsely : MISUNDERSTAND — **mis·per·cep·tion** \-'sep-shən\ *n*
mis·place \(ˈ)mis-'plās\ *vt* **1 a** : to put in a wrong place ⟨~ a comma⟩ **b** : MISLAY ⟨*misplaced* his keys⟩ **2** : to set on a wrong object or eventuality ⟨his trust had been *misplaced*⟩ — **mis·place·ment** \-'plā-smənt\ *n*
mis·play \(ˈ)mis-'plā\ *n* : a wrong or unskillful play : ERROR ⟨one ~ caused them to lose the game⟩ — **mis·play** \(ˈ)mis-'plā, 'mis-ˌ\ *vt*
mis·print \(ˈ)mis-'print\ *vt* : to print incorrectly — **mis·print** \'mis-ˌprint, (ˈ)mis-'\ *n*
¹mis·pri·sion \mis-'prizh-ən\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *mesprison* error, wrongdoing, fr. OF, fr. *mespris*, pp. of *mesprendre* to make a mistake, fr. *mes-* mis- + *prendre* to take, fr. L *prehendere* to seize — more at PREHENSILE] **1 a** : neglect or wrong performance of official duty **b** : concealment of treason or felony by one who is not a participant in the treason or felony **c** : seditious conduct against the government or the courts **2** : MISUNDERSTANDING, MISTAKE
²misprision *n* [*misprize*] : CONTEMPT, SCORN
mis·prize \(ˈ)mis-'prīz\ *vt* [MF *mesprisier*, fr. *mes-* mis- + *prisier* to appraise — more at PRIZE] **1** : to hold in contempt : DESPISE **2** : UNDERVALUE
mis·pro·nounce \ˌmis-prə-'naůn(t)s\ *vt* : to pronounce incorrectly or in a way regarded as incorrect
mis·pro·nun·ci·a·tion \-ˌnən(t)-sē-'ā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of mispronouncing
mis·quote \(ˈ)mis-'kwōt *also* -'kōt\ *vt* : to quote incorrectly — **mis·quo·ta·tion** \ˌmis-kwō-'tā-shən *also* -kō-\ *n*
mis·read \(ˈ)mis-'rēd\ *vt* **-read** \-'red\; **-read·ing** \-'rēd-iŋ\ **1** : to read incorrectly **2** : to misinterpret in or as if in reading ⟨totally ~ the lesson of history —Christopher Hollis⟩
mis·reck·on \-'rek-ən\ *vb* : MISCALCULATE, MISCOUNT
mis·re·mem·ber \ˌmis-ri-'mem-bər\ *vt* : to remember incorrectly or inadequately
mis·re·port \-'pō(ə)rt, -'pȯ(ə)rt\ *vt* : to report falsely — **misreport** *n*
mis·rep·re·sent \(ˌ)mis-ˌrep-ri-'zent\ *vt* **1** : to give a false or misleading representation of usu. with an intent to deceive or be unfair ⟨~*ed* the facts to suit his purpose⟩ **2** : to serve badly or improperly as a representative of — **mis·rep·re·sen·ta·tion** \(ˌ)mis-ˌrep-ri-ˌzen-'tā-shən, -zən-\ *n* — **mis·rep·re·sen·ta·tive** \-'zent-ət-iv\ *adj*
syn MISREPRESENT, FALSIFY, BELIE, GARBLE *shared meaning element* : to present or represent in a manner at odds with the truth
¹mis·rule \(ˈ)mis-'rül\ *vt* : to rule incompetently : MISGOVERN
²misrule *n* **1** : the action of misruling : the condition of being misruled **2** : DISORDER, ANARCHY
¹miss \'mis\ *vb* [ME *missen*, fr. OE *missan*; akin to OHG *missan* to miss, L *mutare* to change] *vt* **1** : to fail to hit, reach, or contact **2** : to discover or feel the absence of **3** : to fail to obtain **4** : ESCAPE, AVOID ⟨just ~*ed* hitting the other car⟩ **5** : to leave out : OMIT **6** : to fail to comprehend, sense, or experience ⟨he ~*ed* the point of the speech⟩ **7** : to fail to perform or attend ⟨had to ~ school for a week⟩ ~ *vi* **1** *archaic* : to fail to get, reach, or do something **2** : to fail to hit something **3 a** : to be unsuccessful **b** : MISFIRE ⟨the engine ~*ed*⟩ — **miss out on** : to lose a good opportunity ⟨people who *missed out on* a college education —*Atlantic*⟩ — **miss the boat** : to fail to take advantage of an opportunity
²miss *n* **1** *chiefly dial* : disadvantage or regret resulting from loss ⟨we know the ~ of you, and even hunger . . . to see you —Samuel Richardson⟩ **2 a** : a failure to hit **b** : a failure to attain a desired result **3** : MISFIRE
³miss *n* [short for *mistress*] **1 a** — used as a title prefixed to the name of an unmarried woman or girl **b** — used before the name of a place or of a line of activity or before some epithet to form a title for a usu. young unmarried female who is representative of the thing indicated ⟨*Miss* America⟩ **2** : young lady — used without a name as a conventional term of address to a young woman **3** : a young unmarried woman or girl
Miss *abbr* Mississippi
mis·sa can·ta·ta \ˌmis-ə-kən-'tät-ə\ *n* [NL, sung mass] : HIGH MASS

mis·sal \'mis-əl\ *n* [ME *messel*, fr. MF & ML; MF, fr. ML *missale*, fr. neut. of *missalis* of the mass, fr. LL *missa* mass — more at MASS] : a book containing all that is said or sung at mass during the entire year
mis·send \(')mis-'send\ *vt* **-sent** \-'sent\; **-send·ing** : to send incorrectly ⟨*missent* mail⟩
mis·sense \'mis-ˌsen(t)s\ *n* [*mis-* + *-sense* (as in *nonsense*)] : genetic mutation involving alteration of one or more codons so that different amino acids are determined
mis·shape \(')mis(h)-'shāp\ *vt* : to shape badly : DEFORM — **mis·shap·en** \-'shā-pən\ *adj* — **mis·shap·en·ly** *adv*
¹mis·sile \'mis-əl, *chiefly Brit* -ˌīl\ *adj* [L *missilis*, fr. *missus*, pp. of *mittere* to throw, send — more at SMITE] **1** : capable of being thrown or projected to strike a distant object **2** : adapted for throwing or hurling missiles **3** : of or relating to missiles ⟨a ~ crisis⟩
²missile *n* : an object (as a weapon) thrown or projected usu. so as to strike something at a distance ⟨stones, artillery shells, bullets, and rockets are ~*s*⟩: as **a** : GUIDED MISSILE **b** : BALLISTIC MISSILE
mis·sil·eer \ˌmis-ə-'li(ə)r\ *n* : MISSILEMAN
mis·sile·man \'mis-əl-mən\ *n* : one engaged in designing, building, or operating guided missiles
mis·sile·ry *also* **mis·sil·ry** \'mis-əl-rē\ *n* **1** : MISSILES; *esp* : GUIDED MISSILES **2** : the science dealing with the design, manufacture, and use of guided missiles
miss·ing \'mis-iŋ\ *adj* : ABSENT; *also* : LOST ⟨~ in action⟩
missing link *n* **1** : an absent member needed to complete a series **2** : a hypothetical intermediate form between man and his presumed simian progenitors
mis·si·ol·o·gy \ˌmis-ē-'äl-ə-jē\ *n* [*mission* + *-logy*] : the study of the church's mission esp. with respect to missionary activity
¹mis·sion \'mish-ən\ *n* [NL, ML, & L; NL *mission-*, *missio* religious mission, fr. ML, task assigned, fr. L, act of sending, fr. *missus*, pp. of *mittere*] **1** *obs* : the act or an instance of sending **2 a** : a ministry commissioned by a religious organization to propagate its faith or carry on humanitarian work **b** : assignment to or work in a field of missionary enterprise **c** (1) : a mission establishment (2) : a local church or parish dependent on a larger religious organization for direction or financial support **d** *pl* : organized missionary work **e** : a course of sermons and services given to convert the unchurched or quicken Christian faith **3** : a body of persons sent to perform a service or carry on an activity: as **a** : a group sent to a foreign country to conduct diplomatic or political negotiations **b** : a permanent embassy or legation **c** : a team of specialists or cultural leaders sent to a foreign country **4 a** : a specific task with which a person or a group is charged **b** (1) : a definite military, naval, or aerospace task ⟨a bombing ~⟩ ⟨a space ~⟩ (2) : a flight operation of an aircraft or spacecraft in the performance of a mission ⟨a ~ to Mars⟩ **5** : CALLING, VOCATION
²mission *vt* **mis·sioned; mis·sion·ing** \'mish-(ə-)niŋ\ **1** : to send on or entrust with a mission **2** : to carry on a religious mission among or in
³mission *adj* : of or relating to a style used in the early Spanish missions of the southwestern U.S. ⟨~ architecture⟩
¹mis·sion·ary \'mish-ə-ˌner-ē\ *adj* **1** : relating to, engaged in, or devoted to missions **2** : characteristic of a missionary
²missionary *n, pl* **-ar·ies** : a person undertaking a mission and esp. a religious mission
mis·sion·er \'mish-(ə-)nər\ *n* : MISSIONARY
mis·sion·ize \'mish-ə-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vi* : to carry on missionary work ~ *vt* : to do missionary work among — **mis·sion·iza·tion** \ˌmish-ə-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **mis·sion·iz·er** \'mish-ə-ˌnī-zər\ *n*
Mis·sis·sip·pi·an \ˌmis-(ə-)'sip-ē-ən\ *adj* [*Mississippi* river] **1** : of or relating to Mississippi, its people, or the Mississippi river **2** : of, relating to, or being the period of the Paleozoic era in No. America following the Devonian and preceding the Pennsylvanian or the corresponding system of rocks — **Mississippian** *n*
mis·sive \'mis-iv\ *n* [MF *lettre missive*, lit., letter intended to be sent] : a written communication : LETTER
miss·out \'mis-ˌau̇t\ *n* : a throw of dice that loses the main bet
mis·spell \(')mis-'spel\ *vt* : to spell incorrectly
mis·spell·ing \-iŋ\ *n* : an incorrect spelling
mis·spend \(')mis-'spend\ *vt* **-spent** \-'spent\; **-spend·ing** : to spend wrongly : SQUANDER ⟨a *misspent* life⟩
mis·state \(')mis-'stāt\ *vt* : to state incorrectly : give a false account of — **mis·state·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
mis·step \-'step\ *n* **1** : a wrong step **2** : a mistake in judgment or action : BLUNDER
mis·sus *or* **mis·sis** \'mis-əz, -əs, *esp South* 'miz-\ *n* [alter. of *mistress*] **1** : WIFE ⟨men spend money on themselves, but argue over every dime the ~ wants —W. A. Lydgate⟩ **2** *dial* : MISTRESS 1a
missy \'mis-ē\ *n* : a young girl : MISS
¹mist \'mist\ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to MD *mist* mist, Gk *omichlē*] **1** : water in the form of particles floating or falling in the atmosphere at or near the surface of the earth and approaching the form of rain **2** : something that dims or obscures **3** : a film before the eyes **4 a** : a cloud of small particles or objects suggestive of a mist **b** : a suspension of a finely divided liquid in a gas **c** : a fine spray **5** : a drink of alcoholic liquor (as Scotch) served over cracked ice and garnished with a twist of lemon peel ***syn*** see HAZE
²mist *vi* **1** : to be or become misty **2** : to become dim or blurred ~ *vt* : to cover with or convert to mist
mis·tak·able \mə-'stā-kə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being misunderstood or mistaken
¹mis·take \mə-'stāk\ *vb* **mis·took** \-'stu̇k\; **mis·tak·en** \-'stā-kən\; **mis·tak·ing** [ME *mistaken*, fr. ON *mistaka* to take by mistake, fr. *mis-* + *taka* to take — more at TAKE] *vt* **1** : to blunder in the choice of ⟨*mistook* her way in the dark⟩ **2 a** : to misunderstand the meaning or intention of : MISINTERPRET ⟨don't ~ me, I mean exactly what I said⟩ **b** : to make a wrong judgment of the character or ability of **3** : to identify wrongly : confuse with another ⟨I *mistook* him for his brother⟩ ~ *vi* : to be wrong ⟨you *mistook* when you thought I laughed at you —Thomas Hardy⟩ — **mis·tak·en·ly** *adv* — **mis·tak·er** *n*
syn MISTAKE, CONFUSE, CONFOUND *shared meaning element* : to take one thing to be another. One MISTAKES one thing *for* another when (as by error of perception or thought) one fails to recognize the thing or grasp its nature and therefore identifies it with something not itself ⟨*mistake* gush for vigor and substitute rhetoric for imagination —C. D. Lewis⟩ ⟨he often was *mistaken* for a preacher⟩ One CONFUSES one thing usually *with* another when one fails to differentiate two things that have similarities ⟨far too intellectually keen to *confuse* moral problems with purely aesthetic problems —Havelock Ellis⟩ One CONFOUNDS things, or one thing *with* another, when one mixes them up so hopelessly as to be unable to detect or grasp their differences; the term usually carries a strong suggestion of mental bewilderment or a muddled mind ⟨the temptation to *confound* accumulated knowledge and experience with intrinsic progress is almost irresistible —W. R. Inge⟩
ant recognize
²mistake *n* **1** : a misunderstanding of the meaning or implication of something **2** : a wrong action or statement proceeding from faulty judgment, inadequate knowledge, or inattention ***syn*** see ERROR
mis·ter \'mis-tər, *for 1* ˌmis-\ *n* [alter. of ¹*master*] **1** — used sometimes in writing instead of the usual *Mr.* **2** : SIR — used without a name as a generalized term of direct address of a man who is a stranger ⟨hey, ~, do you want to buy a paper⟩ **3** : a man not entitled to a title of rank or an honorific or professional title ⟨though he was only a ~, he was a greater scholar in his field than any Ph.D.⟩ **4** : HUSBAND ⟨maybe your *Mister* likes herbs, but then again, he mayn't —Alice Ross⟩
mis·think \(')mis-'thiŋk\ *vb* **-thought** \-'thȯt\; **-think·ing** *vi, archaic* : to think mistakenly or unfavorably ~ *vt, archaic* : to think badly or unfavorably of
mis·time \-'tīm\ *vt* : to time wrongly ⟨*mistimed* his swing and struck out⟩
mis·tle thrush \'mis-əl-\ *n* [obs. E *mistle* mistletoe, fr. ME *mistel*, fr. OE] : MAVIS 2
mis·tle·toe \'mis-əl-ˌtō, *chiefly Brit* 'miz-\ *n* [ME *mistilto* basil, fr. OE *misteltān*, fr. *mistel* mistletoe, basil + *tān* twig; akin to OHG & OS *mistil* mistletoe and to OHG *zein* twig] : a European semiparasitic green shrub (*Viscum album* of the family Loranthaceae, the mistletoe family) with thick leaves, small yellowish flowers, and waxy-white glutinous berries; *broadly* : any of various plants of the mistletoe family (as of an American genus *Phoradendron*) resembling the true mistletoe


mistletoe

mis·tral \'mis-trəl, mi-'sträl\ *n* [F, fr. Prov, fr. *mistral* masterful, fr. L *magistralis* — more at MAGISTRAL] : a strong cold dry northerly wind of southern France
mis·trans·late \ˌmis-tran(t)s-'lāt, -tranz-\ *vt* : to translate incorrectly
mis·trans·la·tion \-'lā-shən\ *n* : the act or an instance of mistranslating
mis·treat \(')mis-'trēt\ *vt* [ME *mistreten*, prob. fr. MF *mestraitier*, fr. OF, fr. *mis-* + *traitier* to treat — more at TREAT] : to treat badly : ABUSE — **mis·treat·ment** \-mənt\ *n*
mis·tress \'mis-trəs\ *n* [ME *maistresse*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fem. of *maistre* master — more at MASTER] **1** : a woman who has power, authority, or ownership: as **a** : the female head of a household **b** : a woman who employs or supervises servants **c** : a woman who possesses or controls something **d** : a woman who is in charge of a school or other establishment **e** : a woman of the Scottish nobility having a status comparable to that of a master **2 a** *chiefly Brit* : a female teacher or tutor **b** : a woman who has achieved mastery in some field **3** : a country or state have supremacy over others **4** : something personified as female that rules or directs **5 a** : a woman with whom a man habitually fornicates **b** *archaic* : SWEETHEART **6 a** — used archaically as a title prefixed to the name of a married or unmarried woman and now superseded by *Mrs.* and *Miss* **b** \'miz-əz, 'mis-, -əs\ *chiefly South & Midland* : MRS. 1a
mistress of ceremonies : a woman who presides at a public ceremony or who acts as hostess of a stage, radio, or television show
mis·tri·al \(')mis-'trī(-ə)l\ *n* : a trial that has no legal effect by reason of some error or serious prejudicial misconduct in the proceedings
¹mis·trust \(')mis-'trəst\ *n* : a lack of confidence : DISTRUST ***syn*** see UNCERTAINTY ***ant*** trust, assurance — **mis·trust·ful** \-fəl\ *adj* — **mis·trust·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mis·trust·ful·ness** *n*
²mistrust *vt* **1** : to have no trust or confidence in : SUSPECT ⟨~*ed* his neighbors⟩ **2** : to doubt the truth, validity, or effectiveness of ⟨~*ed* his own judgment⟩ **3** : SURMISE ⟨your mind ~*ed* there was something wrong —Robert Frost⟩ ~ *vi* : to be suspicious
misty \'mis-tē\ *adj* **mist·i·er; -est** **1 a** : obscured by mist **b** : consisting of or marked by mist **2 a** : INDISTINCT ⟨a ~ recollection of the event⟩ **b** : VAGUE, CONFUSED ⟨avoided the large, vague, ~ issues —Reuben Abel⟩ — **mist·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **mist·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*
misty–eyed \ˌmis-tē-'īd\ *adj* **1** : having eyes covered with mist **2** : DREAMY, SENTIMENTAL ⟨~ recollections⟩
mis·un·der·stand \(ˌ)mis-ˌən-dər-'stand\ *vt* **1** : to fail to understand **2** : to interpret incorrectly
mis·un·der·stand·ing \-'stan-diŋ\ *n* **1** : a failure to understand : MISINTERPRETATION **2** : QUARREL, DISAGREEMENT
mis·us·age \mish-'ü-sij, (')mis(h)-'yü-, -zij\ *n* [MF *mesusage*, fr. *mis-* + *usage*] **1** : bad treatment : ABUSE **2** : wrong or improper use (as of words)
¹mis·use \mish-'üz, (')mis(h)-'yüz\ *vt* [ME *misusen*, partly fr. *mis-* + *usen* to use; partly fr. MF *mesuser* to abuse, fr. OF, fr. *mis-* +

user to use] **1** : to use incorrectly : MISAPPLY ⟨*misused* his talents⟩ **2** : ABUSE, MISTREAT ⟨*misused* his servants⟩

²mis·use \mish-'üs, (')mis(h)-'yüs\ *n* : incorrect or improper use : MISAPPLICATION

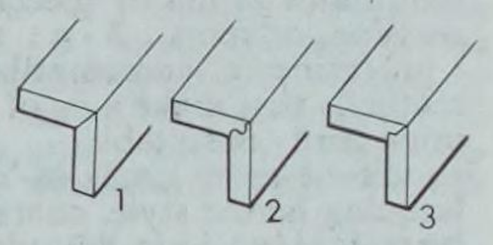
mis·val·ue \(')mis-'val-(ˌ)yü, -yə(-w)\ *vt* : UNDERVALUE

mis·ven·ture \(')mis-'ven-chər\ *n* : MISADVENTURE

mis·write \(')mis-'rīt\ *vt* **-wrote** \-'rōt\; **-writ·ten** \-'rit-ᵊn\; **-writ·ing** \-'rīt-iŋ\ : to write incorrectly

mite \'mīt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mīte;* akin to MD *mite* mite, small copper coin, OHG *meizan* to cut, OE *gemād* silly — more at MAD] **1** : any of numerous small to very minute arachnids (order Acarina) that often infest animals, plants, and stored foods and include important disease vectors **2** [ME, fr. MF or MD; MF, small Flemish copper coin, fr. MD] : a small coin or sum of money **3 a** : a very little : BIT ⟨could be that I am a ~ prejudiced —John Fischer⟩ **b** : a very small object or creature

¹mi·ter *or* **mi·tre** \'mīt-ər\ *n* [ME *mitre*, fr. MF, fr. L *mitra* headband, turban, fr. Gk; akin to Skt *mitra* friend] **1** : a liturgical headdress worn by bishops and abbots — see VESTMENT illustration **2 a** : a surface forming the beveled end or edge of a piece where a joint is made by cutting two pieces at an angle and fitting them together **b** : MITER SQUARE



miter joints: *1* plain, *2* milled, *3* rabbeted

²miter *or* **mitre** *vt* **mi·tered** *or* **mi·tred; mi·ter·ing** *or* **mi·tring** \'mīt-ə-riŋ\ **1** : to confer a miter on **2 a** : to match or fit together in a miter joint **b** : to bevel the ends of for making a miter joint — **mi·ter·er** \'mīt-ər-ər\ *n*

miter box *n* : a device for guiding a handsaw at the proper angle in making a miter joint in wood

miter gear *n* : one of a pair of interchangeable bevel gears with axes at right angles

miter square *n* : a bevel with an immovable arm at an angle of 45 degrees for striking miter lines; *also* : a square with an arm adjustable to any angle

mi·ter·wort *or* **mi·tre·wort** \'mīt-ər-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt *n* : any of a genus (*Mitella*) of rhizomatous perennial herbs of the saxifrage family that bear a capsule resembling a bishop's miter

Mith·ra·ic \mith-'rā-ik\ *adj* [LGk *mithraikos* of Mithras, ancient Per god of light, fr. Gk *Mithras*, fr. OPer *Mithra*] : of or relating to an oriental mystery cult for men flourishing in the late Roman empire — **Mith·ra·ism** \'mith-rə-ˌiz-əm, -(ˌ)rā-\ *n* — **Mith·ra·ist** \mith-'rā-əst\ *n or adj*

mith·ri·date \'mith-rə-ˌdāt\ *n* [ML *mithridatum*, fr. LL *mithridatium*, fr. L, dogtooth violet (used as an antidote), fr. Gk *mithridation*, fr. *Mithridatēs*] : an antidote against poison; *esp* : an electuary held to be effective against poison

mith·ri·da·tism \ˌmith-rə-'dāt-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [*Mithridates* VI †63 B.C. king of Pontus, fr. L *Mithridates*, fr. Gk *Mithridatēs;* fr. the fact that he reputedly produced this condition in himself] : tolerance to a poison acquired by taking gradually increased doses of it

mi·ti·cide \'mīt-ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [*mite*] : an agent used to kill mites — **mi·ti·cid·al** \ˌmīt-ə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*

mit·i·gate \'mit-ə-ˌgāt\ *vt* **-gat·ed; -gat·ing** [ME *mitigaten*, fr. L *mitigatus*, pp. of *mitigare* to soften, fr. *mitis* soft + *-igare* (akin to L *agere* to drive); akin to OIr *mōith* soft — more at AGENT] **1** : to cause to become less harsh or hostile : MOLLIFY ⟨aggressiveness may be *mitigated* or . . . channeled —Ashley Montagu⟩ **2 a** : to make less severe or painful : ALLEVIATE **b** : EXTENUATE ***syn*** see RELIEVE ***ant*** intensify — **mit·i·ga·tion** \ˌmit-ə-'gā-shən\ *n* — **mit·i·ga·tive** \'mit-ə-ˌgat-iv\ *adj* — **mit·i·ga·tor** \-ˌgāt-ər\ *n* — **mit·i·ga·to·ry** \'mit-i-gə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

mi·to·chon·dri·on \ˌmīt-ə-'kän-drē-ən\ *n, pl* **-dria** \-drē-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *mitos* thread + *chondrion*, dim. of *chondros* grain — more at GRIND] : any of various round or long cellular organelles that are found outside the nucleus, produce energy for the cell through cellular respiration, and are rich in fats, proteins, and enzymes — see CELL illustration — **mi·to·chon·dri·al** \-drē-əl\ *adj*

mi·to·gen \'mīt-ə-jən\ *n* [*mitosis* + *-gen*] : a substance that induces mitosis — **mi·to·gen·ic** \ˌmit-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* — **mi·to·ge·nic·i·ty** \-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n*

mi·to·my·cin \ˌmīt-ə-'mīs-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV *mito-* (prob. fr. NL *mitosis*) + *-mycin*] : a complex of antibiotic substances which is produced by a Japanese streptomyces and one form of which acts directly on DNA and shows promise as an anticancer agent

mi·to·sis \mī-'tō-səs\ *n, pl* **-to·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *mitos* thread] **1** : a process that takes place in the nucleus of a dividing cell, involves typically a series of steps consisting of prophase, metaphase, anaphase, and telophase, and results in the formation of two new nuclei each having the same number of chromosomes as the parent nucleus — compare MEIOSIS **2** : cell division in which mitosis occurs — **mi·tot·ic** \-'tät-ik\ *adj* — **mi·tot·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mi·trail·leuse \ˌmē-trə-'yə(r)z\ *n* [F] **1** : a breech-loading machine gun with a number of barrels **2** : MACHINE GUN

mi·tral \'mī-trəl\ *adj* **1** : resembling a miter **2** : relating to, being, or adjoining a mitral valve or orifice

mitral valve *n* : BICUSPID VALVE

mitt \'mit\ *n* [short for *mitten*] **1 a** : a woman's glove that leaves the fingers uncovered **b** : MITTEN 1 **c** : a baseball catcher's or first baseman's glove made in the style of a mitten **2** *slang* : HAND

mit·ten \'mit-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *mitain*, fr. MF *mitaine*, fr. OF, fr. *mite* mitten] **1** : a covering for the hand and wrist having a separate section for the thumb only **2** : MITT 1a

mit·ti·mus \'mit-ə-məs\ *n* [L, we send, fr. *mittere* to send — more at SMITE] : a warrant of commitment to prison

mitz·vah \'mits-və\ *n, pl* **mitz·voth** \-ˌvōt(h), -ˌvōs\ *or* **mitz·vahs** [Heb *miṣwāh*] **1** : a commandment of the Jewish law **2** : a meritorious or charitable act

¹mix \'miks\ *vb* [ME *mixen*, back-formation fr. *mixte* mixed, fr. MF, fr. L *mixtus*, pp. of *miscēre* to mix; akin to Gk *mignynai* to mix] *vt* **1 a** (1) : to combine or blend into one mass (2) : to combine with another **b** : to bring into close association ⟨~ business with pleasure⟩ **2** : to form by mixing components ⟨~ a drink at the bar⟩ **3** : CONFUSE — often used with *up* ⟨~*es* things up in his eagerness to speak out —Irving Howe⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to become mixed **b** : to be capable of mixing **2** : to enter into relations : ASSOCIATE **3** : CROSSBREED **4** : to become involved : PARTICIPATE ⟨decided not to ~ in politics⟩ — **mix·able** \'mik-sə-bəl\ *adj*

syn MIX, MINGLE, COMMINGLE, BLEND, MERGE, COALESCE, AMALGAMATE, FUSE *shared meaning element* : to combine or be combined into a more or less uniform whole

²mix *n* **1** : an act or process of mixing **2** : a product of mixing; *specif* : a commercially prepared mixture of food ingredients ⟨a cake ~⟩ **3** : MIXER 2b

mixed \'mikst\ *adj* [ME *mixte*] **1** : combining characteristics of more than one kind; *specif* : combining features of two or more systems of government ⟨a ~ constitution⟩ **2** : made up of or involving individuals or items of more than one kind: as **a** : made up of or involving persons differing in race, national origin, religion, or class **b** : made up of or involving individuals of both sexes ⟨~ company⟩ **3** : including or accompanied by inconsistent or incompatible elements ⟨~ emotions⟩ **4** : deriving from two or more races or breeds ⟨a person of ~ blood⟩

mixed alphabet *n* : an alphabet (as in a cryptographic system) that has been rearranged or disordered systematically or randomly

mixed bag *n* : a miscellaneous collection : ASSORTMENT

mixed bud *n* : a bud that produces a branch and leaves as well as flowers

mixed drink *n* : an alcoholic beverage prepared from a recipe calling for two or more ingredients stirred or shaken before serving

mixed farming *n* : the growing of food or cash crops, feed crops, and livestock on the same farm

mixed grill *n* : meats (as lamb chop, kidney, and bacon) and vegetables broiled together and served on one plate

mixed marriage *n* : a marriage between persons of different races or religions

mixed–media *adj* : MULTIMEDIA

mixed nerve *n* : a nerve containing both sensory and motor fibers

mixed number *n* : a number (as $5\frac{2}{3}$) composed of an integer and a fraction

mixed–up \'mik-'stəp\ *adj* : marked by bewilderment, perplexity, or disorder : CONFUSED ⟨an abandoner of husband and child, and a totally ~ kid —Hollis Alpert⟩

mix·er \'mik-sər\ *n* **1** : one that mixes: as **a** (1) : one whose work is mixing the ingredients of a product (2) : one who balances and controls the dialogue, music, and sound effects to be recorded for or with a motion picture or television **b** : a container, device, or machine for mixing **c** : a game, stunt, or dance used at a get-together to give members of the group an opportunity to meet one another in a friendly and informal atmosphere — called also *icebreaker* **2** : one that mixes with others: as **a** : a person considered as to his casual sociability ⟨was shy and a poor ~⟩ **b** : a nonalcoholic beverage (as ginger ale) used in a mixed drink

mix·ol·o·gy \mik-'säl-ə-jē\ *n* : the art or skill of preparing mixed drinks — **mix·ol·o·gist** \-jəst\ *n*

mixt *abbr* mixture

Mix·tec \mēs(h)-'tek, mis(h)-\ *n, pl* **Mixtec** *or* **Mixtecs** [AmerSp *mixteco*] **1** : a member of an American Indian people of Mexico **2** : the language of the Mixtec people

mix·ture \'miks-chər\ *n* [MF, fr. OF *misture*, fr. L *mixtura*, fr. *mixtus*] **1 a** : the act, the process, or an instance of mixing **b** (1) : the state of being mixed (2) : the relative proportions of constituents; *specif* : the proportion of fuel to air produced in a carburetor **2** : a product of mixing : COMBINATION: as **a** : a portion of matter consisting of two or more components in varying proportions that retain their own properties **b** : a fabric woven of variously colored threads **c** : a combination of several different kinds

mix–up \'mik-ˌsəp\ *n* **1** : a state or instance of confusion ⟨a ~ about who was to meet the train⟩ **2** : MIXTURE **3** : CONFLICT, FIGHT

Mi·zar \'mī-ˌzär\ *n* [Ar *Mi'zar*, lit., veil, cloak] : a star of the second magnitude in the handle of the Big Dipper

¹miz·zen *or* **miz·en** \'miz-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *meson*, prob. fr. MF *misaine*, deriv. of Ar *mazzān* mast] **1** : a fore-and-aft sail set on the mizzenmast **2** : MIZZENMAST

²mizzen *or* **mizen** *adj* : of or relating to the mizzenmast ⟨~ shrouds⟩

miz·zen·mast \-ˌmast, -məst\ *n* : the mast aft or next aft of the mainmast in a ship

¹miz·zle \'miz-əl\ *vi* **miz·zled; miz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *misellen;* akin to Flem *mizzelen* to drizzle, MD *mist* fog, mist] : to rain in very fine drops : DRIZZLE ⟨standing up hatless in the *mizzling* rain —Helen Eustis⟩ — **mizzle** *n* — **miz·zly** \-(ə-)lē\ *adj*

²mizzle *vi* **miz·zled; miz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ [origin unknown] *chiefly Brit* : to depart suddenly

mk *abbr* **1** mark **2** markka

Mk *abbr* Mark

mks *abbr* meter-kilogram-second

mktg *abbr* marketing

ml *abbr* milliliter

mL *abbr* millilambert

MLA *abbr* **1** Member of the Legislative Assembly **2** Modern Language Association

MLD *abbr* **1** median lethal dose **2** minimum lethal dose

MLF *abbr* multilateral force

Mlle *abbr* [F] mademoiselle

Mlles *abbr* [F] mesdemoiselles
MLS *abbr* master of library science
MLW *abbr* mean low water
mm *abbr* millimeter
MM *abbr* **1** Maryknoll Missioners **2** [F] messieurs **3** mutatis mutandis
Mme *abbr* [F] madame
mmf *abbr* magnetomotive force
MMPI *abbr* Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory
MMus *abbr* master of music
Mn *symbol* manganese
MN *abbr* **1** magnetic north **2** Minnesota
1mne·mon·ic \ni-'män-ik\ *adj* [Gk *mnēmonikos*, fr. *mnēmōn* mindful, fr. *mimnēskesthai* to remember — more at MIND] **1** : assisting or intended to assist memory; *also* : of or relating to mnemonics **2** : of or relating to memory — **mne·mon·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
2mnemonic *n* : a mnemonic device or code
mne·mon·ics \ni-'män-iks\ *n pl but sing in constr* : a technique of improving the memory
Mne·mos·y·ne \ni-'mäs-ᵊn-ē, -'mäz-\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Mnēmosynē*] : the Greek goddess of memory and the mother of the Muses by Zeus
mo *abbr* month
1Mo *abbr* Missouri
2Mo *symbol* molybdenum
MO *abbr* **1** mail order **2** medical officer **3** Missouri **4** modus operandi **5** money order
-mo \(ˌ)mō\ *n suffix* [duodec*imo*] — after numerals or their names to indicate the number of leaves made by folding a sheet of paper ⟨sixteen*mo*⟩ ⟨16*mo*⟩
moa \'mō-ə\ *n* [Maori] : any of various usu. very large extinct flightless ratite birds of New Zealand (family Dinornithidae) including one (*Dinornis giganteus*) about 12 feet in height
Mo·ab·ite \'mō-ə-ˌbīt\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *Moabita, Moabites*, fr. Gk *Mōabitēs*, fr. *Mōab* Moab, ancient kingdom in Syria] : a member of an ancient Semitic people related to the Hebrews — **Moabite** *or* **Mo·ab·it·ish** \-ˌbīt-ish\ *adj* — **Mo·ab·it·ess** \-ˌbīt-əs\ *n*
1moan \'mōn\ *n* [ME *mone*, fr. (assumed) OE *mān*] **1** : LAMENTATION, COMPLAINT **2** : a low prolonged sound of pain or of grief
2moan *vt* **1** : to bewail audibly : LAMENT **2** : to utter with moans ~ *vi* **1** : LAMENT, COMPLAIN **2 a** : to make a moan : GROAN **b** : to emit a sound resembling a moan ⟨the wind ~*ed* in the trees⟩
1moat \'mōt\ *n* [ME *mote*] **1** : a deep and wide trench around the rampart of a fortified place (as a castle) that is usu. filled with water **2** : a channel resembling a moat (as about a seamount or for confinement of animals in a zoo) — **moat·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*
2moat *vt* : to surround with or as if with a moat
1mob \'mäb\ *n* [L *mobile vulgus* vacillating crowd] **1** : the lower classes of a community : MASSES, RABBLE **2** : a large or disorderly crowd; *esp* : one bent on riotous or destructive action **3** *chiefly Austral* : a flock, drove, or herd of animals **4** : a criminal set : GANG ***syn*** see CROWD — **mob·bish** \'mäb-ish\ *adj*
2mob *vt* **mobbed; mob·bing** **1** : to crowd about and attack or annoy ⟨*mobbed* by autograph hunters before he could enter the theater⟩ **2** : to crowd into or around ⟨customers ~ the stores on sale days⟩
mob·cap \'mäb-ˌkap\ *n* [*mob* (woman's cap) + *cap*] : a woman's fancy indoor cap made with a high full crown and often tied under the chin
1mo·bile \'mō-bəl, -ˌbēl, -ˌbīl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *mobilis*, fr. *movēre* to move] **1** : capable of moving or being moved : MOVABLE ⟨a ~ missile launcher⟩ **2 a** : changeable in appearance, mood, or purpose **b** : ADAPTABLE, VERSATILE **3** : MIGRATORY **4 a** : characterized by the mixing of social groups **b** : having the opportunity for or undergoing a shift in status within the hierarchical social levels of a society ⟨upward ~ middle-class workers⟩ **5** : marked by the use of vehicles for transportation ⟨~ warfare⟩ **6** : of or relating to a mobile — **mo·bil·i·ty** \mō-'bil-ət-ē\ *n*
2mo·bile \'mō-ˌbēl\ *n* : a construction or sculpture frequently of wire and sheet metal shapes with parts that can be set in motion by air currents; *also* : a similar structure (as of paper or plastic) suspended so that it moves in a current of air
mobile home *n* : a trailer that is used as a permanent dwelling, is usu. connected to utilities, and is designed without a permanent foundation — compare MOTOR HOME
mo·bi·li·za·tion \ˌmō-bə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of mobilizing **2** : the state of being mobilized
mo·bi·lize \'mō-bə-ˌlīz\ *vb* **-lized; -liz·ing** *vt* **1 a** : to put into movement or circulation ⟨~ financial assets⟩ **b** : to release (something stored in the organism) for bodily use **2 a** : to assemble and make ready for war duty **b** : to marshal (as resources) for action ⟨~ support for a proposal⟩ ~ *vi* : to undergo mobilization
Mö·bi·us strip \ˌmə(r)b-ē-əs-, ˌmāb-\ *n* [August F. *Möbius* †1868 G mathematician] : a one-sided surface that is constructed from a rectangle by holding one end fixed, rotating the opposite end through 180 degrees, and applying it to the first end
mob·oc·ra·cy \mä-'bäk-rə-sē\ *n* **1** : rule by the mob **2** : the mob as a ruling class — **mob·ocrat** \'mäb-ə-ˌkrat\ *n* — **mob·ocrat·ic** \ˌmäb-ə-'krat-ik\ *adj*
mob·ster \'mäb-stər\ *n* : a member of a criminal gang
moc·ca·sin \'mäk-ə-sən\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *mokkussin* shoe] **1 a** : a soft leather heelless shoe or boot with the sole brought up the sides of the foot and over the toes where it is joined with a puckered seam to a U-shaped piece lying on top of the foot **b** : a regular shoe having a seam on the forepart of the vamp imitating the seam of a true moccasin **2 a** : WATER MOCCASIN **b** : a snake (as of the genus *Natrix*) resembling a water moccasin
moccasin flower *n* : any of several lady's slippers (genus *Cypripedium*); *esp* : a once common woodland orchid (*C. acaule*) of eastern No. America with pink or white moccasin-shaped flowers
mo·cha \'mō-kə\ *n* [*Mocha*, Arabia] **1 a** (1) : superior Arabian coffee with small green or yellowish beans grown in Arabia (2) : a coffee of superior quality **b** : a flavoring made of a strong coffee infusion or of a mixture of cocoa or chocolate with coffee **2** : a pliable suede-finished glove leather from African sheepskins
1mock \'mäk, 'mȯk\ *vb* [ME *mocken*, fr. MF *mocquer*] *vt* **1** : to treat with contempt or ridicule : DERIDE **2** : to disappoint the hopes of : DELUDE **3** : DEFY, CHALLENGE **4 a** : to imitate (as a sound or mannerism) closely : MIMIC **b** : to mimic in sport or derision ~ *vi* : JEER, SCOFF ***syn*** see RIDICULE, COPY — **mock·er** *n* — **mock·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
2mock *n* **1** : an act of ridicule or derision : JEER **2** : one that is an object of derision or scorn **3** : MOCKERY **4 a** : an act of imitation **b** : something made as an imitation
3mock *adj* : of, relating to, or having the character of an imitation : SIMULATED, FEIGNED ⟨the ~ solemnity of the parody⟩
4mock *adv* : in an insincere or counterfeit manner — usu. used in combination ⟨*mock*-serious⟩
mock·ery \'mäk-(ə-)rē, 'mȯk-\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : insulting or contemptuous action or speech : DERISION **2** : a subject of laughter, derision, or sport **3 a** : a counterfeit appearance : IMITATION **b** : an insincere, contemptible, or impertinent imitation ⟨arbitrary methods that make a ~ of justice⟩ **4** : something ridiculously or impudently unsuitable
1mock–he·ro·ic \ˌmäk-hi-'rō-ik, ˌmȯk-\ *adj* : ridiculing or burlesquing heroic style, character, or action ⟨a ~ poem⟩ — **mock–he·ro·ical·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
2mock–heroic *n* : a mock-heroic composition — called also *mock-epic*
mock·ing·bird \'mäk-iŋ-ˌbərd, 'mȯk-\ *n* : a common bird (*Mimus polyglottos*) esp. of the southern U.S. that is remarkable for its exact imitations of the notes of other birds
mock orange *n* : any of various usu. shrubby plants considered to resemble the orange; *esp* : PHILADELPHUS
mock turtle soup *n* : a soup made of meat (as calf's head or veal), wine, and spices in imitation of green turtle soup
mock–up \'mäk-ˌəp, 'mȯk-\ *n* : a full-sized structural model built accurately to scale chiefly for study, testing, or display ⟨a ~ of lunar terrain —R. N. Watts, Jr.⟩
1mod \'mäd\ *adj* : MODERN; *esp* : bold and free in style, behavior, or dress
2mod *n* : one who wears mod clothes
3mod *abbr* **1** moderate **2** modern **3** modification; modified **4** modulo; modulus
mod·acryl·ic fiber \ˌmäd-ə-ˌkril-ik-\ *n* [*mod*ified *acrylic*] : any of various synthetic textile fibers that are long-chain polymers composed of 35 to 85 percent by weight of acrylonitrile units
mod·al \'mōd-ᵊl\ *adj* [ML *modalis*, fr. L *modus*] **1** : of or relating to modality in logic **2** : containing provisions as to the mode of procedure or the manner of taking effect — used of a contract or legacy **3** : of or relating to a musical mode **4** : of or relating to structure as opposed to substance **5** : of, relating to, or constituting a grammatical form or category characteristically indicating predication of an action or state in some manner other than as a simple fact **6** : of or relating to a statistical mode — **mod·al·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*
modal auxiliary *n* : an auxiliary verb (as *can, must, might, may*) that is characteristically used with a verb of predication and expresses a modal modification and that in English differs formally from other verbs in lacking *-s* and *-ing* forms
mo·dal·i·ty \mō-'dal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : the quality or state of being modal **b** : a modal quality or attribute : FORM **2** : the classification of logical propositions according to their asserting or denying the possibility, impossibility, contingency, or necessity of their content **3** : one of the main avenues of sensation (as vision) **4** : a therapeutic agency used esp. in physical therapy
1mode \'mōd\ *n* [ME *moede*, fr. L *modus* measure, manner, musical mode — more at METE] **1 a** : an arrangement of the eight diatonic notes or tones of an octave according to one of several fixed schemes of their intervals **b** : a rhythmical scheme (as in 13th and 14th century music) **2** : ²MOOD 2 **3** [LL *modus*, fr. L] **a** : ²MOOD 1 **b** : the modal form of the assertion or denial of a logical proposition **4 a** : a particular form or variety of something **b** : a form or manner of expression : STYLE **5** : a possible, customary, or preferred way of doing something ⟨explained in the usual solemn ~⟩ **6 a** : a manifestation, form, or arrangement of being; *specif* : a particular form or manifestation of an underlying substance **b** : a particular functioning arrangement or condition : STATUS ⟨a spacecraft in reentry ~⟩ ⟨a computer operating in parallel ~⟩ **7 a** : the most frequent value of a set of data **b** : a value of a random variable for which a function of probabilities defined on it achieves a relative maximum **8** : any of various stationary vibration patterns of which an elastic body or oscillatory system is capable ⟨the vibration ~ of an airplane propeller blade⟩ ⟨the ~*s* of electromagnetic radiation in a waveguide⟩ **9** : the actual mineral composition of a rock ***syn*** see METHOD
2mode *n* [F, fr. L *modus*] : a prevailing fashion or style (as of dress or behavior) ***syn*** see FASHION
1mod·el \'mäd-ᵊl\ *n* [MF *modelle*, fr. OIt *modello*, fr. (assumed) VL *modellus*, fr. L *modulus* small measure, fr. *modus*] **1** *obs* : a set of plans for a building **2** *dial Brit* : COPY, IMAGE **3** : structural design ⟨built his home on the ~ of an old farmhouse⟩ **4** : a miniature representation of something; *also* : a pattern of something to be made **5** : an example for imitation or emulation **6** : a person or thing that serves as a pattern for an artist; *esp* : one who poses for an artist **7** : ARCHETYPE **8** : an organism whose appearance a mimic imitates **9** : one who is employed to display clothes or other merchandise : MANNEQUIN **10 a** : a type or design of clothing **b** : a type or design of product (as a car or airplane) **11** : a description or analogy used to help visualize something (as an atom) that cannot be directly observed **12** : a system of postulates, data, and inferences presented as a mathematical description of an entity or state of affairs
syn MODEL, EXAMPLE, PATTERN, EXEMPLAR, IDEAL *shared meaning element* : something set or held before one for guidance or imitation

²model *vb* **mod·eled** *or* **mod·elled; mod·el·ing** *or* **mod·el·ling** \'mäd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ *vt* **1** : to plan or form after a pattern : SHAPE **2** *archaic* : to make into an organization (as an army, government, or parish) **3** : to shape or fashion in a plastic material; *broadly* : to produce a representation or simulation of ⟨using a computer to ~ a problem⟩ **4** : to construct or fashion in imitation of a particular model ⟨~*ed* its constitution on that of the U.S.⟩ **5** : to display by wearing, using, or posing with ⟨~*ed* gowns⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to design or imitate forms : make a pattern ⟨enjoys ~*ing* in clay⟩ **2** : to work or act as a fashion model — **mod·el·er** \'mäd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*

³model *adj* **1** : serving as or capable of serving as a pattern ⟨a ~ student⟩ **2** : being a miniature representation of something ⟨a ~ airplane⟩

¹mod·er·ate \'mäd-(ə-)rət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *moderatus*, fr. pp. of *moderare* to moderate; akin to L *modus* measure] **1 a** : avoiding extremes of behavior or expression : observing reasonable limits ⟨a ~ drinker⟩ **b** : CALM, TEMPERATE **2 a** : tending toward the mean or average amount or dimension **b** : having average or less than average quality : MEDIOCRE **3** : avoiding extreme political or social measures ⟨a ~ candidate⟩ **4** : limited in scope or effect **5** : not expensive : reasonable or low in price **6** *of a color* : of medium lightness and medium chroma — **mod·er·ate·ly** *adv* — **mod·er·ate·ness** *n*

²mod·er·ate \'mäd-ə-ˌrāt\ *vb* **-at·ed; -at·ing** *vt* **1** : to lessen the intensity or extremeness of ⟨the sun *moderated* the chill⟩ **2** : to preside over or act as chairman of ~ *vi* **1** : to act as a moderator **2** : to become less violent, severe, or intense — **mod·er·a·tion** \ˌmäd-ə-'rā-shən\ *n*

syn MODERATE, QUALIFY, TEMPER *shared meaning element* : to modify so as to avoid an extreme or keep within bounds

³mod·er·ate \'mäd-(ə-)rət\ *n* [¹*moderate*] : one who holds moderate views or who belongs to a group favoring a moderate course or program (as in politics or religion)

moderate breeze *n* : wind having a speed of 13 to 18 miles per hour

moderate gale *n* : wind having a speed of 32 to 38 miles per hour

mo·der·a·to \ˌmäd-ə-'rät-(ˌ)ō\ *adv or adj* [It, fr. L *moderatus*] : MODERATE — used as a direction in music to indicate tempo

mod·er·a·tor \'mäd-ə-ˌrāt-ər\ *n* **1** : one who arbitrates : MEDIATOR **2** : one who presides over an assembly, meeting, or discussion: as **a** : the presiding officer of a Presbyterian governing body **b** : the nonpartisan presiding officer of a town meeting **c** : the chairman of a discussion group **3** : a substance (as graphite) used for slowing down neutrons in a nuclear reactor — **mod·er·a·tor·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*

¹mod·ern \'mäd-ərn, *nonstand* 'mäd-(ə-)rən\ *adj* [LL *modernus*, fr. L *modo* just now, fr. *modus* measure — more at METE] **1 a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a period extending from a relevant remote past to the present time **b** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the present or the immediate past : CONTEMPORARY **2** : involving recent techniques, methods, or ideas : UP-TO-DATE **3** *cap* : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of the present or most recent period of development of a language — **mo·der·ni·ty** \mə-'dər-nət-ē, mä-\ *n* — **mod·ern·ly** \'mäd-ərn-lē\ *adv* — **mod·ern·ness** \-ərn-nəs\ *n*

syn **1** MODERN, RECENT, LATE *shared meaning element* : having taken place, existed, or developed in times close to the present. In spite of the common element of meaning these words are seldom freely interchangeable without loss of precision. MODERN may date anything that is not ancient or medieval ⟨wrecks of ancient galleys, medieval ships, and *modern* dreadnoughts —William Beebe⟩ or anything that bears the marks of a period nearer in time than another ⟨ornate mansions of a bygone era mingle with more *modern* concepts of architecture —*N. Y. Times*⟩ or, less clearly, may apply to whatever is felt as new, fresh, or up-to-date ⟨what is *modern* today and up-to-date . . . becomes obsolete and outworn tomorrow —F. D. Roosevelt⟩ In all these uses a change or contrast in character or quality is implicit. RECENT usually lacks such implications and applies to a date that approximates the immediate past more or less precisely according to the nature of the thing qualified; thus, "the *Recent* geological epoch" dates back thousands of years but extends to the present time; "Shakespeare is a more *recent* author than Chaucer" implies only a comparative relation; "we have all the *recent* books on the subject" implies an absolute relation to the near or immediate past ⟨*recent* news⟩ ⟨a *recent* change of plans⟩ LATE usually implies a series or succession of which the one described is the most recent in time ⟨the *late* war⟩

2 see NEW ***ant*** antique, ancient

²modern *n* **1** : a person of modern times or views **2** : a style of printing type distinguished by regularity of shape, precise curves, straight hairline serifs, and heavy downstrokes

modern

Modern Hebrew *n* : Hebrew as used in present-day Israel

mod·ern·ism \'mäd-ər-ˌniz-əm\ *n* **1** : a practice, usage, or expression peculiar to modern times **2** *often cap* : a tendency in theology to accommodate traditional religious teaching to contemporary thought and esp. to devalue traditional supernatural elements **3** : the philosophy and practices of modern art; *esp* : a self-conscious break with the past and a search for new forms of expression — **mod·ern·ist** \-nəst\ *n or adj* — **mod·ern·is·tic** \ˌmäd-ər-'nis-tik\ *adj*

mod·ern·iza·tion \ˌmäd-ər-nə-'zā-shən\ *n* **1** : the act of modernizing : the state of being modernized **2** : something modernized : a modernized version

mod·ern·ize \'mäd-ər-ˌnīz\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* : to make modern in taste, style, or usage ~ *vi* : to adopt modern ways — **mod·ern·iz·er** *n*

modern pentathlon *n* : a composite contest in which all contestants compete in a 300-meter freestyle swim, a 4000-meter cross-country run, a 5000-meter 30-jump equestrian steeplechase, épée fencing, and target shooting at 25 meters

mod·est \'mäd-əst\ *adj* [L *modestus* moderate; akin to L *modus* measure] **1 a** : placing a moderate estimate on one's abilities or worth **b** : neither bold nor self-assertive : tending toward diffidence **2** : arising from or characteristic of a modest nature **3** : observing the proprieties of dress and behavior : DECENT **4** : limited in size, amount, or aim : UNPRETENTIOUS ⟨a ~ cottage⟩ ***syn*** **1** see HUMBLE ***ant*** ambitious **2** see SHY **3** see CHASTE ***ant*** immodest — **mod·est·ly** *adv*

mod·es·ty \'mäd-ə-stē\ *n* **1** : freedom from conceit or vanity **2** : propriety in dress, speech, or conduct

mod·i·cum \'mäd-i-kəm, 'mōd-\ *n* [ME, fr. L, neut. of *modicus* moderate, fr. *modus* measure] : a small portion : a limited quantity

modif *abbr* modification

mod·i·fi·ca·tion \ˌmäd-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the limiting of a statement : QUALIFICATION **2** : ¹MODE 6a **3 a** : the making of a limited change in something ⟨a ~ of plans⟩ **b** : a change in an organism caused by environmental factors

mod·i·fi·er \'mäd-ə-ˌfī(-ə)r\ *n* **1** : one that modifies **2** : a grammatical qualifier **3** : a gene that modifies the effect of another

mod·i·fy \'mäd-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *modifien*, fr. MF *modifier*, fr. L *modificare* to measure, moderate, fr. *modus*] *vt* **1** : to make less extreme : MODERATE **2 a** : to limit or restrict the meaning of esp. in a grammatical construction : QUALIFY **b** : to change (a vowel) by umlaut **3 a** : to make minor changes in **b** : to make basic or fundamental changes in often to give a new orientation to or to serve a new end ⟨the wing of a bird is an arm *modified* for flying⟩ ~ *vi* : to undergo change ***syn*** see CHANGE — **mod·i·fi·abil·i·ty** \ˌmäd-ə-ˌfī-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **mod·i·fi·able** \'mäd-ə-ˌfī-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **mod·i·fi·able·ness** *n*

mo·dil·lion \mō-'dil-yən\ *n* [It *modiglione*] : an ornamental block or bracket under the corona of the cornice (as in the Corinthian order)

mod·ish \'mōd-ish\ *adj* : FASHIONABLE, STYLISH ⟨a ~ hat⟩ ⟨a ~ writer⟩ — **mod·ish·ly** *adv* — **mod·ish·ness** *n*

mo·diste \mō-'dēst\ *n* [F, fr. *mode* style, mode] : one who makes and sells fashionable dresses and hats for women

mod·u·la·bil·i·ty \ˌmäj-ə-lə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* : the capability of being modulated

mod·u·lar \'mäj-ə-lər\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or based on a module or a modulus **2** : constructed with standardized units or dimensions for flexibility and variety in use — **mod·u·lar·i·ty** \ˌmäj-ə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **mod·u·lar·ly** \'mäj-ə-lər-lē\ *adv*

modular arithmetic *n* : arithmetic that deals with whole numbers where the numbers are replaced by their remainders after division by a fixed number ⟨in a *modular arithmetic* with modulus 5, 3 multiplied by 4 would be 2⟩ ⟨5 hours after 10 o'clock is 3 o'clock because clocks follow a *modular arithmetic* with modulus 12⟩

mod·u·lar·ized \'mäj-ə-lə-ˌrīzd\ *adj* **1** : containing or consisting of modules ⟨~ electronic equipment⟩ **2** : produced in the form of modules

mod·u·late \'mäj-ə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *modulatus*, pp. of *modulari* to play, sing, fr. *modulus* small measure, rhythm, dim. of *modus* measure — more at METE] *vt* **1** : to tune to a key or pitch **2** : to adjust to or keep in proper measure or proportion : TEMPER **3** : to vary the amplitude, frequency, or phase of (a carrier wave or signal) in telephony, telegraphy, radio, or television ~ *vi* **1** : to play or sing with modulation **2** : to pass by regular chord or melodic progression from one musical key or tonality into another — **mod·u·la·tor** \-ˌlāt-ər\ *n* — **mod·u·la·to·ry** \-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj*

mod·u·la·tion \ˌmäj-ə-'lā-shən\ *n* **1** : a regulating according to measure or proportion : TEMPERING **2** : an inflection of the tone or pitch of the voice; *specif* : the use of stress or pitch to convey meaning **3** : a changing from one tonality to another by regular melodic or chord succession **4** : the process of varying the amplitude, frequency, or phase of a carrier or signal in telegraphy, telephony, radio, or television; *also* : the resultant variation

mod·ule \'mäj-(ˌ)ü(ə)l\ *n* [L *modulus*] **1** : a standard or unit of measurement **2** : the size of some one part taken as a unit of measure by which the proportions of an architectural composition are regulated **3 a** : any in a series of standardized units for use together **b** : a usu. packaged functional assembly of electronic components for use with other such assemblies **4** : an independent unit that is a part of the total structure of a space vehicle **5 a** : a subset of an additive group that is also a group under addition **b** : a mathematical set that is a commutative group under addition and that is closed under multiplication which is distributive from the left or right or both by elements of a ring and for which $a(bx) = (ab)x$ or $(xb)a = x(ba)$ or both where a and b are elements of the ring and x belongs to the set

mod·u·lo \'mäj-ə-ˌlō\ *prep* [NL, abl. of *modulus*] : with respect to a modulus of ⟨19 and 54 are congruent ~ 7⟩

mod·u·lus \'mäj-ə-ləs\ *n, pl* **-li** \-ˌlī, -ˌlē\ [NL, fr. L, small measure] **1** : a constant or coefficient that expresses usu. numerically the degree in which a property is possessed by a substance or body **2 a** : ABSOLUTE VALUE 2 **b** (1) : the number (as a positive integer) or other mathematical entity (as a polynomial) in a congruence that divides the difference of the two congruent members without leaving a remainder — compare RESIDUE b (2) : the number of different numbers used in a system of modular arithmetic **c** : the factor by which a logarithm of a number to one base is multiplied to obtain the logarithm of the number to a new base

mo·dus ope·ran·di \ˌmōd-ə-ˌsäp-ə-'ran-dē, -ˌdī\ *n, pl* **mo·di ope·randi** \'mō-ˌdē-ˌäp-, 'mō-ˌdī-\ [NL] : a method of procedure

mo·dus vi·ven·di \ˌmōd-əs-vi-'ven-dē, -ˌdī\ *n, pl* **mo·di vivendi** \'mō-ˌdē-vi-, 'mō-ˌdī-\ [NL, manner of living] **1** : a feasible ar-

rangement or practical compromise; *esp* : one that bypasses difficulties **2** : a manner of living : a way of life

mo·fette *or* **mof·fette** \mō-'fet, mä-\ *n* [F *mofette* gaseous exhalation] : a vent in the earth from which carbon dioxide and some nitrogen and oxygen issue

mog \'mäg, 'mȯg\ *vi* **mogged; mog·ging** [origin unknown] *dial* : to move away; *also* : JOG

¹mo·gul \'mō-(,)gəl, mō-'\ *n* [Per *Mughul*, fr. Mongolian *Moŋgol*] **1** *or* **mo·ghul** *cap* : an Indian Muslim of or descended from one of several conquering groups of Mongol, Turkish, and Persian origin **2** : a great personage : MAGNATE — **mogul** *adj, often cap*

²mogul \'mō-gəl\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Norw dial. *muge* heap, fr. ON *mugi* — more at MOW] : a bump in a ski run

mo·hair \'mō-,ha(ə)r, -,he(ə)r\ *n* [modif. of obs. It *mocaiarro*, fr. Ar *mukhayyar*, lit., choice] : a fabric or yarn made wholly or in part of the long silky hair of the Angora goat; *also* : this hair

Mo·ham·med·an *var of* MUHAMMADAN

Mo·hawk \'mō-,hȯk\ *n, pl* **Mohawk** *or* **Mohawks** [of Algonquian origin; akin to Narraganset *Mohowaùuck*] **1 a** : an Amerindian people of the Mohawk river valley, New York **b** : a member of this people **2** : the language of the Mohawk people

Mo·he·gan \mō-'hē-gən, mə-\ *or* **Mo·hi·can** \-'hē-kən\ *n, pl* **Mohegan** *or* **Mohegans** *or* **Mohican** *or* **Mohicans** : a member of an Amerindian people of southeastern Connecticut

Mo·hi·can \mō-'hē-kən, mə-\ *var of* MAHICAN

Moh·ism \'mō-,iz-əm\ *n* [*Mo* Ti *fl* 400 B.C. Chin philosopher] : the teachings of Mo Ti characterized by an emphasis on egalitarian universal love and opposition to traditionalism and Confucianism — **Moh·ist** \'mō-əst\ *n or adj*

Mo·ho \'mō-,hō\ *n* [short for *Mohorovicic discontinuity*, fr. Andrija *Mohorovičić* †1936 Yugoslav geologist] : a point ranging from about three miles beneath the ocean basin floor to about 25 miles beneath the continental surface at which seismological studies indicate a transition in earth materials from those of the earth's crust to those of the subjacent mantle

Mo·hock \'mō-,häk\ *n* [alter. of *Mohawk*] : one of a gang of aristocratic ruffians who assaulted and otherwise maltreated people in London streets in the early 18th century — **Mo·hock·ism** \-,iz-əm\ *n*

Mo·ho·ro·vi·cic discontinuity \,mō-hə-'rō-və-,chich-\ *n* : MOHO

Mohs' scale \'mōz-, 'mōs-, ,mō-səz-\ *n* [Friedrich *Mohs* †1839 G mineralogist] **1** : a scale of hardness for minerals in which 1 represents the hardness of talc; 2, gypsum; 3, calcite; 4, fluorite; 5, apatite; 6, orthoclase; 7, quartz; 8, topaz; 9, corundum; and 10, diamond **2** : a revised and expanded version of the original Mohs' scale in which 1 represents the hardness of talc; 2, gypsum; 3, calcite; 4, fluorite; 5, apatite; 6, orthoclase; 7, vitreous pure silica; 8, quartz; 9, topaz; 10, garnet; 11, fused zirconium oxide; 12, fused alumina; 13, silicon carbide; 14, boron carbide; and 15, diamond

mo·hur \'mō(-ə)r, mə-'hu̇(ə)r\ *n* [Hindi *muhr* gold coin, seal, fr. Per; akin to Skt *mudrā* seal] : a former gold coin of India and Persia equal to 15 rupees

moi·dore \mȯi-dō(ə)r, -'dȯ(ə)r\ *n* [modif. of Pg *moeda de ouro*, lit., coin of gold] : a former Portuguese gold coin

moi·ety \'mȯi-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-eties** [ME *moite*, fr. MF *moité*, fr. LL *medietat-, medietas*, fr. L *medius* middle — more at MID] **1 a** : one of two equal parts : HALF **b** : one of two approximately equal parts **2** : one of the portions into which something is divided : COMPONENT, PART **3** : one of two basic complementary tribal subdivisions

¹moil \'mȯi(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *moillen*, fr. MF *moillier*, fr. (assumed) VL *molliare*, fr. L *mollis* soft — more at MELT] *vt, chiefly dial* : to make wet or dirty ~ *vi* **1** : to work hard : DRUDGE **2** : to be in continuous agitation : CHURN, SWIRL — **moil·er** *n*

²moil *n* **1** : hard work : DRUDGERY **2** : CONFUSION, TURMOIL

moil·ing \'mȯi-liŋ\ *adj* **1 a** : requiring hard work **b** : INDUSTRIOUS **2** : violently agitated : TURBULENT — **moil·ing·ly** \-liŋ-lē\ *adv*

Moi·rai \'mȯi-,rī\ *n pl* [Gk, fr. pl. of *moira* lot, fate; akin to Gk *meros* part — more at MERIT] : FATE 4

moire \'mȯi(-ə)r, 'mȯ(ə)r, 'mwär\ *n* [F, fr. E *mohair*] *archaic* : a watered mohair

moi·ré \mȯ-'rā, mwä-\ *or* **moire** *same, or* 'mȯi(-ə)r, 'mȯ(ə)r, 'mwär\ *n* [F *moiré*, fr. *moiré* like moire, fr. *moire*] **1 a** : an irregular wavy finish on a fabric **b** : a ripple pattern on a stamp **2** : a fabric having a wavy watered appearance **3** : an independent usu. shimmering pattern seen when two geometrically regular patterns (as two sets of parallel lines or two halftone screens) are superimposed esp. at an acute angle — **moiré** *adj*

moist \'mȯist\ *adj* [ME *moiste*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *muscidus*, alter. of L *mucidus* slimy, fr. *mucus*] **1** : slightly or moderately wet : DAMP **2** : TEARFUL **3** : characterized by high humidity *syn* see WET — **moist·ly** *adv* — **moist·ness** \'mȯis(t)-nəs\ *n*

moist·en \'mȯis-ᵊn\ *vb* **moist·ened; moist·en·ing** \'mȯis-niŋ, -ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* : to make moist ~ *vi* : to become moist — **moist·en·er** \'mȯis-nər, -ᵊn-ər\ *n*

mois·ture \'mȯis(h)-chər\ *n* [ME, modif. of MF *moistour*, fr. *moiste*] : liquid diffused or condensed in relatively small quantity

mois·tur·ize \-chə-,rīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to add moisture to ⟨~ the air⟩ — **mois·tur·iz·er** *n*

moke \'mōk\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** *slang Brit* : DONKEY **2** *slang Austral* : NAG

mol *abbr* molecular; molecule

MOL *abbr* manned orbiting laboratory

mo·la \'mō-lə\ *n, pl* **mola** *or* **molas** [NL, fr. L, millstone] : OCEAN SUNFISH

mol·al \'mō-ləl\ *adj* [⁵*mole*] : of, relating to, or containing a gram molecule esp. of solute per 1000 grams of solvent — **mo·lal·i·ty** \mō-'lal-ət-ē\ *n*

¹mo·lar \'mō-lər\ *n* [L *molaris*, fr. *molaris* of a mill, fr. *mola* millstone — more at MILL] : a tooth with a rounded or flattened surface adapted for grinding; *specif* : one of the cheek teeth in mammals behind the incisors and canines — see TOOTH illustration

²molar *adj* **1** : pulverizing by friction : GRINDING **2** : of, relating to, or located near the molar teeth

³molar *adj* **1** [L *moles* mass — more at MOLE] : of or relating to a mass of matter as distinguished from the properties or motions of molecules or atoms **2** [⁵*mole*] : of, relating to, or containing a gram molecule esp. of solute in 1000 milliliters of solution — **mo·lar·i·ty** \mō-'lar-ət-ē\ *n*

mo·las·ses \mə-'las-əz\ *n* [Pg *melaço*, fr. LL *mellaceum* grape juice, fr. L *mell-, mel* honey — more at MELLIFLUOUS] **1** : the thick dark to light brown syrup that is separated from raw sugar in sugar manufacture **2** : a syrup made from boiling down sweet vegetable or fruit juice ⟨citrus ~⟩

¹mold \'mōld\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *molde*; akin to OHG *molta* soil, L *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] **1** : crumbling soft friable earth suited to plant growth : SOIL; *esp* : soil rich in humus — compare LEAF MOLD **2** *dial Brit* **a** : the surface of the earth : GROUND **b** : the earth of the burying ground **3** *archaic* : earth that is the substance of the human body ⟨be merciful great Duke to men of ~ —Shak.⟩

²mold *n* [ME, fr. OF *modle*, fr. L *modulus*, dim. of *modus* measure — more at METE] **1** : distinctive nature or character : TYPE **2** : the frame on or around which an object is constructed **3 a** : a cavity in which a substance is shaped: as (1) : a matrix for casting metal (2) : a form for a jelly or other food **b** : a molded object **4** : MOLDING **5 a** *obs* : an example to be followed **b** : PROTOTYPE **c** : a fixed pattern or contour

³mold *vt* **1** *archaic* : to knead (dough) into a desired consistency or shape **2** : to give shape to ⟨the wind ~*s* the waves⟩ **3** : to form in a mold ⟨~ candles⟩ **4** : to exert influence on ⟨~ public opinion⟩ **5** : to fit the contours of **6** : to ornament with molding or carving ⟨~*ed* picture frames⟩ — **mold·able** \'mōl-də-bəl\ *adj* — **mold·er** *n*

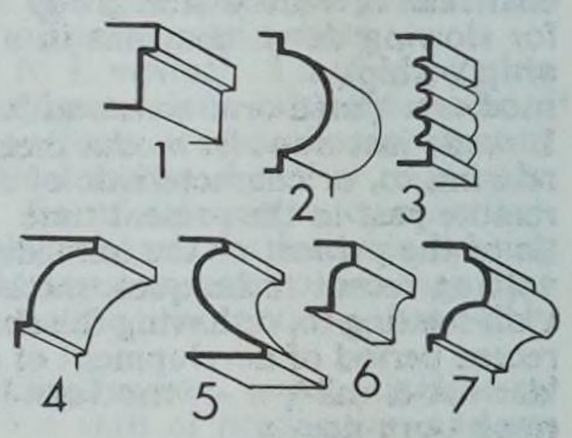
⁴mold *n* [ME *mowlde*] **1** : a superficial often woolly growth produced on damp or decaying organic matter or on living organisms **2** : a fungus (as of the order Mucorales) that produces mold

⁵mold *vi* : to become moldy

mold·board \'mōl(d)-,bō(ə)rd, -,bȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1 a** : a curved iron plate attached above a plowshare to lift and turn the soil **b** : the flat or curved blade (as of a bulldozer) that pushes material to one side as the machine advances **2** : one of the boards forming a mold for concrete

mold·er \'mōl-dər\ *vi* **mold·ered; mold·er·ing** \-d(ə-)riŋ\ [freq. of ⁵*mold*] : to crumble into particles : DISINTEGRATE, DECAY

mold·ing \'mōl-diŋ\ *n* **1 a** : an act or process of molding **b** : an object produced by molding **c** : the art or occupation of a molder **2 a** : a decorative recessed or relieved surface **b** : a decorative plane or curved strip used for ornamentation or finishing



moldings 2a: *1* fillet and fascia, *2* torus, *3* reeding, *4* cavetto, *5* scotia, *6* congé, *7* beak

moldy \'mōl-dē\ *adj* **mold·i·er; -est** **1** : of, resembling, or covered with a mold-producing fungus ⟨~ bread⟩ **2 a** : being old and moldering : CRUMBLING **b** : ANTIQUATED, FUSTY ⟨~ tradition⟩ — **mold·i·ness** *n*

¹mole \'mōl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *māl*; akin to OHG *meil* spot] : a pigmented spot, mark, or small permanent protuberance on the human body; *esp* : NEVUS

²mole *n* [ME; akin to MLG *mol*] **1** : any of numerous burrowing insectivores (esp. family Talpidae) with minute eyes, concealed ears, and soft fur **2** : one who works in the dark **3** : a machine for tunneling

³mole *n* [MF, fr. OIt *molo*, fr. LGk *mōlos*, fr. L *moles*, lit., mass, exertion; akin to OHG *muodi* weary, Gk *mōlos* exertion] **1** : a massive work formed of masonry and large stones or earth laid in the sea as a pier or breakwater **2** : the harbor formed by a mole

⁴mole *n* [F *môle*, fr. L *mola* mole, lit., mill, millstone — more at MILL] : an abnormal mass in the uterus esp. when containing fetal tissues

⁵mole *also* **mol** \'mōl\ *n* [G *mol*, short for *molekulargewicht* molecular weight, fr. *molekular* molecular + *gewicht* weight] : GRAM MOLECULE

mo·lec·u·lar \mə-'lek-yə-lər\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or produced by molecules ⟨~ oxygen⟩ **2** : of or relating to simple or elementary organization — **mo·lec·u·lar·i·ty** \-,lek-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **mo·lec·u·lar·ly** \mə-'lek-yə-lər-lē\ *adv*

molecular biology *n* : a branch of biology dealing with the ultimate physicochemical organization of living matter and esp. with the molecular basis of inheritance and protein synthesis — **molecular biological** *adj* — **molecular biologist** *n*

molecular formula *n* : a chemical formula that is based on both analysis and molecular weight and gives the total number of atoms of each element in a molecule — compare STRUCTURAL FORMULA

molecular weight *n* : the weight of a molecule that may be calculated as the sum of the atomic weights of its constituent atoms — compare FORMULA WEIGHT

mol·e·cule \'mäl-i-,kyü(ə)l\ *n* [F *molécule*, fr. NL *molecula*, dim. of L *moles* mass] **1** : the smallest particle of a substance that retains the properties of the substance and is composed of one or more atoms **2** : a tiny bit : PARTICLE

mole·hill \'mōl-,hil\ *n* : a little ridge of earth thrown up by a mole

mole·skin \-,skin\ *n* **1** : the skin of the mole used as fur **2 a** : a heavy durable cotton fabric with a short thick velvety nap on one side **b** : a garment made of moleskin — usu. used in pl.

mo·lest \mə-'lest\ *vt* [ME *molesten*, fr. MF *molester*, fr. L *molestare*, fr. *molestus* burdensome, annoying, fr. *moles* mass] **1** : to annoy, disturb, or persecute esp. with hostile intent or injurious effect **2** : to make annoying sexual advances to — **mo·les·ta·tion** \,mōl-,es-'tā-shən, ,mōl-əs-, ,mäl-\ *n* — **mo·lest·er** \mə-'les-tər\ *n*

mo·line \mə-'lēn, -'līn\ *adj* [(assumed) AF *moliné*, fr. OF *molin* mill, fr. LL *molinum* — more at MILL] *of a heraldic cross* : having the end of each arm forked and recurved — see CROSS illustration
moll \'mäl, 'mȯl\ *n* [prob. fr. *Moll*, nickname for Mary] **1** : PROSTITUTE **2 a** : DOLL 2 **b** : a gangster's girl friend
mol·lie *also* **mol·ly** \'mäl-ē\ *n* : MOLLIENISIA
mol·lie·ni·sia \ˌmäl-i-'nizh-(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Comte François N. *Mollien* †1850 F statesman] : any of a genus (*Mollienisia*) of brightly colored topminnows (family Poeciliidae) highly valued as aquarium fishes
mol·li·fy \'mäl-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *mollifien*, fr. MF *mollifier*, fr. LL *mollificare*, fr. L *mollis* soft — more at MELT] *vt* **1** : to soothe in temper or disposition : APPEASE ⟨*mollified* her by flattery⟩ **2** : to reduce the rigidity of : SOFTEN **3** : to reduce in intensity : ASSUAGE, TEMPER ~ *vi, archaic* : SOFTEN, RELENT — **mol·li·fi·ca·tion** \ˌmäl-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*
mol·lus·ci·cide \mə-'ləs-(k)ə-ˌsīd\ *n* [NL *Mollusca* + E *-i-* + *-cide*] : an agent for destroying mollusks (as snails) — **mol·lus·ci·cid·al** \-ˌləs-(k)ə-'sīd-ᵊl\ *adj*
mol·lusk *or* **mol·lusc** \'mäl-əsk\ *n* [F *mollusque*, fr. NL *Mollusca*, phylum name, fr. L, neut. pl. of *molluscus* soft, fr. *mollis*] : any of a large phylum (Mollusca) of invertebrate animals (as snails or clams) with a soft unsegmented body usu. enclosed in a calcareous shell; *broadly* : SHELLFISH — **mol·lus·can** *also* **mol·lus·kan** \mə-'ləs-kən, mä-\ *adj*
Moll·wei·de projection \ˌmȯl-ˌvīd-ə-, mōl-ˌwīd-ə-\ *n* [Karl B. *Mollweide* †1825 G mathematician and astronomer] : an equal-area map projection capable of showing the entire surface of the earth in the form of an ellipse with all parallels as straight lines more widely spaced at the equator than at the poles, with the central meridian as one half the length of the equator, and with all other meridians as ellipses equally spaced
¹mol·ly·cod·dle \'mäl-ē-ˌkäd-ᵊl\ *n* [*Molly*, nickname for Mary] **1** : a pampered or effeminate man or boy **2** : GOODY-GOODY
²mollycoddle *vt* **mol·ly·cod·dled; mol·ly·cod·dling** \-ˌkäd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ : to surround with an excessive or absurd degree of indulgence and attention : CODDLE ***syn*** see INDULGE — **mol·ly·cod·dler** \-ˌkäd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
mol·ly·mawk \'mäl-i-ˌmȯk\ *var of* MALLEMUCK
Mo·loch \'mäl-ək, 'mō-ˌläk\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *Mōlekh*] : a Semitic god to whom children were sacrificed
Mo·lo·tov cocktail \ˌmäl-ə-ˌtȯf-, ˌmȯl-, ˌmōl, -ˌtȯv\ *n* [Vyacheslav M. *Molotov*] : a crude hand grenade made of a bottle filled with a flammable liquid (as gasoline), fitted with a device (as a wick or saturated rag) capable of touching off the liquid and ignited at the moment of hurling
¹molt \'mōlt\ *vb* [alter. of ME *mouten*, fr. OE *-mūtian* to change, fr. L *mutare* — more at MISS] *vi* : to shed hair, feathers, shell, horns, or an outer layer periodically ~ *vt* : to cast off (an outer covering) periodically; *specif* : to throw off (the old cuticle) — used of arthropods — **molt·er** *n*
²molt *n* : the act or process of molting; *specif* : ECDYSIS
mol·ten \'mōlt-ᵊn\ *adj* [ME, fr. pp. of *melten* to melt] **1** *obs* : made by melting and casting **2** : fused or liquefied by heat : MELTED ⟨~ lava⟩ **3** : having warmth or brilliance : GLOWING ⟨the ~ sunlight of warm skies —T. B. Costain⟩
mol·to \'mōl-(ˌ)tō, 'mȯl-\ *adv* [It, fr. L *multum*, fr. neut. of *multus* much] : MUCH, VERY — used in music directions ⟨~ sostenuto⟩
mol wt *abbr* molecular weight
mo·ly \'mō-lē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *mōly*; akin to Skt *mūla* root] : a mythical herb with a black root, milk-white blossoms, and magical powers
mo·lyb·date \mə-'lib-ˌdāt\ *n* : a salt of molybdenum containing the group MoO_4 or Mo_2O_7
molybdate orange *n* : a brilliant orange pigment consisting of the chromate, molybdate, and usu. sulfate of lead
mo·lyb·de·nite \mə-'lib-də-ˌnīt\ *n* [NL *molybdena*] : a blue usu. foliated mineral MoS_2 that is molybdenum disulfide and a source of molybdenum
mo·lyb·de·num \-nəm\ *n* [NL, fr. *molybdena*, a lead ore, molybdenite, molybdenum, fr. L *molybdaena* galena, fr. Gk *molybdaina*, fr. *molybdos* lead] : a metallic element that resembles chromium and tungsten in many properties, is used esp. in strengthening and hardening steel, and is a trace element in plant and animal metabolism — see ELEMENT table
molybdenum disulfide *n* : a compound MoS_2 used esp. as a lubricant in grease
mo·lyb·dic \mə-'lib-dik\ *adj* [NL *molybdenum*] : of, relating to, or containing molybdenum esp. with one of its higher valences
mo·lyb·dous \-dəs\ *adj* [NL *molybdenum*] : of, relating to, or containing molybdenum esp. with one of its lower valences
mom \'mäm, 'məm\ *n* [short for *momma*] : MOTHER
MOM *abbr* middle of month
mome \'mōm\ *n, archaic* [origin unknown] : BLOCKHEAD, FOOL
mo·ment \'mō-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *momentum* movement, particle sufficient to turn the scales, moment, fr. *movēre* to move] **1** : a minute portion or point of time : INSTANT **2 a** : present time ⟨at the ~ he is working on a novel⟩ **b** : a time of excellence or conspicuousness ⟨he has his ~*s*⟩ **3** : importance in influence or effect : notable or conspicuous consequence **4** *obs* : a cause or motive of action **5** : a stage in historical or logical development **6 a** : tendency or measure of tendency to produce motion esp. about a point or axis **b** : the product of quantity (as a force) and the distance to a particular axis or point **7 a** : the mean of the *n*th powers of the deviations of the observed values in a set of statistical data from a fixed value **b** : the expected value of a power of the deviation of a random variable from a fixed value ***syn*** see IMPORTANCE
mo·men·tar·i·ly \ˌmō-mən-'ter-ə-lē\ *adv* **1** : for a moment **2** : INSTANTLY **3** : at any moment
mo·men·tary \'mō-mən-ˌter-ē\ *adj* **1 a** : continuing only a moment : TRANSITORY **b** : having a very brief life : EPHEMERAL **2** : operative or recurring at every moment ***syn*** see TRANSIENT ***ant*** agelong — **mo·men·tari·ness** *n*
mo·ment·ly \'mō-mənt-lē\ *adv* **1** : from moment to moment **2** : at any moment **3** : for a moment
mo·men·to \mə-'ment-(ˌ)ō\ *var of* MEMENTO
moment of inertia : the ratio of the torque applied to a rigid body free to rotate about a given axis to the angular acceleration thus produced about that axis
moment of truth **1** : the final sword thrust in a bullfight **2** : a moment of crisis on whose outcome much or everything depends
mo·men·tous \mō-'ment-əs, mə-'ment-\ *adj* : IMPORTANT, CONSEQUENTIAL — **mo·men·tous·ly** *adv* — **mo·men·tous·ness** *n*
mo·men·tum \mō-'ment-əm, mə-'ment-\ *n, pl* **mo·men·ta** \-'ment-ə\ *or* **momentums** [NL, fr. L, movement] : a property of a moving body that determines the length of time required to bring it to rest when under the action of a constant force or moment; *broadly* : IMPETUS
mom·ma \'mäm-ə, 'məm-\ *var of* MAMMA
Mo·mus \'mō-məs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Mōmos*] : the Greek god of blame and mockery
¹mon \'män\ *dial chiefly Brit var of* MAN
²mon *abbr* **1** monastery **2** monetary
¹Mon \'mōn\ *n, pl* **Mon** *or* **Mons** **1** : a member of the dominant native people of Pegu in Burma **2** : the Mon-Khmer language of the Mon people
²Mon *abbr* **1** Monaghan **2** Monday **3** Monmouthshire
mon- *or* **mono-** *under stress the (1st) "o" is sometimes ō although not shown at individual entries*\ *comb form* [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L, fr. Gk, fr. *monos* alone, single — more at MONK] **1** : one : single : alone ⟨*mono*plane⟩ ⟨*mono*drama⟩ ⟨*mono*phobia⟩ **2 a** : containing one (usu. specified) atom, radical, or group ⟨*mono*hydrate⟩ ⟨*mono*xide⟩ **b** : monomolecular ⟨*mono*film⟩ ⟨*mono*layer⟩
mon·a·chal \'män-i-kəl\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *monachalis*, fr. *monachus* monk — more at MONK] : MONASTIC
mon·a·chism \'män-ə-ˌkiz-əm\ *n* : MONASTICISM
mo·nad \'mō-ˌnad\ *n* [LL *monad-*, *monas*, fr. Gk, fr. *monos*] **1 a** : UNIT, ONE **b** : ATOM 1 **c** : an elementary unextended individual spiritual substance from which material properties are derived **2** : a flagellated protozoan (as of the genus *Monas*) — **mo·nad·ic** \mō-'nad-ik, mə-\ *adj* — **mo·nad·ism** \'mō-ˌnad-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
mon·adel·phous \ˌmän-ə-'del-fəs\ *adj, of stamens* : united by the filaments into one group usu. forming a tube around the gynoecium
mo·nad·nock \mə-'nad-ˌnäk\ *n* [Mt. *Monadnock*, N.H.] : a hill or mountain of resistant rock surmounting a peneplain
mon·an·drous \mə-'nan-drəs, (ˈ)mä-\ *adj* **1** : having a single stamen or flowers with a single stamen **2** [Gk *monandros*, fr. *mon-* + *-andros* having (so many) men — more at -ANDROUS] : of, relating to, or characterized by monandry
mon·an·dry \'män-ˌan-drē\ *n, pl* **-dries** **1** [*monandrous*] : a marriage form or custom in which a woman has only one husband at a time **2** : a monandrous condition of a plant or flower
mon·arch \'män-ərk, -ˌärk\ *n* [LL *monarcha*, fr. Gk *monarchos*, fr. *mon-* + *-archos* -arch] **1** : a person who reigns over a kingdom or empire: as **a** : a sovereign ruler **b** : a constitutional king or queen **2** : someone or something holding preeminent position or power **3** : a large migratory American butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) that has orange-brown wings with black veins and borders and a larva that feeds on milkweed — **mo·nar·chal** \mə-'när-kəl, mä-\ *or* **mo·nar·chi·al** \-kē-əl\ *adj*


monarch 3

Mo·nar·chi·an \mə-'när-kē-ən, mä-\ *n* : an adherent of one of two anti-Trinitarian groups of the 2d and 3d centuries A.D. teaching that God is one person as well as one being — **Mo·nar·chi·an·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
mo·nar·chi·cal \mə-'när-ki-kəl, mä-\ *or* **mo·nar·chic** \-kik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of a monarch or monarchy — **mo·nar·chi·cal·ly** \-ki-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mon·ar·chism \'män-ər-ˌkiz-əm, -ˌär-\ *n* : monarchical government or principles — **mon·ar·chist** \-kəst\ *n or adj* — **mon·ar·chis·tic** \ˌmän-ər-'kis-tik, -ˌär-\ *adj*
mon·ar·chy \'män-ər-kē *also* -ˌär-\ *n, pl* **-chies** **1** : undivided rule or absolute sovereignty by a single person **2** : a nation or state having a monarchical government **3** : a government having an hereditary chief of state with life tenure and powers varying from nominal to absolute
mo·nar·da \mə-'närd-ə\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. Nicolas *Monardes* †1588 Sp botanist] : any of a genus (*Monarda*) of coarse No. American mints with a tubular many-nerved calyx and whorls of showy flowers
mon·as·te·ri·al \ˌmän-ə-'stir-ē-əl, -'ster-\ *adj, archaic* : of or relating to monasteries or monastic life
mon·as·tery \'män-ə-ˌster-ē\ *n, pl* **-ter·ies** [ME *monasterie*, fr. LL *monasterium*, fr. LGk *monastērion*, fr. Gk, hermit's cell, fr. *monazein* to live alone, fr. *monos* single — more at MONK] : a house for persons under religious vows; *esp* : an establishment for monks
mo·nas·tic \mə-'nas-tik\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to monasteries or to monks or nuns **2** : resembling (as in seclusion or ascetic simplicity) life in a monastery — **monastic** *n* — **mo·nas·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mo·nas·ti·cism** \-tə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n*
mon·atom·ic \ˌmän-ə-'täm-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : consisting of one atom; *esp* : having but one atom in the molecule **b** : having a thickness equal to the diameter of a constituent atom **2** : UNIVALENT 1 **3**

: having one replaceable atom or radical ⟨~ alcohols⟩ — **mon·a·tom·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mon·au·ral \(')mä-'nȯr-əl\ *adj* : MONOPHONIC 2 — **mon·au·ral·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

mon·ax·i·al \(')mä-'nak-sē-əl\ *adj* : having or based on a single axis : UNIAXIAL; *specif* : having flowers developing on a single axis

mon·a·zite \'män-ə-ˌzīt\ *n* [G *monazit*, fr. Gk *monazein*] : a mineral $(Ce,La,Md,Pr,Th)PO_4$ that is a yellow, red, or brown phosphate of the cerium metals and thorium found often in sand and gravel deposits

Mon·day \'mən-dē\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mōnandæg*; akin to OHG *mānatag* Monday; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose components are represented by OE *mōna* moon and by OE *dæg* day] : the second day of the week — **Mon·days** \-dēz\ *adv*

mon·ecious *var of* MONOECIOUS

M1 rifle \'em-ˌwən-\ *n* : a .30 caliber gas-operated clip-fed semiautomatic rifle used by U.S. troops in World War II

mon·es·trous \(')mä-'nes-trəs\ *adj* : experiencing estrus once each year : having a single annual breeding period

mon·e·tary \'män-ə-ˌter-ē, 'mən-\ *adj* [LL *monetarius* of a mint, of money, fr. L *moneta*] : of or relating to money or to the mechanisms by which it is supplied to and circulates in the economy ***syn*** see FINANCIAL — **mon·e·tar·i·ly** \ˌmän-ə-'ter-ə-lē, ˌmən-\ *adv*

monetary unit *n* : the standard unit of value of a currency

mon·e·tize \'män-ə-ˌtīz, 'mən-\ *vt* **-tized; -tiz·ing** [L *moneta*] : to coin into money; *also* : to establish as legal tender — **mon·e·ti·za·tion** \ˌmän-ət-ə-'zā-shən, ˌmən-\ *n*

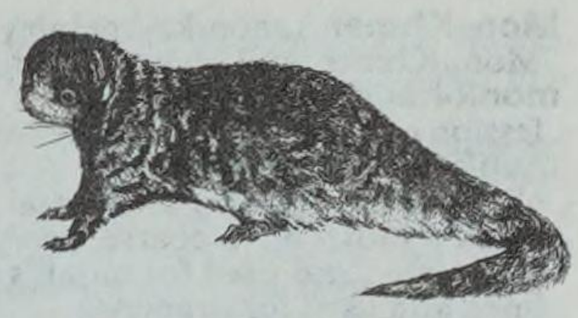
mon·ey \'mən-ē\ *n, pl* **moneys** *or* **mon·ies** \'mən-ēz\ [ME *moneye*, fr. MF *moneie*, fr. L *moneta* mint, money — more at MINT] **1** : something generally accepted as a medium of exchange, a measure of value, or a means of payment: as **a** : officially coined or stamped metal currency **b** : MONEY OF ACCOUNT **c** : PAPER MONEY **2** : wealth reckoned in terms of money **3** : a form or denomination of coin or paper money **4 a** : the first, second, and third place winners in a horse or dog race — usu. used in the phrases *in the money* or *out of the money* **b** : prize money ⟨his horse took third ~⟩ **5** : persons or interests possessing or controlling great wealth

MONEY

NAME	SYMBOL	SUBDIVISIONS	COUNTRY
afghani	Af	100 puls	Afghanistan
baht *or* tical	Bht *or* B	100 satang	Thailand
balboa	B/	100 centesimos	Panama
birr	E$	100 cents	Ethiopia
bolivar	B	100 centimos	Venezuela
cedi	¢	100 pesewas	Ghana
colon	₡ *or* ¢	100 centimos	Costa Rica
colon	₡ *or* ¢	100 centavos	El Salvador
cordoba	C$	100 centavos	Nicaragua
cruzeiro	$ *or* Cr$	100 centavos	Brazil
dalasi	D	100 bututs	Gambia
deutsche mark	DM	100 pfennigs	West Germany
dinar	DA	100 centimes	Algeria
dinar	BD	1000 fils	Bahrain
dinar	ID	5 riyals 20 dirhams 1000 fils	Iraq
dinar	JD	1000 fils	Jordan
dinar	KD	1000 fils	Kuwait
dinar	LD	1000 dirhams	Libya
dinar	£SY	1000 fils	Southern Yemen
dinar	D	1000 millimes	Tunisia
dinar	Din	100 paras	Yugoslavia
dirham	DH	100 francs	Morocco
dirham	UD	100 fils	United Arab Emirates
dollar	$A	100 cents	Australia
dollar	B$	100 cents	Bahamas
dollar	$	100 cents	Barbados
dollar	$	100 cents	Belize (British Honduras)
dollar	$	100 cents	Bermuda
dollar	$	100 sen	Brunei
dollar	$	100 cents	Canada
dollar	$F	100 cents	Fiji
dollar	G$	100 cents	Guyana
dollar	HK$	100 cents	Hong Kong
dollar	$	100 cents	Jamaica
dollar	$	100 cents	Liberia
dollar	M$	100 cents	Malaysia
dollar	NZ$	100 cents	New Zealand
dollar	S$	100 cents	Singapore
dollar	TT$	100 cents	Trinidad and Tobago
dollar	$	100 cents	United States
dollar — see YUAN, below			
dong	D	100 hao	Vietnam
drachma	Dr	100 lepta	Greece
escudo	$ *or* Esc	100 centavos	Portugal
florin — see GULDEN, below			
forint	F *or* Ft	100 filler	Hungary
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Belgium
franc	FBu	100 centimes	Burundi
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Cameroon
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Central African Empire
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Chad
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Congo (Brazzaville)
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Benin
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	France
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Gabon
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Guinea
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Ivory Coast
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Luxembourg
franc	Fr *or* F *or* FMG	100 centimes	Madagascar
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Mali
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Mauritania
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Niger
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Rwanda
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Senegal
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes *or* rappen	Switzerland
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Togo
franc	Fr *or* F	100 centimes	Upper Volta
gourde	G *or* G *or* Gde	100 centimes	Haiti
guarani	G *or* G	100 centimos	Paraguay
gulden *or* guilder	f *or* fl *or* g *or* florin	100 cents	Netherlands
kina	K	100 toea	Papua New Guinea
kip	K	100 at	Laos
koruna	Kčs	100 halers	Czechoslovakia
krona	Kr	100 aurar	Iceland
krona	Kr	100 öre	Sweden
krone	Kr	100 öre	Denmark
krone	Kr	100 öre	Norway
kwacha	K	100 tambala	Malawi
kwacha	K	100 ngwee	Zambia
kyat	K	100 pyas	Burma
lek	L	100 qintar	Albania
lempira	L	100 centavos	Honduras
leone	Le	100 cents	Sierra Leone
leu	L	100 bani	Rumania
lev	Lv	100 stotinki	Bulgaria
lira	L *or* Lit	100 centesimi	Italy
lira *or* pound	£T *or* LT *or* TL	100 kurus *or* piasters	Turkey
mark *or* ostmark	M *or* OM	100 pfennigs	East Germany
mark — see DEUTSCHE MARK, above			
markka	M *or* Mk	100 pennia	Finland
naira	₦	100 kobo	Nigeria
ostmark — see MARK, above			
pa'anga	T$	100 seniti	Tonga
pataca	P *or* $	100 avos	Macao
peseta	Pta *or* P (*pl* Pts)	100 centimos	Equatorial Guinea
peseta	Pta *or* P (*pl* Pts)	100 centimos	Spain
peso	$	100 centavos	Argentina
peso	$B	100 centavos	Bolivia
peso		1000 escudos	Chile
peso	$ *or* P	100 centavos	Colombia
peso	$	100 centavos	Cuba
peso	RD$	100 centavos	Dominican Republic
peso	$	100 centavos	Mexico
peso	₱ *or* P	100 sentimos *or* centavos	Philippines
peso	$	100 centesimos	Uruguay
pound	£	1000 mils	Cyprus
pound	£E	100 piasters 1000 milliemes	Egypt
pound	£	100 pence	Ireland
pound *or* lira	I£ *or* IL	100 agorot	Israel
pound	L£ *or* LL	100 piasters	Lebanon
pound	£	100 pence	Malta
pound	£	20 shillings 240 pence	Zimbabwe Rhodesia
pound	£S *or* LSd	100 piasters 1000 milliemes	Sudan
pound	£S *or* LS	100 piasters	Syria
pound	£	100 pence	United Kingdom
pound — see LIRA, above			
quetzal	Q *or* Q	100 centavos	Guatemala
rand	R	100 cents	Botswana
rand	R	100 cents	Lesotho
rand	R	100 cents	South Africa
rand	R	100 cents	Swaziland
rial	R *or* Rl	100 dinars	Iran
rial	R	1000 baizas	Oman
rial	YR	40 buqshas	Yemen Arab Rep.
riel	₣ *or* CR	100 sen	Cambodia
riyal	R *or* SR	20 qursh 100 halala	Saudi Arabia
ruble	R *or* Rub	100 kopecks	U.S.S.R.
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 paise	Bhutan

NAME	SYMBOL	SUBDIVISIONS	COUNTRY
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 paise	India
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 cents	Mauritius
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 paise	Nepal
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 paisa	Pakistan
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 cents	Seychelles
rupee	Re (*pl* Rs)	100 cents	Sri Lanka
rupiah	Rp	100 sen	Indonesia
schilling	S *or* Sch	100 groschen	Austria
shilingi *or* shilling	Sh	100 senti	Tanzania
shilling	Sh	100 cents	Kenya
shilling	Sh *or* So Sh	100 cents	Somalia
shilling	Sh	100 cents	Uganda
sol	S/ *or* $	100 centavos	Peru
sucre	S/	100 centavos	Ecuador
taka		100 paisa	Bangladesh
tala	WS$	100 senes	Western Samoa
tical — see BAHT, above			
tugrik		100 mongo	Outer Mongolia
won	W	100 jun	North Korea
won	W	100 chon	South Korea
yen	¥ *or* Y	100 sen	Japan
yuan	$	10 chiao 100 fen	China (mainland)
yuan *or* dollar	NT$	10 chiao	China (Taiwan)
zaire	Z	100 makuta (*sing:* likuta) 10,000 sengi	Zaire
zloty	Zl *or* Z	100 groszy	Poland

mon·ey·bags \'mən-ē-ˌbagz\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* **1** : WEALTH **2** : a wealthy person
money changer *n* **1** : one whose occupation is the exchanging of kinds or denominations of currency **2** : a device for holding and dispensing sorted change
mon·eyed *also* **mon·ied** \'mən-ēd\ *adj* **1** : having money : WEALTHY **2** : consisting in or derived from money
mon·ey·er \'mən-ē-ər\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *monier*, fr. LL *monetarius* master of a mint, coiner, fr. *monetarius* of a mint] : an authorized coiner of money : MINTER
mon·ey·lend·er \'mən-ē-ˌlen-dər\ *n* : one whose business is lending money; *specif* : PAWNBROKER
mon·ey–mak·er \'mən-ē-ˌmā-kər\ *n* **1** : one that accumulates wealth **2** : a plan or product that produces profit — **mon·ey-mak·ing** \-kiŋ\ *adj or n*
money of account : a denominator of value or basis of exchange which is used in keeping accounts and for which there may or may not be an equivalent coin or denomination of paper money
money order *n* : an order issued by a post office, bank, or telegraph office for payment of a specified sum of money usu. at another office
mon·ey·wort \'mən-ē-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯ(ə)rt\ *n* : a trailing perennial herb (*Lysimachia nummularia*) with rounded opposite leaves and solitary yellow flowers in their axils
¹mon·ger \'məŋ-gər, 'mäŋ-\ *n* [ME *mongere*, fr. OE *mangere*, fr. L *mangon-*, *mango*, of Gk origin; akin to Gk *manganon* charm, philter — more at MANGONEL] **1** : BROKER, DEALER — usu. used in combination ⟨ale*monger*⟩ **2** : one who attempts to stir up or spread something that is usu. petty or discreditable — usu. used in combination ⟨gossip*monger*⟩ ⟨war*monger*⟩
²monger *vt* **mon·gered; mon·ger·ing** \-g(ə-)riŋ\ : to deal in : PEDDLE
mon·go \'mäŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **mongo** [Mongolian] — see *tugrik* at MONEY table
Mon·gol \'mäŋ-gəl; 'män-ˌgōl, 'mäŋ-\ *n* [Mongolian *Moŋgol*] **1** : a member of one of the chiefly pastoral Mongoloid peoples of Mongolia **2** : MONGOLIAN 2 **3** : a person of Mongoloid racial stock **4** *often not cap* : one affected with mongolism — **Mongol** *adj*
¹Mon·go·lian \män-'gōl-yən, mäŋ-, -'gō-lē-ən\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting Mongolia, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Mongols, or Mongolian **2** : MONGOLOID
²Mongolian *n* **1 a** : MONGOL 1 **b** : a person of Mongoloid racial stock **c** : a native or inhabitant of the Mongolian People's Republic **2** : the Mongolic language of the Mongol people **3** *often not cap* : MONGOL 4
Mongolian fold *n* [fr. its being characteristic of Mongoloid peoples] : EPICANTHIC FOLD
Mongolian gerbil *n* : a gerbil (*Meriones unguiculatus*) of Mongolia and northern China that has an external resemblance to a rat, has a high capacity for temperature regulation, and is used as an experimental laboratory animal
mon·go·lian·ism \män-'gōl-yə-ˌniz-əm, mäŋ-, -'gō-lē-ə-\ *n* : MONGOLISM
¹Mon·gol·ic \män-'gäl-ik, mäŋ-\ *adj* : MONGOLOID 1
²Mongolic *n* : a group of Altaic languages including Mongolian and Kalmuck
mon·gol·ism \'mäŋ-gə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : a congenital condition which is characterized by moderate to severe mental deficiency, by slanting eyes, by a broad short skull, by broad hands with short fingers, and by trisomy of the chromosome numbered 21 in man — called also *Down's syndrome*
Mon·gol·oid \'mäŋ-gə-ˌlȯid\ *adj* **1** : of, constituting, or characteristic of a major racial stock native to Asia including peoples of northern and eastern Asia, Malaysians, Eskimos, and often American Indians **2** *not cap* : of, relating to, or affected with mongolism — **Mongoloid** *n*
mon·goose \'män-ˌgüs, 'mäŋ-\ *n, pl* **mon·goos·es** *also* **mon·geese** \-ˌgēs\ [Hindi *mãgūs*, fr. Prakrit *maṅguso*] : an agile grizzled ferret-sized mammal (*Herpestes nyula*) of India that feeds on snakes and rodents and that is related to the civets and genets; *broadly* : any of various related Asian and African mammals


mongoose

mon·grel \'məŋ-grəl, 'mäŋ-\ *n* [prob. fr. ME *mong* mixture, short for *ymong*, fr. OE *gemong* crowd — more at AMONG] **1** : an individual resulting from the interbreeding of diverse breeds or strains; *esp* : one of unknown ancestry **2** : a cross between types of persons or things — **mongrel** *or* **mon·grel·ly** \-grə-lē\ *adj* — **mon·grel·ism** \-grə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* — **mon·grel·iza·tion** \ˌməŋ-grə-lə-'zā-shən, ˌmäŋ-\ *n* — **mon·grel·ize** \'məŋ-grə-ˌlīz, 'mäŋ-\ *vt*
monies *pl of* MONEY
mon·i·ker *or* **mon·ick·er** \'män-i-kər\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : NAME, NICKNAME
mo·ni·li·a·sis \ˌmō-nə-'lī-ə-səs, ˌmän-ə-\ *n, pl* **-a·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *Monilia*, genus of fungi, fr. L *monile* necklace] : CANDIDIASIS; *specif* : THRUSH
mo·nil·i·form \mə-'nil-ə-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [L *monile* necklace — more at MANE] : jointed or constricted at regular intervals so as to resemble a string of beads ⟨a ~ root⟩ ⟨~ insect antennae⟩ — **mo·nil·i·form·ly** *adv*
mon·ish \'män-ish\ *vt* [ME *monesen*, alter. of *monesten*, fr. OF *monester*, fr. (assumed) VL *monestare*, fr. L *monēre* to warn] : WARN
mo·nism \'mō-ˌniz-əm, 'män-ˌiz-\ *n* [G *monismus*, fr. *mon-* + *-ismus* -ism] **1 a** : a view that there is only one kind of ultimate substance **b** : the view that reality is one unitary organic whole with no independent parts **2** : MONOGENESIS — **mo·nist** \'mō-nəst, 'män-əst\ *n* — **mo·nis·tic** \mō-'nis-tik, mä-\ *or* **mo·nis·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj*
mo·ni·tion \mō-'nish-ən, mə-\ *n* [ME *monicioun*, fr. MF *monition*, fr. L *monition-*, *monitio*, fr. *monitus*, pp. of *monēre*] **1** : WARNING, CAUTION **2** : an intimation of danger
¹mon·i·tor \'män-ət-ər\ *n* [L, one that warns, overseer, fr. *monitus*, pp. of *monēre* to warn — more at MIND] **1 a** : a student appointed to assist a teacher **b** : a person or thing that warns or instructs **c** : one that monitors or is used in monitoring: as (1) : a receiver used to view the picture being picked up by a television camera (2) : a device for observing a biological condition or function ⟨a heart ~⟩ (3) : software or hardware that monitors the operation of a system and esp. a computer system **2** : any of various large tropical Old World pleurodont lizards (genus *Varanus* and family Varanidae) closely related to the iguanas **3** [*Monitor*, first ship of the type] **a** : a heavily armored warship formerly used in coastal operations having a very low freeboard and one or more revolving gun turrets **b** : a small modern warship with shallow draft for coastal bombardment **4** : a raised central portion of a roof having low windows or louvers for providing light and air — **mon·i·to·ri·al** \ˌmän-ə-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* — **mon·i·tor·ship** \'män-ət-ər-ˌship\ *n* — **mon·i·tress** \'män-ə-trəs\ *n*
²monitor *vt* **mon·i·tored; mon·i·tor·ing** \'män-ət-ə-riŋ, 'män-ə-triŋ\ **1** : to check (as a radio or television signal or program) by means of a receiver for quality or fidelity to a band or for military, political, or criminal significance **2** : to test for intensity of radiations esp. if due to radioactivity **3** : to watch, observe, or check esp. for a special purpose **4** : to keep track of, regulate, or control the operation of (as a machine or process) **5** : to check or regulate the volume or quality of (sound) in recording
¹mon·i·to·ry \'män-ə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* [L *monitorius*, fr. *monitus*] : giving admonition : WARNING
²monitory *n, pl* **-ries** : a letter containing an admonition or warning
¹monk \'məŋk\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *munuc*, fr. LL *monachus*, fr. LGk *monachos*, fr. Gk, adj., single, fr. *monos* single, alone; akin to OHG *mengen* to lack, Gk *manos* sparse] : a man who is a member of a religious order and lives in a monastery; *also* : FRIAR
²monk *n* : MONKEY
monk·ery \'məŋ-kə-rē\ *n, pl* **-er·ies** **1** : monastic life or practice : MONASTICISM **2** : a monastic house : MONASTERY
¹mon·key \'məŋ-kē\ *n, pl* **monkeys** [prob. of LG origin; akin to *Moneke*, name of an ape, prob. of Romance origin; akin to OSp *mona* monkey] **1** : a primate mammal with the exception of man and usu. the lemurs and tarsiers; *esp* : any of the smaller longer-tailed primates as contrasted with the apes **2 a** : a person resembling a monkey **b** : a ludicrous figure : DUPE **3** : any of various machines, implements, or vessels; *esp* : the falling weight of a pile driver **4** : a desperate desire for or addiction to drugs — often used in the phrase *monkey on one's back*
²monkey *vb* **mon·keyed; mon·key·ing** *vi* **1** : to act in a grotesque or mischievous manner **2 a** : FOOL, TRIFLE **b** : TAMPER ~ *vt* : MIMIC, MOCK
monkey jacket *n* : MESS JACKET
mon·key·pod \'məŋ-kē-ˌpäd\ *n* **1** : an ornamental tropical tree (*Pithecolobium saman*) that has bipinnate leaves, globose clusters of flowers with crimson stamens, sweet-pulp pods eaten by cattle, and wood used in carving — called also *rain tree* **2** : the wood of a monkeypod
mon·key·shine \-ˌshīn\ *n* : PRANK — usu. used in pl.
monkey wrench *n* **1** : a wrench with one fixed and one adjustable jaw at right angles to a straight handle **2** : something that disrupts ⟨threw a *monkey wrench* into the peace negotiations⟩

Mon–Khmer \ˌmōn-kə-ˈme(ə)r\ *n* : a language family containing Mon, Khmer, and several other languages of southeast Asia
monk·hood \ˈməŋk-ˌhu̇d\ *n* **1** : the character, condition, or profession of a monk : MONASTICISM **2** : monks as a class
monk·ish \ˈməŋ-kish\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to monks **2** : inclined to disciplinary self-denial
monk's cloth *n* : a coarse heavy fabric in basket weave made orig. of worsted and used for monk's habits but now chiefly of cotton or linen and used for draperies
monks·hood \ˈməŋ(k)s-ˌhu̇d\ *n* : ACONITUM 1; *esp* : a poisonous Eurasian herb (*Aconitum napellus*) often cultivated for its showy terminal racemes of white or purplish flowers
[1]mono \ˈmän-(ˌ)ō\ *adj* [by shortening] : MONOPHONIC 2
[2]mono *n, pl* **monos** **1** : a monophonic phonograph record **2** : monophonic reproduction
[3]mono *n* : INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS
mono- — see MON-
mono·ac·id \ˌmän-ō-ˈas-əd\ *n* : an acid having only one acid hydrogen atom
mono·acid·ic \-ə-ˈsid-ik\ *adj* : having a single hydroxyl group and able to react with only one molecule of a monobasic acid to form a salt or ester — used of bases and alcohols
mono·al·pha·bet·ic substitution \ˈmän-ō-ˌal-fə-ˌbet-ik-\ *n* : substitution in cryptography that uses a single cipher alphabet so that each plaintext letter always has the same cipher equivalent — compare POLYALPHABETIC SUBSTITUTION
mono·amine \ˌmän-ō-ə-ˈmēn\ *n* [ISV] : an amine RNH_2 that has one organic substituent attached to the nitrogen atom; *esp* : one (as serotonin) that is functionally important in neural transmission
monoamine oxidase *n* : an enzyme that deaminates monoamines oxidatively and that affects the nervous system by breaking down monoamine neurotransmitters
mono·am·in·er·gic \ˌmän-ō-ˌam-ə-ˈnər-jik\ *adj* [*monoamine* + Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] : liberating or involving monoamines (as serotonin or norepinephrine) in neural transmission ⟨~ neurons⟩ ⟨~ mechanisms⟩
mono·ba·sic \ˌmän-ə-ˈbā-sik\ *adj* [ISV] : having only one acid and replaceable hydrogen atom
mono·car·box·yl·ic \-ˌkär-(ˌ)bäk-ˈsil-ik\ *adj* : containing one carboxyl group ⟨acetic acid is a ~ acid⟩
mono·car·pic \-ˈkär-pik\ *adj* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *monocarpicus*, fr. NL *mon-* + *-carpicus* -carpic] : bearing fruit but once and then dying
mono·cha·si·um \-ˈkā-z(h)ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-sia** \-z(h)ē-ə\ [NL, fr. *mon-* + *-chasium* (as in *dichasium*)] : a cymose inflorescence that produces only one main axis — **mono·cha·sial** \-zh(ē-)əl, -zē-əl\ *adj*
mono·chord \ˈmän-ə-ˌkȯ(ə)rd\ *n* [ME *monocorde*, fr. MF, fr. ML *monochordum*, fr. Gk *monochordon*, fr. *mon-* + *chordē* string — more at YARN] : an instrument of ancient origin for measuring and demonstrating the mathematical relations of musical tones and that consists of a single string stretched over a sounding board and a movable bridge set on a graduated scale
mono·chro·mat \ˈmän-ə-krō-ˌmat, ˌmän-ə-ˈ\ *n* [*mon-* + Gk *chrōmat-, chrōma*] : a completely color-blind individual
mono·chro·mat·ic \ˌmän-ə-krō-ˈmat-ik\ *adj* [L *monochromatos*, fr. Gk *monochrōmatos*, fr. *mon-* + *chrōmat-, chrōma* color — more at CHROMATIC] **1 a** : having or consisting of one color or hue **b** : MONOCHROME 2 **2** : consisting of radiation of a single wavelength or of a very small range of wavelengths **3** : of, relating to, or exhibiting monochromatism — **mono·chro·mat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mono·chro·ma·tic·i·ty** \-ˌkrō-mə-ˈtis-ət-ē\ *n*
mono·chro·ma·tism \-ˈkrō-mə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* : complete color blindness in which all colors appear as shades of gray
mono·chro·ma·tor \ˌmän-ə-ˈkrō-ˌmāt-ər\ *n* [*monochrom*atic + illumin*ator*] : a device for isolating a narrow portion of a spectrum
[1]mono·chrome \ˈmän-ə-ˌkrōm\ *n* [ML *monochroma*, fr. L, fem. of *monochromos* of one color, fr. Gk *monochrōmos*, fr. *mon-* + *-chrōmos* -chrome] : a painting, drawing, or photograph in a single hue — **mono·chro·mic** \ˌmän-ə-ˈkrō-mik\ *adj* — **mono·chrom·ist** \ˈmän-ə-ˌkrō-məst\ *n*
[2]monochrome *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or made with a single color or hue **2** : characterized by the reproduction of visual images in tones of gray ⟨~ television⟩
mon·o·cle \ˈmän-i-kəl\ *n* [F, fr. LL *monoculus* having one eye, fr. L *mon-* + *oculus* eye — more at EYE] : an eyeglass for one eye — **mon·o·cled** \-kəld\ *adj*
mono·cli·nal \ˌmän-ə-ˈklīn-ᵊl\ *adj* : having or relating to a single oblique inclination ⟨~ folding of rock layers⟩ — **monoclinal** *n*
mono·cline \ˈmän-ə-ˌklīn\ *n* : a monoclinal geologic fold
mono·clin·ic \ˌmän-ə-ˈklin-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : having one oblique intersection of the crystallographic axes
monoclinic system *n* : a crystal system characterized by three unequal axes with one oblique intersection
mono·cli·nous \-ˈklī-nəs\ *adj* [NL *monoclinus*, fr. *mon-* + *-clinus* -clinous] : having both stamens and pistils in the same flower
mono·coque \ˈmän-ə-ˌkōk, -ˌkäk\ *n* [F, fr. *mon-* + *coque* shell, fr. L *coccum* excrescence on a tree, fr. Gk *kokkos* berry] **1** : a type of construction (as of a fuselage or a rocket body) in which the outer skin carries all or a major part of the stresses **2** : a type of vehicle construction (as of a motortruck or railroad car) in which the body is integral with the chassis
mono·cot \-ˌkät\ *n* : MONOCOTYLEDON
mono·cot·yl \-ˌkät-ᵊl\ *n* : MONOCOTYLEDON
mono·cot·y·le·don \ˌmän-ə-ˌkät-ᵊl-ˈēd-ᵊn\ *n* [deriv. of NL *mon-* + *cotyledon*] : any of a subclass (Monocotyledoneae) of seed plants having an embryo with a single cotyledon and usu. parallel-veined leaves — **mono·cot·y·le·don·ous** \-ᵊn-əs\ *adj*
mo·noc·ra·cy \mä-ˈnäk-rə-sē, mə-\ *n* : government by a single person — **mono·crat** \ˈmän-ə-ˌkrat\ *n* — **mono·crat·ic** \ˌmän-ə-ˈkrat-ik\ *adj*
mon·oc·u·lar \mä-ˈnäk-yə-lər, mə-\ *adj* [LL *monoculus* having one eye] **1** : of, involving, or affecting a single eye **2** : suitable for use with only one eye — **mon·oc·u·lar·ly** *adv*
mono·cul·ture \ˈmän-ə-ˌkəl-chər\ *n* : the cultivation of a single product to the exclusion of other uses of land — **mono·cul·tur·al** \ˌmän-ə-ˈkəlch-(ə-)rəl\ *adj*
mono·cy·clic \ˌmän-ə-ˈsī-klik, -ˈsik-lik\ *adj* [ISV *mon-* + *cyclic*] **1** : containing one ring in the molecular structure **2** : having a single annual maximum of population ⟨a population of ~ water fleas in a lake⟩ — **mono·cy·cly** \ˈmän-ə-ˌsī-klē\ *n*
mono·cyte \ˈmän-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a large phagocytic leukocyte with basophilic cytoplasm containing faint eosinophilic granulations — **mono·cyt·ic** \ˌmän-ə-ˈsit-ik\ *adj* — **mono·cyt·oid** \-ˈsīt-ˌȯid\ *adj*
mon·o·dist \ˈmän-əd-əst\ *n* : a writer, singer, or composer of monody
mono·dra·ma \ˈmän-ə-ˌdräm-ə, -ˌdram-\ *n* : a drama acted or designed to be acted by a single person — **mono·dra·mat·ic** \ˌmän-ə-drə-ˈmat-ik\ *adj*
mon·o·dy \ˈmän-əd-ē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [ML *monodia*, fr. Gk *monōidia*, fr. *monōidos* singing alone, fr. *mon-* + *aidein* to sing — more at ODE] **1** : an ode sung by one voice (as in a Greek tragedy) **2** : an elegy or dirge performed by one person **3 a** : a monophonic vocal piece **b** : the monophonic style of 17th century opera — **mo·nod·ic** \mə-ˈnäd-ik\ *or* **mo·nod·i·cal** \-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mo·nod·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mon·oe·cious \mə-ˈnē-shəs, (ˈ)mä-,\ *adj* [deriv. of Gk *mon-* + *oikos* house — more at VICINITY] **1** : having male and female sex organs in the same individual : HERMAPHRODITIC **2** : having pistillate and staminate flowers on the same plant — **mon·oe·cious·ly** *adv*
mon·oe·cism \-ˈnē-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : the condition of being monoecious
mono·es·ter \ˈmän-ō-ˌes-tər\ *n* : an ester (as of a dibasic acid) that contains only one ester group
mono·fil·a·ment \ˌmän-ə-ˈfil-ə-mənt\ *n* : a single untwisted synthetic filament (as of nylon)
mo·nog·a·mist \mə-ˈnäg-ə-məst\ *n* : one who practices or upholds monogamy
mo·nog·a·my \-mē\ *n* [F *monogamie*, fr. LL *monogamia*, fr. Gk, fr. *monogamos* monogamous, fr. *mon-* + *gamos* marriage — more at BIGAMY] **1** *archaic* : the practice of marrying only once during a lifetime **2** : the state or custom of being married to one person at a time — **mono·gam·ic** \ˌmän-ə-ˈgam-ik\ *adj* — **mo·nog·a·mous** \mə-ˈnäg-ə-məs\ *adj* — **mo·nog·a·mous·ly** *adv* — **mo·nog·a·mous·ness** *n*
mono·gas·tric \ˌmän-ə-ˈgas-trik\ *adj* : having a stomach with only a single compartment ⟨swine, chicks, and men are ~⟩
mono·ge·ne·an \-ˈjē-nē-ən\ *n* [NL *Monogenea*, group name] : any of a subclass (Monogenea) of trematode worms that ordinarily live as ectoparasites on a single fish host throughout the entire life cycle — **monogenean** *adj*
mono·gen·e·sis \-ˈjen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : unity of origin; *specif* : the presumed origin of all life from one original entity or cell
mono·ge·net·ic \-jə-ˈnet-ik\ *adj* **1** : relating to or involving monogenesis **2** : of, relating to, or being a monogenean trematode worm
mono·gen·ic \-ˈjen-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, or controlled by a single gene and esp. by either of an allelic pair — **mono·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mono·germ \ˈmän-ə-ˌjərm\ *adj* [*mon-* + *germ*inate] : producing or being a fruit that gives rise to a single plant ⟨a ~ variety of sugar beet⟩
[1]mono·gram \ˈmän-ə-ˌgram\ *n* [LL *monogramma*, fr. Gk *mon-* + *gramma* letter — more at GRAM] : a sign of identity usu. formed of the combined initials of a name — **mono·gram·mat·ic** \ˌmän-ə-grə-ˈmat-ik\ *adj*
[2]monogram *vt* **-grammed; -gram·ming** : to mark with a monogram
[1]mono·graph \ˈmän-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : a learned treatise on a small area of learning; *also* : a written account of a single thing — **mono·graph·ic** \ˌmän-ə-ˈgraf-ik\ *adj*
[2]monograph *vt* : to write a monograph on
mo·nog·y·nous \mə-ˈnäj-ə-nəs, mä-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or living in monogyny
mo·nog·y·ny \-nē\ *n* [ISV] : the state or custom of having only one wife at a time
mono·hy·brid \ˌmän-ō-ˈhī-brəd\ *n* : an individual or strain heterozygous for one specified factor or gene — **monohybrid** *adj*
mono·hy·dric \-ˈhī-drik\ *adj* **1** : containing one atom of acid hydrogen **2** : MONOHYDROXY
mono·hy·droxy \-(ˌ)hī-ˈdräk-sē\ *adj* [ISV *monohydroxy-*, fr. *mon-* + *hydroxy-*] : containing one hydroxyl group in the molecule
mono·lay·er \ˈmän-ō-ˌlā-ər, -ˌle(-ə)r\ *n* : a single continuous layer or film that is one cell or molecule in thickness
mono·lin·gual \ˌmän-ə-ˈliŋ-g(yə-)wəl, ˌmō-nə-\ *adj* : knowing or using only one language — **monolingual** *n*
mono·lith \ˈmän-ᵊl-ˌith\ *n* [F *monolithe*, fr. *monolithe* consisting of a single stone, fr. L *monolithus*, fr. Gk *monolithos*, fr. *mon-* + *lithos* stone] **1** : a single great stone often in the form of an obelisk or column **2** : a massive structure **3** : an organized whole that acts as a single powerful force
mono·lith·ic \ˌmän-ᵊl-ˈith-ik\ *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a monolith **b** (1) : formed from a single crystal ⟨a ~ silicon chip⟩ (2) : produced in or on a monolithic chip ⟨a ~ circuit⟩ **2 a** : cast as a single piece ⟨a ~ concrete wall⟩ **b** : formed or composed of material without joints or seams ⟨a ~ floor covering⟩ ⟨a ~ furnace lining⟩ **c** : consisting of or constituting a single unit **3 a** : constituting a massive undifferentiated and often rigid whole ⟨a ~ society⟩ **b** : exhibiting or characterized by often rigidly fixed uniformity ⟨~ party unity⟩ — **mono·lith·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mono·logue *also* **mono·log** \ˈmän-ᵊl-ˌȯg, -ˌäg\ *n* [F *monologue*, fr. *mon-* + *-logue* (as in *dialogue*)] **1** : a dramatic soliloquy; *also* : a dramatic sketch performed by one actor **2** : a literary soliloquy **3** : a long speech monopolizing conversation — **mono·logu·ist** \-ˌȯg-əst, -ˌäg-\ *or* **mo·no·lo·gist** \mə-ˈnäl-ə-jəst; ˈmän-ᵊl-ˌȯg-əst, -ˌäg-\ *n*
mono·ma·nia \ˌmän-ə-ˈmā-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [NL] **1** : mental illness esp. when limited in expression to one idea or area of thought **2**

: excessive concentration on a single object or idea — **mono·ma·ni·ac** \-nē-ˌak\ *n or adj*

mono·mer \'män-ə-mər\ *n* [ISV *mon-* + *-mer* (as in *polymer*)] : a chemical compound that can undergo polymerization — **mo·no·mer·ic** \ˌmän-ə-'mer-ik, ˌmō-nə-\ *adj*

mono·me·tal·lic \ˌmän-ō-mə-'tal-ik\ *adj* **1** : consisting of or employing one metal **2** : of or relating to monometallism

mono·met·al·lism \-'met-ᵊl-ˌiz-əm\ *n* [ISV *mon-* + *-metallism* (as in *bimetallism*)] : the adoption of one metal only in a currency — **mono·met·al·list** \-ᵊl-əst\ *n*

mo·nom·e·ter \mə-'näm-ət-ər, mä-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *monometros*, fr. *mon-* + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] : a line of verse consisting of a single metrical foot or dipody

mo·no·mi·al \mä-'nō-mē-əl, mə-\ *n* [blend of *mon-* + *-nomial* (as in *binomial*)] **1** : a mathematical expression consisting of a single term **2** : a taxonomic name consisting of a single word or term — **monomial** *adj*

mono·mo·lec·u·lar \ˌmän-ō-mə-'lek-yə-lər\ *adj* : being only one molecule thick ⟨a ~ film⟩ — **mono·mo·lec·u·lar·ly** *adv*

mono·mor·phe·mic \-mȯr-'fē-mik\ *adj* : consisting of only one morpheme ⟨*talk* is ~ but *talked* is not⟩

mono·mor·phic \-'mȯr-fik\ *adj* : having but a single form or structural pattern ⟨a ~ species of insect⟩ — **mono·mor·phism** \-ˌfiz-əm\ *n*

mono·mor·phous \-fəs\ *adj* : MONOMORPHIC

mono·nu·cle·ar \ˌmän-ō-'n(y)ü-klē-ər\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : having only one nucleus ⟨a ~ cell⟩ **2** : MONOCYCLIC 1 — **mononuclear** *n*

mono·nu·cle·o·sis \-ˌn(y)ü-klē-'ō-səs\ *n* [NL, fr. ISV *mononuclear* + NL *-osis*] : an abnormal increase of agranulocytes in the blood; *specif* : INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS

mono·nu·cle·o·tide \-'n(y)ü-klē-ə-ˌtīd\ *n* : a nucleotide that is derived from one molecule each of a nitrogenous base, a sugar, and a phosphoric acid

mo·noph·a·gous \mə-'näf-ə-gəs, mä-\ *adj* : feeding on or utilizing a single kind of food; *esp* : feeding on a single kind of plant or animal — **mo·noph·a·gy** \-ə-jē\ *n*

mono·pho·nic \ˌmän-ə-'fän-ik, -'fō-nik\ *adj* **1** : having a single melodic line with little or no accompaniment **2** : of or relating to sound transmission, recording, or reproduction involving a single transmission path — **mono·pho·ni·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē, -ni-\ *adv*

mo·noph·o·ny \mə-'näf-ə-nē, mä-\ *n* : monophonic music

mon·oph·thong \'män-ə(f)-ˌthȯŋ\ *n* [LGk *monophthongos* single vowel, fr. Gk *mon-* + *phthongos* sound] : a vowel sound that throughout its duration has a single constant articulatory position — **mon·oph·thon·gal** \ˌmän-ə(f)-'thȯŋ-(g)əl\ *adj*

mono·phy·let·ic \ˌmän-ō-fī-'let-ik\ *adj* [ISV] : of or relating to a single stock; *specif* : developed from a single common ancestral form — **mono·phy·le·tism** \-'fī-lə-ˌtiz-əm\ *n* — **mono·phy·le·ty** \-lət-ē\ *n*

Mo·noph·y·site \mə-'näf-ə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ML *Monophysita*, fr. MGk *Monophysitēs*, fr. Gk *mon-* + *physis* nature — more at PHYSICS] : one holding the anti-Chalcedonian doctrine that Christ's nature remains altogether divine and not human even though he has taken on an earthly and human body with its cycle of birth, life, and death — **Monophysite** *or* **Mo·noph·y·sit·ic** \-ˌnäf-ə-'sit-ik\ *adj* — **Mo·noph·y·sit·ism** \-'näf-ə-ˌsīt-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

mono·plane \'män-ə-ˌplān\ *n* : an airplane with only one main supporting surface

¹mono·ploid \'män-ə-ˌplȯid\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : having or being a haploid chromosome set **2** : having or being the basic haploid number of chromosomes in a polyploid series of organisms

²monoploid *n* : a monoploid individual or organism

mono·po·di·al \ˌmän-ə-'pōd-ē-əl\ *adj* [NL *monopodium*, fr. *mon-* + *-podium*] : having or involving the formation of offshoots from a main axis — **mono·po·di·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

mono·pole \'män-ə-ˌpōl\ *n* **1** : a hypothetical single concentrated electric charge or magnetic pole; *also* : a hypothetical unpolarized particle having such a pole **2** : a radio antenna consisting of a single often straight radiating element

mo·nop·o·list \mə-'näp-ə-ləst\ *n* : one who monopolizes — **mo·nop·o·lis·tic** \-ˌnäp-ə-'lis-tik\ *adj* — **mo·nop·o·lis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mo·nop·o·lize \mə-'näp-ə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-lized; -liz·ing** : to get a monopoly of : assume complete possession or control of ⟨~ a conversation⟩ — **mo·nop·o·li·za·tion** \-ˌnäp-ə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **mo·nop·o·liz·er** \-'näp-ə-ˌlī-zər\ *n*

syn MONOPOLIZE, ENGROSS, ABSORB, CONSUME *shared meaning element* : to take up completely

mo·nop·o·ly \mə-'näp-(ə-)lē\ *n, pl* **-lies** [L *monopolium*, fr. Gk *monopōlion*, fr. *mon-* + *pōlein* to sell] **1** : exclusive ownership through legal privilege, command of supply, or concerted action **2** : exclusive possession **3** : a commodity controlled by one party **4** : a person or group having a monopoly

mono·pro·pel·lant \ˌmän-ō-prə-'pel-ənt\ *n* : a rocket propellant containing both the fuel and the oxidizer in a single substance

mo·nop·so·ny \mə-'näp-sə-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [*mon-* + *-opsony* (as in *oligopsony*)] : an oligopsony limited to one buyer

mono·rail \'män-ə-ˌrāl\ *n* : a single rail serving as a track for a wheeled vehicle; *also* : a vehicle traveling on such a track

mon·or·chid \mä-'nȯr-kəd\ *n* [irreg. fr Gk *monorchis*, fr. *mon-* + *orchis* testicle — more at ORCHIS] : an individual who has only one testis or only one descended into the scrotum — **monorchid** *adj* — **mon·or·chi·dism** \-kə-ˌdiz-əm\ *n*

mono·rhyme \'män-ə-ˌrīm\ *n* : a strophe or poem in which all the lines have the same end rhyme — **mono·rhymed** \-ˌrīmd\ *adj*

mono·sac·cha·ride \ˌmän-ə-'sak-ə-ˌrīd\ *n* [ISV] : a sugar not decomposable to simpler sugars by hydrolysis

mono·so·di·um glu·ta·mate \ˌmän-ə-ˌsōd-ē-əm-'glüt-ə-ˌmāt\ *n* : a crystalline salt $C_5H_8O_4NaN$ used for seasoning foods — abbr. *MSG*

mono·some \'män-ə-ˌsōm\ *n* **1** : a chromosome lacking a synaptic mate; *esp* : an unpaired X chromosome **2** : a single ribosome

mono·so·mic \ˌmän-ə-'sō-mik\ *adj* : having one less than the diploid number of chromosomes — **monosomic** *n*

mono·stele \'män-ə-ˌstēl, ˌmän-ə-'stē-lē\ *n* : PROTOSTELE — **mono·ste·lic** \ˌmän-ə-'stē-lik\ *adj* — **mono·ste·ly** \'män-ə-ˌstē-lē, 'mō-nə-\ *n*

mono·syl·lab·ic \ˌmän-ə-sə-'lab-ik\ *adj* [prob. fr. F *monosyllabique*, fr. *monosyllabe*] **1** : consisting of one syllable or of monosyllables **2** : using or speaking only monosyllables **3** : conspicuously brief in answering or commenting : TERSE — **mono·syl·lab·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mono·syl·la·bic·i·ty** \-ˌsil-ə-'bis-ət-ē\ *n*

mono·syl·la·ble \'män-ə-ˌsil-ə-bəl, ˌmän-ə-'\ *n* [modif. of MF or LL; MF *monosyllabe*, fr. LL *monosyllabon*, fr. Gk, fr. neut. of *monosyllabos* having one syllable, fr. *mon-* + *syllabē* syllable] : a word of one syllable

mono·sym·met·ric \ˌmän-ə-sə-'me-trik\ *adj* : MONOCLINIC

mono·syn·ap·tic \ˌmän-ō-sə-'nap-tik\ *adj* : having or involving a single neural synapse — **mono·syn·ap·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mono·the·ism \'män-ə-(ˌ)thē-ˌiz-əm\ *n* : the doctrine or belief that there is but one God — **mono·the·ist** \-ˌthē-əst\ *n* — **mono·the·is·tic** \ˌmän-ə-thē-'is-tik\ *also* **mono·the·is·ti·cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **mono·the·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mono·tint \'män-ə-ˌtint\ *n* : MONOCHROME

¹mono·tone \'män-ə-ˌtōn\ *n* [Gk *monotonos* monotonous] **1** : a succession of syllables, words, or sentences in one unvaried key or pitch **2** : a single unvaried musical tone **3** : a tedious sameness or reiteration **4** : a person unable to produce or to distinguish between musical intervals

²monotone *adj* **1** : having a uniform color **2** : MONOTONIC 2

mono·ton·ic \ˌmän-ə-'tän-ik\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or uttered in a monotone **2** : having the property either of never increasing or of never decreasing as the independent variable increases ⟨~ functions⟩ ⟨a ~ sequence⟩ — **mono·ton·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mo·not·o·nous \mə-'nät-ᵊn-əs, -'nät-nəs\ *adj* [Gk *monotonos*, fr. *mon-* + *tonos* tone] **1** : uttered or sounded in one unvarying tone **2** : tediously uniform or unvarying — **mo·not·o·nous·ly** *adv* — **mo·not·o·nous·ness** *n*

mo·not·o·ny \mə-'nät-ᵊn-ē, -'nät-nē\ *n* **1** : tedious sameness **2** : sameness of tone or sound

mono·tre·ma·tous \ˌmän-ə-'trem-ət-əs, -'trē-mət-\ *n* [NL *Monotremata* + E *-ous*] : of, relating to, or being a monotreme

mono·treme \'män-ə-ˌtrēm\ *n* [NL *Monotremata*, group name, fr. Gk *mon-* + *trēmat-*, *trēma* hole — more at TREMATODE] : any of an order (Monotremata) of lower mammals comprising the duckbills and echidnas

mo·not·ri·chous \mə-'nä-tri-kəs\ *adj* : having a single flagellum at one pole — used of bacteria

mono·type \'män-ə-ˌtīp\ *n* : an impression on paper of a design painted usu. with the finger or a brush on a surface (as glass)

Monotype *trademark* — used for a keyboard typesetting machine that casts and sets type in separate characters

mono·typ·ic \ˌmän-ə-'tip-ik\ *adj* [*mon-* + *type*] : including a single representative — used esp. of a genus with only one species

mono·va·lent \ˌmän-ə-'vā-lənt\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : UNIVALENT 1 **2** : containing antibodies specific for or antigens of a single strain of an organism

mon·ovu·lar \(')mä-'näv-yə-lər, -'nōv-\ *adj* : MONOZYGOTIC ⟨~ twins⟩

mon·ox·ide \mə-'näk-ˌsīd\ *n* [ISV] : an oxide containing one atom of oxygen in the molecule

mono·zy·got·ic \ˌmän-ə-zī-'gät-ik\ *adj* : derived from a single egg ⟨~ twins⟩

Mon·roe Doctrine \mən-ˌrō- *also* ˌmən- *or* ˌmän-\ *n* [James *Monroe*] : a statement of U.S. foreign policy expressing opposition to extension of European control or influence in the western hemisphere

mon·sei·gneur \ˌmōⁿ-ˌsān-'yər\ *n, pl* **mes·sei·gneurs** \ˌmā-ˌsān-'yər(z)\ [F, lit., my lord] : a French dignitary (as a prince or prelate) — used as a title preceding a title of office or rank

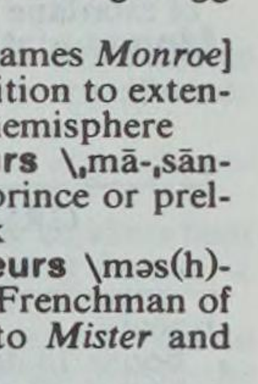
mon·sieur \məs(h)-(')yə(r), mə-'si(ə)r\ *n, pl* **mes·sieurs** \məs(h)-(')yə(r)(z), mās-; mə-'si(ə)r(z)\ [MF, lit., my lord] : a Frenchman of high rank or station — used as a title equivalent to *Mister* and prefixed to the name of a Frenchman

mon·si·gnor \män-'sē-nyər, mən-\ *n, pl* **monsignors** *or* **mon·si·gno·ri** \ˌmän-ˌsēn-'yōr-ē, -'yȯr-\ [It *monsignore*, fr. F *monseigneur*] : a Roman Catholic prelate having a dignity or titular distinction (as of chamberlain, domestic prelate, or protonotary apostolic) usu. conferred by the pope — used as a title prefixed to the surname or to the given name and surname — **mon·si·gno·ri·al** \ˌmän-ˌsēn-'yōr-ē-əl, -'yȯr-\ *adj*

mon·soon \män-'sün\ *n* [obs. D *monssoen*, fr. Pg *monção*, fr. Ar *mawsim* time, season] : a periodic wind esp. in the Indian ocean and southern Asia; *also* : the season of the southwest monsoon in India and adjacent countries — **mon·soon·al** \-ᵊl\ *adj*

mon·ster \'män(t)-stər\ *n* [ME *monstre*, fr. MF, fr. L *monstrum* omen, monster] **1 a** : an animal or plant of abnormal form or structure **b** : one who deviates from normal behavior or character **2** : a threatening force **3 a** : an animal of strange or terrifying shape **b** : one unusually large for its kind **4** : something monstrous; *esp* : a person of unnatural or extreme ugliness, deformity, wickedness, or cruelty **5** : a football linebacker who plays in no set position — called also *monster back*, *monster man*

mon·strance \'män(t)-strən(t)s\ *n* [MF, fr. ML *monstrantia*, fr. L *monstrant-*, *monstrans*, prp. of *monstrare* to show — more at MUSTER] : a vessel in which the consecrated Host is exposed for the veneration of the faithful



monstrance

mon·stros·i·ty \män-'sträs-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : a malformation of a plant or animal **b** : something deviating from the normal : FREAK **2** : the quality or state of being monstrous **3 a** : an object of terrifying size or force or complexity **b** : an excessively bad or shocking example

mon·strous \'män(t)-strəs\ *adj* **1** *obs* : STRANGE, UNNATURAL **2** : having extraordinary often overwhelming size : GIGANTIC **3 a** : having the qualities or appearance of a monster **b** *obs* : teeming with monsters **4 a** : extraordinarily ugly or vicious : HORRIBLE **b** : shockingly wrong or ridiculous **5** : deviating greatly from the natural form or character : ABNORMAL **6** : very great — used as an intensive — **mon·strous·ly** *adv* — **mon·strous·ness** *n*

syn **1** MONSTROUS, PRODIGIOUS, TREMENDOUS, STUPENDOUS *shared meaning element* : extremely impressive. MONSTROUS implies a departure from the normal (as in size, form, or character) and often carries suggestions of deformity, ugliness, or fabulousness ⟨the imagination turbid with *monstrous* fancies and misshapen dreams —Oscar Wilde⟩ ⟨a *monstrous* cliff reared from the plain⟩ PRODIGIOUS suggests a marvelousness exceeding belief, usually in something felt as going far beyond a previous maximum (as of goodness, greatness, intensity, or size) ⟨made a *prodigious* effort and rolled the stone aside⟩ ⟨men have always reverenced *prodigious* inborn gifts —C. W. Eliot⟩ TREMENDOUS may imply a power to terrify or inspire awe ⟨the spell and *tremendous* incantation of the thought of death —L. P. Smith⟩ but in more general and much weakened use it means little more than very large or great or intense ⟨a *tremendous* noise⟩ ⟨success gave him *tremendous* satisfaction⟩ STUPENDOUS implies a power to stun or astound, usually because of size, numbers, complexity, or greatness beyond one's power to describe ⟨all are but parts of one *stupendous* whole, whose body Nature is, and God the soul —Alexander Pope⟩ **2** see OUTRAGEOUS

mons ve·ne·ris \'mänz-'ven-ə-rəs\ *n, pl* **mon·tes ve·ne·ris** \ˌmän-ˌtēz-'ven-\ [NL, lit., eminence of Venus or of venery] : a rounded eminence of fatty tissue upon the pubic symphysis of the human female

Mont *abbr* Montana

mon·ta·dale \'mänt-ə-ˌdāl\ *n* [*Monta*na state + *dale*] : any of an American breed of white-faced hornless sheep noted for heavy fleece and good meat conformation

[1]mon·tage \män-'täzh, mōⁿ(n)-, -'tȧzh\ *n* [F, fr. *monter* to mount] **1 a** : a composite picture made by combining several separate pictures **b** : a literary, musical, or artistic composite of juxtaposed more or less heterogeneous elements **2** : a heterogeneous mixture : JUMBLE **3** : the production of a rapid succession of images in a motion picture to illustrate an association of ideas

[2]montage *vt* **mon·taged; mon·tag·ing** : to combine into or depict in a montage

mon·ta·gnard \ˌmōⁿ-ˌtän-'yär(d)\ *n, often cap* [F, mountaineer, fr. *montagne* mountain] : a member of a people inhabiting a highland region chiefly in southern Vietnam bordering on Cambodia — **montagnard** *adj, often cap*

Mon·ta·gue \'mänt-ə-ˌgyü\ *n* : the family of Romeo in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*

mon·tane \(')män-'tān, 'män-ˌ\ *adj* [L *montanus* of a mountain — more at MOUNTAIN] **1** : of, relating to, growing in, or being the biogeographic zone that is made up of relatively moist cool upland slopes below timberline and that is characterized by large evergreen trees as a dominant life form **2** : of, relating to, or made up of montane plants or animals

Mon·ta·nist \'mänt-ᵊn-əst\ *n* [*Montanus*, 2d cent. A.D. Phrygian schismatic] : an adherent of a Christian sect arising in the late second century and stressing apocalyptic expectations, the continuing prophetic gifts of the Spirit, and strict ascetic discipline — **Mon·ta·nism** \-ᵊn-ˌiz-əm\ *n*

mon·tan wax \'mänt-ᵊn-\ *n* [L *montanus* of a mountain] : a hard brittle mineral wax obtained usu. from lignites by extraction and used esp. in polishes, carbon paper, and insulating compositions

mon·te \'mänt-ē\ *n* [Sp, lit., bank, fr. It, mountain, heap, bank, fr. L *mont-, mons* mountain] **1** : a card game in which players select any two of four cards faced in a layout and bet that one of them will be matched before the other as cards are dealt one at a time from the pack — called also *monte bank* **2** : THREE-CARD MONTE

Mon·te Car·lo \ˌmänt-i-'kär-(ˌ)lō\ *adj* [*Monte Carlo*, Monaco, famous for its gambling casino] : of, relating to, or involving the use of random sampling techniques and often the use of computer simulation to obtain approximate solutions to mathematical or physical problems esp. in terms of a range of values each of which has a calculated probability of being the solution ⟨*Monte Carlo* methods⟩ ⟨*Monte Carlo* calculations⟩

mon·teith \män-'tēth\ *n* [*Monteith*, 17th cent. Sc eccentric who wore a cloak with a scalloped hem] : a large silver punch bowl with scalloped rim

mon·te·ro \män-'te(ə)r-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-ros** [Sp, hunter, fr. *monte* mountain] : a round cap with a flap worn by huntsmen

Mon·tes·so·ri·an \ˌmänt-ə-'sōr-ē-ən, -'sȯr-\ *adj* [Maria *Montessori*] : of or relating to a system of teaching young children by individual guidance rather than strict control

Montg *abbr* Montgomeryshire

month \'mən(t)th\ *n, pl* **months** \'mən(t)s, 'mən(t)ths\ [ME, fr. OE *mōnath;* akin to OHG *mānōd* month, OE *mōna* moon] **1** : a measure of time corresponding nearly to the period of the moon's revolution and amounting to approximately 4 weeks or 30 days or $^1/_{12}$ of a year **2** *pl* : an indefinite usu. extended period of time ⟨he has been gone for ~*s*⟩ **3** : one ninth of the typical duration of human pregnancy ⟨she was in her 8th ~⟩

[1]month·ly \'mən(t)th-lē\ *adv* : once a month : by the month

[2]monthly *adj* **1 a** : of or relating to a month **b** : payable or reckoned by the month **2** : lasting a month **3** : occurring every month

[3]monthly *n, pl* **monthlies** **1** : a monthly periodical **2** *pl* : a menstrual period

Monthly Meeting *n* : a district unit of an organization of Friends

month's mind *n* : a Roman Catholic requiem mass for a person a month after his death

mon·ti·cule \'mänt-i-ˌkyü(ə)l\ *n* [F, fr. LL *monticulus*, dim. of L *mont-, mons* mountain — more at MOUNT] : a small elevation or prominence; *esp* : a subordinate cone of a volcano

Mont·mo·ren·cy \ˌmänt-mə-'ren(t)-sē\ *n* [F, fr. *Montmorency*, France] : a cherry that is grown commercially for its bright red sour fruit

mont·mo·ril·lon·ite \ˌmänt-mə-'ril-ə-ˌnīt, -'rē-ə-\ *n* [F, fr. *Montmorillon*, commune in western France] : a soft clayey mineral that is a hydrous aluminum silicate with considerable capacity for exchanging part of the aluminum for magnesium and bases — **mont·mo·ril·lon·it·ic** \-ˌril-ə-'nit-ik, -ˌrē-ə-\ *adj*

mon·u·ment \'män-yə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *monumentum*, lit., memorial, fr. *monēre* to remind — more at MIND] **1** *obs* : a burial vault : SEPULCHER **2** : a written legal document or record : TREATISE **3 a** : a lasting evidence or reminder of someone or something notable **b** : a memorial stone or a building erected in re-

MONTHS OF THE PRINCIPAL CALENDARS

GREGORIAN[1]		JEWISH		MUHAMMADAN		HINDU[5]
name	*days*	*name*	*days*	*name*	*days*	*name*
January		Tishri	30	Muharram[4]		Chait[6]
begins 10 days after the winter solstice	31			in A.H. 1392 began Feb. 16, 1972	30	(March-April)
February	28	Heshvan	29	Safar	29	Baisakh
in leap years	29		*or* 30			(April-May)
March	31	Kislev	29	Rabi I	30	Jeth
			or 30			(May-June)
April	30	Tebet	29	Rabi II	29	Asarh
						(June-July)
May	31	Shebat	30	Jumada I	30	Sawan
						(July-August)
June	30	Adar[2]	29	Jumada II	29	Bhadon
			or 30			(August-September)
July	31	Nisan[3]	30	Rajab	30	Asin
						(September-October)
August	31	Iyar	29	Sha'ban	29	Kartik
						(October-November)
September	30	Sivan	30	Ramadan	30	Aghan
						(November-December)
October	31	Tammuz	29	Shawwal	29	Pus
						(December-January)
November	30	Ab	30	Dhu'l-Qa'dah	30	Magh
						(January-February)
December	31	Elul	29	Dhu'l-Hijja	29	Phagun
				in leap years	30	(February-March)

[1] The equinoxes occur on March 21 and September 23, the solstices on June 22 and December 22.

[2] In leap years Adar is followed by Veadar or Adar Sheni, an intercalary month of 29 days.

[3] The first month of the ecclesiastical year; anciently called Abib.

[4] Retrogresses through the seasons; the Muhammadan year is lunar and each month begins at the approximate new moon; the year 1 A.H. began on Friday, July 16, A.D. 622.

[5] An extra month is inserted after every month in which two new moons occur (once in three years). The intercalary month has the name of the one that precedes it.

[6] Baisakh is sometimes considered the first month of the Hindu year.

membrance of a person or event **4** *archaic* : an identifying mark : EVIDENCE; *also* : PORTENT, SIGN **5** *obs* : a carved statue : EFFIGY **6** : a boundary or position marker (as a stone) **7** : NATIONAL MONUMENT **8** : a written tribute

mon·u·men·tal \ˌmän-yə-ˈment-ᵊl\ *adj* **1** : serving as or resembling a monument : MASSIVE; *also* : OUTSTANDING **2** : of or relating to a monument **3** : very great — **mon·u·men·tal·i·ty** \-mən-ˈtal-ət-ē, -ˌmen-\ *n* — **mon·u·men·tal·ly** \-ᵊl-ē\ *adv*

mon·u·men·tal·ize \-ˈment-ᵊl-ˌīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to record or memorialize lastingly by a monument

mon·u·ron \ˈmän-yə-ˌrän\ *n* [*mon-* + *urea* + ¹*-on*] : a persistent herbicide $C_9H_{11}ClN_2O$ used esp. to control mixed broad-leaved weeds

mon·zo·nite \män-ˈzō-ˌnīt, ˈmän-zə-\ *n* [F, fr. Mt. *Monzoni*, Italy] : a granular igneous rock composed of plagioclase and orthoclase in about equal quantities together with augite and a little biotite — **mon·zo·nit·ic** \ˌmän-zə-ˈnit-ik\ *adj*

moo \ˈmü\ *vi* [imit.] : to make the throat noise of a cow — **moo** *n*

mooch \ˈmüch\ *vb* [prob. fr. F dial. *muchier* to hide, lurk] *vi* **1** : to wander aimlessly : AMBLE; *also* : SNEAK **2** : SPONGE, CADGE ~ *vt* **1** : to take surreptitiously : STEAL **2** : CADGE, BEG — **mooch·er** *n*

¹mood \ˈmüd\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mōd;* akin to OHG *muot* mood, L *mos* will, custom] **1** : a conscious state of mind or predominant emotion : FEELING; *also* : the expression of mood esp. in art or literature ⟨the language, the stresses . . . are imposed upon the writer by the special ~ of the piece —Willa Cather⟩ **2** *archaic* : a fit of anger : RAGE **3** : a prevailing attitude : DISPOSITION

syn MOOD, HUMOR, TEMPER, VEIN *shared meaning element* : a state of mind in which an emotion or set of emotions gains ascendancy

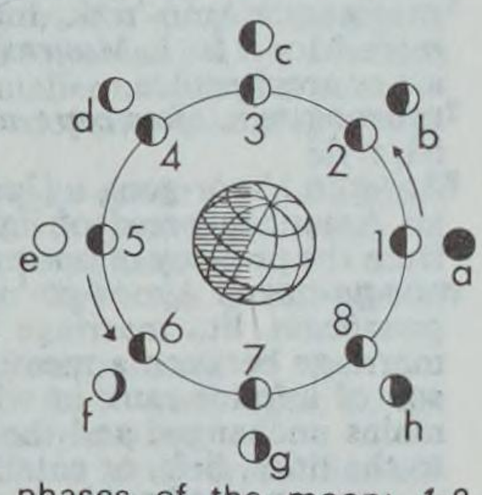
²mood *n* [alter. of ¹*mode*] **1** : the form of a syllogism as determined by the quantity and quality of its constituent propositions **2** : distinction of form or a particular set of inflectional forms of a verb to express whether the action or state it denotes is conceived as fact or in some other manner (as command, possibility, or wish) **3** : MODE 1b

moody \ˈmüd-ē\ *adj* **mood·i·er; -est** **1** : subject to depression : GLOOMY **2** : subject to moods : TEMPERAMENTAL — **mood·i·ly** \ˈmüd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **mood·i·ness** \ˈmüd-ē-nəs\ *n*

mool \ˈmül\ *n* **1** *dial Brit* : ¹MOLD 1 **2** *dial Brit* : ¹MOLD 2b

moo·la *or* **moo·lah** \ˈmü-lə\ *n* [origin unknown] *slang* : MONEY

¹moon \ˈmün\ *n* [ME *mone*, fr. OE *mōna;* akin to OHG *māno* moon, L *mensis* month, Gk *mēn* month, *mēnē* moon] **1 a** : the earth's only known natural satellite shining by the sun's reflected light, revolving about the earth from west to east in about 29½ days with reference to the sun or about 27⅓ days with reference to the stars and having a diameter of 2160 miles and a mean distance from the earth of about 238,857 miles, a mass about one eightieth that of the earth, and a volume about one forty-ninth **b** : one complete moon cycle consisting of four phases **c** : SATELLITE **2** : SYNODIC MONTH **3** : MOONLIGHT **4** : something that resembles a moon: as **a** : a highly translucent spot on old porcelain **b** : LUNULE — **moon·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*



phases of the moon: *1-8* showing the moon in orbit around the earth; *a-h* corresponding phases as seen from the earth; *1* new moon, *3* first quarter, *5* full moon, *7* last quarter; *a* new moon, *b* waxing crescent, *c* half-moon, *d* gibbous, *e* full moon, *f* gibbous, *g* half-moon, *h* waning crescent

²moon *vt* : to spend in idle reverie : DREAM — used with *away* ~ *vi* : to spend time in idle reverie

moon·beam \ˈmün-ˌbēm\ *n* : a ray of light from the moon

moon–blind \-ˌblīnd\ *adj* : afflicted with moon blindness

moon blindness *n* : a recurrent inflammation of the eye of the horse

moon·calf \ˈmün-ˌkaf, -ˌkȧf\ *n* **1** : MONSTER 1a **2** : a foolish or absentminded person : SIMPLETON

moon·eye \ˈmü-ˌnī\ *n* : any of a genus (*Hiodon*) of silvery No. American freshwater fishes that resemble shad

moon–eyed \ˈmü-ˈnīd\ *adj* : having the eyes wide open

moon·fish \ˈmün-ˌfish\ *n, pl* **moonfish** *or* **moon·fish·es** : any of various compressed often short deep-bodied silvery or yellowish marine fishes: as **a** : OPAH **b** : PLATY

moon·flow·er \-ˌflau̇(-ə)r\ *n* : a tropical American morning glory (*Calonyction aculeatum*) with fragrant flowers; *also* : any of several related plants

moon·ish \ˈmü-nish\ *adj* : influenced by the moon; *also* : CAPRICIOUS — **moon·ish·ly** *adv*

moon·less \ˈmün-ləs\ *adj* : lacking the light of the moon ⟨a dark ~ night⟩

moon·let \ˈmün-lət\ *n* : a small natural or artificial satellite

¹moon·light \-ˌlīt\ *n* : the light of the moon

²moonlight *vi* **moon·light·ed; moon·light·ing** [back-formation fr. *moonlighter*] : to hold a second job in addition to a regular one — **moon·light·er** *n*

moon·lit \ˈmün-ˌlit\ *adj* : lighted by the moon

moon·quake \-ˌkwāk\ *n* : a seismic event on the moon

moon·rise \-ˌrīz\ *n* **1** : the rising of the moon above the horizon **2** : the time of the moon's rising

moon·scape \-ˌskāp\ *n* : the surface of the moon as seen or as depicted

moon·seed \-ˌsēd\ *n* : any of a genus (*Menispermum* of the family Menispermaceae, the moonseed family) of twining plants with crescent-shaped seeds and black fruits

moon·set \-ˌset\ *n* **1** : the descent of the moon below the horizon **2** : the time of the moon's setting

moon shell *n* : any of a family (Naticidae) of globose smooth-shelled carnivorous marine snails

moon·shine \ˈmün-ˌshīn\ *n* **1** : MOONLIGHT **2** : empty talk : NONSENSE **3** : intoxicating liquor; *esp* : illegally distilled corn whiskey

moon·shin·er \-ˌshī-nər\ *n* : a maker or seller of illicit whiskey

moon shot *also* **moon shoot** *n* : the launching of a spacecraft to the moon or its vicinity

moon·stone \ˈmün-ˌstōn\ *n* : a transparent or translucent feldspar of pearly or opaline luster used as a gem

moon·struck \-ˌstrək\ *adj* : affected by or as if by the moon: as **a** : mentally unbalanced **b** : romantically sentimental **c** : BEMUSED

moon·ward \ˈmün-wərd\ *adv* : toward the moon

moony \ˈmü-nē\ *adj* **1** : of or relating to the moon **2 a** : crescent shaped **b** : resembling the full moon : ROUND **3** : MOONLIT **4** : DREAMY, MOONSTRUCK

¹moor \ˈmu̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME *mor*, fr. OE *mōr;* akin to OHG *meri* sea — more at MARINE] **1** *chiefly Brit* : an expanse of open rolling infertile land **2** : a boggy area of wasteland usu. peaty and dominated by grasses and sedges

²moor *vb* [ME *moren;* akin to MD *meren, maren* to tie, moor] *vt* : to make fast with cables, lines, or anchors ~ *vi* **1** : to secure a boat by mooring : ANCHOR **2** : to be made fast

Moor \ˈmu̇(ə)r\ *n* [ME *More*, fr. MF, fr. L *Maurus* inhabitant of Mauretania] **1** : one of the mixed Arab and Berber conquerors of Spain in the 8th century A.D. **2** : BERBER — **Moor·ish** \-ish\ *adj*

moor·age \ˈmu̇(ə)r-ij\ *n* **1** : an act of mooring **2** : a place to moor

moor·hen \-ˌhen\ *n* : GALLINULE

moor·ing \-iŋ\ *n* **1** : an act of making fast a boat or aircraft with lines or anchors **2 a** : a place where or an object to which a craft can be made fast **b** : a device (as a line or chain) by which an object is secured in place **3** : moral or spiritual resources : ANCHORAGE 2 — usu. used in pl.

moor·land \-lənd, -ˌland\ *n* : land consisting of moors : a stretch of moor

moose \ˈmüs\ *n, pl* **moose** [of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *moos* moose] **1** : a large ruminant mammal (*Alces americana*) of the deer family inhabiting forested parts of Canada and the northern U.S. **2** : ELK 1a **3** *cap* [Loyal Order of *Moose*] : a member of a major benevolent and fraternal order


moose 1

¹moot \ˈmüt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mōt;* akin to OE *mētan* to meet — more at MEET] **1** : a deliberative assembly primarily for the administration of justice; *esp* : one held by the freemen of an Anglo-Saxon community **2** *obs* : ARGUMENT, DISCUSSION

²moot *vt* **1** *archaic* : to discuss from a legal standpoint : ARGUE **2 a** : to bring up for discussion : BROACH **b** : DEBATE

³moot *adj* **1 a** : open to question : DEBATABLE **b** : subjected to discussion : DISPUTED **2** : deprived of practical significance : made abstract or purely academic

moot court *n* : a mock court in which law students argue hypothetical cases for practice

¹mop \ˈmäp\ *n* [ME *mappe*] **1** : an implement made of absorbent material fastened to a handle and used esp. for cleaning floors **2** : something that resembles a mop; *esp* : a thick mass of hair

²mop *vb* **mopped; mopping** *vt* **1** : to use a mop on: as **a** : to clean by mopping ⟨~ the floors⟩ — often used with *up* ⟨~ up the spillage from the water tank⟩ **b** : to wipe as if with a mop ⟨*mopped* his brow with a handkerchief⟩ **2** *Brit* : to consume eagerly — usu. used with *up* **3** : to overcome decisively : TROUNCE — often used with *up* ~ *vi* : to clean a surface (as a floor) with a mop — **mop·per** *n*

mop·board \ˈmäp-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* : BASEBOARD

¹mope \ˈmōp\ *vb* **moped; mop·ing** [prob. fr. obs. *mop, mope* fool] *vi* **1** *archaic* : to act in a dazed or stupid manner **2** : to give oneself up to brooding : become listless or dejected **3** : to move slowly or aimlessly : DAWDLE ~ *vt* : to make dull, dejected, or listless — **mop·er** *n*

²mope *n* **1** : one that mopes **2** *pl* : BLUES 1

mo·ped \ˈmō-ˌped\ *n* [Sw, fr. *mo*tor motor + *ped*al pedal] : a lightweight low-powered motorbike that can be pedaled

mop·pet \ˈmäp-ət\ *n* [obs. E *mop* fool, child] **1** *archaic* : BABY, DARLING **2** : CHILD

mop–up \ˈmäp-ˌəp\ *n* : a concluding action

mop up \(ˈ)mäp-ˈəp\ *vt* **1** : to follow in the wake of an attacking military force and clear (an area) of remaining pockets of resistance **2** : to take up : GARNER, ABSORB ⟨*mopped up* 18 of the 20 first-prize awards⟩ ~ *vi* : to complete a project or transaction

mo·quette \mō-ˈket\ *n* [F] : a carpet or upholstery fabric having a velvety pile

¹mor \ˈmȯ(ə)r\ *n* [Dan] : forest humus that forms a layer of largely organic matter abruptly distinct from the mineral soil beneath

²mor *abbr* morocco

mo·ra \'mōr-ə, 'mȯr-\ *n, pl* **mo·rae** \'mō(ə)r-(ˌ)ē, 'mȯ(ə)r-, -ˌī\ *or* **moras** [L, delay — more at MEMORY] : the minimal unit of measure in quantitative verse equivalent to the time of an average short syllable

mo·raine \mə-'rān\ *n* [F] : an accumulation of earth and stones carried and finally deposited by a glacier — **mo·rain·al** \-'rān-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mo·rain·ic** \-'rā-nik\ *adj*

1mor·al \'mȯr-əl, 'mär-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *moralis*, fr. *mor-, mos* custom — more at MOOD] **1 a** : of or relating to principles of right and wrong in behavior : ETHICAL ⟨~ judgments⟩ **b** : expressing or teaching a conception of right behavior ⟨a ~ poem⟩ **c** : conforming to a standard of right behavior **d** : sanctioned by or operative on one's conscience or ethical judgment ⟨a ~ obligation⟩ **e** : capable of right and wrong action ⟨a ~ agent⟩ **2** : probable though not proved : VIRTUAL ⟨a ~ certainty⟩ **3** : of, relating to, or acting on the mind, character, or will ⟨a ~ victory⟩ — **mor·al·ly** \-ə-lē\ *adv*

syn MORAL, ETHICAL, VIRTUOUS, RIGHTEOUS, NOBLE *shared meaning element* : conforming to a standard of what is right and good

2moral \'mȯr-əl, 'mär-; *3 is* mə-'ral\ *n* **1 a** : the moral significance or practical lesson (as of a story) **b** : a passage pointing out usu. in conclusion the lesson to be drawn from a story **2** *pl* **a** : moral practices or teachings : modes of conduct **b** : ETHICS **3** : MORALE

mo·rale \mə-'ral\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. F, fr. fem. of *moral*, adj.; in other senses, modif. of F *moral* morale, fr. *moral*, adj.] **1** : moral principles, teachings, or conduct **2 a** : the mental and emotional condition (as of enthusiasm, confidence, or loyalty) of an individual or group with regard to the function or tasks at hand **b** : a sense of common purpose with respect to a group : ESPRIT DE CORPS **3** : the level of individual psychological well-being based on such factors as a sense of purpose and confidence in the future

moral hazard *n* : the possibility of loss to an insurance company arising from the character or circumstances of the insured

mor·al·ism \'mȯr-ə-ˌliz-əm, 'mär-\ *n* **1 a** : the habit or practice of moralizing **b** : a moral reflection **2** : an often exaggerated emphasis on morality (as in religion or politics)

mor·al·ist \-ləst\ *n* **1** : one who leads a moral life **2** : a teacher or student of morals : a philosopher or writer concerned with moral principles and problems **3** : one concerned with regulating the morals of others

mor·al·is·tic \ˌmȯr-ə-'lis-tik, ˌmär-\ *adj* **1** : characterized by or expressive of a concern with morality **2** : characterized by or expressive of a narrow and conventional moral attitude — **mor·al·is·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mo·ral·i·ty \mə-'ral-ət-ē, mȯ-\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1 a** : a moral discourse, statement, or lesson **b** : a literary or other imaginative work teaching a moral lesson **2 a** : a doctrine or system of moral conduct **b** *pl* : particular moral principles or rules of conduct **3** : conformity to ideals of right human conduct **4** : moral conduct : VIRTUE

morality play *n* : an allegorical play popular esp. in the 15th and 16th centuries in which the characters personify moral qualities or abstractions (as death or youth)

mor·al·ize \'mȯr-ə-ˌlīz, 'mär-\ *vb* **-ized; -iz·ing** *vt* **1** : to explain or interpret morally **2 a** : to give a moral quality or direction to **b** : to improve the morals of ~ *vi* : to make moral reflections — **mor·al·iza·tion** \ˌmȯr-ə-lə-'zā-shən, ˌmär-\ *n* — **mor·al·iz·er** \'mȯr-ə-ˌlī-zər, 'mär-\ *n*

moral philosophy *n* : ETHICS; *also* : the study of human conduct and values

mo·rass \mə-'ras, mȯ-\ *n* [D *moeras*, modif. of OF *maresc*, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *mersc* marsh — more at MARSH] **1** : MARSH, SWAMP **2** : something that traps, confuses, or impedes — **mo·rassy** \-'ras-ē\ *adj*

mor·a·to·ri·um \ˌmȯr-ə-'tōr-ē-əm, ˌmär-, -'tȯr-\ *n, pl* **-ri·ums** *or* **-ria** \-ē-ə\ [NL, fr. LL, neut. of *moratorius* dilatory, fr. L *moratus*, pp. of *morari* to delay, fr. *mora* delay] **1 a** : a legally authorized period of delay in the performance of a legal obligation or the payment of a debt **b** : a waiting period set by an authority **2** : a suspension of activity

Mo·ra·vi·an \mə-'rā-vē-ən\ *n* **1** : a member of a Protestant denomination arising from a 15th century religious reform movement in Bohemia and Moravia **2 a** : a native or inhabitant of Moravia **b** : the group of Czech dialects spoken by the Moravian people and transitional between Slovak and Bohemian — **Moravian** *adj*

mo·ray \mə-'rā, 'mȯr-(ˌ)ā\ *n* [Pg *moréia*, fr. L *muraena*, fr. Gk *myraina*] : any of numerous often brightly colored eels (family Muraenidae) that have sharp teeth capable of inflicting a savage bite, that occur in warm seas, and that include a Mediterranean eel (*Muraena helena*) valued for food

mor·bid \'mȯr-bəd\ *adj* [L *morbidus* diseased, fr. *morbus* disease; akin to Gk *marainein* to waste away — more at SMART] **1 a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of disease ⟨~ anatomy⟩ **b** : affected with or induced by disease ⟨a ~ condition⟩ **c** : productive of disease ⟨~ substances⟩ **2** : abnormally susceptible to or characterized by gloomy or unwholesome feelings **3** : GRISLY, GRUESOME ⟨~ details⟩ ⟨~ curiosity⟩ — **mor·bid·ly** *adv* — **mor·bid·ness** *n*

mor·bid·i·ty \mȯr-'bid-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being morbid **2** : the relative incidence of disease

mor·da·cious \mȯr-'dā-shəs\ *adj* [L *mordac-, mordax* biting, fr. *mordēre* to bite — more at SMART] **1** : biting in style or manner : CAUSTIC **2** : given to biting — **mor·dac·i·ty** \-'das-ət-ē\ *n*

mor·dan·cy \'mȯrd-ᵊn-sē\ *n* **1** : a biting and caustic quality of style : INCISIVENESS **2** : a sharply critical or bitter quality of thought or feeling : HARSHNESS
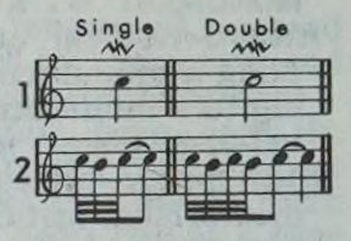
1mor·dant \'mȯrd-ᵊnt\ *adj* [MF, prp. of *mordre* to bite, fr. L *mordēre*] **1** : biting and caustic in thought, manner, or style : INCISIVE **2** : acting as a mordant **3** : BURNING, PUNGENT — **mordant·ly** *adv*

2mordant *n* **1** : a chemical that fixes a dye in or on a substance by combining with the dye to form an insoluble compound **2** : a corroding substance used in etching

3mordant *vt* : to treat with a mordant

Mor·de·cai \'mȯrd-i-ˌkī\ *n* [Heb *Mordĕkhaî*] : a relative of Esther who gives advice on saving the Jews from the destruction planned by Haman

mor·dent \'mȯrd-ᵊnt, mȯr-'dent\ *n* [It *mordente*, fr. L *mordent-, mordens*, prp. of *mordēre*] : a musical ornament made by a quick alternation of a principal tone with the tone usu. a half step lower



mordents: *1* as written, *2* as played

1more \'mō(ə)r, 'mȯ(ə)r\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *māra;* akin to OE *mā*, adv., more, OHG *mēr*, OIr *mōr* large] **1** : GREATER ⟨something ~ than she expected⟩ **2** : ADDITIONAL, FURTHER ⟨~ guests arrived⟩

2more *adv* **1 a** : in addition ⟨not much ~ to do⟩ **b** : MOREOVER **2** : to a greater or higher degree — often used with an adjective or adverb to form the comparative ⟨~ evenly matched⟩

3more *n* **1** : a greater quantity, number, or amount ⟨the ~ the merrier⟩ **2** : something additional : an additional amount **3** *obs* : persons of higher rank

4more *pron, pl in constr* : additional persons or things ⟨~ were found as the search continued⟩

more and more *adv* : to a progressively increasing extent

mo·reen \mə-'rēn, mȯ-\ *n* [prob. irregular fr. ¹*moire*] : a strong fabric of wool, wool and cotton, or cotton with a plain glossy or moiré finish

mo·rel \mə-'rel, mȯ-\ *n* [F *morille*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *morhila* morel] : any of several large pitted edible fungi (genus *Morchella*, esp. *M. esculenta*)

mo·rel·lo \mə-'rel-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **-los** [prob. modif. of Flem *amarelle, marelle*, fr. ML *amarellum*, a sour cherry, fr. L *amarus* bitter, sour] : a cultivated sour cherry (as the Montmorency) that is distinguished from an amarelle by the darker-colored skin and juice

more or less *adv* **1** : to a varying or undetermined extent or degree : SOMEWHAT ⟨they were *more or less* willing to help⟩ **2** : with small variations : APPROXIMATELY ⟨contains 16 acres *more or less*⟩

more·over \mōr-'ō-vər, mȯr-, 'mōr-ˌ, 'mȯr-ˌ\ *adv* : in addition to what has been said : BESIDES

mo·res \'mȯ(ə)r-ˌāz, 'mō(ə)r- *also* -(ˌ)ēz\ *n pl* [L, pl. of *mor-, mos* custom — more at MOOD] **1** : the fixed morally binding customs of a particular group **2** : moral attitudes **3** : HABITS, MANNERS

1mo·resque \mȯ-'resk, mə-\ *adj, often cap* [F, fr. Sp *morisco*, fr. *moro* Moor, fr. L *Maurus*] : having the characteristics of Moorish art or architecture

2moresque *n, often cap* : an ornament or decorative motif in Moorish style

Mor·gan \'mȯr-gən\ *n* [Justin *Morgan* †1798 Am teacher] : any of an American breed of lightly-built horses originated in Vermont from the progeny of one prepotent stallion of uncertain ancestry

mor·ga·nat·ic \ˌmȯr-gə-'nat-ik\ *adj* [NL *matrimonium ad morganaticam*, lit., marriage with morning gift] : of or relating to a marriage between a member of a royal or noble family and a person of inferior rank in which the rank of the inferior partner remains unchanged and the children of the marriage do not succeed to the titles, fiefs, or entailed property of the parent of higher rank — **mor·ga·nat·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

mor·gan·ite \'mȯr-gə-ˌnīt\ *n* [J. P. *Morgan* †1913] : a rose-colored gem variety of beryl

Morgan le Fay \-lə-'fā\ *n* [OF *Morgain la fee* Morgan the fairy] : a sorceress and sister of King Arthur in Arthurian legend

mor·gen \'mȯr-gə(n)\ *n, pl* **morgen** [D, lit., morning] : a Dutch and southern African unit of land area equal to 2.116 acres

morgue \'mȯ(ə)rg\ *n* [F] **1** : a place where the bodies of persons found dead are kept until identified and claimed by relatives or are released for burial **2** : a collection of reference works and files of reference material in a newspaper or news periodical office

mor·i·bund \'mȯr-ə-(ˌ)bənd, 'mär-\ *adj* [L *moribundus*, fr. *mori* to die — more at MURDER] : being in the state of dying : approaching death — **mor·i·bun·di·ty** \ˌmȯr-ə-'bən-dət-ē, ˌmär-\ *n*

1mo·ri·on \'mōr-ē-ˌän, 'mȯr-\ *n* [MF] : a high-crested helmet with no visor

2morion *n* [modif. of L *mormorion*] : a nearly black variety of smoky quartz

Mo·ris·co \mə-'ris-(ˌ)kō, mȯ-\ *n, pl* **-cos** *or* **-coes** [Sp, fr. *morisco*, adj., fr. *moro* Moor] : MOOR; *esp* : a Spanish Moor — **Morisco** *adj*

Mor·mon \'mȯr-mən\ *n* **1** : the ancient redactor and compiler of the Book of Mormon presented as divine revelation by Joseph Smith **2** : LATTER-DAY SAINT; *esp* : a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — **Mor·mon·ism** \-mə-ˌniz-əm\ *n*

Mormon cricket *n* : a large dark wingless katydid (*Anabrus simplex*) that resembles a cricket and is found in the arid parts of the western U.S. where it is occas. an abundant pest of crops

morn \'mȯ(ə)rn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *morgen;* akin to OHG *morgan* morning, L *merus* pure, unmixed] **1** : DAWN **2** : MORNING

morn·ing \'mȯr-niŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. *morn* + *-ing* (as in *evening*)] **1 a** : DAWN **b** : the time from sunrise to noon **c** : the time from midnight to noon **2** : a period of first development : BEGINNING

morning-after pill \ˌmȯr-niŋ-'af-tər-\ *n* [so called fr. its being taken after rather than before intercourse] : an oral drug that blocks implantation of a fertilized egg in the human uterus and thereby interferes with pregnancy

morning glory *n* : any of various usu. twining plants (genus *Ipomoea* of the family Convolvulaceae, the morning-glory family) with showy trumpet-shaped flowers; *broadly* : a plant of the morning-glory family including herbs, vines, shrubs, or trees with alternate leaves and regular pentamerous flowers

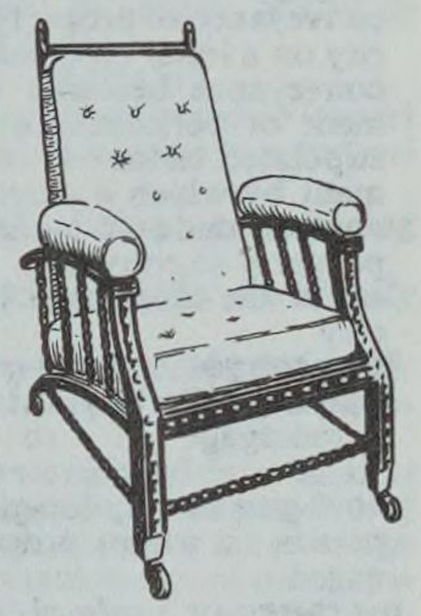
morning line *n* : a bookmaker's list of entries for a race meet and the probable odds on each that is printed or posted before the betting begins

Morning Prayer *n* : a service of liturgical prayer used for regular morning worship in churches of the Anglican communion

morn·ings \'mȯr-niŋz\ *adv* : in the morning repeatedly : on any morning

morning sickness *n* : nausea and vomiting that occurs on rising in the morning esp. during the earlier months of pregnancy
morning star *n* : a bright planet (as Venus) seen in the eastern sky before or at sunrise
Mo·ro \'mō(ə)r-(ˌ)ō, 'mȯ(ə)r-\ *n, pl* **Moro** *or* **Moros** [Sp, lit., Moor, fr. L *Maurus*] **1** : a member of any of several Muslim peoples of the southern Philippines **2** : any of the Austronesian languages of the Moro peoples
mo·roc·co \mə-'räk-(ˌ)ō\ *n* [*Morocco*, Africa] : a fine leather from goatskin tanned with sumac
mo·ron \'mō(ə)r-ˌän, 'mȯ(ə)r-\ *n* [irreg. fr. Gk *mōros* foolish, stupid; akin to Skt *mūra* foolish] **1** : a feebleminded person or mental defective who has a potential mental age of between 8 and 12 years and is capable of doing routine work under supervision **2** : a very stupid person ***syn*** see FOOL — **mo·ron·ic** \mə-'rän-ik, mȯ-\ *adj* — **mo·ron·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mo·ron·ism** \'mōr-ˌän-ˌiz-əm, 'mȯr-\ *n* — **mo·ron·i·ty** \mə-'rän-ət-ē, mȯ-\ *n*
mo·rose \mə-'rōs, mȯ-\ *adj* [L *morosus*, lit., capricious, fr. *mor-, mos* will — more at MOOD] **1** : having a sullen and gloomy disposition **2** : marked by or expressive of gloom ***syn*** see SULLEN — **mo·rose·ly** *adv* — **mo·rose·ness** *n* — **mo·ros·i·ty** \-'räs-ət-ē\ *n*
¹morph \'mȯrf\ *n* [back-formation fr. *morpheme*] **1** : ²ALLOMORPH **2** : a phoneme or sequence of phonemes that is presumably an allomorph but that is not considered as assigned to any particular morpheme **3 a** : a local population of a species that consists of interbreeding organisms and is distinguishable from other populations by morphology or behavior though capable of interbreeding with them **b** : a phenotypic variant of a species
²morph *abbr* morphology
morph- *or* **morpho-** *comb form* [G, fr. Gk, fr. *morphē*] **1** : form ⟨*morpho*genesis⟩ **2** : relating to form and ⟨*morpho*functional⟩
-morph \ˌmȯrf\ *n comb form* [ISV, fr. *-morphous*] : one having (such) a form ⟨iso*morph*⟩
mor·phac·tin \mȯr-'fak-tən\ *n* [prob. fr. *morph-* + L *actus*, pp. of *agere* to drive, do + E *-in* — more at AGENT] : any of several synthetic fluorine-containing compounds that tend to produce morphological changes and suppress growth in plants
mor·phal·lax·is \ˌmȯr-fə-'lak-səs\ *n, pl* **-lax·es** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. *morph-* + Gk *allaxis* exchange, fr. *allassein* to change, exchange, fr. *allos* other — more at ELSE] : regeneration of a part or organism from a fragment by reorganization without cell proliferation
mor·pheme \'mȯr-ˌfēm\ *n* [F *morphème*, fr. Gk *morphē* form] : a meaningful linguistic unit whether a free form (as *pin*) or a bound form (as the *-s* of *pins*) that contains no smaller meaningful parts — **mor·phe·mic** \mȯr-'fē-mik\ *adj* — **mor·phe·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mor·phe·mics \mȯr-'fē-miks\ *n pl but sing in constr* **1** : a branch of linguistic analysis that consists of the study of morphemes **2** : the structure of a language in terms of morphemes
Mor·pheus \'mȯr-fē-əs, -ˌf(y)üs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : the Greek god of dreams
mor·phia \'mȯr-fē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *Morpheus*] : MORPHINE
-mor·phic \'mȯr-fik\ *adj comb form* [prob. fr. F *-morphique*, fr. Gk *morphē*] : having (such) a form ⟨dolicho*morphic*⟩
mor·phine \'mȯr-ˌfēn\ *n* [F, fr. *Morpheus*] : a bitter crystalline addictive narcotic base $C_{17}H_{19}NO_3$ that is the principal alkaloid of opium and is used in the form of a soluble salt (as a hydrochloride or a sulfate) as an analgesic and sedative — **mor·phin·ic** \mȯr-'fē-nik, -'fin-ik\ *adj*
mor·phin·ism \'mȯr-ˌfē-ˌniz-əm, -fə-\ *n* : a disordered condition of health produced by habitual use of morphine
-mor·phism \'mȯr-ˌfiz-əm\ *n comb form* [LL *-morphus* -morphous fr. Gk *-morphos*] **1** : quality or state of having (such) a form ⟨hetero*morphism*⟩ **2** : conceptualization in (such) a form ⟨zoo*morphism*⟩
mor·pho \'mȯr-(ˌ)fō\ *n, pl* **morphos** [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *Morphō*, epithet of Aphrodite] : any of a genus (*Morpho*) of large showy tropical American butterflies that typically have a brilliant blue metallic luster on the upper surface of the wings
mor·pho·gen·e·sis \ˌmȯr-fə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the formation and differentiation of tissues and organs — compare ORGANOGENESIS
mor·pho·ge·net·ic \-jə-'net-ik\ *adj* : relating to or concerned with the development of normal organic form ⟨~ movements of early embryonic cells⟩ — **mor·pho·ge·net·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mor·pho·gen·ic \-'jen-ik\ *adj* : MORPHOGENETIC
mor·phol·o·gy \mȯr-'fäl-ə-jē\ *n* [G *morphologie*, fr. *morph-* + *-logie* -logy] **1 a** : a branch of biology that deals with the form and structure of animals and plants **b** : the form and structure of an organism or any of its parts **2 a** : a study and description of word formation in a language including inflection, derivation, and compounding **b** : the system of word-forming elements and processes in a language **3 a** : a study of structure or form **b** : STRUCTURE, FORM **4** : the external structure of rocks in relation to the development of erosional forms or topographic features — **mor·pho·log·i·cal** \ˌmȯr-fə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mor·pho·log·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **mor·phol·o·gist** \mȯr-'fäl-ə-jəst\ *n*
mor·phom·e·try \mȯr-'fäm-ə-trē\ *n* **1** : measurement of external form **2** : a branch of limnology that deals with the morphological measurements of a lake and its basin — **mor·pho·met·ric** \ˌmȯr-fə-'me-trik\ *also* **mor·pho·met·ri·cal** \-tri-kəl\ *adj* — **mor·pho·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mor·pho·pho·ne·mics \ˌmȯr-fō-fə-'nē-miks\ *n pl but sing in constr* [*morph*eme + *-o-* + *phonemics*] **1** : a study of the phonemic differences between allomorphs of the same morpheme **2** : the distribution of allomorphs in one morpheme **3** : the structure of a language in terms of morphophonemics
-mor·pho·sis \'mȯr-fə-səs *also* mȯr-'fō-\ *n comb form, pl* **-mor·pho·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [L, fr. Gk *morphōsis* process of forming, fr. *morphoun* to form, fr. *morphē* form] : development or change of form of a (specified) thing or in a (specified) manner ⟨geronto*morphosis*⟩
-mor·phous \'mȯr-fəs\ *adj comb form* [Gk *-morphos*, fr. *morphē* form] : having (such) a form ⟨iso*morphous*⟩
-mor·phy \ˌmȯr-fē\ *n comb form* [ISV, fr. *-morphous*] : quality or state of having (such) a form ⟨homo*morphy*⟩

mor·ris \'mȯr-əs, 'mär-\ *n* [ME *moreys daunce*, fr. *moreys*, Moorish (fr. *More* Moor) + *daunce* dance] : a vigorous English dance performed by men wearing costumes and bells
mor·ris chair \ˌmȯr-əs-, ˌmär-\ *n* [William *Morris* †1896] : an easy chair with adjustable back and removable cushions



morris chair

mor·row \'mär-(ˌ)ō, 'mȯr-, -ə(-w)\ *n* [ME *morn, morwen* morn] **1** *archaic* : MORNING **2** : the next day **3** : the time immediately after a specified event
Morse code \'mȯrs-\ *n* [Samuel F. B. *Morse*] : either of two codes consisting of dots and dashes or long and short sounds used for transmitting messages by audible or visual signals
¹mor·sel \'mȯr-səl\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, dim. of *mors* bite, fr. L *morsus*, fr. *morsus*, pp. of *mordēre* to bite — more at SMART] **1** : a small piece of food : BITE **2** : a small quantity : FRAGMENT **3 a** : a tasty dish **b** : something delectable and pleasing ⟨the girl . . . is young and very pretty . . . a ~ worth a little lordly condescension — Eric Blom⟩ **4** : a negligible person
²morsel *vt* **-seled** *or* **-selled; -sel·ing** *or* **-sel·ling** : to divide into or distribute in small pieces

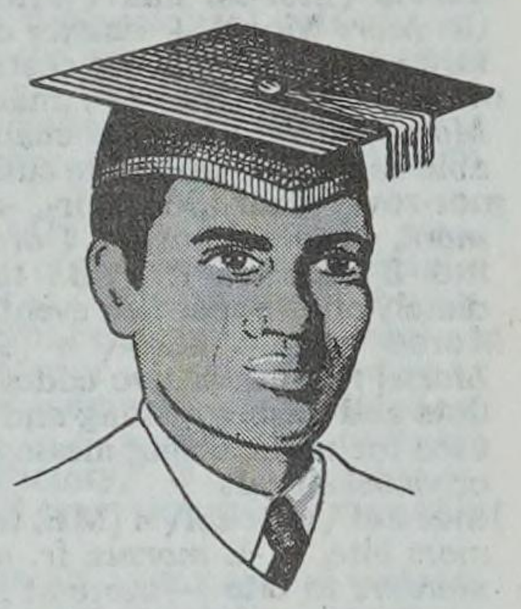
INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE

A ·−	N −·	Á ·−−·−	8 −−−··
B −···	O −−−	Ä ·−·−	9 −−−−·
C −·−·	P ·−−·	É ··−··	0 −−−−−
D −··	Q −−·−	Ñ −−·−−	, (comma) −−··−−
E ·	R ·−·	Ö −−−·	. ·−·−·−
F ··−·	S ···	Ü ··−−	? ··−−··
G −−·	T −	1 ·−−−−	; −·−·−·
H ····	U ··−	2 ··−−−	: −−−···
I ··	V ···−	3 ···−−	' (apostrophe) ·−−−−·
J ·−−−	W ·−−	4 ····−	- (hyphen) −····−
K −·−	X −··−	5 ·····	/ −··−·
L ·−··	Y −·−−	6 −····	parenthesis −·−−·−
M −−	Z −−··	7 −−···	underline ··−−·−

[1]Often called the continental code; a modification of this code, with dots only, is used on ocean cables

¹mort \'mȯ(ə)rt\ *n* [prob. alter. of ME *mot* horn note, fr. MF word, horn note — more at MOT] **1** : a note sounded on a hunting horn when a deer is killed **2** : KILLING
²mort *n* [prob. back-formation fr. ¹*mortal*] : a great quantity or number
¹mor·tal \'mȯrt-ᵊl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *mortalis*, fr. *mort-, mors* death — more at MURDER] **1** : having caused or being about to cause death : FATAL ⟨a ~ injury⟩ **2 a** : subject to death ⟨~ man⟩ **b** : EARTHLY, CONCEIVABLE ⟨every ~ thing⟩ **c** : very tedious or prolonged ⟨waited three ~ hours⟩ **3** : marked by unrelenting hostility : IMPLACABLE ⟨a ~ enemy⟩ **4 a** : marked by great intensity or severity : EXTREME ⟨~ fear⟩ **b** : very great : AWFUL ⟨a ~ shame⟩ **5** : HUMAN ⟨~ limitations⟩ **6** : of, relating to, or connected with death ⟨~ agony⟩ ***syn*** see DEADLY
²mortal *adv, chiefly dial* : MORTALLY
³mortal *n* : a human being
mor·tal·i·ty \mȯr-'tal-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being mortal **2** : the death of large numbers (as of people or animals) **3** *archaic* : DEATH **4** : the human race : MANKIND **5 a** : the number of deaths in a given time or place **b** : the proportion of deaths to population **c** : the number lost or the rate of loss or failure
mortality table *n* : an actuarial table based on mortality statistics over a number of years
mor·tal·ly \'mȯrt-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* **1** : in a deadly or fatal manner : to death ⟨~ wounded⟩ **2** : to an extreme degree : INTENSELY ⟨~ afraid⟩
mortal mind *n, Christian Science* : a belief that life, substance, and intelligence are in and of matter : ILLUSION
mortal sin *n* : a sin (as murder) that is deliberately committed and is of such serious consequence according to Thomist theology that it deprives the soul of sanctifying grace — compare VENIAL SIN
¹mor·tar \'mȯrt-ər\ *n* [ME *morter*, fr. OE *mortere* & MF *mortier*, fr. L *mortarium*; akin to Gk *marainein* to waste away — more at SMART] **1 a** : a strong vessel in which material is pounded or rubbed with a pestle **b** : a large cast-iron receptacle in which ore is crushed in a stamp mill **2** [MF *mortier*] **a** : a muzzle-loading cannon having a tube short in relation to its caliber that is used to throw projectiles with low muzzle velocities at high angles **b** : any of several similar firing devices
²mortar *n* [ME *morter*, fr. OF *mortier*, fr. L *mortarium*] : a plastic building material (as a mixture of cement, lime, or gypsum plaster with sand and water) that hardens and is used in masonry or plastering
³mortar *vt* : to plaster or make fast with mortar
mor·tar·board \'mȯrt-ər-ˌbō(ə)rd, -ˌbȯ(ə)rd\ *n* **1 a** : HAWK 2 **b** : a board or platform about 3 feet square for holding mortar **2** : an academic cap consisting of a closely fitting headpiece with a broad flat projecting square top

[1]mort·gage \'mȯr-gij\ *n* [ME *morgage*, fr. MF, fr. OF, fr. *mort* dead (fr. L *mortuus*, fr. pp. of *mori* to die) + *gage* — more at MURDER] **1** : a conveyance of property (as for security on a loan) on condition that the conveyance becomes void on payment or performance according to stipulated terms **2 a** : the instrument by which a mortgage conveyance is made **b** : the state of the property so conveyed **c** : the interest of the mortgagee in such property



mortarboard 2

[2]mortgage *vt* **mort·gaged; mort·gag·ing** **1** : to grant or convey by a mortgage **2** : to subject to a claim or obligation : PLEDGE

mort·gag·ee \ˌmȯr-gi-'jē\ *n* : a person to whom property is mortgaged

mort·gag·or \ˌmȯr-gi-'jȯ(ə)r\ *also* **mort·gag·er** \'mȯr-gi-jər\ *n* : a person who mortgages his property

mor·ti·cian \mȯr-'tish-ən\ *n* [L *mort-*, *mors* death] : UNDERTAKER 2

mor·ti·fi·ca·tion \ˌmȯrt-ə-fə-'kā-shən\ *n* **1** : the subjection and denial of bodily passions and appetites by abstinence or self-inflicted pain or discomfort **2** : NECROSIS, GANGRENE **3 a** : a sense of humiliation and shame caused by something that wounds one's pride or self-respect **b** : the cause of such humiliation or shame

mor·ti·fy \'mȯrt-ə-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *mortifien*, fr. MF *mortifier*, fr. LL *mortificare*, fr. L *mort-*, *mors*] *vt* **1** *obs* : to destroy the strength, vitality, or functioning of **2** : to subdue or deaden (as the body or bodily appetites) esp. by abstinence or self-inflicted pain or discomfort **3** : to subject to severe and vexing embarrassment : SHAME ~ *vi* **1** : to practice mortification **2** : to become necrotic or gangrenous

[1]mor·tise *also* **mor·tice** \'mȯrt-əs\ *n* [ME *mortays*, fr. MF *mortaise*] : a hole, groove, or slot into or through which some other part of an arrangement of parts fits or passes; *esp* : a usu. rectangular cavity cut into a piece of timber or other material to receive a tenon — see DOVETAIL illustration

[2]mortise *also* **mortice** *vt* **mor·tised; mor·tis·ing** **1** : to join or fasten securely; *specif* : to join or fasten by a tenon and mortise **2** : to cut or make a mortise in

mort·main \'mȯrt-ˌmān\ *n* [ME *morte-mayne*, fr. MF *mortemain*, fr. OF, fr. *morte* (fem. of *mort* dead) + *main* hand, fr. L *manus* — more at MANUAL] **1 a** : an inalienable possession of lands or buildings by an ecclesiastical or other corporation **b** : the condition of property or other gifts left to a corporation in perpetuity esp. for religious, charitable, or public purposes **2** : the influence of the past regarded as controlling the present

[1]mor·tu·ary \'mȯr-chə-ˌwer-ē\ *n, pl* **-ar·ies** [ME *mortuarie*, fr. ML *mortuarium*, fr. L, neut. of *mortuarius* of the dead, fr. *mortuus*, pp.] : a place in which dead bodies are kept until burial; *esp* : FUNERAL HOME

[2]mortuary *adj* **1** : of or relating to the burial of the dead **2** : of, relating to, or characteristic of death

mor·u·la \'mȯr-(y)ə-lə, 'mär-\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. L *morum* mulberry] : a globular solid mass of blastomeres formed by cleavage of a zygote that typically precedes the blastula — **mor·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj* — **mor·u·la·tion** \ˌmȯr-(y)ə-'lā-shən, ˌmär-\ *n*

[1]mo·sa·ic \mō-'zā-ik\ *n* [ME *musycke*, fr. MF *mosaique*, fr. OIt *mosaico*, fr. ML *musaicum*, alter. of LL *musivum*, fr. neut. of *musivus* of a muse, artistic, fr. L *Musa* muse] **1** : a surface decoration made by inlaying small pieces of variously colored material to form pictures or patterns; *also* : the process of making it **2** : a picture or design made in mosaic **3** : something resembling a mosaic ⟨a ~ of visions and daydreams and memories —Lawrence Shainberg⟩ **4 a** : an organism or one of its parts composed of cells of more than one genotype : CHIMERA 3 **b** : a virus disease of plants characterized by diffuse light and dark green or yellow and green mottling of the foliage **5** : a composite map made of aerial photographs **6** : the part of a television camera tube consisting of many minute photoelectric particles that convert light to an electric charge — **mosaic** *adj* — **mo·sa·ical·ly** \-'zā-ə-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

[2]mosaic *vt* **-icked; -ick·ing** **1** : to decorate with mosaics **2** : to form into a mosaic

Mo·sa·ic \mō-'zā-ik\ *adj* [NL *Mosaicus*, fr. *Moses*] : of or relating to Moses or the institutions or writings attributed to him

mosaic gold *n* : a yellow scaly crystalline substance that is essentially a yellow sulfide SnS_2 of tin and is used as a pigment and in gilding and bronzing

mo·sa·icism \mō-'zā-ə-ˌsiz-əm\ *n* : a condition in which patches of tissue of unlike genetic constitution are mingled in an organism

mo·sa·icist \-səst\ *n* **1 a** : a designer of mosaics **b** : a workman who makes mosaics **2** : a dealer in mosaics

Mos·an \'mōs-ᵊn\ *n* [*mōs* four (in various Mosan languages)] : an American Indian language phylum of British Columbia and Washington including the Salishan, Wakashan, and Chemakuan stocks

Mo·selle \mō-'zel\ *n* [G *moselwein*, fr. *Mosel*, Moselle, river in Germany + G *wein* wine] : a white table wine made in the valley of the Moselle; *also* : a similar wine made elsewhere

Mo·ses \'mō-zəz *also* -zəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Mōsēs*, fr. Heb *Mōsheh*] : a Hebrew prophet who led the Israelites out of Egyptian slavery and at Mt. Sinai delivered to them the Law establishing God's covenant with them

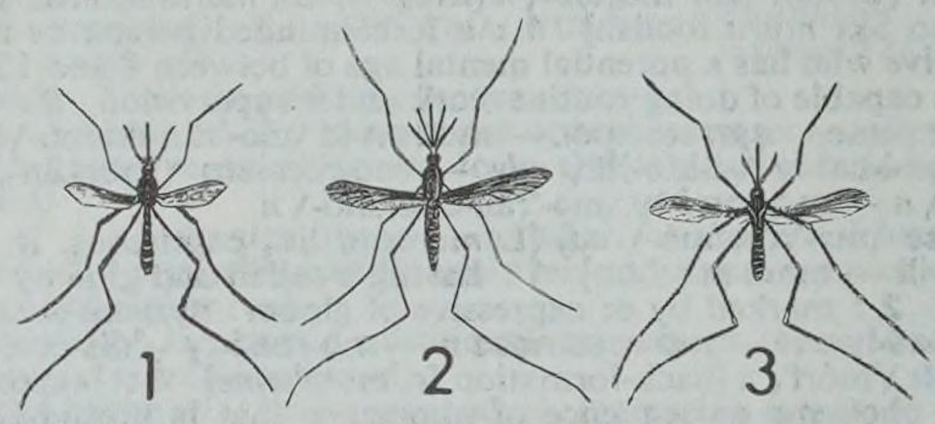
mo·sey \'mō-zē\ *vi* **mo·seyed; mo·sey·ing** [origin unknown] **1** : to hurry away **2** : to move in a leisurely or aimless manner : SAUNTER ⟨~*ed* around the general store, testing the cheese straight off the round —Eric Sevareid⟩

mo·shav \mō-'shäv\ *n, pl* **mo·sha·vim** \ˌmō-shə-'vēm\ [NHeb *mōshābh*, fr. Heb, dwelling] : a cooperative settlement of small individual farms in Israel — compare KIBBUTZ

Mos·lem \'mäz-ləm *also* 'mäs-\ *var of* MUSLIM

mosque \'mäsk\ *n* [MF *mosquee*, fr. OIt *moschea*, fr. OSp *mezquita*, fr. Ar *masjid* temple, fr. *sajada* to prostrate oneself] : a building used for public worship by Muslims

mos·qui·to \mə-'skēt-ˌō, -ə(-w)\ *n, pl* **-toes** *also* **-tos** [Sp, fr. *mosca* fly, fr. L *musca* — more at MIDGE] : any of numerous two-winged flies (family Culicidae) with females that have a set of slender organs in the proboscis adapted to puncture the skin of animals and to suck their blood and that are in some cases vectors of serious diseases — **mos·qui·to·ey** \-'skēt-ə-wē\ *adj*



mosquito: *1* culex, *2* anopheles, *3* aëdes

mosquito boat *n* : PT BOAT

mosquito fish *n* : any of numerous small fishes used to exterminate mosquito larvae; *esp* : either of two No. American live-bearers (*Gambusia affinis* and *Heterandria formosa*)

mosquito hawk *n* : DRAGONFLY

mosquito net *n* : a net or screen for keeping out mosquitoes

[1]moss \'mȯs\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *mōs*; akin to OHG *mos* moss, L *muscus*] **1** *chiefly Scot* : BOG, SWAMP; *esp* : a peat bog **2 a** : any of a class (Musci) of bryophytic plants having a small leafy often tufted stem bearing sex organs at its tip; *also* : a clump or sward of these plants **b** : any of various plants resembling moss in appearance or habit of growth **3** : a mossy covering — **moss·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

[2]moss *vt* : to cover or overgrow with moss

moss agate *n* : an agate mineral containing brown, black, or green mosslike or dendritic markings

moss animal *n* : BRYOZOAN

moss·back \'mȯs-ˌbak\ *n* **1 a** : a large sluggish fish **b** : a wild old range steer or cow **2** : an extremely reactionary person : FOGY — **moss·backed** \-ˌbakt\ *adj*

moss·er \'mȯ-sər\ *n* : one that gathers and prepares Irish moss for market

moss green *n* : a variable color averaging a moderate yellow-green

moss–grown \'mȯs-ˌgrōn\ *adj* **1** : overgrown with moss **2** : ANTIQUATED

moss pink *n* : a low tufted perennial phlox (*Phlox subulata*) widely cultivated for its abundant usu. pink or white flowers

moss rose *n* : an old-fashioned garden rose that has a glandular mossy calyx and flower stalk

moss–troop·er \'mȯ-'strü-pər\ *n* **1** : one of a class of 17th century raiders in the marshy border country between England and Scotland **2** : FREEBOOTER — **moss–troop·ing** \-piŋ\ *adj*

mossy \'mȯ-sē\ *adj* **moss·i·er; -est** **1** : covered with moss or something like moss **2** : resembling moss **3** : ANTIQUATED ⟨the ~ precepts of the . . . prescriptive grammarians —Thomas Pyles⟩

[1]most \'mōst\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *mǣst*; akin to OHG *meist* most, OE *māra* more — more at MORE] **1** : the majority of ⟨~ men⟩ **2** : greatest in quantity, extent, or degree ⟨the ~ ability⟩ — **for the most part** : as a general rule : in most cases : MAINLY

[2]most *adv* **1** : to the greatest or highest degree — often used with an adjective or adverb to form the superlative ⟨the ~ challenging job he ever had⟩ **2** : to a very great degree ⟨her argument was ~ persuasive⟩

[3]most *n* : the greatest amount ⟨it's the ~ I can do⟩ — **at most** *or* **at the most** : as an extreme limit ⟨took him an hour *at most* to finish the job⟩

[4]most *pron, sing or pl in constr* : the greatest number or part ⟨~ become discouraged and quit⟩

[5]most *adv* : ALMOST ⟨we'll be crossing the river ~ any time now — Hamilton Basso⟩

-most \ˌmōst, *Brit also* məst\ *adj suffix* [ME, alter. of *-mest* (as in *formest* foremost)] : most ⟨inner*most*⟩ : most toward ⟨head*most*⟩

most·ly \'mōst-lē\ *adv* : for the greatest part : MAINLY

Most Reverend — used as a title for an archbishop or a Roman Catholic bishop

mot \'mō\ *n, pl* **mots** \'mō(z)\ [F, word, saying, fr. L *muttum* grunt — more at MOTTO] : a pithy or witty saying

[1]mote \(')mōt\ *verbal auxiliary* [ME *moten*, fr. OE *mōtan* to be allowed to — more at MUST] *archaic* : MAY, MIGHT

[2]mote \'mōt\ *n* [ME *mot*, fr. OE; akin to MD & Fris *mot* sand] : a small particle : SPECK

mo·tel \mō-'tel\ *n* [blend of *motor* and *hotel*] : an establishment which provides lodging and parking and in which the rooms are usu. accessible from an outdoor parking area

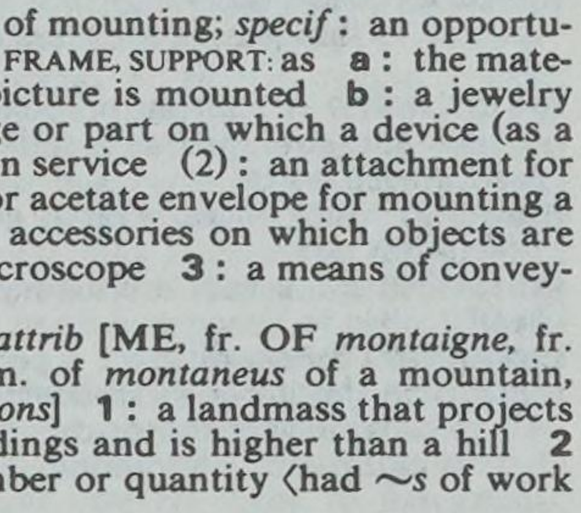
mo·tet \mō-'tet\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, dim. of *mot*] : a polyphonic choral composition on a sacred text usu. without instrumental accompaniment

moth \'mȯth\ *n, pl* **moths** \'mȯthz, 'mȯths\ [ME *mothe*, fr. OE *moththe*; akin to MHG *motte* moth] **1** : CLOTHES MOTH **2** : a usu. nocturnal insect (order Lepidoptera) with antennae that are often feathery, with a stouter body, duller coloring, and proportionately smaller wings than the butterflies, and with larvae that are plant-eating caterpillars

[1]moth·ball \'mȯth-ˌbȯl\ *n* **1** : a ball made formerly of camphor but now often of naphthalene and used to keep moths from clothing **2** *pl* : a condition of protective storage ⟨put the ships in ~*s* after the war⟩; *also* : a state of having been rejected for further use or dismissed from further consideration ⟨put that idea in ~*s*⟩

²mothball *vt* : to deactivate (as a ship) and prevent deterioration chiefly by dehumidification
moth bean \'mȯth-\ *n* [prob. by folk etymology fr. Marathi *maṭh* moth bean] : a bean (*Phaseolus aconitifolius*) that is cultivated esp. in India for forage and soil conditioning, for its cylindrical pods, and for its small yellowish brown seeds; *also* : its seed
moth–eat·en \'mȯ-ˌthēt-ᵊn\ *adj* **1** : eaten into by moth larvae ⟨~ clothes⟩ **2 a** : DILAPIDATED **b** : ANTIQUATED, OUTMODED
¹moth·er \'məth-ər\ *n* [ME *moder*, fr. OE *mōdor*; akin to OHG *muoter* mother, L *mater*, Gk *mētēr*, Skt *mātṛ*] **1 a** : a female parent **b** (1) : a woman in authority; *specif* : the superior of a religious community of women (2) : an old or elderly woman **2** : SOURCE, ORIGIN ⟨necessity is the ~ of invention⟩ **3** : maternal tenderness or affection — **moth·er·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **moth·er·less·ness** *n*
²mother *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or being a mother **b** : bearing the relation of a mother **2** : derived from or as if from one's mother **3** : acting as or providing parental stock — used without reference to sex
³mother *vt* **moth·ered; moth·er·ing** \'məth-(ə-)riŋ\ **1 a** : to give birth to **b** : to give rise to : PRODUCE **2** : to care for or protect like a mother
⁴mother *n* [akin to MD *modder* mud, lees, dregs, MLG *mudde* mud] : a slimy membrane composed of yeast and bacterial cells that develops on the surface of alcoholic liquids undergoing acetous fermentation and is added to wine or cider to produce vinegar — called also *mother of vinegar*
Mother Car·ey's chicken \-ˌkar-ēz-, -ˌker-\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of several small petrels; *esp* : STORM PETREL
mother cell *n* : a cell that gives rise to other cells usu. of a different sort
Mother Goose *n* : the legendary author of a collection of nursery rhymes first published in London about 1760
moth·er·hood \'məth-ər-ˌhu̇d\ *n* : the state of being a mother
moth·er·house \-ˌhau̇s\ *n* **1** : the convent in which the superior of a religious community resides **2** : the original convent of a religious community
Mother Hub·bard \ˌməth-ər-'həb-ərd\ *n* [prob. fr. *Mother Hubbard*, character in a nursery rhyme] : a loose usu. shapeless dress
moth·er–in–law \'məth-(ə-)rən-ˌlȯ, 'məth-ərn-ˌlȯ\ *n, pl* **moth·ers–in–law** \'məth-ər-zən-\ **1** : the mother of one's spouse **2** : STEPMOTHER
moth·er·land \'məth-ər-ˌland\ *n* **1** : a country regarded as a place of origin (as of an idea or a movement) **2** : FATHERLAND
moth·er·ly \-lē\ *adj* **1** : of, proper to, or characteristic of a mother ⟨~ advice⟩ **2** : resembling a mother : MATERNAL ⟨a kind ~ sort of woman⟩ — **moth·er·li·ness** *n*
moth·er–na·ked \ˌməth-ər-'nā-kəd, *esp South* -'nek-əd\ *adj* : stark naked
moth·er–of–pearl \ˌməth-ə-rə(v)-'pər(-ə)l\ *n* : the hard pearly iridescent substance forming the inner layer of a mollusk shell
Mother's Day *n* : the 2d Sunday in May appointed for the honoring of mothers
mother tongue *n* **1** : one's native language **2** : a language from which another language derives
mother wit *n* : natural wit or intelligence
¹moth·proof \'mȯth-'prüf\ *adj* : impervious to penetration by moths ⟨~ wool⟩
²mothproof *vt* : to make mothproof — **moth·proof·er** *n*
mo·tif \mō-'tēf\ *n* [F, motive, motif] **1 a** : a usu. recurring salient thematic element in a work of art; *esp* : a dominant idea or central theme **b** : a single or repeated design or color **2** : an influence or stimulus prompting to action
¹mo·tile \'mōt-ᵊl, 'mō-ˌtīl\ *adj* [L *motus*, pp.] : exhibiting or capable of movement — **mo·til·i·ty** \mō-'til-ət-ē\ *n*
²motile *n* : a person whose prevailing mental imagery takes the form of inner feelings of action
¹mo·tion \'mō-shən\ *n* [ME *mocioun*, fr. MF *motion*, fr. L *motion-, motio* movement, fr. *motus*, pp. of *movēre* to move] **1 a** : a proposal for action; *esp* : a formal proposal made in a deliberative assembly **b** : an application made to a court or judge to obtain an order, ruling, or direction **2 a** : an act, process, or instance of changing place : MOVEMENT **b** : an active or functioning state or condition ⟨set the divorce proceedings in ~⟩ **3** : an impulse or inclination of the mind or will **4** *obs* **a** : a puppet show **b** : PUPPET **5** : MECHANISM ⟨a straight-line ~⟩ **6 a** : an act or instance of moving the body or its parts : GESTURE **b** *pl* : ACTIVITIES, MOVEMENTS **7** : melodic change of pitch — **mo·tion·al** \'mō-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mo·tion·less** \'mō-shən-ləs\ *adj* — **mo·tion·less·ly** *adv* — **mo·tion·less·ness** *n* — **in motion** *of an offensive football player* : running parallel to the line of scrimmage before the snap
²motion *vb* **mo·tioned; mo·tion·ing** \'mō-sh(ə-)niŋ\ *vt* : to direct by a motion ⟨~*ed* me to the seat⟩ ~ *vi* : to signal by a movement or gesture ⟨the pitcher ~*ed* to the catcher⟩
motion picture *n* **1** : a series of pictures projected on a screen in rapid succession with objects shown in successive positions slightly changed so as to produce the optical effect of a continuous picture in which the objects move **2** : a representation (as of a story) by means of motion pictures : MOVIE
motion sickness *n* : sickness induced by motion (as in travel by air, car, or ship) and characterized by nausea
mo·ti·vate \'mōt-ə-ˌvāt\ *vt* **-vat·ed; -vat·ing** : to provide with a motive : IMPEL ⟨questions that excite and ~ youth⟩ — **mo·ti·va·tive** \-ˌvāt-iv\ *adj* — **mo·ti·va·tor** \-ˌvāt-ər\ *n*
mo·ti·va·tion \ˌmōt-ə-'vā-shən\ *n* **1 a** : the act or process of motivating **b** : the condition of being motivated **2** : a motivating force or influence : INCENTIVE, DRIVE — **mo·ti·va·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mo·ti·va·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
¹mo·tive \'mōt-iv, *2 is also* mō-'tēv\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *motif*, fr. *motif*, adj., moving] **1** : something (as a need or desire) that causes a person to act **2** : a recurrent phrase or figure that is developed through the course of a musical composition **3** : MOTIF 1 — **mo·tive·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **mo·ti·vic** \mō-'tē-vik\ *adj*
syn MOTIVE, SPRING, IMPULSE, INCENTIVE, INDUCEMENT, SPUR, GOAD
shared meaning element : a stimulus to action
²mo·tive \'mōt-iv\ *adj* [MF or ML; MF *motif*, fr. ML *motivus*, fr. L *motus*, pp.] **1** : moving or tending to move to action **2** : of or relating to motion or the causing of motion ⟨~ energy⟩
³mo·tive \'mōt-iv\ *vt* **mo·tived; mo·tiv·ing** : MOTIVATE
motive power *n* **1** : an agency (as water or steam) used to impart motion to machinery **2** : something (as a locomotive or a motor) that provides motive power to a system
mo·tiv·i·ty \mō-'tiv-ət-ē\ *n* : the power of moving or producing motion
mot juste \mō-zhüest\ *n, pl* **mots justes** *same*\ [F] : the exactly right word or phrasing
¹mot·ley \'mät-lē\ *adj* [ME, perh. fr. *mot* mote, speck] **1** : variegated in color ⟨a ~ coat⟩ **2** : composed of diverse often incongruous elements ⟨a ~ crowd⟩
²motley *n* [ME, prob. fr. ¹*motley*] **1** : a woolen fabric of mixed colors made in England between the 14th and 17th centuries **2** : a garment made of motley; *esp* : the characteristic dress of the professional fool **3** : JESTER, FOOL **4** : a mixture esp. of incongruous elements
mot·mot \'mät-ˌmät\ *n* [AmerSp *mot-mot*, of imit. origin] : any of numerous long-tailed mostly green nonpasserine birds (family Momotidae) of tropical forests from Mexico to Brazil
mo·to·cross \'mōt-ō-ˌkrȯs\ *n* [*motor* + *cross*-country] : a motorcycle race on a tight closed course over natural terrain that includes steep hills, sharp turns, and often mud
mo·to·neu·ron \ˌmōt-ə-'n(y)ü-ˌrän, -'n(y)u̇(ə)r-ˌän\ *n* [*motor* + *neuron*] : a motor nerve cell with its processes
¹mo·tor \'mōt-ər\ *n* [L, fr. *motus*, pp. of *movēre* to move] **1** : one that imparts motion; *specif* : PRIME MOVER **2** : any of various power units that develop energy or impart motion: as **a** : a small compact engine **b** : INTERNAL-COMBUSTION ENGINE; *esp* : a gasoline engine **c** : a rotating machine that transforms electrical energy into mechanical energy **3** : MOTOR VEHICLE; *esp* : AUTOMOBILE — **mo·tor·less** \-ləs\ *adj*
²motor *adj* **1 a** : causing or imparting motion **b** : of, relating to, or being a nerve or nerve fiber that passes from the central nervous system or a ganglion to a muscle and conducts an impulse that causes movement ⟨~ end plate⟩ **c** : of, relating to, or involving muscular movement **2 a** : equipped with or driven by a motor **b** : of, relating to, or involving an automobile **c** : designed for motor vehicles or motorists
³motor *vi* : to travel by automobile : DRIVE ~ *vt* : to transport by automobile
mo·tor·bike \'mōt-ər-ˌbīk\ *n* : a small usu. lightweight motorcycle
mo·tor·boat \-ˌbōt\ *n* : a boat propelled by an internal-combustion engine or an electric motor — **mo·tor·boat·er** \-ər\ *n* — **mo·tor·boat·ing** \-iŋ\ *n*
motor bus *n* : BUS 1a — called also *motor coach*
mo·tor·cade \'mōt-ər-ˌkād\ *n* : a procession of motor vehicles
mo·tor·car \-ˌkär\ *n* **1** : AUTOMOBILE **2** *usu* **motor car** : a railroad car containing motors for propulsion
motor court *n* : MOTEL
mo·tor·cy·cle \'mōt-ər-ˌsī-kəl\ *n* [*motor* bi*cycle*] : a 2-wheeled automotive vehicle having 1 or 2 saddles and sometimes a sidecar with a third supporting wheel — **motorcycle** *vi* — **mo·tor·cy·clist** \-k(ə-)ləst\ *n*
mo·tor·drome \'mōt-ər-ˌdrōm\ *n* : a track or course with seats for spectators that is used for races or tests of automobiles or motorcycles
motor home *n* : an automotive vehicle built on a truck or bus chassis and equipped as a self-contained traveling home — compare MOBILE HOME
mo·tor·ic \mō-'tȯr-ik, -'tär-\ *adj* : MOTOR 1c — **mo·tor·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
motor inn *n* : a usu. multistory urban motel — called also *motor hotel*
mo·tor·ist \'mōt-ə-rəst\ *n* : a person who travels by automobile
mo·tor·ize \'mōt-ə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to equip with a motor: as **a** : to provide with motor-driven equipment (as for transportation) **b** : to equip with automobiles — **mo·tor·iza·tion** \ˌmōt-ə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n*
motor lodge *n* : MOTEL
mo·tor·man \'mōt-ər-mən\ *n* : an operator of a motor-driven vehicle (as a streetcar or subway train)
motor pool *n* : a group of motor vehicles centrally controlled (as by a governmental agency) and dispatched for use as needed
motor scooter *n* : a low 2- or 3-wheeled automotive vehicle resembling a child's scooter and having a seat so that the rider does not straddle the engine
motor torpedo boat *n* : PT BOAT
mo·tor·truck \'mōt-ər-ˌtrək\ *n* : an automotive truck for transporting freight
motor unit *n* : a motoneuron together with the muscle fibers on which it acts
motor vehicle *n* : an automotive vehicle not operated on rails; *esp* : one with rubber tires for use on highways
mo·tor·way \'mōt-ər-ˌwā\ *n, Brit* : a motor highway; *esp* : SUPERHIGHWAY
¹mot·tle \'mät-ᵊl\ *n* [prob. back-formation fr. *motley*] **1** : a colored spot **2 a** : a surface having colored spots or blotches **b** : the arrangement of such spots or blotches on a surface **3** : MOSAIC 4b — **mot·tled** \-ᵊld\ *adj*

²mottle *vt* **mot·tled; mot·tling** \'mät-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ : to mark with spots or blotches of different color or shades of color as if stained — **mot·tler** \'mät-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
mottled enamel *n* : spotted tooth enamel caused by drinking water containing excessive fluorides during the time the teeth are calcifying
mot·to \'mät-(ˌ)ō\ *n, pl* **mottoes** *also* **mottos** [It, fr. L *muttum* grunt, fr. *muttire* to mutter] **1** : a sentence, phrase, or word inscribed on something as appropriate to or indicative of its character or use **2** : a short expression of a guiding principle
moue \'mü\ *n* [F — more at MOW] : a little grimace : POUT
mou·flon *or* **mouf·flon** \mü-'flōⁿ\ *n* [F *mouflon*, fr. It dial. *muvrone*, fr. LL *mufron-, mufro*] : a wild sheep (*Ovis musimon*) of the mountains of Sardinia and Corsica with large curling horns in the male; *broadly* : a wild sheep with large horns
mouil·lé \mü-'yā\ *adj* [F, lit., moistened] : pronounced palatally
mou·jik \mü-'zhēk, -'zhik\ *var of* MUZHIK
mou·lage \mü-'läzh\ *n* [F, molding, fr. MF, fr. *mouler* to mold, fr. OF *modle* mold — more at MOLD] **1** : the taking of an impression for use as evidence in a criminal investigation **2** : an impression or cast made for use esp. as evidence in a criminal investigation
mould \'mōld\ *var of* MOLD
mou·lin \mü-'laⁿ\ *n* [F, lit., mill, fr. LL *molinum* — more at MILL] : a nearly cylindrical vertical shaft in a glacier scoured out by water from melting snow and ice and by rock debris
moult \'mōlt\ *var of* MOLT
¹mound \'maůnd\ *vt* [origin unknown] **1** *archaic* : to enclose or fortify with a fence or a ridge of earth **2** : to form into a mound
²mound *n, often attrib* [origin unknown] **1** *archaic* : HEDGE, FENCE **2 a** (1) : an artificial bank or hill of earth or stones (2) : the slightly elevated ground on which a baseball pitcher stands **b** : KNOLL, HILL **3** : HEAP, PILE
Mound Builder *n* : a member of a prehistoric Amerindian people whose extensive earthworks are found from the Great Lakes down the Mississippi valley to the Gulf of Mexico
¹mount \'maůnt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *munt* & OF *mont*, fr. L *mont-, mons;* akin to ON *mœna* to project, L *minari* to project, threaten] **1** : a high hill : MOUNTAIN — used esp. before an identifying name ⟨*Mount* Everest⟩ **2** *archaic* : a protective earthwork **3** : MOUND 2a(1) **4** *cap* : a small area of raised flesh on the palm of the hand esp. at the base of a finger that is held by palmists to indicate temperament or traits of character — see PALMISTRY illustration
²mount *vb* [ME *mounten*, fr. MF *monter*, fr. (assumed) VL *montare*, fr. L *mont-, mons*] *vi* **1** : to increase in amount or extent ⟨expenses began to ~⟩ **2** : RISE, ASCEND **3** : to get up on something above the level of the ground; *esp* : to seat oneself (as on a horse) for riding ~ *vt* **1 a** : to go up : CLIMB **b** (1) : to seat or place oneself on (2) : COVER 6a **2 a** : to lift up : RAISE **b** (1) : to put or have (as artillery) in position (2) : to have as equipment **c** (1) : to organize and equip (an attacking force) ⟨~ an army⟩ (2) : to launch and carry out (as an assault or a campaign) **3** : to set on something that elevates **4 a** : to cause to get on a means of conveyance **b** : to furnish with animals for riding **5** : to post or set up for defense or observation ⟨~*ed* some guards⟩ **6 a** : to attach to a support **b** : to arrange or assemble for use or display **7 a** : to prepare (as a specimen) for examination or display **b** : to prepare and supply with the materials necessary for performance or execution : PRODUCE ⟨~*ed* a sumptuous opera⟩ ***syn*** see ASCEND ***ant*** dismount — **mount·able** \-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **mount·er** *n*
³mount *n* **1** : an act or instance of mounting; *specif* : an opportunity to ride a horse in a race **2** : FRAME, SUPPORT: as **a** : the material (as cardboard) on which a picture is mounted **b** : a jewelry setting **c** (1) : an undercarriage or part on which a device (as a motor or an artillery piece) rests in service (2) : an attachment for an accessory **d** : a hinge, card, or acetate envelope for mounting a stamp **e** : a glass slide with its accessories on which objects are placed for examination with a microscope **3** : a means of conveyance; *esp* : SADDLE HORSE
moun·tain \'maůnt-ᵊn\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. OF *montaigne*, fr. (assumed) VL *montanea*, fr. fem. of *montaneus* of a mountain, alter. of L *montanus*, fr. *mont-, mons*] **1** : a landmass that projects conspicuously above its surroundings and is higher than a hill **2 a** : a great mass **b** : a vast number or quantity ⟨had ~*s* of work to do⟩
mountain ash *n* : any of various trees (genus *Sorbus*) of the rose family with pinnate leaves and red or orange-red fruits
mountain cranberry *n* : a low evergreen shrub (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*) of north temperate uplands with red edible berries — called also *lingonberry*
mountain dew *n* : MOONSHINE 3
moun·tain·eer \ˌmaůnt-ᵊn-'i(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a native or inhabitant of a mountainous region **2** : one who climbs mountains for sport
moun·tain·eer·ing *n* : the sport or technique of scaling mountains
mountain goat *n* : an antelope (*Oreamnos montanus*) of mountainous northwestern No. America that has a thick white coat and slightly curved black horns and resembles a goat



mountain goat

mountain laurel *n* : a No. American evergreen shrub (*Kalmia latifolia*) of the heath family with glossy leaves and umbels of rose-colored or white flowers
mountain lion *n* : COUGAR
mountain mahogany *n* : any of several western No. American shrubs or small shrubby trees (genus *Cercocarpus*) of the rose family that are often important as browse or forage plants
moun·tain·ous \'maůnt-ᵊn-əs, 'maůnt-nəs\ *adj* **1** : containing many mountains **2** : resembling a mountain : HUGE — **moun·tain·ous·ly** *adv* — **moun·tain·ous·ness** *n*
mountain sickness *n* : altitude sickness experienced esp. above 10,000 feet and caused by insufficient oxygen in the air
moun·tain·side \'maůnt-ᵊn-ˌsīd\ *n* : the side of a mountain
mountain time *n, often cap M* : the time of the 7th time zone west of Greenwich that includes the Rocky mountain states of the U.S. — see TIME ZONE illustration
moun·tain·top \'maůnt-ᵊn-ˌtäp\ *n* : the summit of a mountain
moun·tainy \'maůnt-ᵊn-ē, 'maůnt-nē\ *adj* **1** : MOUNTAINOUS **2** : of, relating to, or living in mountains
¹moun·te·bank \'maůnt-i-ˌbaŋk\ *n* [It *montimbanco*, fr. *montare* to mount (fr.—assumed—VL) + *in* in, on (fr. L) + *banco, banca* bench — more at BANK] **1** : a person who sells quack medicines from a platform **2** : a boastful unscrupulous pretender : CHARLATAN — **moun·te·bank·ery** \-ˌbaŋ-k(ə-)rē\ *n*
²mountebank *vt, obs* : to beguile or transform by trickery ⟨I'll ~ their loves —Shak.⟩ ~ *vi* : to play the mountebank
Mount·ie \'maůnt-ē\ *n* [*mounted* policeman] : a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
mount·ing \'maůnt-iŋ\ *n* : ³MOUNT 2
mourn \'mō(ə)rn, 'mȯ(ə)rn\ *vb* [ME *mournen*, fr. OE *murnan;* akin to OHG *mornēn* to mourn, Gk *mermēra* care — more at MEMORY] *vi* **1** : to feel or express grief or sorrow **2** : to show the customary signs of grief for a death; *esp* : to wear mourning **3** : to murmur mournfully — used esp. of doves ~ *vt* **1** : to feel or express grief or sorrow for **2** : to utter mournfully ***syn*** see GRIEVE — **mourn·er** *n* — **mourn·ing·ly** \'mōr-niŋ-lē, 'mȯr-\ *adv*
mourn·ful \'mō(ə)rn-fəl, 'mȯ(ə)rn-\ *adj* **1** : expressing sorrow : SORROWFUL **2** : full of sorrow : SAD **3** : causing sorrow : SADDENING — **mourn·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mourn·ful·ness** *n*
mourn·ing \'mōr-niŋ, 'mȯr-\ *n* **1** : the act of sorrowing **2 a** : an outward sign (as black clothes or an armband) of grief for a person's death ⟨is wearing ~⟩ **b** : a period of time during which signs of grief are shown
mourning cloak *n* : a blackish brown butterfly (*Nymphalis antiopa*) with a broad yellow border on the wings found in temperate parts of Europe, Asia, and No. America
mourning dove *n* : a wild dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) of the U.S. with a plaintive call
¹mouse \'maůs\ *n, pl* **mice** \'mīs\ [ME, fr. OE *mūs;* akin to OHG *mūs* mouse, L *mus*, Gk *mys* mouse, muscle] **1** : any of numerous small rodents (as of the genus *Mus*) with pointed snout, rather small ears, elongated body, and slender tail **2 a** *slang* : WOMAN **b** : a timid person **3** : a dark-colored swelling caused by a blow; *specif* : BLACK EYE
²mouse \'maůz\ *vb* **moused; mous·ing** *vi* **1** : to hunt for mice **2** : to search or move stealthily or slowly ~ *vt* **1** *obs* **a** : BITE, GNAW **b** : to toy with roughly **2** : to search for carefully — usu. used with *out*
mouse–ear \'maů-ˌsi(ə)r\ *n* **1** : a European hawkweed (*Hieracium pilosella*) that has soft hairy leaves and has been introduced into No. America **2** : any of several plants other than mouse-ear that have soft hairy leaves
mouse–ear chickweed *n* : any of several hairy chickweeds (esp. *Cerastium vulgatum* and *C. viscosum*)
mous·er \'maů-zər\ *n* : a catcher of mice and rats; *esp* : a cat proficient at mousing
¹mouse·trap \'maů-ˌstrap\ *n* **1** : a trap for mice **2** : a stratagem that lures one to defeat or destruction **3** : TRAP 2b
²mousetrap *vt* : to snare in or as if in a mousetrap
Mous·que·taire \ˌmü-skə-'ta(ə)r, -'te(ə)r\ *n* [F — more at MUSKETEER] : a French musketeer; *esp* : one of the royal musketeers of the 17th and 18th centuries conspicuous for their daring and their dandified dress
mous·sa·ka \ˌmü-sə-'kä\ *n* [NGk *mousakas*] : a spiced Middle Eastern dish made of ground meat (as lamb or beef) and eggplant often with a cheese topping
mousse \'müs\ *n* [F, lit., froth, fr. LL *mulsa* hydromel; akin to L *mel* honey — more at MELLIFLUOUS] : a light spongy food usu. containing cream or gelatin; *esp* : a molded chilled dessert made with sweetened and flavored whipped cream or egg whites and gelatin ⟨chocolate ~⟩
mous·se·line \ˌmüs-(ə-)'lēn\ *n* [F, lit., muslin — more at MUSLIN] : a fine sheer fabric (as of rayon) that resembles muslin
mousseline de soie \-də-'swä\ *n, pl* **mousselines de soie** *same*\ [F, lit., silk muslin] : a silk muslin resembling chiffon but having a crisp finish
mous·tache \'məs-ˌtash, (ˌ)məs-'\ *var of* MUSTACHE
mous·ta·chio \(ˌ)məs-\ *var of* MUSTACHIO
Mous·te·ri·an \mü-'stir-ē-ən\ *adj* [F *moustérien*, fr. Le *Moustier*, cave in Dordogne, France] : of or relating to a lower Paleolithic culture that is characterized by well-made flake tools often considered the work of Neanderthal man
mousy *or* **mous·ey** \'maů-sē, -zē\ *adj* **mous·i·er; -est** : of, relating to, or resembling a mouse: as **a** : QUIET, STEALTHY **b** : TIMID, COLORLESS — **mous·i·ly** \-sə-lē, -zə-\ *adv* — **mous·i·ness** \-sē-nəs, -zē-\ *n*
¹mouth \'maůth\ *n, pl* **mouths** \'maůthz, 'maůths; *in synecdochic compounds like "blabbermouths"* ths *more frequently*\ *often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *mūth;* akin to OHG *mund* mouth, L *mandere* to chew, Gk *masasthai* to chew, *mastax* mouth, jaws] **1 a** (1) : the opening through which food passes into the body of an animal (2) : the cavity bounded externally by the lips and internally by the pharynx that encloses in the typical vertebrate the tongue, gums, and teeth **b** : GRIMACE ⟨made a ~⟩ **c** : an individual requiring food ⟨had too many ~*s* to feed⟩ **2 a** : VOICE, SPEECH ⟨finally gave ~ to her feelings⟩ **b** : MOUTHPIECE 3a **c** (1) : a tendency to excessive talk (2) : saucy or disrespectful language : IMPUDENCE **3** : something that resembles a mouth esp. in affording entrance or exit: as **a** : the place where a stream enters a larger body of water **b** : the surface opening of an underground cavity **c** : the opening of a container **d** : an opening in the side of an organ flue pipe —

mouth·like \'maůth-ˌlīk\ *adj* — **down in the mouth** : DEJECTED, SULKY

²mouth \'maůth\ *vt* **1 a** : SPEAK, PRONOUNCE **b** : to utter bombastically : DECLAIM **c** : to repeat without comprehension or sincerity ⟨always ~*ing* platitudes⟩ **d** : to form soundlessly with the lips ⟨the librarian ~*ed* the word "quiet"⟩ **e** : to utter indistinctly : MUMBLE ⟨~*ed* his words⟩ **2** : to take into the mouth; *esp* : EAT ~ *vi* **1** : to talk pompously : RANT **2** : to move the mouth esp. so as to make faces — **mouth·er** *n*

mouth·breed·er \'maůth-ˌbrēd-ər\ *n* : any of several fishes that carry their eggs and young in the mouth; *esp* : a No. African percoid fish (*Haplochromes multicolor*) often kept in aquariums

mouthed \'maůthd, 'maůtht\ *adj* : having a mouth esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination ⟨a large-*mouthed* bass⟩

mouth·ful \'maůth-ˌfůl\ *n* **1 a** : as much as a mouth will hold **b** : the quantity usu. taken into the mouth at one time **2** : a small quantity **3 a** : a very long word or phrase **b** : a comment or a statement rich in meaning or substance

mouth hook *n* : one of a pair of hooked larval mouthparts of some two-winged flies that function as jaws

mouth organ *n* **1** : PANPIPE **2** : HARMONICA 2

mouth·part \'maůth-ˌpärt\ *n* : a structure or appendage near the mouth

mouth·piece \-ˌpēs\ *n* **1** : something placed at or forming a mouth **2** : a part (as of an instrument) that goes in the mouth or to which the mouth is applied **3 a** : one that expresses or interprets another's views : SPOKESMAN **b** *slang* : a criminal lawyer

mouth–to–mouth *adj* : of, relating to, or being a method of artificial respiration in which the rescuer's mouth is placed tightly over the victim's mouth in order to force air into his lungs by blowing forcefully enough every few seconds to inflate them

mouth·wash \'maůth-ˌwȯsh, -ˌwäsh\ *n* : a usu. antiseptic liquid preparation for cleaning the mouth and teeth or freshening the breath

mouthy \'maů-thē, -thē\ *adj* **mouth·i·er; -est** **1** : excessively talkative : GARRULOUS **2** : marked by or given to bombast

mou·ton \'mü-ˌtän, mü-'\ *n* [F, sheep, sheepskin, fr. MF, ram — more at MUTTON] : processed sheepskin that has been sheared and dyed to resemble beaver or seal

¹mov·able *or* **move·able** \'mü-və-bəl\ *adj* **1** : capable of being moved **2** : changing date from year to year ⟨~ holidays⟩ — **mov·abil·i·ty** \ˌmü-və-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **mov·able·ness** \'mü-və-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **mov·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

²movable *or* **moveable** *n* : something (as an article of furniture) that can be removed or displaced

¹move \'müv\ *vb* **moved; mov·ing** [ME *moven*, fr. MF *movoir*, fr. L *movēre*] *vi* **1 a** (1) : to go or pass from one place to another with a continuous motion ⟨*moved* into the shade⟩ (2) : to proceed in a certain direction or toward a certain state or condition ⟨*moving* up the executive ladder⟩ ⟨*moved* into second place in the tournament⟩ (3) : to keep pace ⟨*moving* with the times⟩ **b** : to start away from some point or place : DEPART **c** : to change one's residence or location **2** : to live one's life in a specified environment ⟨~*s* in the best circles⟩ **3** : to change position or posture : STIR ⟨told him to be quiet and not to ~⟩ **4** : to take action : ACT **5 a** : to begin operating or functioning or working in a usual way **b** : to show marked activity ⟨after a brief lull things really began to ~⟩ **6** : to make a formal request, application, or appeal **7** : to change hands by being sold or rented ⟨goods that were *moving* slowly⟩ **8** *of the bowels* : EVACUATE ~ *vt* **1 a** (1) : to change the place or position of (2) : to dislodge or displace from a fixed position : BUDGE **b** : to transfer (as a piece in chess) from one position to another **2 a** (1) : to cause to go or pass from one place to another with a continuous motion ⟨*moved* the flag slowly up and down⟩ (2) : to cause to advance **b** : to cause to operate or function : ACTUATE ⟨this button ~*s* the whole machine⟩ **c** : to put into activity or rouse up from inactivity **3** : to cause to change position or posture **4** : to prompt or rouse to the doing of something : PERSUADE ⟨the report *moved* the faculty to take action⟩ **5 a** : to stir the emotions, feelings, or passions of ⟨was deeply *moved* by such kindness⟩ **b** : to affect in such a way as to lead to an indicated show of emotion ⟨the story *moved* her to tears⟩ **6 a** *obs* : BEG **b** : to make a formal application to **7** : to propose formally in a deliberative assembly ⟨*moved* that the meeting adjourn⟩ **8** : to cause (the bowels) to void **9** : to cause to change hands through sale or rent

syn MOVE, ACTUATE, DRIVE, IMPEL *shared meaning element* : to set or keep in motion or action

²move *n* **1 a** : the act of moving a piece (as in chess) **b** : the turn of a player to move **2 a** : a step taken so as to gain an objective : MANEUVER ⟨a ~ to end the dispute⟩ **b** : the action of moving from a motionless position **c** : a change of residence or location — **on the move** **1** : in a state of moving about from place to place ⟨a salesman is constantly *on the move*⟩ **2** : in a state of moving ahead or making progress ⟨said that civilization is always *on the move*⟩

move in *vi* : to occupy a dwelling or place of work — **move in on** : to make advances or aggressive movements toward

move·less \'müv-ləs\ *adj* : being without motion : FIXED — **move·less·ly** *adv* — **move·less·ness** *n*

move·ment \'müv-mənt\ *n* **1 a** (1) : the act or process of moving; *esp* : change of place or position or posture (2) : a particular instance or manner of moving **b** (1) : a tactical or strategic shifting of a military unit : MANEUVER (2) : the advance of a military unit **c** : ACTION, ACTIVITY — usu. used in pl. **2 a** (1) : TENDENCY, TREND ⟨detected a ~ toward fairer pricing⟩ (2) : a trend in prices (as of a security or on an exchange) ⟨a downward ~ was apparent from the opening⟩ **b** : a series of organized activities working toward an objective; *also* : an organized effort to promote or attain an end ⟨the civil rights ~⟩ **3** : the moving parts of a mechanism that transmit a definite motion **4 a** : MOTION 7 **b** : the rhythmic character or quality of a musical composition **c** : a distinct structural unit or division having its own key, rhythmic structure, and themes and forming part of an extended musical composition **d** : particular rhythmic flow of language : CADENCE **5 a** : the quality (as in a painting or sculpture) of representing or suggesting motion **b** : the quality in literature of having a quickly moving plot or an abundance of incident **6 a** : an act of voiding the bowels **b** : matter expelled from the bowels at one passage

mov·er \'mü-vər\ *n* : one that moves or sets something in motion; *esp* : one whose business or occupation is the moving of household goods from one residence to another

mov·ie \'mü-vē\ *n* [*moving picture*] **1** : MOTION PICTURE **2** *pl* : a showing of a motion picture **3** *pl* : the motion-picture industry

mov·ie·dom \'mü-vēd-əm\ *n* : FILMDOM

mov·ie·go·er \'mü-vē-ˌgō(-ə)r\ *n* : one who frequently attends the movies

mov·ie·mak·er \-ˌmā-kər\ *n* : one who makes movies

mov·ing *adj* **1 a** : marked by or capable of movement **b** : of or relating to a change of residence ⟨~ expenses⟩ ⟨a ~ van⟩ **2 a** : producing or transferring motion or action **b** : stirring deeply in a way that evokes a strong emotional response ⟨a ~ story of a faithful dog⟩ — **mov·ing·ly** \'mü-viŋ-lē\ *adv*

syn MOVING, IMPRESSIVE, POIGNANT, AFFECTING, TOUCHING, PATHETIC *shared meaning element* : having the power to excite deep and usu. somber emotion

moving picture *n* : MOTION PICTURE

¹mow \'maů\ *n* [ME, heap, stack fr. OE *mūga;* akin to ON *mūgi* heap, Gk *mykōn*] **1** : a piled-up stack (as of hay or fodder); *also* : a pile of hay or grain in a barn **2** : the part of a barn where hay or straw is stored

²mow \'mō\ *vb* **mowed; mowed** *or* **mown** \'mōn\; **mow·ing** [ME *mowen*, fr. OE *māwan;* akin to OHG *māen* to mow, L *metere* to reap, mow, Gk *aman*] *vt* **1 a** : to cut down with a scythe or sickle or machine **b** : to cut the standing herbage (as grass) of **2 a** (1) : to kill or destroy in great numbers or mercilessly ⟨machine guns ~*ed* down the unarmed civilians⟩ (2) : to cause to fall : knock down **b** : to overcome swiftly and decisively : ROUT ⟨~*ed* down the opposing team⟩ ~ *vi* : to cut down standing herbage (as grass) — **mow·er** \'mō(-ə)r\ *n*

³mow \'maů, 'mō\ *n* [ME *mowe*, fr. MF *moue*, of Gmc origin; akin to MD *mouwe* protruding lip] : GRIMACE

⁴mow \'maů, 'mō\ *vi* : to make grimaces

mox·ie \'mäk-sē\ *n* [fr. *Moxie*, a trademark for a soft drink] **1** : ENERGY, PEP ⟨streetcars with so much ~ they can run out from under you —G. S. Perry⟩ **2** : COURAGE ⟨there is, as he knows, no excess of backbone or ~ in himself —Frederic Morton⟩

moyen–âge \mwȧ-ye-näzh\ *adj* [F *moyen âge* middle ages] : of or relating to medieval times

moz·za·rel·la \ˌmät-sə-'rel-ə\ *n* [It] : a moist white unsalted unripened cheese of mild flavor and a smooth rubbery texture

moz·zet·ta \mōt-'set-ə\ *n* [It] : a short cape with a small ornamental hood worn over the rochet by Roman Catholic prelates

MP *abbr* **1** melting point **2** member of parliament **3** metropolitan police **4** military police; military policeman

MPA *abbr* master of public administration

MPG *abbr* miles per gallon

MPH *abbr* **1** master of public health **2** miles per hour

MPM *abbr* meters per minute

MPS *abbr* meters per second

MPX *abbr* multiplex

mr *abbr* milliroentgen

Mr. \ˌmis-tər\ *n, pl* **Messrs.** \ˌmes-ərz\ [*Mr.* fr. ME, abbr. of *maister* master; *Messrs.* abbr. of *Messieurs*, fr. F, pl. of *Monsieur*] **1** — used as a conventional title of courtesy except when usage requires the substitution of a title of rank or an honorific or professional title before a man's surname ⟨spoke to *Mr.* Doe⟩ **2** — used in direct address as a conventional title of respect before a man's title of office ⟨may I ask one more question, *Mr.* President⟩ **3** — used before the name of a place (as a country or city) or of a profession or activity (as a sport) or before some epithet (as *clever*) to form a title applied to a male viewed or recognized as representative of the thing indicated ⟨*Mr.* Baseball⟩

MR *abbr* **1** map reference **2** mill run

mri·dan·ga \mri-'däŋ-gə, ˌmər-i-\ *or* **mri·dan·gam** \-gəm\ *n* [Skt *mṛdaṅga*] : a drum of India that is shaped like an elongated barrel and has tuned heads of different diameters

mRNA *abbr* messenger RNA

Mrs. \ˌmis-əz, -əs, *esp South* ˌmiz-əz, -əs, *or* (*for sense 1*) (ˌ)miz, *or before given names* (ˌ)mis\ *n, pl* **Mes·dames** \mā-'däm, -'dam\ [*Mrs.* abbr. of *mistress; Mesdames* fr. F, pl. of *Madame*] **1 a** — used as a conventional title of courtesy except when usage requires the substitution of a title of rank or an honorific or professional title before a married woman's surname ⟨spoke to *Mrs.* Doe⟩ **b** — used before the name of a place (as a country or city) or of a profession or activity (as a sport) or before some epithet (as *clever*) to form a title applied to a married female viewed or recognized as representative of the thing indicated ⟨*Mrs.* Homemaker⟩ **2** : WIFE ⟨pick up the *Mrs.* at the five-and-dime —Alan Kapelner⟩

Mrs. Grun·dy \-'grən-dē\ *n* [fr. a character alluded to in Thomas Morton's *Speed the Plough* (1798)] : one marked by prudish conventionality in personal conduct

ms *abbr* millisecond

Ms. \(ˌ)miz\ *n* — used instead of *Miss* or *Mrs.* (as when the marital status of a woman is unknown or irrelevant) ⟨*Ms.* Mary Smith⟩

MS *abbr* **1** [It *mano sinistra*] left hand **2** manuscript **3** master of science **4** military science **5** Mississippi **6** motor ship **7** multiple sclerosis

MSAT *abbr* Minnesota Scholastic Aptitude Test

MSc *abbr* master of science

msec *abbr* millisecond
msg *abbr* message
MSG *abbr* **1** master sergeant **2** monosodium glutamate
msgr *abbr* monseigneur; monsignor
MSgt *abbr* master sergeant
M16 rifle \ˌem-ˌsik-ˌstēn-\ *n* [*model 16*] : a .22 caliber gas-operated magazine-fed semiautomatic or automatic rifle used by U.S. troops since 1967
M60 machine gun \em-ˈsik-stē-\ *n* [*model 60*] : a .30 caliber gas-operated air-cooled machine gun fed by a cartridge belt and currently used by U.S. and NATO troops
MSL *abbr* mean sea level
MSS *abbr* manuscripts
MST *abbr* mountain standard time
MSTS *abbr* Military Sea Transportation Service
MSW *abbr* **1** master of social welfare **2** master of social work
mt *abbr* mount; mountain
Mt *abbr* Matthew
MT *abbr* **1** metric ton **2** Montana **3** mountain time
mtg *abbr* **1** meeting **2** mortgage
mtge *abbr* mortgage
MTO *abbr* Mediterranean theater of operations
mu \ˈmyü, ˈmü\ *n* [Gk *my*] **1** : the 12th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table **2** [μ (*mu*), symbol for *micron*] : ²MICROMETER
muc- *or* **muci-** *or* **muco-** *comb form* [L *muc-*, fr. *mucus*] **1** : mucus ⟨*muco*protein⟩ **2** : mucous and ⟨*muco*purulent⟩
¹much \ˈməch\ *adj* **more** \ˈmō(ə)r, ˈmȯ(ə)r\; **most** \ˈmōst\ [ME *muche* large, much, fr. *michel, muchel*, fr. OE *micel, mycel;* akin to OHG *mihhil* great, large, L *magnus*, Gk *megas*] **1 a** : great in quantity, amount, extent, or degree **b** : existing or present in a relative quantity or amount or to a relative extent or degree ⟨taken too ~ time⟩ **2** *obs* : many in number — **too much 1** : WONDERFUL, EXCITING **2** : TERRIBLE, AWFUL
²much *adv* **more; most 1 a** (1) : to a great degree or extent : CONSIDERABLY ⟨~ happier⟩ (2) : VERY **b** (1) : FREQUENTLY, OFTEN (2) : LONG **c** : by far ⟨was ~ the brightest student⟩ **2** : NEARLY, APPROXIMATELY ⟨looks ~ the way his father did⟩ — **as much** : the same in quantity — **much less** : and certainly not ⟨can't hit .200, *much less* .300⟩
³much *n* **1** : a great quantity, amount, extent, or degree ⟨gave away ~⟩ **2** : something considerable or impressive ⟨was not ~ to look at⟩
much as *conj* : however much : even though
much·ness \ˈməch-nəs\ *n* : the quality or state of being great : GREATNESS — **much of a muchness** : very much the same
mu·cic acid \ˌmyü-sik-\ *n* [ISV *muc-*] : an optically inactive crystalline acid $C_6H_{10}O_8$ obtained from galactose or lactose by oxidation with nitric acid
mu·cif·er·ous \myü-ˈsif-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : producing or filled with mucus ⟨a fish with a ~ canal system on its head⟩
mu·ci·lage \ˈmyü-s(ə-)lij\ *n* [ME *muscilage*, fr. LL *mucilago* mucus, musty juice, fr. L *mucus*] **1** : a gelatinous substance esp. from seaweeds that contains protein and polysaccharides and is similar to plant gums **2** : an aqueous usu. viscid solution (as of a gum) used esp. as an adhesive
mu·ci·lag·i·nous \ˌmyü-sə-ˈlaj-ə-nəs\ *adj* [LL *mucilaginosus*, fr. *mucilagin-, mucilago*] **1** : STICKY, VISCID **2** : of, relating to, full of, or secreting mucilage — **mu·ci·lag·i·nous·ly** *adv*
mu·cin \ˈmyüs-ᵊn\ *n* [ISV *muc-*] : any of various mucoproteins that occur esp. in secretions of mucous membranes — **mu·cin·ous** \-ᵊn-əs, ˈmyü-snəs\ *adj*
¹muck \ˈmək\ *n* [ME *muk*, perh. fr. OE *-moc;* akin to ON *myki* dung — more at MUCUS] **1** : soft moist farmyard manure **2** : slimy dirt or filth **3** : defamatory remarks or writings **4 a** (1) : dark highly organic soil (2) : MIRE, MUD **b** : something resembling muck : GUNK **5** : material removed in the process of excavating or mining — **mucky** \ˈmək-ē\ *adj*
²muck *vt* **1 a** : to clean up; *esp* : to clear of manure or filth **b** : to clear of muck **2** : to dress (as soil) with muck **3** : to dirty with or as if with muck : SOIL ~ *vi* **1** : to move or load muck (as in a mine) **2** *chiefly Brit* : to engage in aimless activity — **muck·er** *n*
muck·luck *var of* MUKLUK
muck·rake \ˈmək-ˌrāk\ *vi* [obs. *muckrake*, n. (rake for dung)] : to search out and expose publicly real or apparent misconduct of prominent individuals — **muck·rak·er** *n*
muck up *vb, chiefly Brit* : BUNGLE
mu·co·cu·ta·ne·ous \ˌmyü-kō-kyü-ˈtā-nē-əs\ *adj* : made up of or involving both typical skin and mucous membrane
¹mu·coid \ˈmyü-ˌkȯid\ *adj* [ISV *muc-*] : resembling mucus
²mucoid *n* [ISV] : MUCOPROTEIN
mu·coi·tin·sul·fu·ric acid \myü-ˈkō-ət-ᵊn-ˌsəl-ˌfyůr-ik-, -ˈkȯit-ᵊn-\ *n* [ISV *mucoitin* (a mucopolysaccharide acid)] : an acidic mucopolysaccharide found esp. in the cornea of the eye and in gastric mucosa
mu·co·lyt·ic \ˌmyü-kə-ˈlit-ik\ *adj* : hydrolyzing mucopolysaccharides : tending to break down or lower the viscosity of mucin-containing body secretions or components ⟨~ enzymes⟩
mu·co·poly·sac·cha·ride \ˈmyü-kō-ˌpäl-i-ˈsak-ə-ˌrīd\ *n* [ISV] : any of various polysaccharides derived from a hexosamine that are constituents of mucoproteins, glycoproteins, and blood-group substances
mu·co·pro·tein \ˌmyü-kə-ˈprō-ˌtēn, -ˈprōt-ē-ən\ *n* : any of various complex conjugated proteins (as mucins) that contain polysaccharides and occur in body fluids and tissues
mu·cor \ˈmyü-ˌkȯ(ə)r\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. L, mold, moldiness; akin to L *mucus*] : any of a genus (*Mucor*) of molds with round usu. cylindrical or pear-shaped sporangia that are not clustered and are not limited in location to the points where rhizoids develop
mu·co·sa \myü-ˈkō-zə\ *n, pl* **-sae** \-(ˌ)zē, -ˌzī\ *or* **-sas** [NL, fr. L, fem. of *mucosus* mucous] : MUCOUS MEMBRANE — **mu·co·sal** \-zəl\ *adj*
mu·cous \ˈmyü-kəs\ *adj* [L *mucosus*, fr. *mucus*] **1** : covered with or as if with mucus : SLIMY **2** : of, relating to, or resembling mucus **3** : secreting or containing mucus
mucous membrane *n* : a membrane rich in mucous glands; *specif* : one that lines body passages and cavities which communicate directly or indirectly with the exterior
mu·cro \ˈmyü-ˌkrō\ *n, pl* **mu·cro·nes** \myü-ˈkrō-(ˌ)nēz\ [NL *mucron-, mucro*, fr. L, point, edge; akin to Gk *amyssein* to scratch, sting] : an abrupt sharp terminal point or tip or process (as of a leaf) — **mu·cro·nate** \ˈmyü-krə-ˌnāt\ *adj* — **mu·cro·na·tion** \ˌmyü-krə-ˈnā-shən\ *n*
mu·cus \ˈmyü-kəs\ *n* [L, nasal mucus; akin to ON *myki* dung, Gk *myxa* mucus] : a viscid slippery secretion that is usu. rich in mucins and is produced by mucous membranes which it moistens and protects
¹mud \ˈməd\ *n* [ME *mudde*, prob. fr. MLG; akin to OE *mōs* bog — more at MOSS] **1** : a slimy sticky mixture of solid material with a liquid and esp. water; *esp* : soft wet earth **2** : abusive and malicious remarks or charges
²mud *vt* **mud·ded; mud·ding 1** : to make muddy or turbid **2** : to treat or plaster with mud
mud dauber *n* : any of various wasps (esp. family Sphecidae) that construct mud cells in which the female places an egg with spiders or insects paralyzed by a sting to serve as food for the larva
¹mud·dle \ˈməd-ᵊl\ *vb* **mud·dled; mud·dling** \ˈməd-liŋ, -ᵊl-iŋ\ [prob. fr. obs. D *moddelen*, fr. MD, fr. *modde* mud; akin to MLG *mudde*] *vt* **1** : to make turbid or muddy **2** : to befog or stupefy esp. with liquor **3** : to mix confusedly **4** : to make a mess of : BUNGLE ~ *vi* : to think or act in a confused aimless way — **mud·dler** \ˈməd-lər, -ᵊl-ər\ *n*
²muddle *n* **1** : a state of esp. mental confusion **2** : a confused mess
mud·dle·head·ed \ˌməd-ᵊl-ˈhed-əd\ *adj* **1** : mentally confused **2** : INEPT, BUNGLING — **mud·dle·head·ed·ness** *n*
¹mud·dy \ˈməd-ē\ *adj* **mud·di·er; -est 1** : morally impure : BASE **2 a** : full of or covered with mud **b** : characteristic or suggestive of mud ⟨a ~ flavor⟩ ⟨~ colors⟩ **c** : turbid with sediment **3 a** : lacking in clarity or brightness : CLOUDY, DULL ⟨retained only a distorted ~ image of the event⟩ ⟨eyes ~ with sleep⟩ **b** : obscure in meaning : MUDDLED, CONFUSED ⟨~ thinking⟩ ⟨a ~ style⟩ ***syn*** see TURBID — **mud·di·ly** \ˈməd-ᵊl-ē\ *adv* — **mud·di·ness** \ˈməd-ē-nəs\ *n*
²muddy *vt* **mud·died; mud·dy·ing 1** : to soil or stain with or as if with mud **2** : to make turbid **3** : to make cloudy or dull **4** : CONFUSE
mud eel *n* : a siren (*Siren lacertina*) that is lead gray in color, attains a length of about two feet, and inhabits the swamps and ditches of the southern U.S.
mud·guard \ˈməd-ˌgärd\ *n* **1 a** : FENDER d **b** : SPLASH GUARD **2** : a strip of material applied to a shoe upper just above the sole for protection against dampness or as an ornament
mud puppy *n* : any of several large American salamanders; *esp* : one (*Necturus maculosus*) that has external gills and is gray to rusty brown usu. with bluish black spots
mud·room \ˈməd-ˌrüm, -ˌrům\ *n* : a room in a house designed for the shedding of dirty or wet footwear and clothing and located typically off the kitchen or in the basement
mud·sill \ˈməd-ˌsil\ *n* **1** : a supporting sill (as of a building or bridge) resting directly on a base and esp. the earth **2** : a person of the lowest social level
mud·sling·er \-ˌsliŋ-ər\ *n* : one that uses offensive epithets and invective esp. against a political opponent — **mud·sling·ing** \-ˌsliŋ-iŋ\ *n*
mud·stone \ˈməd-ˌstōn\ *n* : an indurated shale produced by the consolidation of mud
mud turtle *n* : a bottom-dwelling freshwater turtle: as **a** : any of a genus (*Kinosternon*) of musk turtles with two transverse hinges on the plastron **b** : SOFT-SHELLED TURTLE
Muen·ster \ˈmən(t)-stər, ˈm(y)ün(t)-, ˈmůn(t)-\ *n* [*Münster, Munster*, France] : a semisoft cheese that may be bland or sharp in flavor
mu·ez·zin \m(y)ü-ˈez-ᵊn, ˈmwez-ᵊn\ *n* [Ar *mu'adhdhin*] : a Muslim crier who calls the hour of daily prayers
¹muff \ˈməf\ *n* [D *mof*, fr. MF *moufle* mitten, fr. ML *muffula*] **1** : a warm tubular covering for the hands **2** : a cluster of feathers on the side of the face of some domestic fowls
²muff *n* **1** : a bungling performance **2** : a failure to hold a ball in attempting a catch
³muff *vt* **1** : to handle awkwardly : BUNGLE **2** : to fail to hold (a ball) when attempting a catch ~ *vi* **1** : to act or do something stupidly or clumsily **2** : to muff a ball — compare FUMBLE
muf·fin \ˈməf-ən\ *n* [prob. fr. LG *muffen*, pl. of *muffe* cake] : a quick bread made of batter containing egg and baked in a muffin pan
muffin pan *n* : a baking pan formed of a group of connected cups and used esp. for baking muffins or cupcakes
¹muf·fle \ˈməf-əl\ *vt* **muf·fled; muf·fling** \ˈməf-(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *muflen*] **1** : to wrap up so as to conceal or protect : ENVELOP **2** *obs* : BLINDFOLD **3 a** : to wrap or pad with something to dull the sound ⟨~ the oarlocks⟩ **b** : to deaden the sound of ⟨the sands . . . have *muffled* the tread of countless armies —Rex Keating⟩ **4** : to keep down : SUPPRESS
²muffle *n* [F *mufle*] : the tip of the mammalian muzzle
muf·fler \ˈməf-lər\ *n* **1 a** : a scarf worn around the neck **b** : something that hides or disguises **2** : a device to deaden noise; *esp* : one forming part of the exhaust system of an automotive vehicle
¹muf·ti \ˈməf-tē, ˈmůf-\ *n* [Ar *muftī*] : a professional jurist who interprets Muslim law
²muf·ti \ˈməf-tē\ *n* [prob. fr. ¹*muftī*] : civilian clothes
¹mug \ˈməg\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** : a cylindrical drinking cup **2 a** : the face or mouth of a person **b** : GRIMACE **c** : a photograph of a suspect's face **3 a** *Brit* : a person easily deceived **b** : PUNK, THUG

²mug *vb* **mugged; mug·ging** *vi* : to make faces esp. to attract attention ~ *vt* : PHOTOGRAPH
³mug *vb* **mugged; mug·ging** [back-formation fr. ²*mugger*] : to assault usu. with intent to rob
¹mug·ger \'məg-ər\ *n* [Hindi *magar*, fr. Skt *makara* water monster] : a common usu. harmless freshwater crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*) of southeastern Asia
²mugger *n* [prob. fr. obs. *mug* (to punch in the face)] : one who attacks with intent to rob
³mugger *n* [²*mug*] : one that grimaces esp. before an audience
mug·gy \'məg-ē\ *adj* **mug·gi·er; -est** [E dial. *mug* (drizzle)] : being warm, damp, and close — **mug·gi·ly** \'məg-ə-lē\ *adv* — **mug·gi·ness** \'məg-ē-nəs\ *n*
mu·gho pine \ˌm(y)ü-(ˌ)gō-\ *n* [prob. fr. F *mugho* mugho pine, fr. It *mugo*] : a shrubby spreading pine (*Pinus mugo mughus*) widely cultivated as an ornamental
mug·wump \'məg-ˌwəmp\ *n* [obs. slang *mugwump* (kingpin), fr. Natick *mugwomp* captain] **1** : a bolter from the Republican party in 1884 **2** : an independent in politics
Mu·ham·mad·an \mō-'ham-əd-ən, -'häm- *also* mü-\ *adj* : of or relating to Muhammad or Islam — **Muhammadan** *n* — **Mu·ham·mad·an·ism** \-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
Muhammadan calendar *n* : a lunar calendar reckoned from the Hegira in A.D. 622 and organized in cycles of 30 years — see MONTH table
Muhammadan era *n* : the era used in Muhammadan countries for numbering Muhammadan calendar years since the Hegira — called also *Muslim era*
Mu·har·ram \mü-'har-əm\ *n* [Ar *Muḥarram*] **1** : the 1st month of the Muhammadan year — see MONTH table **2** : a Muslim festival held during Muharram
mu·jik \mü-'zhēk, -'zhik\ *var of* MUZHIK
muk·luk \'mək-ˌlək\ *n* [Esk *muklok* large seal] **1** : a sealskin or reindeer-skin boot worn by Eskimos **2** : a boot often of duck with a soft leather sole and worn over several pairs of socks
mu·lat·to \m(y)ù-'lat-(ˌ)ō, -ə(-w)\ *n, pl* **-toes** *or* **-tos** [Sp *mulato*, fr. *mulo* mule, fr. L *mulus*] **1** : the first-generation offspring of a Negro and a white **2** : a person of mixed Caucasian and Negro ancestry
mul·ber·ry \'məl-ˌber-ē, -b(ə-)rē\ *n* [ME *murberie, mulberie*, fr. OF *moure* mulberry (fr. L *morum*, fr. Gk *moron*) + ME *berie* berry] **1** : any of a genus (*Morus* of the family Moraceae, the mulberry family) of trees with an edible usu. purple multiple fruit that is an aggregate of juicy one-seeded drupes; *also* : the fruit **2** : a dark purple or purplish black
mulch \'məlch\ *n* [perh. irreg. fr. E dial. *melch* (soft, mild)] : a protective covering (as of sawdust, compost, or paper) spread or left on the ground esp. to reduce evaporation, maintain even soil temperature, prevent erosion, control weeds, or enrich the soil — **mulch** *vt*
¹mulct \'məlkt\ *n* [L *multa, mulcta*] : FINE, PENALTY
²mulct *vt* **1** : to punish by a fine **2 a** : to defraud esp. of money : SWINDLE **b** : to obtain by fraud, duress, or theft
¹mule \'myü(ə)l\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *mul*, fr. L *mulus*] **1 a** : a hybrid between a horse and an ass; *esp* : the offspring of a male ass and a mare **b** : a self-sterile plant whether hybrid or not **c** : a usu. sterile hybrid **2** : a very stubborn person **3** : a machine for simultaneously drawing and twisting fiber into yarn or thread and winding it into cops **4** : a coin or token struck from dies belonging to two different issues
²mule *vt* **muled; mul·ing** **1** : to combine (dies that do not match) to make a mule **2** : to strike (a coin or token) with nonmatching dies making a mule
³mule *n* [MF, a kind of slipper, fr. L *mulleus* shoe worn by magistrates] : a shoe or slipper without quarter or heel strap — compare SCUFF
mule deer *n* : a long-eared deer (*Odocoileus hemionus* syn. *Cariacus macrotis*) of western No. America that is larger and more heavily built than the common whitetail — see DEER illustration
mule–foot \'myü(ə)l-ˌfůt\ *or* **mule–foot·ed** \-'fůt-əd\ *adj* : having a solid rather than a cleft hoof ⟨~ swine⟩
mule skinner *n* : MULETEER
mu·le·ta \m(y)ü-'lāt-ə\ *n* [Sp, crutch, muleta, dim. of *mula* she-mule, fr. L, fem. of *mulus* mule] : a small cloth attached to a short tapered stick and used by a matador in place of the large cape during the final stage of a bullfight
mu·le·teer \ˌmyü-lə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* [F *muletier*, fr. *mulet*, fr. OF, dim. of *mul* mule] : one who drives mules
mu·ley *also* **mul·ley** \'myü-lē, 'můl-ē, 'mü-lē\ *adj* [of Celtic origin; akin to IrGael & ScGael *maol* bald, hornless, W *moel*] : POLLED, HORNLESS; *esp* : naturally hornless
mu·li·eb·ri·ty \ˌmyü-lē-'eb-rət-ē\ *n* [LL *muliebritat-, muliebritas*, fr. L *muliebris* of a woman, fr. *mulier* woman] : FEMININITY
mul·ish \'myü-lish\ *adj* [¹*mule*] : unreasonably and inflexibly obstinate : RECALCITRANT ***syn*** see OBSTINATE — **mul·ish·ly** *adv* — **mul·ish·ness** *n*
¹mull \'məl\ *vb* [ME *mullen*, fr. *mul, mol* dust, prob. fr. MD; akin to OE *melu* meal — more at MEAL] *vt* **1** : to grind or mix thoroughly : PULVERIZE **2** : to consider at length : PONDER ~ *vi* : MEDITATE, PONDER
²mull *vt* [origin unknown] : to heat, sweeten, and flavor (as wine or cider) with spices
³mull *n* [by shortening & alter. fr. *mulmul* (muslin)] : a soft fine sheer fabric of cotton, silk, or rayon
⁴mull *n* [G, fr. Dan *muld*, fr. ON *mold* dust, soil; akin to OHG *molta* dust, soil — more at MOLD] **1** : granular forest humus that forms a layer of mixed organic matter and mineral soil and merges gradually into the mineral soil beneath **2** : a finely powdered solid esp. in a suspension
mul·lah \'məl-ə, 'můl-ə\ *n* [Turk *molla* & Per & Hindi *mulla*, fr. Ar *mawlā*] **1** : a Muslim of a quasi-clerical class trained in traditional law and doctrine **2** : a religious teacher — usu. used disparagingly — **mul·lah·ism** \-ə-ˌiz-əm\ *n*
mul·lein *also* **mul·len** \'məl-ən\ *n* [ME *moleyne*, fr. AF *moleine*] : any of a genus (*Verbascum*) of usu. woolly-leaved herbs of the figwort family
mullein pink *n* : a European herb (*Lychnis coronaria*) cultivated for its white woolly herbage and showy crimson flowers
mull·er \'məl-ər\ *n* [alter. of ME *molour*, prob. fr. *mullen* to grind] : a stone or piece of wood, metal, or glass used as a pestle
Mül·le·ri·an \myül-'ir-ē-ən, mil-, ˌməl-\ *adj* [Fritz *Müller* †1897 G zoologist] : of, relating to, or being mimicry that exists between two or more inedible or dangerous species (as of butterflies) and that is considered in evolutionary theory to be a mechanism reducing loss to predation by simplification of the recognition process
mul·let \'məl-ət\ *n, pl* **mullet** *or* **mullets** [ME *molet*, fr. MF *mulet*, fr. L *mullus* red mullet, fr. Gk *myllos*; akin to Gk *melas* black, Skt *malina* dirty, black] **1** : any of a family (Mugilidae) of valuable food fishes with an elongate rather stout body — called also *gray mullet* **2** : any of a family (Mullidae) of moderate-sized usu. red or golden fishes with two barbels on the chin — called also *red mullet*
mul·li·gan stew \ˌməl-i-gən\ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Mulligan*] : a stew made basically of vegetables and meat or fish — called also *mulligan*
mul·li·ga·taw·ny \ˌməl-i-gə-'tȯ-nē, -'tän-ē\ *n* [Tamil *miḷakutaṇṇi*, a strongly seasoned soup, fr. *miḷaku* pepper + *taṇṇi* water] : a rich soup usu. of chicken stock seasoned with curry
mul·lion \'məl-yən\ *n* [prob. alter. of *monial* (mullion)] : a slender vertical member placed between lights (as of windows or doors) or used decoratively (as on the surface of a building) — **mullion** *vt*
mull·ite \'məl-ˌīt\ *n* [*Mull*, island of the Inner Hebrides] : a mineral $Al_6Si_2O_{13}$ or $3Al_2O_3.2SiO_2$ that is an orthorhombic silicate of aluminum resistant to corrosion and heat and used as a refractory
multi- *comb form* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L, fr. *multus* much, many — more at MELIORATE] **1 a** : many : multiple : much ⟨*multi*valent⟩ **b** : more than two ⟨*multi*lateral⟩ **c** : more than one ⟨*multi*para⟩ **2** : many times over ⟨*multi*millionaire⟩
mul·ti·cel·lu·lar \ˌməl-ti-'sel-yə-lər, -ˌtī-\ *adj* [ISV] : having or consisting of many cells — **mul·ti·cel·lu·lar·i·ty** \-ˌsel-yə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n*
mul·ti·col·ored \ˌməl-ti-'kəl-ərd\ *also* **mul·ti·col·or** \-ər\ *adj* : of various colors : PARTI-COLORED ⟨a ~ carpet⟩
mul·ti·cul·tur·al \ˌməl-ti-'kəlch-(ə-)rəl, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or designed for a combination of several distinct cultures ⟨a ~ urban environment⟩ ⟨a ~ curriculum⟩
mul·ti·di·men·sion·al \-ti-də-'mench-nəl, -dī-; -ˌtī-də-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or marked by several dimensions ⟨a ~ problem⟩ ⟨~ calculus⟩ — **mul·ti·di·men·sion·al·i·ty** \-ˌmen-chə-'nal-ət-ē\ *n*
mul·ti·di·rec·tion·al \-'rek-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* : extending in many directions ⟨~ efforts to win the election⟩
mul·ti·dis·ci·plin·ary \ˌməl-ti-'dis-ə-plə-ˌner-ē, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or using a combination of several disciplines for a common purpose ⟨a ~ approach to child guidance⟩
mul·ti·eth·nic \-'eth-nik\ *adj* : of, relating to, or designed for a combination of several distinct ethnic groups ⟨~ textbooks⟩
mul·ti·fac·et·ed \-'fas-ət-əd\ *adj* : having several distinct facets ⟨the ~ problems of foreign policy⟩
mul·ti·fac·to·ri·al \-fak-'tōr-ē-əl, -'tȯr-\ *adj* **1** : having characters or a mode of inheritance dependent on a number of genes at different loci **2** *or* **mul·ti·fac·tor** \-'fak-tər\ : having or involving a variety of elements ⟨a ~ study⟩ — **mul·ti·fac·to·ri·al·ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*
mul·ti·fam·i·ly \-'fam-(ə-)lē\ *adj* : of, relating to, or designed for use by several distinct families ⟨~ dwellings⟩
mul·ti·far·i·ous \ˌməl-tə-'far-ē-əs, -'fer-\ *adj* [L *multifarius*, fr. *multi-* + *-farius* (akin to *facere* to make, do)] : having or occurring in great variety : DIVERSE ⟨the ~ duties of a farmer⟩ — **mul·ti·far·i·ous·ly** *adv* — **mul·ti·far·i·ous·ness** *n*
mul·ti·flo·ra rose \ˌməl-tə-ˌflōr-ə-, -ˌflȯr-\ *n* [NL *multiflora*, specific epithet, lit., having many flowers] : a vigorous thorny rose (*Rosa multiflora*) with clusters of small flowers
mul·ti·fold \'məl-ti-ˌfōld\ *adj* : MANIFOLD, NUMEROUS
mul·ti·font \ˌməl-ti-'fänt, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : of, involving, or capable of reading several fonts of type ⟨a ~ OCR machine⟩ ⟨~ composition⟩
mul·ti·form \'məl-ti-ˌfȯrm\ *adj* [F *multiforme*, fr. L *multiformis*, fr. *multi-* + *-formis* -form] : having many forms or appearances — **mul·ti·for·mi·ty** \ˌməl-ti-'fȯr-mət-ē\ *n*
mul·ti·germ \ˌməl-ti-'jərm, -ˌtī-\ *adj* [prob. fr. *multi-* + *germ*inate] : producing or being a fruit cluster capable of giving rise to several plants ⟨a ~ variety of sugar beet⟩
mul·ti·lane \-'lān\ *also* **mul·ti·laned** \-'lānd\ *adj* : having several lanes ⟨~ highways⟩
mul·ti·lat·er·al \ˌməl-ti-'lat-ə-rəl, -ˌtī-, -'la-trəl\ *adj* **1** : having many sides **2** : participated in by more than two nations or parties ⟨~ agreements⟩ — **mul·ti·lat·er·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
mul·ti·lay·ered \-'lā-ərd, -'le(-ə)rd\ *or* **mul·ti·lay·er** \-'lā-ər, -'le(-ə)r\ *adj* : having or involving several distinct layers, strata, or levels ⟨~ epidermis⟩ ⟨~ tropical rain forest⟩ ⟨~ insights⟩
mul·ti·lev·el \-'lev-əl\ *also* **mul·ti·lev·eled** \-əld\ *adj* : having several levels ⟨freeways with ~ interchanges —*Lamp*⟩
mul·ti·lin·gual \-'liŋ-g(yə-)wəl\ *adj* **1** : of, containing, or expressed in several languages ⟨a ~ sign⟩ ⟨~ dictionaries⟩ **2** : using or able to use several languages ⟨a ~ stewardess⟩ — **mul·ti·lin·gual·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
mul·ti·lin·gual·ism \-g(yə-)wə-ˌliz-əm\ *n* : the use of or the ability to use several languages
mul·ti·me·dia \-'mēd-ē-ə\ *adj* : using, involving, or encompassing several media ⟨a ~ approach to learning⟩ ⟨a ~ exhibition⟩

mul·ti·mil·lion·aire \ˌməl-ti-ˌmil-yə-ˈna(ə)r, -ˌtī-, -ˈne(ə)r, -ˈmil-yə-ˌ\ *n* : one whose wealth is estimated at many millions
mul·ti·na·tion·al \-ˈnash-nəl, -ən-ᵊl\ *adj* **1 a** : of, relating to, or involving more than two nations ⟨a ~ alliance⟩ **b** : having divisions in more than two countries ⟨a ~ corporation⟩ **2** : of or relating to more than two nationalities ⟨a ~ society⟩ — **multinational** *n*
mul·ti·no·mi·al \-ˈnō-mē-əl\ *n* [*multi-* + *-nomial* (as in *binomial*)] : a mathematical expression that consists of the sum of several terms : POLYNOMIAL — **multinomial** *adj*
mul·ti·nu·cle·ar \ˌməl-ti-ˈnyü-klē-ər, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : MULTINUCLEATE
mul·ti·nu·cle·ate \-klē-ət\ *also* **mul·ti·nu·cle·at·ed** \-klē-ˌāt-əd\ *adj* [ISV] : having more than two nuclei
mul·tip·a·rous \ˌməl-ˈtip-ə-rəs\ *adj* [NL *multiparus*, fr. *multi-* + L *-parus* -parous] **1** : producing many or more than one at a birth **2** : having experienced one or more previous parturitions
mul·ti·par·tite \ˌməl-ti-ˈpär-ˌtīt\ *adj* [L *multipartitus*, fr. *multi-* + *partitus*, pp. of *partire* to divide, fr. *part-*, *pars* part] **1** : divided into several or many parts **2** : having numerous members or signatories ⟨a ~ treaty⟩
mul·ti·par·ty \ˌməl-ti-ˈpärt-ē, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving more than two parties ⟨our two-party system cloaks a ~ reality — Dean Acheson⟩
mul·ti·phase \-ˌfāz\ *adj* : having various phases; *esp* : POLYPHASE
mul·ti·pha·sic \ˌməl-ti-ˈfā-zik, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : having various phases or elements ⟨a ~ test⟩
¹mul·ti·ple \ˈməl-tə-pəl\ *adj* [F, fr. L *multiplex*, fr. *multi-* + *-plex* -fold — more at SIMPLE] **1** : consisting of, including, or involving more than one ⟨~ births⟩ **2** : MANY, MANIFOLD ⟨~ achievements⟩ **3** : shared by many ⟨~ ownership⟩ **4** : having numerous aspects or functions : VARIOUS **5 a** : being a circuit with a number of conductors in parallel **b** : being a group of terminals which make a circuit available at a number of points **6** : formed by coalescence of the ripening ovaries of several flowers ⟨a ~ fruit⟩
²multiple *n* **1 a** : the product of a quantity by an integer ⟨35 is a ~ of 7⟩ **b** : an assemblage with respect to any of its divisions or parts ⟨lay mines in ~⟩ **2** : PARALLEL 4b
multiple allele *n* : any of more than two allelic factors located at one chromosomal locus
multiple-choice *adj* **1** : having several answers from which one is to be chosen ⟨a ~ question⟩ **2** : composed of multiple-choice questions ⟨a ~ test⟩
multiple factor *n* : one of a group of nonallelic genes that according to the multiple-factor hypothesis control various quantitative hereditary characters
multiple myeloma *n* : a disease of bone marrow that is characterized by the presence of numerous myelomas in various bones of the body
multiple regression *n* : regression in which one variable is estimated by the use of more than one other variable
multiple sclerosis *n* : a diseased condition marked by patches of hardened tissue in the brain or the spinal cord and associated esp. with partial or complete paralysis and jerking muscle tremor
multiple star *n* : several stars in close proximity that appear to form a single system
multiple store *n, chiefly Brit* : CHAIN STORE
mul·ti·plet \ˈməl-tə-plət\ *n* **1** : a spectrum line having several components **2** : a group of elementary particles that are different in charge but similar in other properties (as mass)
mul·ti·ple-val·ued \ˌməl-tə-pəl-ˈval-(ˌ)yüd\ *adj* : having at least one and sometimes more of the values of the range associated with each value of the domain ⟨a ~ function⟩ — compare SINGLE-VALUED
multiple voting *n* : illegal voting by one person in two or more constituencies
¹mul·ti·plex \ˈməl-tə-ˌpleks\ *adj* [L] **1** : MANIFOLD, MULTIPLE ⟨the ~ moods of our human nature —Herbert Read⟩ **2** : being or relating to a system of transmitting several messages simultaneously on the same circuit or channel
²multiplex *vt* : to send (messages or signals) by a multiplex system ~ *vi* : to multiplex messages or signals — **mul·ti·plex·er** *or* **mul·ti·plex·or** \-ər\ *n*
mul·ti·pli·able \ˈməl-tə-ˌplī-ə-bəl\ *adj* : capable of being multiplied
mul·ti·plic·a·ble \ˌməl-tə-ˈplik-ə-bəl\ *adj* : MULTIPLIABLE
mul·ti·pli·cand \ˌməl-tə-pli-ˈkand\ *n* [L *multiplicandus*, gerundive of *multiplicare*] : the number that is to be multiplied by another
mul·tip·li·cate \ˌməl-ˈtip-li-kət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *multiplicatus*, pp.] : MULTIPLE
mul·ti·pli·ca·tion \ˌməl-tə-plə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* [ME *multiplicacioun*, fr. MF *multiplication*, fr. L *multiplication-*, *multiplicatio*, fr. *multiplicatus*, pp. of *multiplicare* to multiply] **1** : the act or process of multiplying : the state of being multiplied **2** : a mathematical operation that at its simplest is an abbreviated process of adding an integer to itself a specified number of times and that is extended to other numbers in accordance with laws that are valid for integers
multiplication sign *n* : a symbol used to indicate multiplication: **a** : TIMES SIGN **b** : DOT 2b
mul·ti·pli·ca·tive \ˌməl-tə-ˈplik-ət-iv, ˈməl-tə-plə-ˌkāt-\ *adj* : tending or having the power to multiply numbers — **mul·ti·pli·ca·tive·ly** *adv*
multiplicative identity *n* : an identity element (as 1 in the group of rational numbers without 0) that in a given mathematical system leaves unchanged any element by which it is multiplied
multiplicative inverse *n* : an element of a mathematical set that when multiplied by a given element yields the identity element — called also *reciprocal*
mul·ti·plic·i·ty \ˌməl-tə-ˈplis-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [MF *multiplicité*, fr. LL *multiplicitat-*, *multiplicitas*, fr. L *multiplic-*, *multiplex*] **1** : the quality or state of being multiple or various ⟨the vast ~ of the visible world —Howard Nemerov⟩ **2** : a great number ⟨a ~ of errors⟩ **3** : the number of components in a system (as a multiplet or a group of energy states)
mul·ti·pli·er \ˈməl-tə-ˌplī(-ə)r\ *n* : one that multiplies: as **a** : a number by which another number is multiplied **b** : an instrument or device for multiplying or intensifying some effect **c** : a key-operated machine or mechanism or circuit on a machine that multiplies figures and records the products **d** : the ratio between the ultimate increase of income arising from an increment of investment and the initial new investment itself
¹mul·ti·ply \ˈməl-tə-ˌplī\ *vb* **-plied; -ply·ing** [ME *multiplien*, fr. OF *multiplier*, fr. L *multiplicare*, fr. *multiplic-*, *multiplex* multiple] *vt* **1** : to increase in number esp. greatly or in multiples : AUGMENT **2 a** : to combine by multiplication ⟨~ 7 and 8⟩ **b** : to combine with (another number) by multiplication ⟨7 *multiplied* by 8 is 56⟩ ~ *vi* **1 a** : to become greater in number : SPREAD **b** : BREED, PROPAGATE **2** : to perform multiplication ***syn*** see INCREASE
²mul·ti·ply \-plē\ *adv* : in a multiple manner : in several ways ⟨the use of ~ applicable names —A. I. Melden⟩
mul·ti–ply \ˌməl-ti-ˈplī\ *adj* : composed of several plies
mul·ti·po·lar \ˌməl-ti-ˈpō-lər, -ˌtī-\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : having several poles ⟨a ~ generator⟩ **2** : having several dendrites ⟨~ nerve cells⟩ — **mul·ti·po·lar·i·ty** \-pō-ˈlar-ət-ē\ *n*
mul·ti·pro·cess·ing \-ˈpräs-ˌes-iŋ, -ˈpräs-əs-, -ˈprōs-\ *n* : the processing of several computer programs at the same time esp. by a computer system with several processors sharing a single memory — **mul·ti·pro·ces·sor** \-ˌes-ər, -əs-\ *n*
mul·ti·pro·gram·ming \-ˈprō-ˌgram-iŋ, -grəm-\ *n* : the technique of utilizing several interleaved programs concurrently in a single computer system
mul·ti·pronged \-ˈprȯŋd\ *adj* **1** : having several prongs ⟨~ fishing spears⟩ **2** : having several distinct aspects or elements ⟨a ~ attack on the problem⟩
mul·ti·pur·pose \-ˈpər-pəs\ *adj* : having or serving several purposes
mul·ti·ra·cial \ˌməl-ti-ˈrā-shəl, -ˌtī-\ *adj* : composed of, involving, or representing various races ⟨~ organizations⟩ — **mul·ti·ra·cial·ism** \-shə-ˌliz-əm\ *n*
mul·ti·sense \-ˌsen(t)s\ *adj* : having several meanings ⟨~ words⟩
mul·ti·sen·so·ry \-ˈsen(t)s-(ə-)rē\ *adj* : relating to or involving several physiological senses ⟨~ teaching methods⟩ ⟨~ experience⟩
mul·ti·stage \-ˌstāj\ *adj* **1** : having successive operating stages; *esp* : having propulsion units that operate in turn ⟨~ rockets⟩ **2** : conducted by stages ⟨a ~ investigation⟩
mul·ti·state \-ˈstāt\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or involving several states ⟨a ~ attack on environmental pollution⟩ **2** : having divisions in several states ⟨~ enterprises⟩
mul·ti·sto·ry \-ˌstōr-ē, -ˌstȯr-\ *also* **mul·ti·sto·ried** \-ēd\ *adj* : having several stories ⟨~ buildings⟩
mul·ti·syl·lab·ic \-sə-ˈlab-ik\ *adj* : POLYSYLLABIC
mul·ti·tude \ˈməl-tə-ˌt(y)üd\ *n* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *multitudin-*, *multitudo*, fr. *multus* much — more at MELIORATE] **1** : the state of being many **2** : a great number : HOST ⟨a ~ of voices⟩ **3** : CROWD ⟨buses disgorged their ~s —Mollie Panter-Downes⟩ **4** : POPULACE, PUBLIC ⟨seeks the . . . approbation of the ~ —Arthur Knight⟩
mul·ti·tu·di·nous \ˌməl-tə-ˈt(y)üd-nəs, -ᵊn-əs\ *adj* **1** : including a multitude of individuals : POPULOUS **2** : existing in a great multitude **3** : existing in or consisting of innumerable elements or aspects — **mul·ti·tu·di·nous·ly** *adv* — **mul·ti·tu·di·nous·ness** *n*
mul·tiv·a·lence \ˌməl-ˈtiv-ə-lən(t)s\ *n* : the quality or state of having many values, meanings, or appeals
mul·ti·va·lent \ˌməl-ti-ˈvā-lənt, -ˌtī-, *esp in sense 3* ˌməl-ˈtiv-ə-\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : POLYVALENT **2** : represented more than twice in the somatic chromosome number ⟨~ chromosomes⟩ **3** : having many values, meanings, or appeals — **multivalent** *n*
mul·ti·val·ued \ˌməl-ti-ˈval-(ˌ)yüd, -yəd\ *adj* : having several or many values
mul·ti·var·i·ate \-ˈver-ē-ət, -ē-ˌāt\ *adj* [*multi-* + *variable* + ³*-ate*] : having or involving a number of independent mathematical variables — used esp. in statistical analysis
mul·ti·ver·si·ty \-ˈvər-sət-ē, -stē\ *n, pl* **-ties** [*multi-* + *-versity* (as in *university*)] : a very large university with many component schools, colleges, or divisions, with widely diverse functions, and with a large staff engaged in activities other than instruction
mul·ti·vi·ta·min \-ˈvīt-ə-mən, *Brit also* -ˈvit-\ *adj* : containing several vitamins and esp. all known to be essential to health ⟨a ~ formula⟩
mul·ti·vol·tine \-ˈvōl-ˌtēn, -ˈvȯl-\ *adj* : having several broods in a season ⟨~ insects⟩
mul·ti·vol·ume \ˌməl-ti-ˈväl-yəm, -ˌtī-, -(ˌ)yüm\ *or* **mul·ti·vol·umed** \-yəmd, -(ˌ)yümd\ *adj* : comprising several volumes
mul·ture \ˈməl-chər, *Scot usu* ˈmüt-ər\ *n* [ME *multyr*, fr. OF *molture*, lit., grinding, fr. (assumed) VL *molitura*, fr. L *molitus*, pp. of *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] *chiefly Scot* : a fee for grinding grain at a mill
¹mum \ˈməm\ *adj* [prob. imit. of a sound made with closed lips] : SILENT ⟨keep ~⟩ — often used interjectionally
²mum *vi* **mummed; mum·ming** [ME *mommen*, fr. MF *momer* to go masked] **1** : to perform in a pantomime **2** : to go about merrymaking in disguise during festivals
³mum *n* [G *mumme*] : a strong ale or beer
⁴mum *chiefly Brit var of* MOM
⁵mum *n* : CHRYSANTHEMUM
mum·ble \ˈməm-bəl\ *vb* **mum·bled; mum·bling** \-b(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *momelen*, of imit. origin] *vi* : to utter words in a low confused indistinct manner : MUTTER ~ *vt* **1** : to utter with a low inarticulate voice **2** : to chew or bite with or as if with toothless gums — **mumble** *n* — **mum·bler** \-b(ə-)lər\ *n*
mum·ble·ty–peg *or* **mum·ble–the–peg** \ˈməm-bəl-ˌpeg, -(b)lē-ˌpeg, -(b)əl-tē-, -(b)əl-thə-\ *n* [fr. the phrase *mumble the peg*; fr. the loser's originally having to pull out with his teeth a peg driven into the ground] : a game in which the players try to flip a knife from various positions so that the blade will stick into the ground
mum·bo jum·bo \ˌməm-bō-ˈjəm-(ˌ)bō\ *n* [*Mumbo Jumbo*, an idol or deity held to have been worshiped in Africa] **1** : an object of superstitious homage and fear **2 a** : a complicated often ritualistic observance with elaborate trappings **b** : complicated activity

intended to obscure and confuse **3** : unnecessarily involved and incomprehensible language : GIBBERISH

mum·mer \'məm-ər\ *n* [MF *momeur*, fr. *momer* to go masked] **1** : a performer in a pantomime; *broadly* : ACTOR **2** : one who goes merrymaking in disguise during festivals

mum·mery \'məm-ə-rē\ *n, pl* **-mer·ies** **1** : a performance by mummers **2** : a ridiculous, hypocritical, or pretentious ceremony or performance

mum·mi·chog \'məm-i-ˌchȯg, -ˌchäg\ *n* [Narraganset *moamitteaúg*, lit., they go in great numbers] : any of various killifishes; *esp* : a common American killifish (*Fundulus heteroclitus*)

mum·mi·fy \'məm-i-ˌfī\ *vb* **-fied; -fy·ing** *vt* **1** : to embalm and dry as or as if a mummy **2 a** : to make into or like a mummy **b** : to cause to dry up and shrivel ~ *vi* : to dry up and shrivel like a mummy — **mum·mi·fi·ca·tion** \ˌməm-i-fə-'kā-shən\ *n*

mum·my \'məm-ē\ *n, pl* **mummies** [ME *mummie* powdered parts of a mummified body used as a drug, fr. MF *momie*, fr. ML *mumia* mummy, powdered mummy, fr. Ar *mūmiyah* bitumen, mummy, fr. Per *mūm* wax] **1 a** : a body embalmed or treated for burial with preservatives in the manner of the ancient Egyptians **b** : a body unusually well preserved **2** : one resembling a mummy

mump *vi* [obs. D *mompen*] *archaic* : BEG, SPONGE — **mump·er** *n*

mumps \'məm(p)s\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [fr. pl. of obs. *mump* (grimace)] : an acute contagious viral disease marked by fever and by swelling esp. of the parotid gland

mun *or* **munic** *abbr* municipal

munch \'mənch\ *vb* [ME *monchen*, prob. of imit. origin] *vt* : to chew with a crunching sound : eat with relish ~ *vi* : to chew food with a crunching sound : eat food with relish — **munch·er** *n*

mun·dane \ˌmən-'dān, 'mən-ˌ\ *adj* [ME *mondeyne*, fr. MF *mondain*, fr. LL *mundanus*, fr. L *mundus* world] **1** : of, relating to, or characteristic of the world **2** : characterized by the practical, transitory, and ordinary ***syn*** see EARTHLY ***ant*** eternal — **mun·dane·ly** *adv* — **mun·dane·ness** \-'dān-nəs, -ˌdān-\ *n*

mun·dun·gus \ˌmən-'dəŋ-(g)əs\ *n* [modif. of Sp *mondongo* tripe] *archaic* : foul-smelling tobacco

mung bean \'məŋ-\ *n* [Hindi *mūg*, fr. Skt *mudga*] : an erect bushy annual bean (*Phaseolus aureus*) that is widely cultivated in warm regions for its edible usu. green or yellow seeds, for forage, and as the chief source of bean sprouts

mun·go \'məŋ-(ˌ)gō\ *n, pl* **mungos** [origin unknown] : reclaimed wool of poor quality and very short staple

[1]mu·nic·i·pal \myü-'nis-(ə-)pəl, *nonstand* ˌmyü-nə-'sip-əl\ *adj* [L *municipalis* of a municipality, fr. *municip-*, *municeps* inhabitant of a municipality, lit., undertaker of duties, fr. *munus* duty, service + *capere* to take — more at MEAN, HEAVE] **1** : of or relating to the internal affairs of a major political unit (as a nation) **2 a** : of, relating to, or characteristic of a municipality **b** : having local self-government **3** : restricted to one locality

[2]municipal *n* : a security issued by a state or local government or by an authority set up by such a government — usu. used in pl.

municipal court *n* **1** : POLICE COURT **2** : a court that sits in some cities and larger towns and that usu. has civil and criminal jurisdiction over cases arising within the municipality

mu·nic·i·pal·i·ty \myü-ˌnis-ə-'pal-ət-ē\ *n, pl* **-ties** **1** : a primarily urban political unit having corporate status and usu. powers of self-government **2** : the governing body of a municipality

mu·nic·i·pal·ize \myü-'nis-ə-pə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to bring under municipal ownership or supervision — **mu·nic·i·pal·iza·tion** \-ˌnis-(ə-)pə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*

mu·nic·i·pal·ly \myü-'nis-ə-p(ə-)lē\ *adv* : by or in terms of a municipality

mu·nif·i·cent \myü-'nif-ə-sənt\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *munificence*, fr. L *munificentia*, fr. *munificus* generous, fr. *munus* service, gift] **1** : very liberal in giving or bestowing : LAVISH **2** : characterized by great liberality or generosity ***syn*** see LIBERAL — **mu·nif·i·cence** \-sən(t)s\ *n* — **mu·nif·i·cent·ly** *adv*

mu·ni·ment \'myü-nə-mənt\ *n* [AF, fr. MF, defense, fr. L *munimentum*, fr. *munire* to fortify] **1** *pl* : the evidences or writings that enable one to defend the title to an estate or a claim to rights and privileges **2** *archaic* : a means of defense

mu·ni·tion \myü-'nish-ən\ *n* [MF, fr. L *munition-*, *munitio*, fr. *munitus*, pp. of *munire* to fortify, fr. *moenia* walls; akin to OE *mǣre* boundary, L *murus* wall] **1** *archaic* : RAMPART, DEFENSE **2** : ARMAMENT, AMMUNITION — **munition** *vt*

mun·tin \'mənt-ᵊn\ *also* **mun·ting** \-ᵊn, -iŋ\ *n* [alter. of *montant* vertical dividing bar, fr. F, fr. prp. of *monter* to rise — more at MOUNT] : a strip separating panes of glass in a sash

munt·jac *also* **munt·jak** \'mən(t)-ˌjak, 'mən-ˌchak\ *n* [prob. modif. of Jav *mindjangan* deer] : any of several small deer (genus *Muntiacus*) of southeastern Asia and the East Indies

mu·on \'myü-ˌän\ *n* [contr. of earlier *mu-meson*, fr. *mu* (taken as a symbol for *meson*, and used to distinguish it from the short-lived pi-meson)] : an unstable elementary particle that belongs to the lepton family, is common in the cosmic radiation near the earth's surface, has a mass about 207 times the mass of the electron, and exists in negative and positive forms — **mu·on·ic** \myü-'än-ik\ *adj*

[1]mu·ral \'myůr-əl\ *adj* [L *muralis*, fr. *murus* wall — more at MUNITION] **1** : of, relating to, or resembling a wall **2** : applied to and made integral with a wall or ceiling surface

[2]mural *n* : a mural work of art (as a painting) — **mu·ral·ist** \-ə-ləst\ *n*

mu·ram·ic acid \myù-ˌram-ik-\ *n* [*mur-* (fr. L *murus* wall) + glucos*am*ine + *-ic*] : an amino sugar $C_9H_{17}NO_7$ that is a lactic acid derivative of glucosamine and is found esp. in bacterial cell walls and in blue-green algae

[1]mur·der \'mərd-ər\ *n* [partly fr. ME *murther*, fr. OE *morthor*; partly fr. ME *murdre*, fr. OF, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *morthor*; akin to OHG *mord* murder, L *mort-*, *mors* death, *mori* to die, Gk *brotos* mortal] **1** : the crime of unlawfully killing a person esp. with malice aforethought **2** : something very difficult or dangerous

[2]murder *vb* **mur·dered; mur·der·ing** \'mərd-(ə-)riŋ\ *vt* **1** : to kill (a human being) unlawfully and with premeditated malice **2** : to slaughter wantonly : SLAY **3 a** : to put an end to **b** : TEASE, TORMENT **c** : MUTILATE, MANGLE ⟨~*s* French⟩ ~ *vi* : to commit murder ***syn*** see KILL — **mur·der·ess** \-ə-rəs\ *n*

mur·der·ee \ˌmər-də-'rē\ *n* : an actual or potential victim of a murder

murderer *n* : one who murders; *esp* : one who commits the crime of murder

mur·der·ous \'mərd-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* **1 a** : having the purpose or capability of murder **b** : characterized by or causing murder or bloodshed **2** : having the ability or power to overwhelm : DEVASTATING ⟨~ heat⟩ — **mur·der·ous·ly** *adv* — **mur·der·ous·ness** *n*

mure \'myù(ə)r\ *vt* **mured; mur·ing** [ME *muren*, fr. MF *murer*, fr. LL *murare*, fr. L *murus* wall] : IMMURE

mu·rein \'myůr-ē-ən, 'myù(ə)r-ˌēn\ *n* [*mur*amic acid + *-ein*] : a polymer that is composed of alternating units of muramic acid and glucosamine bearing an acetyl group and that is characteristic of the cell walls of procaryotic cells

mu·rex \'myù(ə)r-ˌeks\ *n, pl* **mu·ri·ces** \'myůr-ə-ˌsēz\ *or* **mu·rex·es** [NL, genus name, fr. L, purple shell; akin to Gk *myak-*, *myax* sea mussel] : any of a genus (*Murex*) of marine gastropod mollusks having a rough and often spinose shell, abounding in tropical seas, and yielding a purple dye

mu·ri·ate \'myůr-ē-ˌāt\ *n* [F, back-formation fr. (*acide*) *muriatique* muriatic acid] : CHLORIDE

mu·ri·at·ic acid \ˌmyůr-ē-ˌat-ik-\ *n* [F *muriatique*, fr. L *muriaticus* pickled in brine, fr. *muria* brine; akin to OHG *mos* moss] : HYDROCHLORIC ACID

mu·rid \'myůr-əd\ *adj* [deriv. of L *mur-*, *mus* mouse — more at MOUSE] : of or relating to a family (Muridae) comprising the typical mice and rats — **murid** *n*

mu·rine \'myù(ə)r-ˌīn\ *adj* [deriv. of L *mur-*, *mus*] : of or relating to a genus (*Mus*) or the subfamily to which it belongs and which includes the common household rats and mice; *also* : of, relating to, or involving these rodents and esp. the house mouse — **murine** *n*

murine typhus *n* : a mild febrile disease that is marked by headache and rash, is caused by a rickettsia (*Rickettsia mooseri*), is widespread in nature in rodents, and is transmitted to man by a flea

murk \'mərk\ *n* [ME *mirke*] : GLOOM, DARKNESS; *also* : FOG — **murk** *adj, archaic*

murky \'mər-kē\ *adj* **murk·i·er; -est** **1** : characterized by a heavy dimness or obscurity caused by or like that caused by overhanging fog or smoke **2** : characterized by thickness and heaviness of air : FOGGY, MISTY **3** : darkly vague or obscure ⟨~ official rhetoric⟩ ***syn*** see DARK — **murk·i·ly** \-kə-lē\ *adv* — **murk·i·ness** \-kē-nəs\ *n*

[1]mur·mur \'mər-mər\ *n* [ME *murmure*, fr. MF, fr. L *murmur* murmur, roar, of imit. origin] **1** : a half-suppressed or muttered complaint : GRUMBLING **2 a** : a low indistinct but often continuous sound **b** : a soft or gentle utterance **3** : an atypical sound of the heart indicating a functional or structural abnormality

[2]murmur *vi* **1** : to make a murmur ⟨the breeze ~*ed* in the pines⟩ **2** : COMPLAIN, GRUMBLE ~ *vt* : to say in a murmur — **mur·mur·er** *n*

mur·mur·ous \'mərm-(ə-)rəs\ *adj* : filled with or characterized by murmurs : low and indistinct — **mur·mur·ous·ly** *adv*

mur·phy \'mər-fē\ *n, pl* **murphies** [*Murphy*, a common Irish surname] : POTATO

Mur·phy bed \ˌmər-fē-\ *n* [William L. *Murphy*, 20th cent. Am inventor] : a bed that may be folded or swung into a closet

mur·rain \'mər-ən, 'mə-rən\ *n* [ME *moreyne*, fr. MF *morine*, fr. *morir* to die, fr. L *mori* — more at MURDER] : a pestilence or plague affecting domestic animals or plants

murre \'mər\ *n* [origin unknown] : any of several guillemots (genus *Uria*); *esp* : a common bird (*U. aalge*) of northern seas

mur·rey \'mər-ē, 'mə-rē\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *moré*, fr. ML *moratum*, fr. neut. of *moratus* mulberry colored, fr. L *morum* mulberry — more at MULBERRY] : a purplish black : MULBERRY

mur·ther \'mər-thər\ *chiefly dial var of* MURDER

mus *abbr* **1** museum **2** music; musical; musician

mus·ca·dine \'məs-kə-ˌdīn\ *n* [prob. alter. of *muscatel*] : a grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*) of the southern U.S. with musky fruits borne in small clusters

mus·cae vo·li·tan·tes \'məs-ˌ(k)ē-ˌväl-ə-'tan-ˌtēz\ *n pl* [NL, lit., flying flies] : spots before the eyes due to cells and cell fragments in the vitreous humor and lens

mus·ca·rine \'məs-kə-ˌrēn\ *n* [G *muskarin*, fr. NL *muscaria*, specific epithet of *Amanita muscaria* fly agaric] : an ammonium base $C_8H_{19}NO_3$ that is chemically related to choline, was first found in the fly agaric, and acts directly on smooth muscle — **mus·ca·rin·ic** \ˌməs-kə-'rin-ik\ *adj*

mus·cat \'məs-ˌkat, -kət\ *n* [F, fr. Prov, fr. *muscat* musky, fr. *musc* musk, fr. LL *muscus*] **1** : any of several cultivated grapes used in making wine and raisins **2** : MUSCATEL

mus·ca·tel \ˌməs-kə-'tel\ *n* [ME *muskadelle*, fr. MF *muscadel*, fr. OProv, fr. *muscadel* resembling musk, fr. *muscat*] **1** : a sweet dessert wine from muscat grapes **2** : a raisin from muscat grapes

[1]mus·cle \'məs-əl\ *n, often attrib* [MF, fr. L *musculus*, fr. dim. of *mus* mouse — more at MOUSE] **1 a** : a body tissue consisting of long cells that contract when stimulated and produce motion **b** : an organ that is essentially a mass of muscle tissue attached at either end to a fixed point and that by contracting moves or checks the movement of a body part **2 a** : muscular strength : BRAWN **b** : effective strength : POWER

[2]muscle *vi* **mus·cled; mus·cling** \'məs-(ᵊ-)liŋ\ : to make one's way by brute strength or by force

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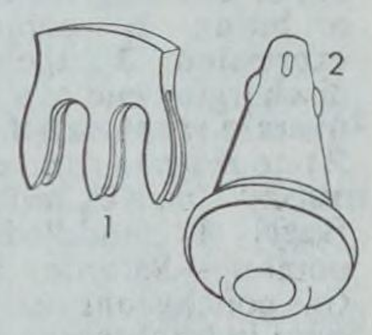
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mus·cle–bound \'məs-əl-ˌbau̇nd\ *adj* **1 :** having some of the muscles tense and enlarged and of impaired elasticity sometimes as a result of excessive exercise **2 :** lacking in flexibility : RIGID
mus·cled \'məs-əld\ *adj* : having muscles esp. of a specified kind — often used in combination ⟨hard-*muscled* arms⟩
muscle spindle *n* : a sensory end organ in a muscle that is sensitive to stretch in the muscle, consists of small striated muscle fibers richly supplied with nerve fibers, and is enclosed in a connective tissue sheath — called also *stretch receptor*
mus·co·vite \'məs-kə-ˌvīt\ *n* [ML or NL *Muscovia, Moscovia* Moscow] **1** *cap* **a :** a native or resident of the ancient principality of Moscow or of the city of Moscow **b :** RUSSIAN **2** [*muscovy (glass)*] : a mineral essentially $KAl_3Si_3O_{10}(OH)_2$ that is a colorless to pale brown potassium mica — **Muscovite** *adj*
Mus·co·vy duck \ˌməs-ˌkō-vē-\ *n* [*Muscovy*, principality of Moscow, Russia] : a large crested duck (*Cairina moschata*) native from Mexico to southern Brazil but widely kept in domestication
muscul- *or* **musculo-** *comb form* [LL *muscul-*, fr. L *musculus*] **1** : muscle ⟨*muscular* ⟩ **2 :** muscular and ⟨*musculo*skeletal⟩
mus·cu·lar \'məs-kyə-lər\ *adj* **1 a :** of, relating to, or constituting muscle **b :** of, relating to, or performed by the muscles **2** : having well-developed musculature **3 a :** of or relating to physical strength : BRAWNY **b :** having strength of expression or character : VIGOROUS — **mus·cu·lar·i·ty** \ˌməs-kyə-'lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **mus·cu·lar·ly** \'məs-kyə-lər-lē\ *adv*
muscular dystrophy *n* : a hereditary disease characterized by progressive wasting of muscles
mus·cu·la·ture \'məs-kyə-lə-ˌchu̇(ə)r, -chər, -ˌt(y)u̇(ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. L *musculus*] : the muscles of all or a part of the animal body
mus·cu·lo·skel·e·tal \ˌməs-kyə-lō-'skel-ət-ᵊl\ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving both musculature and skeleton
[1]muse \'myüz\ *vb* **mused; mus·ing** [ME *musen*, fr. MF *muser* to gape, idle, muse, fr. *muse* mouth of an animal, fr. ML *musus*] *vi* **1** : to become absorbed in thought; *esp* : to turn something over in the mind meditatively and often inconclusively **2** *archaic* : WONDER, MARVEL ~ *vt* : to think or say reflectively ***syn*** see PONDER — **mus·er** *n*
[2]muse *n* : a state of deep thought or dreamy abstraction : BROWN STUDY
[3]muse *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *Musa*, fr. Gk *Mousa*] **1** *cap* : any of the nine sister goddesses in Greek mythology presiding over song and poetry and the arts and sciences **2 :** a source of inspiration; *esp* : a guiding genius **3 :** POET
mu·sette \myu̇-'zet\ *n* [F, fr. MF, dim. of *muse* bagpipe, fr. *muser* to muse, play the bagpipe] **1 :** a small bagpipe having a soft sweet tone **2 :** a small knapsack; *also* : a similar bag with one shoulder strap — called also *musette bag*
mu·se·um \myu̇-'zē-əm\ *n* [L *Museum* place for learned occupation, fr. Gk *Mouseion*, fr. neut. of *Mouseios* of the Muses, fr. *Mousa*] : an institution devoted to the procurement, care, study, and display of objects of lasting interest or value; *also* : a place where objects are exhibited
[1]mush \'məsh\ *n* [prob. alter. of *mash*] **1 :** a thick porridge made with cornmeal boiled in water or milk **2 :** something soft and spongy or shapeless **3 a :** weak sentimentality : DRIVEL **b :** mawkish amorousness
[2]mush *vt, chiefly dial* : to reduce to a crumbly mass ~ *vi, of an airplane* : to fly in a partly stalled condition with controls ineffective; *also* : to fail to gain altitude — **mush·er** *n*
[3]mush *vi* [prob. fr. AmerF *moucher* to go fast, fr. F *mouche* fly, fr. L *musca* — more at MIDGE] : to travel esp. over snow with a sled drawn by dogs — often used as a command to a dog team
[4]mush *n* : a trip esp. across snow with a dog team
[1]mush·room \'məsh-ˌrüm, -ˌru̇m\ *n* [ME *musseroun*, fr. MF *mousseron*, fr. LL *mussirion-, mussirio*] **1 a :** an enlarged complex aerial fleshy fruiting body of a fungus (as of the class Basidiomycetes) that consists typically of a stem bearing a flattened cap; *esp* : one that is edible **b :** FUNGUS 1 **2 :** UPSTART **3 :** something resembling a mushroom
[2]mushroom *vi* **1 :** to spring up suddenly or multiply rapidly **2 a** *of a bullet* : to flatten at the end at impact **b :** to well up and spread out laterally from a central source
mushy \'məsh-ē\ *adj* **mush·i·er; -est** **1 :** having the consistency of mush : SOFT **2 :** excessively tender or emotional; *esp* : mawkishly amorous — **mush·i·ly** \'məsh-ə-lē\ *adv* — **mush·i·ness** \'məsh-ē-nəs\ *n*
mu·sic \'myü-zik\ *n, often attrib* [ME *musik*, fr. OF *musique*, fr. L *musica*, fr. Gk *mousikē* any art presided over by the Muses, esp. music, fr. fem. of *mousikos* of the Muses, fr. *Mousa* Muse] **1 a :** the science or art of ordering tones or sounds in succession, in combination, and in temporal relationships to produce a composition having unity and continuity **b :** vocal, instrumental, or mechanical sounds having rhythm, melody, or harmony **2 :** an agreeable sound : EUPHONY ⟨the gentle sound was ~ to my ears⟩ **3 :** a musical accompaniment ⟨a play set to ~⟩ **4 :** the score of a musical composition set down on paper **5 :** a distinctive type or category of music ⟨there is a ~ for everybody —Eric Salzman⟩ ⟨come up with some special collections of jazz, Latin, country, rock and other ~*s* —Hal Levy⟩
[1]mu·si·cal \'myü-zi-kəl\ *adj* **1 a :** of or relating to music **b :** having the pleasing harmonious qualities of music : MELODIOUS **2 :** having an interest in or talent for music **3 :** set to or accompanied by music **4 :** of or relating to musicians or music lovers ⟨~ organizations⟩ — **mu·si·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
[2]musical *n* **1** *archaic* : MUSICALE **2 :** a film or theatrical production typically of a sentimental or humorous nature that consists of musical numbers and dialogue based upon a unifying plot — called also *musical comedy*
musical box *n, chiefly Brit* : MUSIC BOX
musical chairs *n pl but sing in constr* **1 :** a game in which players march to music around a row of chairs numbering one less than the players and scramble for seats when the music stops **2 :** a change from one position, situation, or arrangement to another esp. without significant effect
mu·si·cale \ˌmyü-zi-'kal\ *n* [F *soirée musicale*, lit., musical evening] : a social entertainment with music as the leading feature
mu·si·cal·i·ty \ˌmyü-zi-'kal-ət-ē\ *n* **1 :** the quality or state of being musical : MELODIOUSNESS **2 :** sensitivity to, knowledge of, or talent for music
mu·si·cal·ize \'myü-zi-kə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to set to music — **mu·si·cal·iza·tion** \ˌmyü-zi-kə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n*
musical saw *n* : a handsaw made to produce melody by bending the blade with varying tension while sounding it with a hammer or violin bow
music box *n* : a container enclosing an apparatus that reproduces music mechanically when activated by a clockwork
music drama *n* : an opera in which the action is not interrupted by formal song divisions (as recitatives or arias) and the music is determined solely by dramatic appropriateness
music hall *n* : a vaudeville theater; *also* : VAUDEVILLE
mu·si·cian \myu̇-'zish-ən\ *n* : a composer, conductor, or performer of music; *esp* : INSTRUMENTALIST — **mu·si·cian·ly** \-lē\ *adj* — **mu·si·cian·ship** \-ˌship\ *n*
music of the spheres : an ethereal harmony thought by the Pythagoreans to be produced by the vibration of the celestial spheres
mu·si·col·o·gy \ˌmyü-zi-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* [It *musicologia*, fr. L *musica* music + *-logia* -logy] : a study of music as a branch of knowledge or field of research; *esp* : the historical and theoretical investigation and analysis of specific types of music — **mu·si·co·log·i·cal** \-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *adj* — **mu·si·col·o·gist** \-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*
[1]mus·ing \'myü-ziŋ\ *n* : MEDITATION
[2]musing *adj* : thoughtfully abstracted : MEDITATIVE — **mus·ing·ly** \-ziŋ-lē\ *adv*
mu·sique con·crète \myu̇-ˌzēk-kōⁿ-'kret, mu̇ē-\ *n* [F, lit., concrete music] : a montage of recorded natural sounds (as voices, traffic noise, and bird calls) arbitrarily modified and arranged
musk \'məsk\ *n* [ME *muske*, fr. MF *musc*, fr. LL *muscus*, fr. Gk *moschos*, fr. Per *mushk*, fr. Skt *muṣka* testicle, fr. dim. of *mūṣ* mouse; akin to OE *mūs* mouse] **1 a :** a substance with a penetrating persistent odor obtained from a sac beneath the abdominal skin of the male musk deer and used as a perfume fixative; *also* : a similar substance from another animal or a synthetic substitute **b :** the odor of musk; *also* : an odor resembling musk esp. in heaviness or persistence **2 :** any of various plants with musky odors; *esp* : MUSK PLANT
musk deer *n* : a small heavy-limbed hornless deer (*Moschus moschiferus*) of central Asiatic uplands that produces musk in the male
mus·keg \'məs-ˌkeg, -ˌkāg\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Ojibwa *mŭskeg* grassy bog] **1 :** BOG; *esp* : a sphagnum bog of northern No. America often with tussocks **2 :** a usu. thick deposit of partially decayed vegetable matter of wet boreal regions
mus·kel·lunge \'məs-kə-ˌlənj\ *n, pl* **muskellunge** [of Algonquian origin; akin to Cree *maskinonge* muskellunge] : a large No. American pike (*Esox masquinongy*) that may weigh 60 to 80 pounds and is a valuable sport fish
mus·ket \'məs-kət\ *n* [MF *mousquet*, fr. OIt *moschetto* arrow for a crossbow, musket, fr. dim. of *mosca* fly, fr. L *musca* — more at MIDGE] : a heavy large-caliber shoulder firearm (as a flintlock or matchlock); *broadly* : a shoulder gun carried by infantry
mus·ke·teer \ˌməs-kə-'ti(ə)r\ *n* [modif. of MF *mousquetaire*, fr. *mousquet*] : a soldier armed with a musket
mus·ket·ry \'məs-kə-trē\ *n* **1 :** MUSKETS **2 :** MUSKETEERS **3 a :** musket fire **b :** the art or science of using small arms esp. in battle
mus·kie *or* **mus·ky** \'məs-kē\ *n, pl* **muskies :** MUSKELLUNGE
musk·mel·on \'məsk-ˌmel-ən\ *n* : a usu. sweet musky-odored edible melon that is the fruit of a trailing or climbing Asiatic herbaceous vine (*Cucumis melo*): as **a :** any of various melons of small or moderate size with netted skin that include most of the muskmelons cultivated in No. America **b :** CANTALOUPE 1 **c :** WINTER MELON
Mus·ko·ge·an *or* **Mus·kho·ge·an** \(ˌ)məs-'kō-gē-ən\ *n* : a language family of southeastern U.S. that includes Muskogee
Mus·ko·gee *n, pl* **Muskogee** *or* **Muskogees** **1 :** a member of an Amerindian people of Georgia and eastern Alabama constituting the nucleus of the Creek confederacy **2 :** the language of the Muskogees and of some of the Seminoles
musk–ox \'məs-ˌkäks\ *n* : a heavy-set shaggy-coated wild ox (*Ovibos moschatus*) now confined to Greenland and the barren northern lands of No. America


musk-ox

musk plant *n* : a yellow-flowered No. American herb (*Mimulus moschatus*) of the figwort family that has hairy foliage and sometimes a musky odor
musk·rat \'məs-ˌkrat\ *n, pl* **muskrat** *or* **muskrats** [prob. by folk etymology fr. a word of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *musquash* muskrat] : an aquatic rodent (*Ondatra zibethica*) of the U.S. and Canada with a long scaly laterally compressed tail, webbed hind feet, and dark glossy brown fur; *also* : its fur or pelt
musk rose *n* : a rose (*Rosa moschata*) of the Mediterranean region with flowers having a musky odor
musk thistle *n* : a Eurasian thistle (*Carduus nutans*) that has nodding musky flower heads and is naturalized in eastern No. America
musk turtle *n* : a small American freshwater turtle (genera *Sternotherus* and *Kinosternon*); *esp* : a turtle (*S. odoratus*) having a strong musky odor
musky \'məs-kē\ *adj* **musk·i·er; -est** : having an odor of or resembling musk — **musk·i·ness** *n*
Mus·lim \'məz-ləm, 'müs-, 'müz-\ *n* [Ar *muslim*, lit., one who surrenders (to God)] **1 :** an adherent of Islam **2 :** BLACK MUSLIM — **Muslim** *adj*

Muslim era *n* : MUHAMMADAN ERA
mus·lin \'məz-lən\ *n* [F *mousseline*, fr. It *mussolina*, fr. Ar *mawṣilīy* of Mosul, fr. al-*Mawṣil* Mosul, Iraq] : a plain-woven sheer to coarse cotton fabric
mus·quash \'məs-ˌkwäsh, -ˌkwȯsh\ *n* [of Algonquian origin; akin to Natick *musquash* muskrat] : MUSKRAT
¹muss \'məs\ *n* [origin unknown] **1** *obs* **a** : a game in which players scramble for small objects thrown to the ground **b** : SCRAMBLE **2** *slang* : a confused conflict : ROW **3** : a state of disorder
²muss *vt* : to make untidy : DISARRANGE
mus·sel \'məs-əl\ *n* [ME *muscle*, fr. OE *muscelle;* akin to OHG *muscula* mussel; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc word borrowed fr. (assumed) VL *muscula*, fr. L *musculus* muscle, mussel] **1** : a marine bivalve mollusk (esp. genus *Mytilus*) usu. having a dark elongated shell **2** : a freshwater bivalve mollusk (as of *Unio, Anodonta*, or related genera) that is esp. abundant in rivers of the central U.S. and has a shell with a lustrous nacreous lining
Mus·sul·man *also* **Mus·sal·man** \'məs-əl-mən\ *n, pl* **Mus·sul·men** \-mən\ *or* **Mussulmans** [Turk *müslüman* & Per *musulmān*, modif. of Ar *muslim*] : MUSLIM
mussy \'məs-ē\ *adj* **muss·i·er; -est** : characterized by clutter or muss : MESSY — **muss·i·ly** \'məs-ə-lē\ *adv* — **muss·i·ness** \'məs-ē-nəs\ *n*
¹must \məs(t), 'məst\ *vb, pres & past all persons* **must** [ME *moste*, fr. OE *mōste*, past indic. & subj. of *mōtan* to be allowed to, have to; akin to OHG *muozan* to be allowed to, have to, OE *metan* to measure — more at METE] *verbal auxiliary* **1 a** : be commanded or requested to ⟨you ~ stop⟩ **b** : be urged to : ought by all means to ⟨you ~ read that book⟩ **2** : be compelled by physical necessity to ⟨man ~ eat to live⟩ : be required by immediate or future need or purpose to ⟨we ~ hurry if we want to catch the bus⟩ **3 a** : be obliged to : be compelled by social considerations to ⟨I ~ say you're looking much better⟩ **b** : be required by law, custom, or moral conscience to ⟨we ~ obey the rules⟩ **c** : be determined to ⟨if you ~ go at least wait till the storm is over⟩ **d** : be unreasonably or perversely compelled to ⟨why ~ you be so stubborn⟩ **4** : be logically inferred or supposed to ⟨it ~ be time⟩ **5** : be compelled by fate or by natural law to ⟨what ~ be will be⟩ **6** : was or were presumably certain to : was or were bound to ⟨if he had really been there I ~ have seen him⟩ **7** *dial* : MAY, SHALL — used chiefly in questions ~ *vi, archaic* : to be obliged to go ⟨I ~ to Coventry —Shak.⟩
²must \'məst\ *n* **1** : an imperative need or duty : REQUIREMENT **2** : an indispensable item : ESSENTIAL
³must \'məst\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *mustum*] : the expressed juice of fruit and esp. grapes before and during fermentation
⁴must \'məst\ *n* [MF, alter. of *musc* musk] **1** : MUSK **2** : MOLD, MUSTINESS
mus·tache \'məs-ˌtash, (ˌ)məs-'\ *n* [MF *moustache*, fr. OIt *mustaccio*, fr. MGk *moustaki*, dim. of Gk *mystak-, mystax* upper lip, mustache] **1** : the hair growing on the human upper lip **2** : hair or bristles about the mouth of a mammal
mus·ta·chio \(ˌ)məs-'tash-(ē-ˌ)ō, -'täsh-\ *n, pl* **-chios** [Sp & It; Sp *mostacho*, fr. It *mustaccio*] : MUSTACHE; *esp* : a large mustache — **mus·ta·chioed** \-(ē-ˌ)ōd\ *adj*
mus·tang \'məs-ˌtaŋ\ *n* [MexSp *mestengo*, fr. Sp, stray, fr. *mesteño* strayed, fr. *mesta* annual roundup of cattle that disposed of strays, fr. ML (*animalia*) *mixta* mixed animals] : the small hardy naturalized horse of the western plains directly descended from horses brought in by the Spaniards; *also* : BRONCO
mus·tard \'məs-tərd\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *mostarde*, fr. *moust* must, fr. L *mustum*] **1 a** : a pungent yellow powder of the seeds of a common mustard used as a condiment or in medicine as a stimulant and diuretic, an emetic, or a counterirritant **b** *slang* : ZEST **2** : any of several herbs (genus *Brassica* of the family Cruciferae, the mustard family) with lyrately lobed leaves, yellow flowers, and linear beaked pods
mustard gas *n* : an irritant vesicant oily liquid $(ClCH_2CH_2)_2S$ used as a war gas
mustard plaster *n* : a counterirritant and rubefacient plaster containing powdered mustard
¹mus·ter \'məs-tər\ *vb* **mus·tered; mus·ter·ing** \-t(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *mustren* to show, muster, fr. OF *monstrer*, fr. L *monstrare* to show, fr. *monstrum* evil omen, monster — more at MONSTER] *vt* **1 a** : to enroll formally — usu. used with *in* or *into* ⟨~*ed* into the army⟩ **b** : to cause to gather : CONVENE **c** : to call the roll of **2 a** : to bring together : COLLECT **b** : to call forth : ROUSE **3** : to amount to : COMPRISE ~ *vi* : to come together : CONGREGATE ***syn*** see SUMMON
²muster *n* **1** : a representative specimen : SAMPLE **2 a** : an act of assembling; *specif* : formal military inspection **b** : critical examination **c** : an assembled group : COLLECTION **d** : INVENTORY
muster out *vt* : to discharge from service
muster roll *n* : INVENTORY, ROSTER; *specif* : a register of the officers and men in a military unit or ship's company
musth *or* **must** \'məst\ *n* [Hindi *mast* intoxicated, fr. Per; akin to OE *mete* meat] : a periodic state of frenzy of the bull elephant usu. connected with the rutting season
mustn't \'məs-ᵊnt\ : must not
musty \'məs-tē\ *adj* **mus·ti·er; -est** **1 a** : impaired by damp or mildew : MOLDY **b** : tasting of mold **c** : smelling of damp and decay : FUSTY **2 a** : TRITE, STALE **b** (1) : ANTIQUATED (2) : SUPERANNUATED ***syn*** see MALODOROUS — **must·i·ly** \'məs-tə-lē\ *adv* — **must·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*
mu·ta·ble \'myüt-ə-bəl\ *adj* [L *mutabilis*, fr. *mutare* to change — more at MISS] **1** : prone to change : INCONSTANT **2 a** : capable of change or of being changed in form, quality, or nature **b** : capable of or liable to mutation — **mu·ta·bil·i·ty** \ˌmyüt-ə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **mu·ta·ble·ness** \'myüt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **mu·ta·bly** \-blē\ *adv*
mu·ta·fa·cient \ˌmyüt-ə-'fā-shənt\ *adj* [*mutation* + *-facient*] : capable of inducing biological mutation
mu·ta·gen \'myüt-ə-jən\ *n* [ISV *mutation* + *-gen*] : a substance (as mustard gas or various radiations) that tends to increase the frequency or extent of mutation — **mu·ta·gen·ic** \ˌmyüt-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* — **mu·ta·gen·i·cal·ly** \-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
mu·ta·gen·e·sis \ˌmyüt-ə-'jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] : the occurrence or induction of mutation
mu·ta·ge·nic·i·ty \-jə-'nis-ət-ē\ *n* : the capacity to induce mutations
mu·tant \'myüt-ᵊnt\ *adj* [L *mutant-, mutans*, prp. of *mutare*] : of, relating to, or produced by mutation — **mutant** *n*
mu·tase \'myü-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* [ISV *mut-* (fr. L *mutare*) + *-ase*] **1** : an enzyme considered capable of catalyzing a process involving simultaneous oxidation and reduction **2** : any of various enzymes that catalyze molecular rearrangements
mu·tate \'myü-ˌtāt, myü-'\ *vb* **mu·tat·ed; mu·tat·ing** [L *mutatus*, pp. of *mutare*] *vt* : to cause to undergo mutation ~ *vi* : to undergo mutation — **mu·ta·tive** \'myü-ˌtāt-iv, 'myüt-ət-\ *adj*
mu·ta·tion \myü-'tā-shən\ *n* **1** : a significant and basic alteration : CHANGE **2** : UMLAUT **3 a** : a relatively permanent change in hereditary material involving either a physical change in chromosome relations or a biochemical change in the codons that make up genes **b** (1) : an individual or strain resulting from mutation (2) : an animal of a domesticated strain that differs esp. in coat color from the wild type ***syn*** see CHANGE — **mu·ta·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shən-ᵊl\ *adj* — **mu·ta·tion·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*
mu·ta·tis mu·tan·dis \mü-ˌtät-ə-smü-'tän-dəs\ *adv* [NL] **1** : with the necessary changes having been made **2** : with the respective differences having been considered
mutch·kin \'məch-kən\ *n* [ME (Sc) *muchekyn*] : a Scotch unit of liquid capacity equal to 0.90 pint
¹mute \'myüt\ *adj* **mut·er; mut·est** [ME *muet*, fr. MF, fr. OF *mu*, fr. L *mutus;* akin to OHG *māwen* to cry out, Gk *mytēs* mute] **1** : unable to speak : DUMB **2** : characterized by absence of speech: as **a** : felt or experienced but not expressed ⟨touched her hand in ~ sympathy⟩ **b** : refusing to plead directly or stand trial ⟨the prisoner stands ~⟩ **3 a** : contributing nothing to the pronunciation of a word ⟨the *b* in *plumb* is ~⟩ **b** : contributing to the pronunciation of a word but not representing the nucleus of a syllable ⟨the *e* in *mate* is ~⟩ — **mute·ly** *adv* — **mute·ness** *n*
²mute *n* **1** : a person who cannot or does not speak **2** : STOP 9 **3** : a device attached to a musical instrument to reduce, soften, or muffle its tone



mutes 3: *1* for violin, *2* for trumpet

³mute *vt* **mut·ed; mut·ing** **1** : to muffle or reduce the sound of **2** : to tone down (a color)
⁴mute *vi* **mut·ed; mut·ing** [ME *muten*, fr. MF *meutir*] *of a bird* : to evacuate the cloaca
mut·ed \'myüt-əd\ *adj* **1** : being mute : SILENT, SUBDUED **2** : provided with or produced or modified by the use of a mute — **mut·ed·ly** *adv*
mute swan *n* : the common white swan (*Cygnus olor*) of Europe and western Asia that produces no loud notes
mu·ti·cous \'myüt-i-kəs\ *adj* [L *muticus*] : lacking an awn or point
mu·ti·late \'myüt-ᵊl-ˌāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *mutilatus*, pp. of *mutilare*, fr. *mutilus* mutilated; akin to L *muticus* muticous, OIr *mut* short] **1** : to cut off or permanently destroy a limb or essential part of : CRIPPLE **2** : to cut up or alter radically so as to make imperfect ***syn*** see MAIM — **mu·ti·la·tion** \ˌmyüt-ᵊl-'ā-shən\ *n* — **mu·ti·la·tor** \'myüt-ᵊl-ˌāt-ər\ *n*
mu·tine \'myüt-ᵊn\ *vi* **mu·tined; mu·tin·ing** [MF (*se*) *mutiner*] *obs* : REBEL, MUTINY
mu·ti·neer \ˌmyüt-ᵊn-'i(ə)r\ *n* : one that mutinies
mu·ti·nous \'myüt-ᵊn-əs, 'myüt-nəs\ *adj* **1 a** : disposed to or in a state of mutiny : REBELLIOUS **b** : TURBULENT, UNRULY **2** : of, relating to, or constituting mutiny — **mu·ti·nous·ly** *adv* — **mu·ti·nous·ness** *n*
mu·ti·ny \'myüt-ᵊn-ē, 'myüt-nē\ *n, pl* **-nies** [*mutine* to rebel, fr. MF (*se*) *mutiner*, fr. *mutin* mutinous, fr. *meute* revolt, fr. (assumed) VL *movita*, fr. fem. of *movitus*, alter. of L *motus*, pp. of *movēre* to move] **1** *obs* : TUMULT **2** : forcible or passive resistance to lawful authority; *esp* : concerted revolt (as of a naval crew) against discipline or a superior officer ***syn*** see REBELLION — **mutiny** *vi*
mutt \'mət\ *n* [short for *muttonhead* (dull-witted person)] **1** : a stupid or insignificant person : FOOL **2** : a mongrel dog : CUR
mut·ter \'mət-ər\ *vb* [ME *muteren;* akin to L *muttire* to mutter, *mutus* mute] *vi* **1** : to utter sounds or words indistinctly or with a low voice and with the lips partly closed **2** : to murmur complainingly or angrily : GRUMBLE ~ *vt* : to utter esp. in a low or imperfectly articulated manner — **mutter** *n* — **mut·ter·er** \-ər-ər\ *n*


muttonchops

mut·ton \'mət-ᵊn\ *n* [ME *motoun*, fr. OF *moton* ram, wether, of Celt origin; akin to MBret *mout* wether] : the flesh of a mature sheep used for food — **mutton** \'mət-ᵊn-ē, -nē\ *adj*
mut·ton·chops \'mət-ᵊn-ˌchäps\ *n pl* : side-whiskers that are narrow at the temple and broad and round by the lower jaws — called also *muttonchop whiskers*
mut·ton·fish \-ˌfish\ *n* [fr. its flavor] : a common snapper (*Lutjanus analis*) of

the warmer parts of the western Atlantic that is usu. olive green and sometimes nearly white or tinged with rosy red and that is a commercially important food and sport fish — called also *mutton snapper*

mu·tu·al \'myüch-(ə-)wəl, 'myü-chəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *mutuel*, fr. L *mutuus* lent, borrowed, mutual; akin to L *mutare* to change — more at MISS] **1 a** : directed by each toward the other or the others ⟨~ affection⟩ **b** : having the same feelings one for the other ⟨they had long been ~ enemies⟩ **c** : shared in common ⟨enjoying their ~ hobby⟩ **d** : JOINT **2** : characterized by intimacy **3** : of or relating to a plan whereby the members of an organization share in the profits and expenses; *specif* : of, relating to, or taking the form of an insurance method in which the policyholders constitute the members of the insuring company ***syn*** see RECIPROCAL — **mu·tu·al·ly** \-ē\ *adv*

mutual fund *n* : an open-end investment company that invests money of its shareholders in a usu. diversified group of securities of other corporations

mu·tu·al·ism \'myüch-(ə-)wə-ˌliz-əm, 'myü-chə-ˌliz-\ *n* **1** : the doctrine or practice of mutual dependence as the condition of individual and social welfare **2** : mutually beneficial association between different kinds of organisms — **mu·tu·al·ist** \-ləst\ *n* — **mu·tu·al·is·tic** \ˌmyüch-(ə-)wə-'lis-tik, ˌmyü-chə-'lis-\ *adj*

mu·tu·al·i·ty \ˌmyü-chə-'wal-ət-ē\ *n* **1** : the quality or state of being mutual **2** : a sharing of sentiments : INTIMACY

mu·tu·al·ize \'myüch-(ə-)wə-ˌlīz, 'myü-chə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** : to make mutual — **mu·tu·al·iza·tion** \ˌmyüch-(ə-)wə-lə-'zā-shən, ˌmyü-chə-lə-\ *n*

mutuel *n* : PARI-MUTUEL

muu·muu \'mü-ˌmü\ *n* [Hawaiian *mu'umu'u*, fr. *mu'umu'u* cut off] : a loose often long dress having bright colors and patterns and adapted from the dresses orig. distributed by missionaries to the native women of Hawaii

mu·zhik \mü-'zhēk, -'zhik\ *n* [Russ] : a Russian peasant

¹muz·zle \'məz-əl\ *n* [ME *musell*, fr. MF *musel*, fr. dim. of *muse* mouth of an animal, fr. ML *musus*] **1** : the projecting jaws and nose of an animal : SNOUT — see DOG illustration **2 a** : a fastening or covering for the mouth of an animal used to prevent eating or biting **b** : something (as censorship) that restrains normal expression **3** : the open end or mouth of an implement; *esp* : the discharging end of a weapon

²muzzle *vt* **muz·zled; muz·zling** \-(ə-)liŋ\ **1** : to fit with a muzzle **2** : to restrain from expression : GAG — **muz·zler** \-(ə-)lər\ *n*

muz·zy \'məz-ē\ *adj* **muz·zi·er; -est** [perh. blend of *muddled* and *fuzzy*] **1** : muddled or confused in mind ⟨poets gone ~ with economics —*Saturday Rev.*⟩ **2 a** : lacking in clarity and precision ⟨his conclusions can be ~ and naive —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ **b** : deficient in brightness : DULL, GLOOMY ⟨a ~ day⟩ — **muz·zi·ly** \'məz-ə-lē\ *adv* — **muz·zi·ness** \'məz-ē-nəs\ *n*

mv *abbr* millivolt

Mv *symbol* mendelevium

MV *abbr* **1** main verb **2** mean variation **3** motor vessel

MVA *abbr* Missouri Valley Authority

MVD *abbr* [Russ *Ministerstvo Vnutrennikh Del*] Ministry of Internal Affairs

MVP *abbr* most valuable player

Mw *abbr* megawatt

MWA *abbr* Modern Woodmen of America

mxd *abbr* mixed

¹my \(')mī, mə\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *mīn*, fr. *mīn*, suppletive gen. of *ic* I; akin to OE *mē* me] **1** : of or relating to me or myself esp. as possessor, agent, or object of an action ⟨~ car⟩ ⟨~ promise⟩ ⟨~ injuries⟩ **2** — used interjectionally to express surprise and sometimes reduplicated ⟨~ oh ~⟩; used also interjectionally with names of various parts of the body to express doubt or disapproval ⟨~ foot⟩

²my *abbr* million years

my- *or* **myo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *mys* mouse, muscle — more at MOUSE] : muscle ⟨*myo*graph⟩ : muscle and ⟨*myo*neural⟩

my·al·gia \mī-'al-j(ē-)ə\ *n* [NL] : pain in one or more muscles — **my·al·gic** \-jik\ *adj*

my·as·the·nia \ˌmī-əs-'thē-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] : muscular debility — **my·as·then·ic** \-'then-ik\ *adj*

myasthenia gra·vis \-'grav-əs, -'gräv-\ *n* [NL, lit., grave myasthenia] : a disease characterized by progressive weakness and exhaustibility of voluntary muscles without atrophy or sensory disturbance

myc *or* **mycol** *abbr* mycology

myc- *or* **myco-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *mykēt-, mykēs* fungus; akin to Gk *myxa* nasal mucus] : fungus ⟨*myco*logy⟩ ⟨*myco*sis⟩

my·ce·li·um \mī-'sē-lē-əm\ *n, pl* **-lia** \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. *myc-* + Gk *hēlos* nail, wart, callus] : the mass of interwoven filamentous hyphae that forms esp. the vegetative portion of the thallus of a fungus and is often submerged in another body (as of soil or organic matter or the tissues of a host); *also* : a similar mass of filaments formed by a higher bacterium — **my·ce·li·al** \-əl\ *adj*

My·ce·nae·an \ˌmī-sə-'nē-ən\ *also* **My·ce·ni·an** \mī-'sē-nē-ən\ *adj* : of, relating to, or characteristic of Mycenae, its people, the period (1400 to 1100 B.C.) of Mycenae's political ascendancy, or the Bronze Age Mycenaean culture of the eastern Mediterranean area — **Mycenaean** *n*

my·ce·to·ma \ˌmī-sə-'tō-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, fr. Gk *mykēt-, mykēs*] : a condition marked by invasion of the deep subcutaneous tissues with fungi or actinomycetes; *also* : a tumorous mass occurring in such a condition — **my·ce·to·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*

my·ce·toph·a·gous \ˌmī-sə-'täf-ə-gəs\ *adj* [Gk *mykēt-, mykēs* + E *-phagous*] : feeding on fungi

my·ce·to·zo·an \mī-ˌsēt-ə-'zō-ən\ *n* [NL *Mycetozoa*, order of protozoans, fr. Gk *mykēt-, mykēs* + NL *-zoa*] : SLIME MOLD — **myceto·zoan** *adj*

-my·cin \'mīs-ᵊn\ *n comb form* [*streptomycin*] : substance obtained from a fungus ⟨erythro*mycin*⟩

my·co·bac·te·ri·um \ˌmī-kō-bak-'tir-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, genus name, fr. *myc-* + *Bacterium*] : any of a genus (*Mycobacterium*) of nonmotile aerobic bacteria that are difficult to stain and include numerous saprophytes and the organisms causing tuberculosis and leprosy — **my·co·bac·te·ri·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

my·co·flo·ra \ˌmī-kə-'flōr-ə, -'flȯr-\ *n* [NL] : the fungi characteristic of a region or special environment

my·col·o·gy \mī-'käl-ə-jē\ *n* [NL *mycologia*, fr. *myc-* + L *-logia* -logy] **1** : a branch of botany dealing with fungi **2** : fungal life — **my·co·log·i·cal** \ˌmī-kə-'läj-i-kəl\ *also* **my·co·log·ic** \-'läj-ik\ *adj* — **my·co·log·i·cal·ly** \ˌmī-kə-'läj-i-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **my·col·o·gist** \mī-'käl-ə-jəst\ *n*

my·coph·a·gist \mī-'käf-ə-jəst\ *n* [*mycophagy*, fr. *myc-* + *-phagy*] : one that eats fungi (as mushrooms) — **my·coph·a·gy** \-jē\ *n*

my·coph·a·gous \-ə-gəs\ *adj* : feeding on fungi ⟨~ nematodes⟩

my·co·plas·ma \ˌmī-kō-'plaz-mə\ *n, pl* **-mas** *or* **-ma·ta** \-mət-ə\ [NL, genus name, fr. *myc-* + *plasma*] : any of a genus (*Mycoplasma*) of minute pleomorphic gram-negative nonmotile microorganisms without cell walls that are intermediate in some respects between viruses and bacteria and are mostly parasitic usu. in mammals — called also *pleuropneumonia-like organism* — **my·co·plas·mal** \-məl\ *adj*

my·cor·rhi·za \ˌmī-kə-'rī-zə\ *n, pl* **-zae** \-ˌzē\ *or* **-zas** [NL, fr. *myc-* + Gk *rhiza* root — more at ROOT] : the symbiotic association of the mycelium of a fungus with the roots of a seed plant — **my·cor·rhi·zal** \-zəl\ *adj*

my·co·sis \mī-'kō-səs\ *n, pl* **my·co·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL] : infection with or disease caused by a fungus — **my·cot·ic** \-'kät-ik\ *adj*

my·co·tox·in \ˌmī-kə-'täk-sən\ *n* : a toxic substance produced by a fungus and esp. a mold

my·dri·a·sis \mə-'drī-ə-səs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] : a long-continued or excessive dilatation of the pupil of the eye — **myd·ri·at·ic** \ˌmid-rē-'at-ik\ *adj or n*

myel- *or* **myelo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *myelos*, fr. *mys* mouse, muscle — more at MOUSE] : marrow : spinal cord ⟨*myel*encephalon⟩

my·el·en·ceph·a·lon \ˌmī-ə-len-'sef-ə-ˌlän, -lən\ *n* [NL] : the posterior portion of the rhombencephalon: **a** : MEDULLA OBLONGATA **b** : the posterior part of the medulla oblongata that is continuous with the spinal cord — **my·el·en·ce·phal·ic** \-ˌlen(t)-sə-'fal-ik\ *adj*

my·elin \'mī-ə-lən\ *n* [ISV] : a soft white somewhat fatty material that forms a thick medullary sheath about the protoplasmic core of a medullated nerve fiber — **my·elin·ic** \ˌmī-ə-'lin-ik\ *adj*

my·elin·at·ed \'mī-ə-lə-ˌnāt-əd\ *adj* : having a medullary sheath ⟨~ nerve fibers⟩

myelin sheath *n* : MEDULLARY SHEATH

my·eli·tis \ˌmī-ə-'līt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the spinal cord or of the bone marrow

my·elo·blast \'mī-ə-lə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : a large mononuclear nongranular bone-marrow cell; *esp* : one that is a precursor of a myelocyte — **my·elo·blas·tic** \ˌmī-ə-lə-'blas-tik\ *adj*

my·elo·cyte \'mī-ə-lə-ˌsīt\ *n* [ISV] : a bone-marrow cell; *esp* : a motile cell with cytoplasmic granules that gives rise to the granulocytes of the blood but is not present in normal blood — **my·elo·cyt·ic** \ˌmī-ə-lə-'sit-ik\ *adj*

my·elo·fi·bro·sis \ˌmī-ə-lō-fī-'brō-səs\ *n* [NL] : an anemic condition in which bone marrow becomes fibrotic and the liver and spleen usu. exhibit a development of blood-cell precursors — **my·elo·fi·brot·ic** \-'brät-ik\ *adj*

my·elo·gen·ic \ˌmī-ə-lō-'jen-ik\ *adj* : MYELOGENOUS

my·elog·e·nous \ˌmī-ə-'läj-ə-nəs\ *adj* [ISV] : of, relating to, originating in, or produced by the bone marrow ⟨~ sarcoma⟩

myelogenous leukemia *n* : leukemia characterized by proliferation of myeloid tissue (as of the bone marrow and spleen) and an abnormal increase in the number of granulocytes, myelocytes, and myeloblasts in the circulating blood

my·eloid \'mī-ə-ˌlȯid\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : of or relating to the spinal cord **2** : of, relating to, or resembling bone marrow

my·elo·ma \ˌmī-ə-'lō-mə\ *n* [NL] : a primary tumor of the bone marrow — **my·elo·ma·tous** \-mət-əs\ *adj*

my·elop·a·thy \-'läp-ə-thē\ *n* [ISV] : a disease or disorder of the spinal cord or bone marrow — **my·elo·path·ic** \ˌmī-ə-lō-'path-ik\ *adj*

my·elo·pro·lif·er·a·tive \'mī-ə-lō-prə-'lif-ə-ˌrāt-iv, -rət-\ *adj* : of, relating to, or being a disorder (as leukemia) marked by excessive proliferation of blood-cell precursors

my·ia·sis \mī-'ī-ə-səs, mē-\ *n, pl* **my·ia·ses** \-ˌsēz\ [NL, fr. Gk *myia* fly — more at MIDGE] : infestation with fly maggots

mym *abbr* myriameter

my·na *or* **my·nah** \'mī-nə\ *n* [Hindi *mainā*, fr. Skt *madana*] : any of various Asiatic starlings (esp. genera *Acridotheres, Gracula,* and *Sturnus*); *esp* : a dark brown slightly crested bird (*A. tristis*) of southeastern Asia with a white tail tip and wing markings and bright yellow bill and feet

myn·heer \mə-'ne(ə)r\ *n* [D *mijnheer*, fr. *mijn* my + *heer* master, sir] : a male Netherlander — used as a title equivalent to *Mr.*

myo- — see MY-

myo·blast \'mī-ə-ˌblast\ *n* [ISV] : an undifferentiated cell capable of giving rise to muscle cells

myo·car·dio·graph \ˌmī-ə-'kärd-ē-ə-ˌgraf\ *n* : a recording instrument for making a tracing of the action of the heart muscles

myo·car·di·tis \ˌmī-ə-(ˌ)kär-'dīt-əs\ *n* [NL] : inflammation of the myocardium

myo·car·di·um \ˌmī-ə-'kärd-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *my-* + Gk *kardia* heart — more at HEART] : the middle muscular layer of the heart wall — **myo·car·di·al** \-ē-əl\ *adj*

myo·fi·bril \ˌmī-ō-'fīb-rəl, -'fib-\ *n* [NL *myofibrilla*, fr. *my-* + *fibrilla* fibril] : one of the longitudinal parallel contractile elements of a muscle cell that are composed of myosin and actin — **myo·fi·bril·lar** \-rə-lər\ *adj*

myo·fil·a·ment \-'fil-ə-mənt\ *n* : one of the individual filaments of actin or myosin that make up a myofibril

myo·gen·ic \ˌmī-ə-'jen-ik\ *adj* [ISV] **1** : originating in muscle ⟨~ pain⟩ **2** : taking place or functioning in ordered rhythmic fashion because of inherent properties of cardiac muscle rather than by reason of specific neural stimuli ⟨a ~ heart beat⟩